



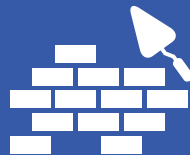
PFAS in the Construction Industry

Perfluoroalkyl & polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) are a diverse group of synthetic compounds distinguished by their versatility, strength, and durability, setting them apart from other chemicals. There are perhaps as many as 700 commercially active substances that may be considered PFAS. However, not all PFAS compounds are the same - they contain unique properties and characteristics that yield distinct environmental and health profiles. PFAS compounds are highly differentiated, and while some may require limitations or prohibitions from certain uses, others have well-established profiles and do not pose unreasonable risks to human health or the environment when used appropriately.

The U.S. construction industry depends on the advanced performance characteristics of PFAS compounds to provide valuable functions, including:

- **ROOFING:** PFAS compounds support durability and solar reflection, as well as waterproofing.
- **COATINGS:** PFAS compounds provide durability, ease of application, color and gloss protection, lubricity, corrosion protection and/or thermal protection.
- **FLOORING:** PFAS compounds are in resilient and hard flooring, as well as aftermarket products to promote durability.
- **SEALANTS AND ADHESIVES:** PFAS compounds uniquely strengthen bonds between materials in grout, tile, stone, concrete sealers, caulk, and o-rings.
- **GLASS AND CERAMIC FIXTURES:** PFAS compounds increase strength and abrasion resistance of windows and bathroom fixtures.

Many construction applications of PFAS compounds are essential and equivalent performance cannot be achieved through available alternatives. The industry has been active in finding and using alternatives for PFAS compounds where possible, and that work continues.



DRIVING SCIENCE-BASED MANAGEMENT POLICIES

Creating regulations that treat all PFAS compounds the same, or impose blanket restrictions on uses, would have devastating economic and safety consequences for the U.S. construction industry. Sustainable management of PFAS compounds enables continued economic advancement when using a **science- and risk-based approach** to effectively administer regulations that protect human health and the environment.