

To whom it may concern

Re.: Statement on European PFAS Activities - Updated Version 2025

Commitment to Environmental Responsibility

KLINGER Dichtungstechnik supports the intention of the EU initiative to ban harmful chemicals that pose risks to human health and the environment. Therefore, we advocate for the restriction and elimination of so-called "bad" PFAS throughout the entire supply chain.

Ongoing Efforts in 2025 to Minimize Harmful PFAS

Also in 2025, we continue our efforts to prevent harmful PFAS in our entire supply chain. As part of our commitment, we are further optimizing our production processes for PTFE-based gasket materials to ensure that they remain free from harmful PFAS. Our objective is to guarantee that neither our PTFE-based gasket materials nor the raw materials used in their production contain detectable levels of any "bad" PFAS.

To achieve this goal, KLINGER Dichtungstechnik is closely collaborating with our raw material suppliers to refine production processes. This includes the transition to fluoro-surfactant-free PTFE raw materials, ensuring that no harmful PFAS are generated during production.

Additionally, all KLINGER PTFE gasket materials produced with the updated raw material have been extensively tested for the presence of 70 of the most prominent harmful PFAS, including GenX, PFOA, and PFOS, by the independent testing laboratory TÜV Rheinland. The test results confirm the absence of detectable harmful PFAS in our PTFE-materials.

Recognition of the Increased Focus on Seals and Fluoropolymers

We acknowledge and appreciate that the restriction process has placed increased attention on seals and fluoropolymers. The latest status update from the European Chemicals Agency (ECHA) highlights the importance of evaluating fluoropolymers as a distinct category within the regulatory framework. The ongoing discussions and scientific assessments emphasize the necessity of considering the availability of alternatives, the socio-economic impact of restrictions, and the importance of minimizing emissions throughout the lifecycle of fluoropolymers.

We remain committed to aligning our efforts with the regulatory developments and will continue and finalize the adaption of our production processes to meet evolving environmental and safety standards while ensuring the highest quality and reliability of our gasket materials.

Commitment to Transparency and Continuous Improvement

Starting in 2024 and continuing into 2025, KLINGER Dichtungstechnik is gradually updating production methods to fully implement these improvements. This transition will not affect the technical properties of our materials, and all relevant approvals will be reissued as necessary. The only noticeable change will be a slight variation in color.

We strongly believe that these measures represent a further step towards a safer and more environmentally friendly production process. We will continue to keep our stakeholders informed about the progress of our activities and remain fully committed to our responsibility towards human health and environmental protection.

Best regards

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