

## News Release

For Immediate Release

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Contact: Liz Bowman (202) 249-6509

Email: [Liz\\_Bowman@americanchemistry.com](mailto:Liz_Bowman@americanchemistry.com)

### **U.S. EPA CONFIRMS THAT FLUOROCOUNCIL COMPANIES ARE ‘ON TRACK’ TO PHASE OUT LONG-CHAIN CHEMICALS BY YEAR’S END**

*CDC biomonitoring data show a reduction in human blood levels*

WASHINGTON – The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)’s [January 15, 2015 statement](#) accompanying its proposal for a Significant New Use Rule (SNUR) for long-chain perfluoroalkyl carboxylate chemicals highlighted the success of the voluntary stewardship efforts of the FluoroCouncil member companies to phase out long-chain perfluorinated chemicals world-wide through the [2010/2015 PFOA Stewardship Program](#).

“As U.S. EPA [explains](#), FluoroCouncil member companies’ voluntary work with U.S. EPA on the 2010/2015 Stewardship Program has led to ‘real progress to reduce these chemicals’ and the [successful development of ] over 150 alternatives,” said Jessica Bowman, executive director of the FluoroCouncil.

PFOA is a synthetic chemical compound that has been used to manufacture certain fluoropolymer products and has now been virtually eliminated in the U.S.

In 2006, members of the FluoroCouncil voluntarily committed to eliminate the global use of PFOA and related chemicals from emissions and product content through the 2010/2015 PFOA Stewardship Program. New reporting data published by U.S. EPA show that Stewardship Program companies – including all FluoroCouncil members – are on track to meet the goal of globally phasing out these chemicals completely by the end of 2015.

“We hope the SNUR will be effective in eliminating the manufacture and use of long-chain fluorochemicals by companies not participating in the Stewardship Program,” said Bowman. “CDC biomonitoring data showing a reduction in human blood levels is evidence that the Stewardship Program has been successful in reducing the level of these target substances in the environment and in humans more quickly than regulation could have achieved. To maintain the gains of the Stewardship Program against these chemicals re-entering the marketplace, broad regulation is also required by U.S. EPA, including this newly-proposed SNUR.”

The phase out of long-chain fluorochemistries has resulted in a transition to alternatives such as short-chain fluorochemicals. The short-chain alternatives offer the same high-performance benefits of their predecessors, but cannot degrade to form PFOA. The short-chain materials and products also have improved environmental and human health profiles.

Fluorochemicals are essential to many important products, including: wire and cable insulation for computer and cell phone circuits to enable high-speed data transfer; high reliability hoses for aircraft and cars to reduce emissions; firefighting foams for extinguishing aircraft and oilfield fires; and processing chemicals for semiconductor manufacture. FluoroTechnology makes important products and vital industries possible.

For more information about the Stewardship Program, please visit:

<http://www.fluorocouncil.org/Innovations-Stewardship>.

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[www.FluoroCouncil.org](http://www.FluoroCouncil.org)

*The FluoroCouncil is a global trade association representing the world’s leading FluoroTechnology companies. Founded in 2011, our membership is composed of companies that manufacture FluoroTechnology products: fluoropolymer products, fluorotelomer-based products, fluoro-surfactants, and fluoro-surface property modification agents. The members of the FluoroCouncil are Archroma Management LLC, Arkema France, Asahi Glass Co., Ltd., Daikin Industries, Ltd., DuPont Company and Solvay Specialty Polymers.*