

**09.03.2022**

## Company Announcement

Gujarat Fluorochemicals Limited (GFL) is pleased to announce successful development in the use of a non-fluorinated polymerization aid in emulsion PTFE production process, substituting the use of fluorinated polymerization aid (PFAS).

GFL plans to start commercial production of PTFE aqueous dispersions using a non-fluorinated (hydrocarbon) polymerization aid technology from Q2 2022. Further, it plans to make a complete transition to the use of non-fluorinated polymerization aids in the production of PTFE aqueous dispersions in a phased manner during 2022.

As compared to some PFAS in use for this purpose, the specific non-fluorinated polymerization aid is not Persistent, Bioaccumulative, Toxic or Mobile, nor very Persistent, very Bioaccumulative and it is EU REACH registered. Equally important, it does not lead to a measurable generation of oligomers and undesirable fluorinated by-products deploying currently available analytical methods. The resulting polymer continues to meet the requirements to be regarded as a Polymer of Low Concern.

The non-fluorinated technology is based on the principles of a methodology that has been publicly available for a long time. Selecting the specific polymerization aid for the fluoropolymer polymerization process, GFL filed patent applications in many countries with India having already been granted.

The PTFE aqueous dispersions produced using the non-fluorinated polymerization aid exhibit technical properties that are largely equivalent (or even improved) in performance in various applications of commercial interest.

This is a significant step forward in our ambition to discontinue the use of PFAS in the manufacturing process of fluoropolymers, and it opens the door to further research in the future, with the aim to identify similar options to eliminate the use of fluorinated polymerization aid for the manufacture of other fluoropolymers as well.