

# PFAS and the Paper Industry



## Technical, Engineering and Regulatory Support

**Per- and poly-fluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) are a group of synthetic chemicals resistant to heat, water and oil that have been used in the manufacturing of a number of consumer products, including coated paper and packaging. Today, these chemicals are considered persistent toxins and have been found to be ubiquitous in our environment.**

Designed and formulated for persistence, PFAS resist decomposition and migrate from waste streams and emissions of various manufacturing processes to our drinking water and the atmosphere. Health concerns for PFAS have caused many states to sample water supplies and establish guidelines and/or enforcement limits.

### **The Risk to Pulp and Paper Mills**

As more data emerge about thousands of PFAS chemicals, regulations are increasing throughout the country. Companies that manufacture coated paper and cardboard products for oil, grease and moisture resistance may face potential historical liabilities. PFAS detected in these products include PFOA, PFHxA, PFBS, 6:2-FTS, N-MeFOSE, N-EtFOSE and N-EtFOSAA.

### **Managing Risk**

Mills should take a simple course of action to understand current and historical use of fluorinated chemicals:

1. Initiate systemwide raw material inventories.

2. Sample waste streams (process and sanitary sewer streams, etc.) and residual solids.
3. Retain technical and legal resources to oversee your evaluations and manage your business risk.

### **Nationwide Expertise in PFAS Research and Regulations Impacting the Paper Industry**

TRC's nationwide staff includes leading PFAS researchers and former risk managers from the pulp and paper industry. We have a deep understanding of the processes used to produce paper products and the complex sampling and analysis needed to identify PFAS.

Our Center of Research and Expertise (CORE) is a national leader on PFAS toxicity, fate and transport, sampling and analytical and remediation methods who can assure that testing programs are done properly and treatment/disposal plans are in place to control exceedances.

In addition, TRC's air emissions monitoring services professionals develop, implement and evaluate ambient and source testing for PFAS compounds.

TRC's overall goal is to help you manage your risk at a time of regulatory uncertainty. With staff located in all regions of the contiguous United States, we bring both a national and local perspective to the issue and how developing legislation will affect the future of our clients.

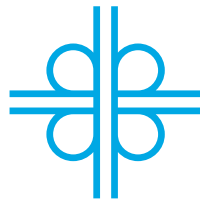
## About TRC

Groundbreaker. Game changer. Innovator. TRC is a global firm providing environmentally focused and digitally powered solutions that address local needs. For more than 50 years, we have set the bar for clients who require consulting, construction, engineering and management services, combining science with the latest technology to devise solutions that stand the test of time.

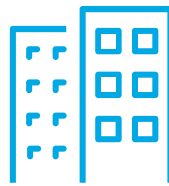
TRC's nearly 6,000 professionals serve a broad range of public and private clients, guiding complex projects from conception to completion to help solve the toughest challenges. We break through barriers for our clients and help them follow through for sustainable results.



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