



PFAS Acronym Guide

Get clarity on acronyms used in PFAS research, regulation,
and remediation efforts



PFAS: The Ultimate Acronym List

Per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) have been a significant focus of environmental and public health concern in recent years. These compounds, characterized by their unique chemical structure featuring fluorine atoms bonded to carbon atoms, have garnered attention due to their widespread presence, persistence in the environment, and potential adverse health effects.

It's safe to say that the topic of PFAS can be daunting, especially given the volume of acronyms and abbreviations we use when referring to this complex class of chemicals. That's why we've come up with this comprehensive acronym guide. Think of it as a handy resource for technical professionals working in fields like environmental science, toxicology, chemistry, engineering, and regulatory compliance.

Whether you're grappling with deciphering regulatory frameworks, interpreting scientific studies, or need to communicate effectively within interdisciplinary teams, this guide demystifies PFAS-related terminology so that you can get ready for any incoming restrictions.



ACRONYMS LIST - IN ALPHABETICAL ORDER

CAS: Chemical Abstracts Service (number)

A CAS number is a unique identifier for chemical substances.

CLP: Classification, Labelling and Packaging

The CLP regulation ensures that chemical hazards are communicated to users via labelling.

ECHA: European Chemicals Agency

ECHA is the EU agency charged with the implementation of legislation related to chemical use in the EU, and in this case, it is ECHA who published the PFAS restriction proposal.

EPA: Environmental Protection Agency

This body is responsible for the protection of human health and the environment.

MDI: Metered Dose Inhaler

This is a commonly used medical device that delivers a specifically measured quantity of medication to the lungs via a spray.

OECD: Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development

The OECD is an international, intergovernmental organization working to promote sustainability, global trade, and economic growth. It is the OECD definition of PFAS that is used to define the scope of the chemicals impacted by the restriction proposal.

PFAS: Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances

A substance that contains at least one fully fluorinated methyl (CF₃-) or methylene (-CF₂-) carbon atom (without any H/Cl/Br/I attached to it). – OECD definition.

PTFE: Polytetrafluoroethylene

The most popular PFAS in the group, with the most known use being Teflon.

RAC: Risk Assessment Committee

This is a subcommittee of ECHA, responsible for assessing the risks related to human and environmental health.

R&D: Research & Development

The R&D function will be an important part of any device redesign that will be required following changes in PFAS components.



RA: Regulatory Affairs

The regulatory affairs function will play an important part in the implementation of any restrictions on the use of PFAS.

RO: Restriction Option

The EU restriction proposal presents two restriction options – RO1 and RO2.

RO1: Restriction Option 1

Under RO1, a full ban on the use of PFAS would be implemented following an 18-month transition period.

RO2: Restriction Option 2

Under RO2, two use-dependent derogations are proposed – 5 years and 12 years. The proposal presents RO2 as the preferred option.

REACH: Registration, Evaluation, Authorisation and Restriction of Chemicals

A regulation that aims to improve the protection of human health and the environment from the risks posed by chemicals.

RoHS: Restriction of Hazardous Substances

The RoHS Directive (2002/95/EC) restricts the use of certain hazardous substances in electrical and electronic equipment.

SDS: Safety Data Sheet

A document containing information on certain substances, the hazards they pose, and any applicable storage or handling instructions.

SEAC: Committee for Socio-economic Analysis

SEAC is a scientific committee that examines the socio-economic impact of proposals issued by ECHA and third parties. In relation to PFAS, SEAC is currently reviewing the restriction proposal and related feedback, after which they will publish their official opinion on the content.

TULAC: Textiles, Upholstery, Leather, Apparel, and Carpets

One of the industries heavily featured in the restriction proposal is the TULAC industry. While not related to medical devices, the acronym is frequently used in the report.

WEEE: Waste of Electrical and Electronic Equipment

The WEEE Directive (2012/19/EU) covers the electrical and electronic equipment used by consumers and is also intended for professional use. It promotes recycling and introduces registration and reporting requirements for specific volumes of EEE.

NEED FURTHER SUPPORT?

Trinzo can provide expertise for projects of all sizes:

Our team provides seamless guidance on viable alternatives, sustainability strategy, supply chain impacts, stakeholder management and regulatory obligations, allowing for effective PFAS phase-outs that don't compromise care standards or market access. Book your free, no-obligation consultation to chat to one of our team members today.

Schedule a free consultation:



Phone:

Call us at **+353 (0) 91 394 804** to speak directly with our customer support team and schedule your consultation.



Email:

Send an email to info@trinzo.com with your preferred time, and our team will promptly confirm your appointment.





Driving Impact, Leading Change



Contact Us :

+353 (0) 91 394 804

www.trinzo.com
info@trinzo.com

Level One, Liosbán Business Park,
Tuam Road, Co. Galway, Ireland