

FACTSHEET

NON-TARGETED PFAS ANALYSIS

OETI PFAS TESTED

- Most advanced solution for PFAS detection
- Non-Targeted PFAS Analysis reveals 10,000+ PFAS compounds screened beyond current regulations
- Supply Chain Control: assesses whether banned PFAS substances have been substituted with other PFAS compounds
- Tested by an international, independent testing and certification institute.

What are PFAS?

PFAS (per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances) are a large group of more than 10,000 man-made chemicals.

PFAS are commonly found in textiles, leather, food packaging, cookware, firefighting foams, coatings, and many other consumer and industrial products, where they are used for their water-, oil-, and stain-repellent properties.

They are extremely persistent in both the environment and the human body and not readily biodegradable, which is why they are often referred to as “forever chemicals.”

Due to their persistence and potentially negative health impacts, many regions worldwide have already introduced restrictions or are developing ban lists for certain PFAS substances.

These regulations vary in scope and timelines, but all aim to reduce exposure and encourage substitution with safer alternatives.

To ensure compliance and protect consumers, it is strongly recommended that products be tested comprehensively for PFAS content.

Traditional testing often only looks for a small list of regulated PFAS. However, the chemical industry is continuously developing new variants that are not yet listed. Only a broad screening approach can minimise the risk of overlooking substitutions.

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What are the advantages of the Non-Targeted PFAS Analysis?

While targeted PFAS analysis is ideal for precise quantification, the Non-Targeted PFAS Analysis reveals a much broader picture of PFAS contamination in a sample.

Non-Targeted PFAS Analysis goes beyond testing for a limited list of regulated substances. It can also detect PFAS that have not yet been specifically targeted or identified, thereby providing a more comprehensive and reliable picture of potential exposure.

This approach helps companies prepare for future regulations, uncover hidden PFAS in products and supply chains, and build greater transparency and trust with customers and regulators.

Who is the Non-Targeted PFAS Analysis suitable for?

Non-Targeted PFAS Analysis is particularly valuable for brands, retailers, and manufacturers in sectors such as textiles, leather, polymers, packaging, and consumer goods.

Companies that want to ensure compliance, prepare for upcoming regulations, and gain full transparency on potential PFAS in their products and supply chains will benefit most.

By proactively testing and helping to verify PFAS-free manufacturing processes, they can reduce risks, strengthen customer trust, and position themselves as industry leaders in sustainability and safety.

What can be tested?

- Chemical formulations (e.g. paints, glues, adhesives, coatings, inks, detergents)
- Textiles and fabrics (e.g. cotton, wool, polyester, polyamide)
- Leather materials
- Polymeric materials (e.g. PA, PAN, PET, PP)
- Cellulose-based materials (e.g. cardboard, paper)
- Rubbers and elastomers (e.g. SBR, EPDM)
- Foams (e.g. polyurethane foams)
- Food contact and consumer products (e.g. coated materials, packaging films, paper-based containers)

What cannot be tested:

- Aqueous samples (e.g. wastewater or other water samples)
- Environmental samples (e.g. soil, sediment, surface water)
- Food matrices

What are the requirements for test samples?

- Textile / Test Samples: At least 50 g, individually packaged in PFAS-free PE or PP plastic foil.
- Chemicals: At least 50 g, individually packaged in leak-free, PFAS-free PE or PP containers.
- Do not use glass (PFAS sticks to glass) or containers with Teflon-lined caps (contamination risk).



How does the Non-Targeted PFAS Analysis work?

- PFAS are extracted from samples.
- Samples are analysed using High-Resolution Mass Spectrometry (HRMS) combined with Liquid Chromatography (LC).
- Data are processed and analysed with advanced software (Compound Discoverer), which enables:
 - Screening against suspect lists and PFAS databases
 - Detailed evaluation of detected compounds

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What output will you receive from the Non-Targeted PFAS Analysis?

The Non-Targeted PFAS Analysis report lists all detected PFAS compounds. In addition, semi-quantitative results provide reference points for the PFAS concentrations.

What is the turnaround time for testing and reporting?

The testing and reporting process typically takes 20 business days from receipt of the samples at the laboratory.