

Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs) Statement

Background

The Protocol on POPs from the regional United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) Convention on Long-Range Transboundary Air Pollution (CLRTAP) was opened for signatures in June 1998 and entered into force on 23 October 2003. The Executive Body adopted “**The 1998 Aarhus Protocol**” in Aarhus, Denmark on June 24, 1998. It focuses on a list of 16 substances that have been singled out according to agreed risk criteria. The substances comprise eleven pesticides, two industrial chemicals, and three by-products.

What are POPs

Persistent organic pollutants (POPs) are organic compounds that are resistant to degradation through chemical, biological, and photolytic processes. POPs are toxic chemical substances that are highly stable in the natural environment, accumulate in the bodies of animals that are carbon-based, and adversely affect human health and the environment around the world and they have come to be known as “**forever chemicals.**” People are familiar with some of the well-known POPs, such as PCBs, DDT, and dioxins. POPs include a range of substances that include intentionally produced chemicals currently or once used in agriculture, disease control, manufacturing, or industrial processes.

POPs Regulation

The POPs Regulation bans or restricts the use of persistent organic pollutants in both chemical Products and articles. Persistent organic pollutants (POPs) have particularly serious health and environmental properties. They are regulated worldwide by the Stockholm Convention and the Aarhus Protocol. These international treaties are implemented in the European Union by the POPs Regulation.

POPs Legislation

The **Stockholm Convention (or “POPs Convention”)** and the **Aarhus Protocol (or “POPs Protocol”)** are two pieces of international legislation that have the same objectives: the reduction, control, and elimination of emissions of POPs into the environment. Within the European Union, these initiatives have been translated into the consolidated version of [European Regulation \(EU\) 2019/1021 \(or “POPs Regulation”\)](#) of the European Parliament and of the Council of 20 June 2019 on persistent organic pollutants. This version incorporates all the amendments and corrigenda to the POPs Regulation. This new regulation is a recast of Regulation (EC) No 850/2004 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 29 April 2004 on persistent organic pollutants and amending Directive 79/117/EEC.

The Stockholm Convention

The Stockholm Convention on POPs is a multilateral agreement to protect human health and the environment that was adopted in May 2001 and signed by over 150 countries. It entered into force on May 17, 2004. The legislation aimed to preserve natural resources, control pollution, and protect from several other environmental issues by focusing on eliminating or reducing the release of POPs. It sets up a system for tackling additional chemicals identified as unacceptably hazardous. Ultimately, the Convention points out the way to a future free of dangerous POPs and promises to reshape the economy’s reliance on toxic chemicals. **The first 12 POPs under the Stockholm Convention were aldrin, chlordane, dieldrin, endrin, heptachlor, hexachlorobenzene, mirex, toxaphene, polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs), DDT, PCDD (dioxins) and PCDF (furans).**



List POPs Categories

The European Chemical Agency (ECHA) supports the Commission and the Member States in identifying new **POPs** and carries out consultations during the identification process for substances that have been proposed by the Commission. Endosulfan and its Isomers (**Group**), Hexabromodiphenyl Ether (**Group**), Pentabromodiphenyl Ether (**HBCDD**), Heptabromodiphenyl Ether (**Group**), Tetrabromodiphenyl Ether (**Group**), Bis(pentabromophenyl ether), Decabromodiphenyl Ether (**decaBDE**), PerfluoroOctane Sulfonic acid (**PFOS**) and PFOS derivatives, DichloroDiphenylTrichloroethane (**DDT**).

Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs) Statement

The POPs Regulation aims to protect human health and the environment with specific control measures that:

- Prohibit or severely restrict the production, placing on the market and use of POPs.
- Minimize the environmental release of POPs that are formed as industrial by-products.
- Make sure that stockpiles of restricted POPs are safely managed.
- Ensure the environmentally sound disposal of waste consisting of or contaminated by POPs.

Talema's Commitment

Talema Group intended to comply with the requirements POPs regulation (EU) 2019/2021. Therefore, we are committed to:

- Early elimination of production or accordingly by the limitation to a minimum regarding manufacturing, placing on the market and usage of these substances
- Asking our suppliers to work towards ensuring that any POPs not contained in the products and materials supplied to Talema
- Encouraging our suppliers not to discriminate against the POPs regulation and we are committed to engaging with our customers regarding their disclosure obligations.

Talema's Measures

Working towards these commitments, we have taken a number of steps that include: We will be involved in supply chain and continue to work with all our suppliers to ensure that we are able to identify the substances under POPs regulation in our supply chain, and grateful to pass the information to the customers about the POPs regulation and status of the parts that we manufacture and probably involved in someone's due-diligence by keeping updated the Talema Supplier Code of Conduct and our purchasing terms and conditions to reflect this regulation

Statement on use of POPs

In an effort to eliminate the impact of POPs on our products and waste streams for the benefit of human health and the environment, Talema Group actively working with our supply chain to make them understand and also for them to establish appropriate systems on identifying POPs from their sources.

Declaration

To the best of our knowledge, all parts supplied by our company to our valued customers are comply with EU Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs) Regulation (EU) 2019/1021 updated on 23 January 2023, Database contains 31 unique substances/entries which are currently listed in the relevant annexes (Annex I, II, III, and IV) to the POPs Regulation.

Additional information on the Persistent Organic Pollutant (EU POPs) regulation can be found here:

<https://echa.europa.eu/understanding-pops>

<https://echa.europa.eu/list-of-substances-proposed-as-pops>

<https://echa.europa.eu/list-of-substances-subject-to-pops-regulation>

<https://www.unep.org/cep/persistent-organic-pollutants-pops-and-pesticides>

<https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/PDF/?uri=CELEX:32019R1021>

Legal Insight

Talema Group reserve the right to amend this statement at anytime based on subsequent developments or information.



Contact

Any queries regarding this Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs) Statement can be directed to:

compliance@talema.com