



PFCs: Outcome of the 2009 OECD Survey

Survey on the production, use and release of PFOS, PFAS, PFOA PFCA, their related substances and products/mixtures containing these substances

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OECD activities related to PFAS and PFCA chemicals

Two OECD surveys conducted in 2004 and 2006

Governments in OECD member countries

Designated National Authorities (DNA) of the Rotterdam Convention

Focal Points for the Stockholm Convention.

Information collected on importation and manufacture volumes, uses of PFOS, PFAS, PFOA and PFCAs and their higher and lower homologues and polymers that contain PFCA or PFAS as a portion of the entire polymer.

An OECD sponsored workshop on PFCAs and Precursors held in 2006

Workshop recommended that the OECD with BIAC identify a way to collect more reliable data from companies on production and use of perfluorinated chemicals (PFCs)



Reasons for unreliable data from previous 2 surveys

- Production and importation volumes reported by countries in ranges because of CBI issues
- Alternatives could not be named because of CBI
- Importers, in many cases, were not aware of the perfluorinated compounds in the imported products because the names were not included in the labels
- Insufficient details on uses of the chemicals
- Import volumes reported in the survey responses could not be distinguished from the production volumes resulting in double counting during analysis of responses



2009 Survey

Differed from the previous surveys in that

- Information requested from manufacturers of perfluorinated chemicals and/or products
- Focused on
 - chain lengths of C6 and higher PFAS chemicals (including PFOS)
 - chain lengths of C8 and higher PFCAs (including PFOA)
 - Chemicals that potentially degrade to PFAS and PFCA compounds and are of potentially of high risk and are bioaccumulative
- No importation data sought



Survey Methodology

- Seventy three PFCs were identified for inclusion in the survey by the OECD Pefluorinated Chemicals Steering Group
- Questionnaires and the list of chemicals sent to 27 companies identified as manufacturers in OECD and non-OECD countries



Information Collected

- Information collected for 2008
- Chemical name & CAS number
- concentration in products
- mass quantity in the products (residual)
- use of the chemical/product
- amount of substance released to air, water, land
- amount transferred offsite – reason for transfer ie reuse, recycling or destruction by incineration



PFC Groups

Chemical Groupings

PFOS and related substances

PFAS and related substances

PFOA, C8:2 fluorotelomers and other PFOA
related substances

PFCA, longer chain Cn:2 fluorotelomers and
other PFCA related Substances



Results

- 9/27 companies surveyed responded (low response rate on a global basis – 33%)
- Majority of the companies in the OECD countries responded to the survey
- The surveyed chemicals manufactured or formulated products globally at 18 sites in 7 countries
- 42/73 PFCs surveyed were manufactured and/or formulated into products
- Responses included 3 chemicals not in the survey list



Reported uses of PFCs and PFC products

Wide range of uses

- AFFF agents / surfactants / surface protectants
- Manufacture of fluoropolymers
- Raw material for surface treatment agent
- Anti reflective coatings (ARCs) for photolithography processes
- Coatings / additives
- Etchants for Aluminium Surface active agents
- Gaskets / seals / membranes / cable insulations
- Tubing / pipe liners / cable insulation
- Impregnation of glass or plastic
- Ion Exchange
- Lubricants
- Water/oil repellent
- Treatment of industrial stream



PFAS & Related Chemicals



PFOS, PFAS and related substances

	<i>PFOS & related compounds</i>	<i>PFAS and related compounds</i>
Manufacture	PFOS, ammonium, potassium salts and a fluoride derivative	perfluorohexane sulfonate, potassium salt and perfluorohexane sulfonyl fluoride
Uses	mist suppressant for chromium plating, processing aid in the manufacture of fluoropolymers and in medical devices	anti-reflective coatings
Releases	<2.5 tonnes released or transferred offsite with <1.5 tonnes released to waterways and rest incinerated	Releases of <0.08 tonnes with 80% of this to local waterways, very little to air, approx 55 kg incinerated



PFOA, C8:2 Fluorotelomers and other PFOA-related Substances



PFOA, C8:2 fluorotelomers and other related substances

Manufacture

- PFOA and five related substances produced in 2008
- Five C8:2 fluorotelomers (PFOA-related substances) manufactured and formulated into products
- Total amount of PFOA present in products as unreacted residual was less than 1.5 tonnes
- Other related substances in the products including the C8:2 fluorotelomers were approximately 22 tonnes

Uses

- Variety of uses reported for PFOA products and related substances - surfactants and surface protectants
- Largest single use of PFOA was as an intermediate in the manufacture of fluoropolymers

Releases

- Release of PFOA, C8:2 fluorotelomers and other PFOA-related substances constituted approximately 55% of the total environmental releases of the four groups of PFCs.
- Most of the releases were to landfills



PFOA and PFOA-related substances manufactured in 2008

CAS No.	Substance	Residual Qty in products
<i>PFOA and salts / esters</i>		
335-67-1	PFOA	<5.5 tonnes
90480-55-0	PFOA branched	
376-27-2	Methyl perfluorooctanoate	
2395-00-8	PFOA potassium salt	
3825-26-1	PFOA ammonium salt	
72968-38-8	Fatty acids C7-13, perfluoro, ammonium salts	
<i>PFOA related substances (excluding C8:2 fluorotelomers)</i>		
507-63-1	Perfluorooctyl iodide	



PFCAs, longer chain Cn:2 fluorotelomers and other PFCA-related substances



PFCA, salts and related substances

CAS No.	Substance	Residual Qty in products
<i>PFCA substances</i>		
307-55-1	Perfluorododecanoic acid (PFDoA)	<0.003
375-95-1	Perfluorononanoic acid (PFNA)	<1.2
4149-60-4	Amm. perfluorononanoate (APFN)	<0.001
335-76-2	Perfluorodecanoic acid (PFDA)	<0.01
2058-94-8	Perfluoroundecanoic acid (PFUnA)	
<i>PFCA related substances excluding Cn:2 fluorotelomers</i>		
423-62-1	C10-iodide	<0.1
307-60-8	C12-iodide	
307-63-1	C14-iodide	
355-50-0	C16-iodide	



General Observations

Conclusions



Release of PFCs to Environment

- Seven companies (7/9) provided release information, not sufficient to provide a global view
- 38 perfluorinated chemicals were released to the environment or transferred offsite
- Majority (<225 tonnes) were disposed of by incineration, or reused or recycled, particularly for PFOA and related chemicals
- Of the total amount of all PFCs released to the environment
 - <9 tonnes were released to air with <2.2 t as fugitive release and approximately 9 tonnes as stack release
 - <7 tonnes to water, generally to local waterways
 - major proportion of environmental release was to landfills



Summary of release and offsite transfer of PFCs (tonnes)

<i>Chemical Group</i>	<i>Releases to the environment</i>	<i>Reuse, recycling or incineration</i>
PFOS and related substances	<1.50	<0.75
PFAS and related substances	<0.08	<0.055
PFOA and related substances	Cannot be reported	<201
PFCA and related substances	Cannot be reported	<23.0
Total	Cannot be reported	<225.0



Conclusions

- The 2009 survey results are important as a starting point for future surveys
- Participation in future surveys by companies from non-OECD countries would generate valuable data for monitoring the production and release of perfluorinated chemicals and provide an accurate picture of the global environmental loading of these chemicals
- The 2009 OECD survey report is available at <http://www.oecd.org/officialdocuments/displaydocumentpdf/?cote=env/jm/mono%282011%291&doclanguage=en>
- The next survey is proposed to be conducted in 2012



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