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To the business partner of

Mannesmann Precision Tubes GmbH
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Mannesmann Precision Tubes France
Mannesmann Precision Tubes Netherlands BV

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Possible ban on per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances in the EU (ECHA PFAS restriction procedure)

Dear Sir or Madam,

Thank you for your inquiry regarding the implementation of the substance-specific topic of per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) in our products steel pipe and steel.

PFAS are a group of industrial chemicals that include a very large number of substances. They are organic compounds in which the hydrogen atoms are completely ("perfluorinated") or partially ("polyfluorinated") replaced by fluorine atoms. Due to their special properties, they have been used for a long time in many industrial sectors and also in the household.

In industry, PFAS are used in a range of specialty applications, such as in the manufacture of perfluoropolymers, chromium plating, and the manufacture of semiconductors.

In steel and steel pipes, PFAS are typically used as coatings to protect the surfaces and improve their properties. For example, PFAS-coated pipes are used in the chemical and petrochemical industries to protect them from corrosion. PFAS-coated steel is used in the automotive industry, for example, to protect surfaces from wear and corrosion.

Current status on the topic of PFAS

Since January 2023, the European Chemicals Agency (ECHA) has been running a procedure to restrict and ban PFAS. The proposal was drafted under REACH, the EU Regulation on the Registration, Evaluation, Authorisation and Restriction of Chemicals.

As of the current status (as of 01/2025), the consultation and evaluation process has been completed with consultation with the affected industrial sectors. The ECHA committees are tasked with carrying out the technical assessment. According to the REACH Regulation, the subsequent planned statements by RAC and SEAC are to be completed within 12 months.

With regard to the complexity and scope of the restriction proposal, this will be a major challenge for the committees involved. Once these are available, the European Commission, together with the EU Member States, will decide on a potential restriction.

Legal clarity and clarity will therefore exist at the earliest in the fourth quarter of 2024.

Due to the current ban procedure, there is currently no legal obligation to notify or provide information.

It is also unclear which specific substance compounds will be banned in whole or in part in the future.

Possible effects on our and your products

If a ban or restriction on PFAS is introduced, this could have an impact on our and your products. For example, the following measures could be required:

- Switching to other materials or coatings
- Adapting manufacturing processes
- Changing product specifications

Our actions

We are closely monitoring developments on the topic of PFAS and will take the necessary measures to protect our customers and our environment. As soon as we have further information, we will inform you.

Best regards

Mannesmann Precision Tubes GmbH