

Environment and Sustainability

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Declaration on the use of per- and polyfluorinated alkyl substances

To whom it may concern,

Thank you for your inquiry regarding the use of per- and polyfluorinated alkyl substances (PFAS) in Beckhoff Automation products. The group of PFAS compounds comprises more than 10,000 substances. The use of some of these substances (including PFOS and PFOA) have classifications that are restricted in the EU by REACH Regulation (EC) No. 1907/2006 and POPs Regulation (EU) 2019/2021. Beckhoff Automation products comply with these European material compliance regulations. Due to their stability and persistence in the environment, the group of PFAS compounds has become the focus of environmental authorities in Europe and the USA and we are monitoring plans for a universal PFAS restriction proposal in Europe as well as the reporting requirements under the Toxic Substance Control Act (TSCA) Section 8(a)(7) in the US.

Beckhoff Automation has conducted a risk assessment of the use of materials containing PFAS for the product that we manufacture. PFAS are not intentionally added to our products, but PFAS compounds are used in the manufacture of fluoroelastomers such as polytetrafluoroethylene (PTFE) and fluoroelastomer (FKM), which are used, for example, in the form of internal seals and gaskets in our products.

These are used, for example, in our servo motor, servo drive, and gearbox series, as well as in EtherCAT Box modules and our cables and connectors.

The material for the cables and connectors is described in the data sheets. The data sheets are made available on the website for each product.

The performance characteristic of fluoroelastomers, in terms of heat resistance, resistance to chemicals and oils, and embrittlement, demonstrates material qualities that substitute materials do not achieve. Switching to alternative products reduces service life and increases maintenance costs.

Beckhoff Automation will continue to monitor the regulatory process and will adapt products if this becomes necessary due to changes in applicable regulations. Please contact us or visit our web site for more information on our products.

Best Regards
Beckhoff Automation GmbH & Co. KG
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