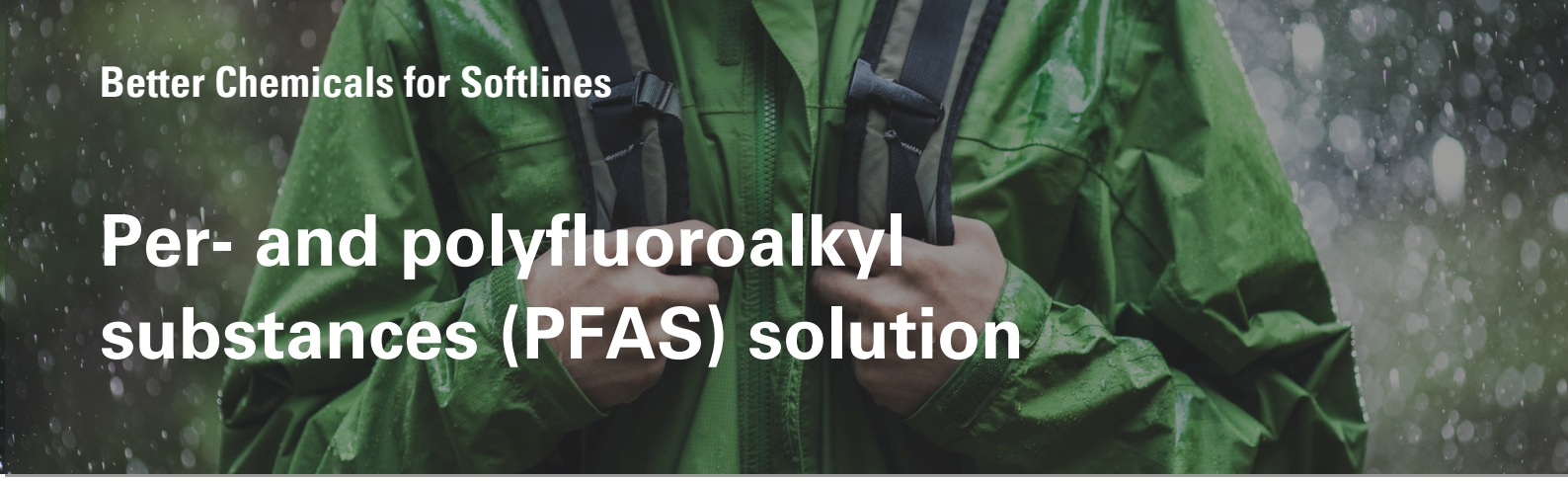

Better Chemicals for Softlines

Per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) solution

MEET EU, US AND OTHER MARKET PFAS REQUIREMENTS

Regulated around the world, PFAS can be used provided that they meet market requirements – our expertise can help you demonstrate compliance. In recent years, PFAS have become a hot topic, not because of their excellent water repellency, but because of their persistency, toxicity and bioaccumulation, which can cause multiple adverse health effects in humans and animals.

PFAS are widely applied in textile and leather finishes as water or oil repellent treatments, packaging materials for protection, non-stick coating in cookware, and so on. However, PFAS substances are carcinogenic. They persist in the environment and may cause bioaccumulation in mammals.

PFAS restrictions

The use of PFAS is restricted in many countries and regions, including the European Union, the United States and Asian markets. Industrial organizations such as the Zero Discharge of Hazardous Chemicals (ZDHC) Foundation, Cooperation at DSI (CADS), bluesign® and the Apparel and Footwear International RSL Management (AFIRM) group also drive chemical suppliers and manufacturers towards the well-controlled use of PFAS in production processes.

Furthermore, it is observed that an increasing number of non-governmental organizations (NGOs) have initiated PFAS studies on a wide variety of products including food contact materials (FCM), yoga pants, functional underwear, etc. In the view of this, many international brands in Europe and the US have already stopped using PFAS, or have adopted alternative technologies in functional wear and products.

Some PFAS regulations do not provide a clear list of substances. For example, California AB 652 and AB 1200 prohibit PFAS' containing at least one fully fluorinated carbon atom. EU 2021/1297 restricts linear and branched perfluorocarboxylic acids containing 9 to 14 carbon atoms in the chain (C9-C14 PFCA), their salts, and other related substances under EU REACH. However, some regulations fail to provide a list with limited number of target PFAS. This causes difficulties in assessing the risk and measuring the presence of restricted PFAS in a product.

SGS solution

In response, we now offer a tailor-made PFAS Test Program as a one-stop solution to meet EU, US and other market requirements, providing client support for compliance and product integrity.

GS PFAS test methods:

- Total Fluorine Screening reference to EN 14582
  - Suitable for US market regulations where the substance list has not been well defined
  - Quick method to check any non-intentionally added fluorinated substance, or any contamination of fluorinated substance in the final product
- Individual PFAS test
  - Fulfil EU POP and REACH regulatory PFAS substance requirements
  - Focus on market requirements and worldwide regulations governing SGS's optimized target list of PFAS substances list

Additionally, we are able to provide services for Total Organic Fluorine screening and other tailor-made testing against client-specific protocols.

Our PFAS test program consists of:

STEP 1: EVALUATING PRODUCT	STEP 2: DEFINING TEST APPROACH	STEP 3: TESTING AS PER PLAN	STEP 4: REPORTING
Evaluation of the product and definition of a "High Risk Product"	Design an appropriate customized test approach	Application of appropriate test methods	Issue test report with conclusion or data

WHY CHOOSE SGS?

We are the world's leading testing, inspection and certification company. With a global network of state-of-the-art laboratories and a team of dedicated professionals from diverse disciplines, we deliver comprehensive physical, chemical and functional testing for components, materials and finished products.

For more information or support regarding program development, please contact: Global.SL.DAMO.Platform@sgs.com

sgs.com

When you need to be sure