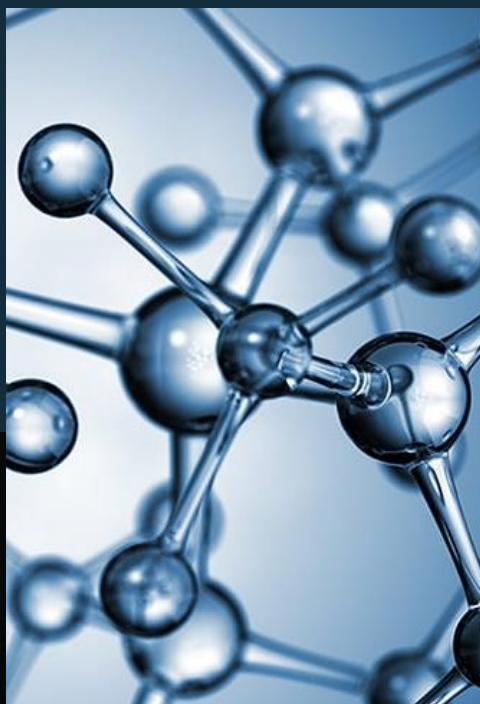


Executive news and industry update

PFAS developments



10 – 17 March 2025



This edition offers a thorough update on the latest PFAS regulations, corporate actions, and scientific findings.

This week legal battles over PFAS contamination persist as consumer groups push for corporate accountability. Meanwhile, scientific advancements in treatment methods and regulatory changes aim to limit PFAS use. Key environmental and health concerns remain in focus, particularly contamination in global water supplies and its potential health risks.

Positive editorial highlighted the increased innovation in chemical production, growth of the market for PFAS remediation technologies and safer alternatives aimed at improving public health outcomes by reducing PFAS exposure.

Negative comments highlighted the increased costs for industries to comply with new regulations and remediate contamination, potential job losses in sectors reliant on PFAS, and the ongoing health impacts.

Company news

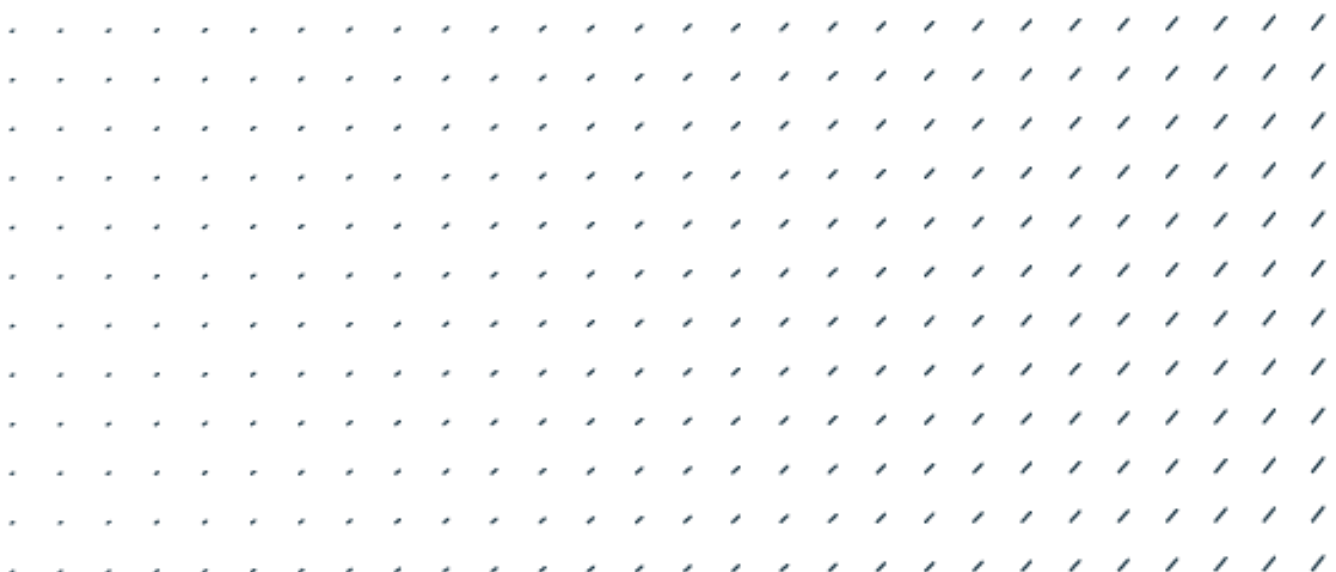
Chemours faces a potential plant closure in France due to stricter PFAS regulations and a weak hydrogen market, and suspended their green hydrogen investment. Chemours is joining the Environmentally Applied Refrigerant Technology Hub (EARTH) to advance sustainable cooling technologies.

3M is facing lawsuits over contamination and has been linked to pollution in Zwijndrecht, Belgium.

Solvay is under scrutiny for PFAS exposure among employees at its Salindres, France, plant.

Daikin is facing legal action from the Métropole de Lyon over PFAS pollution.

LANXESS has introduced Lewatit MDS TP 108, a new ion exchange resin designed to remove short-chain PFAS from water.





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Messages

- 'PFAS contamination is a widespread and persistent environmental and health threat. Regulatory actions and potential bans on PFAS are increasing globally.'
- 'Companies are facing financial and legal repercussions for PFAS contamination.'
- 'There is a growing need for effective PFAS remediation technologies and safer alternatives.'
- 'The health impacts of PFAS exposure, particularly on vulnerable populations like pregnant women and children, are a major concern.'

Topics

Increased Regulatory Scrutiny:

Governments are implementing stricter regulations on PFAS production and use.

Focus on Remediation: There is a growing emphasis on developing and deploying technologies for PFAS removal and destruction.

Shift to Alternatives: Companies are actively seeking and promoting PFAS-free alternatives in various products.

Health Concerns Drive Action: Public awareness of the health risks associated with PFAS is fuelling demand for safer products and stricter regulations.

Industry Accountability: Efforts are underway to hold companies responsible for PFAS contamination accountable for cleanup costs.





North America: Pushback Against New PFAS Regulations

Congressmen Clay Higgins and William Timmons have introduced legislation to repeal the EPA's 2024 rule tightening PFAS regulations under the Toxic Substances Control Act. Citing risks to U.S. manufacturing, they argue the rule imposes excessive burdens on 195 sites crucial to industries like healthcare, semiconductors, and aerospace. While industry groups warn of economic harm, environmental advocates maintain that strict PFAS controls are essential for public health.



[Read more](#)

Europe: France Takes a Firm Stand

France has enacted strict PFAS regulations, banning their use in cosmetics, textiles, and food contact materials by 2026. The move aligns with broader EU regulatory efforts to curb PFAS contamination and enforce consumer safety standards.

[Read more](#)

Asia: Japan Expands PFAS Monitoring

Japan's environmental agencies have ramped up water monitoring efforts, identifying new contamination hotspots linked to industrial runoff. Calls for stricter policies on PFAS disposal are gaining momentum.

[Read more](#)



Corporate action & litigation

Apple Faces Lawsuit Over PFAS in Watch Bands

A consumer lawsuit has been filed against Apple Inc., alleging that its Apple Watch bands contain harmful PFAS compounds without adequate disclosure. Plaintiffs claim this violates consumer protection laws and are demanding compensation. The lawsuit puts pressure on Apple to address transparency and safety concerns surrounding its wearable products, although the company has yet to publicly respond.

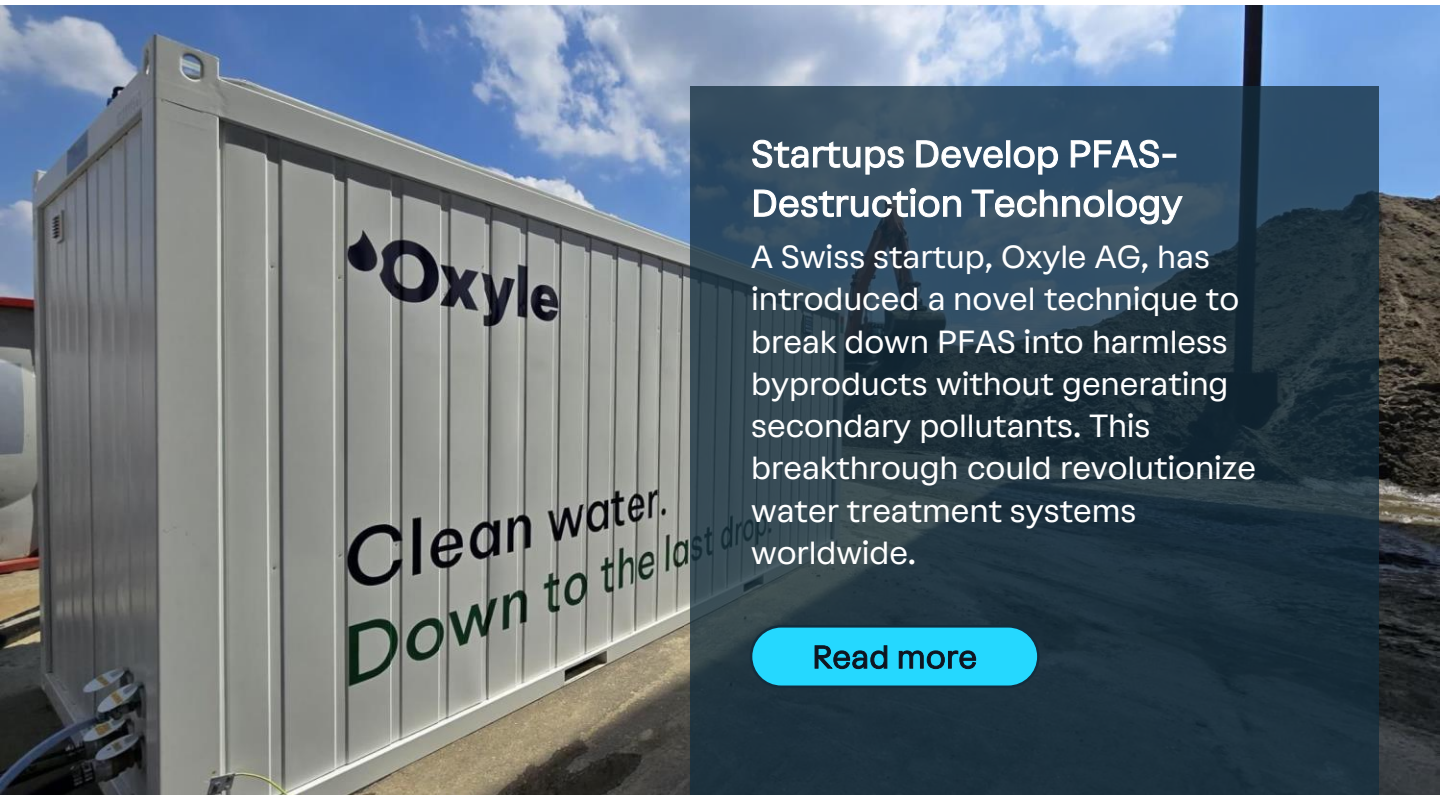
[Read more](#)

Fort Worth Sues 3M & DuPont Over Water Contamination

The city of Fort Worth, Texas, has launched a \$420 million lawsuit against chemical giants 3M and DuPont, holding them accountable for PFAS pollution in municipal water supplies. The city claims that the "forever chemicals" have contaminated Fort Worth's drinking water sources and is seeking to recoup the cost of remediation of per- and polyfluoroalkyl chemicals that continue to spill from military facilities and have done so for a decade.

[Read more](#)

Research & scientific findings



Startups Develop PFAS-Destruction Technology

A Swiss startup, Oxyle AG, has introduced a novel technique to break down PFAS into harmless byproducts without generating secondary pollutants. This breakthrough could revolutionize water treatment systems worldwide.

[Read more](#)



EU Report Highlights Emissions from Fluoropolymer Plants

A thesis by Joost Dalmijn, submitted to Stockholm University, revealed that European and Chinese fluoropolymer production facilities remain major sources of PFAS emissions, despite stricter environmental regulations. Dalmijn emphasised the need for comprehensive regulatory measures and further research.



[View study](#)

Health & environmental impacts



Greenland's Inuit Communities Face Extreme PFAS Exposure

A study by Christian Sonne, from Denmark's Aarhus University and published in the journal *Cell*, found that Inuit populations in Greenland have PFAS levels in their bloodstreams that are 13 times higher than global safety thresholds. The contamination is linked to dietary habits, particularly the consumption of marine mammals that accumulate PFAS and other harmful substances carried to the region by nearby sea and air currents. Within the study Sonne called for tighter regulations to reduce the production of toxic compounds.

[Read more](#)



PFAS in U.S. Tap Water—100 Million at Risk

A study by the US Geological Survey (USGS) revealed that nearly 100 million Americans are exposed to PFAS-contaminated tap water, with major metropolitan areas like New York, Miami, and Chicago facing the highest risk. The study warned that PFAS exposure had been linked to 'adverse human health effects', including thyroid problems, developmental issues and cancer.

[Read more](#)



Global outlook



Belgium's Zwijndrecht: Europe's Most Contaminated PFAS Hotspot

A feature broadcast on France 24 focused on Belgium's Zwijndrecht region, one of Europe's most severely PFAS-contaminated sites following 25 years of pollution from a 3M factory producing toxic PFOS. The site is part of a broader crisis affecting 23,000 locations across Europe, with cleanup costs estimated at €100 billion annually.

[Read more](#)

Australia's 'Hazard Approach' to PFAS Regulation

During a hearing of the Select Committee on PFAS Contamination in Waterways and Drinking Water Supplies Throughout New South Wales, Jane Bremmer, chair of Toxics Free Australia, urged the country to adopt a "hazard-based" regulatory framework for PFAS, aligning with the EU's precautionary approach.

Matt Landos, director of Future Fisheries Veterinary Services, emphasised the need to address PFAS contamination at its source. Their calls follow expert and water provider recommendations at a Senate inquiry in January, where they warned of the environmental damage caused by PFAS and the rising costs of its removal.

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