



DuPont Statement on PFOA and the Use of Fluoropolymers in the Communications Cable Industry

Perfluorooctanoate (PFOA) is a polymerization aid used in the manufacture of fluoropolymer resins and coatings. Although PFOA is an unregulated compound, it has been used safely and responsibly by DuPont for more than 50 years.

On April 14, 2003, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) issued its preliminary risk assessment of PFOA. In that assessment, EPA stated that while “EPA has not made a determination as to whether PFOA poses an unreasonable risk to the public,” “EPA does not believe there is any reason for consumers to stop using consumer or industrial products” that may be associated with PFOA.

EPA’s report also states that, “Although fluoropolymers are made using PFOA, the finished products themselves are not expected to contain PFOA.”

In DuPont’s manufacturing process, PFOA is a polymerization aid that is removed from the resin after polymerization. Based on the high temperatures used to process the FEP resin during manufacturing and our PFOA degradation testing data, we expect that DuPont FEP resins delivered to customers contain no PFOA. Furthermore, should there be a trace or non-detectable level of PFOA present, our degradation data indicate that it would be destroyed in a normal wire line extrusion process, and that no PFOA should be present in the finished cable.

DuPont shares the EPA desire to safeguard human health and the environment, and respects the agency’s position that there are still questions about PFOA that need to be addressed. DuPont continues to affirm its position that there is no evidence indicating adverse human health effects related to low levels of exposure to PFOA, a position supported by an extensive scientific database of both publicly available, peer-reviewed studies and employee surveillance information.

Questions to DuPont on this subject may be directed to Diane Shomper at 302-999-3392 (USA); or Jim Hoover at 302-999-3081 (USA), DuPont *iComm* Venture.

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