

PFAS in Metal Plating



Quality management, engineering and regulatory support

Per- and poly-fluoroalkyl substances have been used in the metal plating and finishing industry since the 1950s to control hazardous chromic acid mist and improve the stability and quality of copper, nickel, and tin finishing baths. Today, sites around the world have PFAS contamination from this source, which can include PFOS, 6:2-fluorotelomer-based compounds, a PFBS-based compound and fluorotelomer-based F-53 and F-53B.

No federal regulations for PFAS exist, but states have already initiated testing of surface water and groundwater around plating facilities with reported releases or where drinking water has been found to contain PFAS.

As more data emerge about PFAS chemicals, regulations are on the increase. You can act now to identify and resolve potential historical liabilities that could result from direct or indirect sources of PFAS to the environment.

- 1. Review records to understand the types of chemicals you have used in the metal plating processes.
- 2. Carry out a wastewater sampling and analysis program.

PFAS Management Solutions All Under One Roof

TRC provides all of the resources you need to complete these steps. Our nationwide staff includes experts in emerging contaminant research and a world-renowned environmental engineering practice with 50 years of experience.

Proven Results

We've carried out sampling and analysis programs for metal plating facilities with confirmed and unconfirmed use of PFAS-based surfactants and wetting agents.

Quality is at Our CORE

Identifying PFAS is complex and different than typical environmental contaminants. TRC's Center of Research and Expertise (CORE) plans and manages the entire process to make sure the sampling is done right and the results are representative before you spend any money to install treatment, containment or disposal systems.

Our overall goal is to help you manage your risk at a time of legal and regulatory uncertainty. With staff located in all regions of the contiguous United States, we have a close watch on how developing legislation will affect the future of our clients.

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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.



Utilities















Digital Solutions