

Newsletter Issue 5/2024

EU-wide restrictions of use of a sub-group of PFAS chemicals to protect human health and the environment

By decision of 19 September 2024, the Commission has adopted new measures¹ under the REACH Regulation – the EU chemicals legislation - to protect human health and the environment by restricting the use of

- **undecafluorohexanoic acid ('PFHxA') and**
- **PFHxA -related substances.**

These sub-groups of per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances ('PFAS') are very persistent and mobile in water, and their use in certain products poses an unacceptable risk to human health and the environment.

The restriction imposed is distinct from the potential restriction on the entire PFAS group ('universal PFAS restriction') which the European Chemicals Agency (ECHA) is assessing following a 2023 proposal by five European governments.

¹ Commission Regulation (EU) 2024/2462 of 19 September 2024 amending Annex XVII to Regulation (EC) No 1907/2006 of the European Parliament and of the Council as regards undecafluorohexanoic acid (PFHxA), its salts and PFHxA-related substances