

Kirchbach, 26th of August 2024

Statement regarding ECHA's Proposed PFAS Restrictions

Dear Sir or Madam,

We are writing to inform you about the potential impact on Miba Resistors Austria GmbH products due to a recent proposal by the European Chemicals Agency (ECHA) to limit the use of per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) owing to their possible risks to human health and the environment.

The proposal calls for restrictions on the manufacturing, usage, and marketing of PFAS, including limitations on their use in imported products. This restriction would cover a wide spectrum of PFAS, encompassing both long-chain and certain short-chain variations. We understand that this proposal might generate concern and uncertainty.

Miba Resistors Austria GmbH employs PFAS in various applications, such as cables and electronic components. These applications benefit from the critical optical functions or electrical insulation provided by PFAS, as well as their favorable dielectric properties, processability, thermal, and chemical resistance. We are currently evaluating the potential impacts of the proposed restriction and considering its consequences for our products and the industry. It is crucial to acknowledge that finding a direct 1:1 replacement is largely impractical at present. Our suppliers are actively working on future solutions to provide our customers with PFAS-free options.

The final decision on the restriction will be made by the European Commission. The Committees for Risk Assessment (RAC) and Socio-economic Analysis (SEAC) will express their opinion on the proposal in 2024, with the restriction anticipated to take effect in 2025 following an 18-month transition period. The duration of the derogation period is expected to be either 5 or 12 years, depending on the restriction option selected for the application.

With this letter, we aim to draw your attention to a potential change in the aforementioned legislation. However, it is important to note that there are currently no restrictions on the sale or usage of our products.

Should there be any legislative changes, we are committed to supporting our customers in planning the transition to replacement options. We will continuously monitor the situation and keep you updated on any developments.

Yours sincerely,
Miba Resistors Austria GmbH