



Bulletin #72, Change Agent, February 24, 2023

Fire service personnel should already be aware that C6 products contain PFAS. Transition should be to fire tested F3 product. Several fire departments have recently sent out their F3 foams for specific sample testing for 1,4-dioxane and other chemicals. These departments have taken the initiative to protect the public's safety.

A Safety Data Sheet (SDS) for a foam product may state it does not contain PFOA or PFOS. Those are just two of more than 12,000+ chemicals in the persistent, bio accumulative class. Although PFOA and PFOS are no longer produced in the US, they continue to appear in PFAS testing.

Does the F3 foam contain other carcinogenic chemicals? There are clean F3 products available now that do not contain carcinogens.

Your firefighting foam should have a fire test rating, i.e., UL 162, NFPA 18.

The US Department of Defense quietly released the new MilSpec for firefighting foam in early January 2023.¹

The updated Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) FAA CertAlert 139 followed on January 12, 2023.² Sea-Tac Airport recently purchased National Foam's Avio Green which they had tested in 2019.³ This product contains, formaldehyde, a known carcinogen and methanol, which is known to the State of California to cause birth defects or other reproductive harm.⁴

1 ewg, News Release, Updated DOD standards: Critical first step toward firefighting foam made without 'forever chemicals,' https://www.ewg.org/news-insights/news-release/2023/01/updated-dod-standards-critical-first-step-toward-firefighting?utm_campaign=EWG+Content&utm_content=&utm_medium=Social&utm_source=twitter

2 Federal Aviation Administration, Part 139 CertAlert Log for Calendar Year 2023, January 12, 2023, https://www.faa.gov/airports/airport_safety/certalerts/part_139_certalert_log_calendar_year_2023

3 Seattle Times, Sea-Tac's legacy of PFAS chemicals: 'foam showers,' sick firefighters and contaminated water, Manuel Villa and Hal Berton, Feb. 12, 2023, <https://www.seattletimes.com/seattle-news/environment/sea-tacs-legacy-of-pfas-chemicals-foam-showers-sick-firefighters-and-contaminated-water/>

4 National Foam Safety Data Sheet – NMS#515 Avio^{F3} Green KHC 3% Fluorine Free Foam Concentrate, February 21, 2020, <https://nationalfoam.com/wp-content/uploads/sites/4/NMS515-Avio-Green-KHC-3-FF.pdf>



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FIRE DEPT SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT

