

Application for exemption from EU REACH PFAS control for fluoropolymers (PTFE)

Topic: Application for Permanent Exemption for Fluoropolymers (PTFE)

Reasons: First, fluoropolymers, i.e., polytetrafluoroethylene (PTFE), are safe, and they do not have the toxicological and environmental properties associated with any PFAS. Second, the raw material tape and PTFE wrap processed with polytetrafluoroethylene have high and low temperature resistance and corrosion resistance, and there is no substitute at present.

Applicant: Hangzhou Fuwo Plastic Products Co., LTD, China

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According to an article published in the new issue of the International Review of Chemical Regulation and Law (ICRL 1/2022) by Chemserv Group, a leading independent consulting firm in the chemical industry, fluoropolymers, i.e., polytetrafluoroethylene (PTFE), are safe, and they do not have any of the toxicological and environmental properties associated with PFAS. In particular, they are safe, non-mobile, non-bioaccumulative and non-toxic. They are high molecular weight substances that meet the criteria for low concern, non-toxic polymers and are considered to have negligible impact on the environment and human health.

The raw tapes produced by our company with PTFE are widely used as sealing of various pipes, fittings, valves, joints and insulating wrapping of wires and cables for some special electrical and electronic, medical, aerospace and aviation fields due to its strong corrosion resistance, high and low temperature resistance (-190°C -260°C), long service life, good sealing, and excellent insulating properties. From the application of raw material in life and industry and to meet the needs of various industries in society, there is no substitute at present.

Based on the above two points, it can be seen that raw tapes, in terms of their production process and use and their downstream applications, do not harm the environment and human beings, and there are no relevant alternatives, and our company has applied that PTFE should be exempted and allowed to continue to be produced and used.

At present, the polytetrafluoroethylene industry accounts for a large proportion of the entire industry, and once it is stopped, it will lead to an unpredictable bankruptcy and unemployment

peak in the society, and hope that the European Commission can have insight in advance and properly handle it step by step.