

## **Gujarat Fluorochemicals Ltd to stop supply of irradiated PTFE micropowders**

The regulations that affect the supply of PTFE micropowders are being revised regularly. The upper limit on PFOA content imposed by the REACH regulation has become strict and will become 25 ppb by July 2022. C9-C14 PFCA compounds, that could degrade to PFOA, are also under heavy scrutiny by the regulating bodies.

It is a well-established fact that irradiation of PTFE, via electron-beam or gamma irradiation, leads to the formation of large quantities of PFOA and C9-C14 PFCA compounds, that must be removed from the milled PTFE micropowders before these can be sold or used in various applications.

GFL has deployed the best available technology from a reputed third party to recover all PFOA generated which is captured and incinerated to ensure there is no release to the environment.

However, as a good corporate entity, we do not wish to continue our involvement into any such process that generates PFOA.

In view of the impact on the general health and the persistent pollution of the environment by PFOA and C9-14 PFCA substances, the board of GFL have decided to stop offering PTFE micropowders based on irradiation technology.

We will facilitate the transition of our customers to PTFE micropowders manufactured by technologies that do not require irradiation. GFL has invested heavily into the following sustainable manufacturing technologies:

1. Direct polymerization of low molecular weight PTFE polymer (PMP): INOLUB™ T200-series
2. Thermo-mechanical process to reduce molecular weight of PTFE (XMP): INOLUB™ T300 series.

Products produced by both technologies are compliant with the stricter REACH regulation of July 2022. The PMP micropowders contain no detectable PFOA (detection limit 1 ppb). The XMP micropowders contain significantly less than 25 ppb PFOA.

The INOLUB PTFE micropowders produced via the PMP and XMP production technologies are being used on commercial scale by many companies and these products have proven to have equal or even better performance than irradiated products.

We will be able to supply alternative products from the INOLUB™ T200-series or from the INOLUB™ T300-series.