

## PFAS Meeting Minutes

29<sup>th</sup> March 2023, 1500 h (CEST), Online.

---

### Participants

#### 1. PFAS Restriction Work Group

MN discussed the possibility of a smaller working group to meet on a fortnightly basis and asked for 2 or 3 members to help. The following people would check schedules and confirm.

Dick Pronk	Eriks
Thomas Böhm	Eagle Burgmann
Jean-Luc Matoux	DuPont

Other people confirmed within the working group.

Inge Kukla	SEA Coordinator	Ricardo
Samuel Suchel	Gov't Affairs	Smiths Group
David Edwin-Scott	ESA Technical Director	
Ralf Vogel	ESA Technical Director	

Suggested date for first meeting is Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> April at 15.00 CET.

Inge was able to supply an update on the response level to the SEA, over 345 organisations had so far registered and 57 had completed the questionnaire. A reminder from Inge will be sent shortly.

Thomas Böhm demonstrated and offered to share two Excel templates which may be useful for organisations gathering data within their own businesses. MN to circulate.

#### 2. Resource Library.

There is a shared folder in Drop Box for members (request access from MN) or in the Members area of the ESA website. Suggestions on a cataloguing system invited to enable easier navigation. Documents, including minutes and presentations relating to PFAS are held there.

#### 3. First Response to ECHA.

It has been suggested that an initial response to ECHA would be beneficial stating our thoughts, concerns and outlining our timeline for submitting an SEA. MN to draft an initial letter for comment. Timescale is tight so early response is requested.

#### 4. **Meeting of DG Environmental, Belgium Government.**

The chemical, medical, paint, forestry and Sealing industry were just a few of the presentations made to the Belgium Environmental DG. They are looking to gain an understanding of where PFAS is used, concerns and scale of the issue. Generally there was strong support to separate Fluoropolymers from the PFAS Restriction Proposal and a number of the larger chemical organisations present used Sealing Devices as an example. Common concerns were the lack of alternatives, lack of evidence in terms of adverse health effects and the scale of the response which could overwhelm ECHA.

#### 5. **Cefic meeting 30<sup>th</sup> March.**

MN presents to CEFIC on the 30<sup>th</sup> and ran through the presentation. This needs expanding and input is welcome. Presentation is available here.

#### 6. **Observer Status RAC & SEAC.**

It is possible for Trade Association (possibly individuals organisations) to observe the discussions that the RAC and SEA committees are involved with. MN to discuss with DES.

#### 7. **End of Life (EoL)**

The management of the complete life cycle of Fluoropolymers is potentially an area of discussion. Largely Fluoropolymers used in Sealing Devices are handled as Chemical Waste after use on sites but more than likely most Sealing Devices containing seals are going to landfill. The EoL issue may become an area for development as it is quite frequently discussed on various platforms (not just Sealing Devices)

#### 8. **A.O.B.**

ECHA are holding a Webinar session of the 5<sup>th</sup> April. Details have been circulated.

RV had generated an article for the BPMA on Fluoropolymers in Sealing Devices. Publication is later this month/early April.

Andrew Douglas (James Walker) has also offered to represent the ESA at the BPMA AGM in May (same dates as the ESA AGM)

Date of next meeting. TBA

M. Neal  
7<sup>th</sup> April 2023