abcmacintosh
fire fighting chemicals

Summary of PFAS Regulation

Update on PFAS restriction. October 2025.

We would like to inform you that the **Commission Regulation (EU) 2025/1988 on the prohibition of fluorinated firefighting foams** was officially published on **October 3, 2025**.

This new legislation introduces **mandatory phase-out of all remaining fluorinated extinguishing agents and fire extinguishers (C6)** after specified transition periods. Once the regulation enters into force, the use and placing on the market of PFAS-containing products will be progressively restricted.

Below you will find an overview of the key transition deadlines and requirements.

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1. Portable Fire Extinguishers

- **Placing on the market:**
  PFAS-containing portable fire extinguishers may be placed on the market **until October 23, 2026**.
- **Exception:**
  Alcohol-resistant firefighting foams in portable fire extinguishers may be placed on the market **until April 23, 2027**.
- **Use:**
  Existing PFAS-containing portable fire extinguishers may continue to be used **until December 31, 2030**.

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2. Firefighting Foams (e.g., in fixed systems)

- **Placing on the market and use:**
  From **October 23, 2030**, firefighting foams with a **total PFAS concentration ≥ 1 mg/l** may **no longer be placed on the market or used**.
- **Exception for cleaned equipment:**
  Use is permitted up to **50 mg/l**, except in portable fire extinguishers.
- **Training and testing:**
  Use permitted **until April 23, 2027**, if foam collection is ensured.
  Applies to public and private fire departments and industrial fire scenarios under **Directive 2012/18/EU**.
- **Extended exception until October 23, 2035** for:
  - Companies covered by **Directive 2012/18/EU** (excluding civil aviation)
  - Offshore oil and gas facilities
  - Military vessels
  - Civilian ships (if foam was onboard before **October 23, 2025**)

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Requirements for continued use:

- Use limited to **fire class B**
- Minimize environmental and health impacts as much as technically and practically possible
- Ensure **separation of PFAS inventory and PFAS waste**
- Maintain a **management plan** detailing:
  - Usage conditions and quantities
  - Storage, cleaning, and maintenance procedures
  - Contingency plan for accidental releases
  - Transition strategy to PFAS-free firefighting foams
  - Annual review and retention for **15 years** for authorities

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3. Labelling Requirements

From **October 23, 2026**, all firefighting foams (excluding portable extinguishers) — both in inventory and as waste — must bear the following label:

WARNING: Contains per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS)
with a concentration greater than or equal to 1 mg/l for the sum of all PFAS.

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4. Existing Restrictions

The current restrictions on **PFOS, PFOA, C8, C9–C14 PFCA** remain fully in effect.

Next Steps

We recommend that you begin planning your transition to PFAS-free solutions early.
Our Smartfoam product line offers **fluorine-free and solvent free firefighting alternatives**, ensuring both **sustainability and safety**.

Our team is ready to support you with:

- Expert advice on compliance and transition planning
- Environmentally friendly product options
- Implementation guidance and technical assistance

If you have any questions or require further assistance, please don't hesitate to contact our team. By planning your transition early, you not only ensure compliance but also make an important contribution to environmental protection.
We are proud to accompany you on this path toward cleaner, PFAS-free firefighting.

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