

PRACTICAL INFORMATION SHEET

PFAS – Regulatory Context & PTFE Sealing Materials

IMPACTS ON TOURNAIRE PACKAGING COMPONENTS

WHAT ARE PFAS & PTFE?

PFAS PER- AND POLYFLUOROALKYL SUBSTANCES are a large family of **fluorinated chemicals** used in many industrial applications.

PTFE POLYTETRAFLUOROETHYLENE is one of the most well-known PFAS polymers.

PTFE is commonly used in **sealing components** such as gaskets because of its:

- outstanding chemical resistance
- low friction properties
- excellent stability over a wide temperature range

However, growing **environmental and health concerns** related to PFAS persistence have led regulators to introduce **new restrictions** on these substances in certain applications.

REGULATORY EVOLUTION

- **February 2025:** **EU** adopted the **PPWR** **PACKAGING AND PACKAGING WASTE REGULATION**, introducing restrictions on PFAS in food contact packaging.
- **August 2026:** PFAS will be restricted in **packaging** intended for **food contact** placed on the **EU** market when specific concentration thresholds are exceeded.
- *Additional restrictions on PFAS are currently being evaluated under the REACH regulation, which could potentially extend to a broader range of applications in the future.*

IMPACTS ON TOURNAIRE PACKAGING COMPONENTS

Sealing material	Chemical family	PFAS content	Typical properties	EU food contact compliance
Alu/PE	Aluminium + Polyethylene	PFAS-free	Main standard Good resistance	✅ Compliant
PTFE gasket	Fluoropolymer	Contains PFAS	Excellent chemical resistance	❌ Not compliant in EU for food contact
Non-fluorinated elastomer	Various (EPDM, silicone, etc.)	PFAS-free	Depends on formulation/products	Compliance depends on the specific material

TOURNAIRE APPROACH

- **Tournaire provides a standard Alu/PE sealing gasket**, widely used as our standard sealing solution and offering reliable performance for many applications.
- The company also maintains **active monitoring of new sealing materials**, particularly in view of evolving regulations affecting PTFE.
- For major projects, alternative sealing solutions may be evaluated on a case-by-case basis if required.

KEY MESSAGES FOR CUSTOMERS

- If your application involves food contact within the EU market, please ensure that **PFAS-free** sealing materials are selected.
- PTFE gaskets remain suitable for non-food applications under current regulations.
- Our technical team can **evaluate alternative sealing materials** for major projects.
- **Compatibility testing** remains essential for each application.