



# POPs Chemicals

## Perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA), its salts and PFOA-related compounds

**CAS No.** 335-67-1

**HS Code:** 29159090

**Full Name:** Perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA), its salts and PFOA-related compounds

### Synonyms:

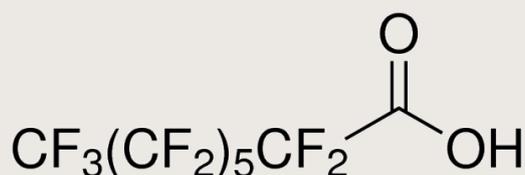
Perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA), including any of its branched isomers; Its salts; PFOA-related compounds which, for the purposes of the Convention, are any substances that degrade to PFOA, including any substances (including salts and polymers) having a linear or branched perfluoroheptyl group with the moiety (C<sub>7</sub>F<sub>15</sub>)C as one of the structural elements;

### Uses:

PFOA, its salts and PFOA-related compounds are used widely in the production of fluoroelastomers and fluoropolymers, for the production of non-stick kitchen ware, food processing equipment. PFOA-related compounds, including side-chain fluorinated polymers, are used as surfactants and surface treatment agents in textiles, paper and paints, firefighting foams. PFOA has been detected in industrial waste, stain resistant carpets, carpet cleaning liquids, house dust, microwave popcorn bags, water, food, and Teflon. Unintentional formation of PFOA is created from inadequate incineration of fluoropolymers from municipal solid waste incineration with inappropriate incineration or open burning facilities at moderate temperatures.

### Hazards and Risks to human health and the environment:

*PFOA is identified as a substance of very high concern with a persistent, bioaccumulative and toxic structure for the environment and living organisms. PFOA-related compounds are released into the air, water, soil and solid waste, and degrade to PFOA in the environment and in organisms. Major health issues such as kidney cancer, testicular cancer, thyroid disease, pregnancy-induced hypertension, high cholesterol have been linked to PFOA.*



### Reference

1. Risk management evaluation on pentadecafluorooctanoic acid (PFOA, perfluorooctanoic acid), its salts and PFOA-related compounds. Persistent Organic Pollutants Review Committee. 2017; UNEP/POPS/POPRC.13/7/Add.2
2. Addendum to the risk management evaluation on perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA), its salts and PFOA-related compounds. Persistent Organic Pollutants Review Committee. 2018; UNEP/POPS/POPRC.14/6/Add.2
3. Toxipedia. PFOA. 2010. (<http://www.toxipedia.org/display/toxipedia/Teflon+-+Sticky+When+It+Comes+to+Health?src=search>)
4. Green Facts. 2017. Hazards and risk associated to Perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA), its salts and PFOA-related substances. (<https://www.greenfacts.org/en/pfoa-cookware-waterproofing/index.htm>)
5. European Chemicals Agency. ECHA. MEMBER STATE COMMITTEE SUPPORT DOCUMENT FOR IDENTIFICATION OF PENTADECAFLUOROCTANOIC ACID (PFOA)PFOA). 2013.

Secretariat of the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm Conventions

11-13, Chemin des Anémones

1219 Châtelaïne, Switzerland

Tel: +41 22 917 8271

Email: [brs@brsmeas.org](mailto:brs@brsmeas.org)

Website: [www.pops.int](http://www.pops.int)



STOCKHOLM CONVENTION

**UN**  
environment  
programme