

Perfluorooctane Sulfonic Acid Ban

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Lloyd's Register (LR) has issued a regulatory update stating that, from January 1st, 2026, the use or storage of fire-extinguishing media - including firefighting foams - containing perfluorooctane sulfonic acid (PFOS) will be prohibited. This applies to both fixed and portable systems and equipment.

Perfluorooctane sulfonic acid (PFOS) is a persistent, bioaccumulative "forever chemical" used in products like Scotchgard, nonstick cookware, and firefighting foams, and it has been linked to significant health issues including [liver](#), [thyroid](#), and [immune system](#) problems. Once in the environment, PFOS does not break down easily and can contaminate soil and water, leading to widespread distribution and human exposure through contaminated food, drinking water, and consumer products.

Although it is highly unlikely that your fire extinguishers contain this chemical, it might be in older extinguishers. Most manufacturers stopped using PFOS some time ago. To be sure, check your extinguishers for it.

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