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STATEMENT REGARDING THE USE OF PFOAs

Safety Components mission is the development of inherently flame resistant fabrics dedicated to the protection, health and safety of first responders around the world. As the technology leader in the fire fighting industry, we take this mission very seriously.

Over the past few weeks, there have been questions within the industry regarding the presence of Perfluorooctanoic acid, or (PFOA) in fabrics used in the fire fighting turnouts.

Safety Components does not use or produce PFOA in the manufacturing of any fire-fighting fabrics. Additionally, Safety Components does not use or produce PFOA in the manufacturing of any technical fabrics used in any application.

The fiber and yarn suppliers to Safety Components do not use or produce PFOA in the manufacturing of those products bought by Safety Components.

The producers of products which are used for the oil, water and stain repellent finish of textiles (C6 and C8 chemistry) do not use PFOA as a raw material in their manufacturing process.

Historically, PFOA, while not a raw material ingredient in C8, could be an unintended reaction by-product created during the manufacturing of C8 and could be present in trace levels on some products. Studies have shown that trace levels of PFOA's have been found in common products such as: non-stick cookware, upholstered furniture, carpets, food packaging, foams for fighting fires, etc. Other industries that have had exposure to PFOA's are aerospace, automotive, construction, and electronics. Studies have shown that these trace levels are safe.

Consumer articles, such as textiles, made with Chemours products and branded Teflon® are safe. Dupont completed a Consumer Article Study which examined the potential exposure to PFOA from consumer articles that contain their products. The Study was published in a peer-reviewed scientific journal and showed that consumer articles made with Chemours products are safe for their intended uses and do not result in any quantifiable exposure to PFOA. (Exposure Assessment and Risk Characterization for Perfluorooctanoate in Selected Consumer Articles. Environmental Science and Technology, 2005.39).

Newer C6 products are based on short-chain chemistry and cannot break down to PFOA in the environment and meet the goals of the U.S. EPA 2010/15 PFOA Stewardship program.

As a good steward of the industry and of the environment, Safety Components has conducted extensive research and development trials designed to insure that the newer C6 products meet the same level of product performance (long term after-wash water, oil, fuel and chemical run-off capability). As a result of this research, Safety Components has been implementing a transition to C6 chemistry in our products. Meanwhile, we continue to actively research chemistries that will afford high performance with less environmental impact.

For additional information, we encourage you to visit the following web sites:

<http://www.epa.gov/oppt/pfoa/>

<http://pubs.acs.org/doi/abs/10.1021/es048353b>