

MicroChemicals GmbH
Mr. Koch / Mr. Rinke
Nicolaus-Otto-Str. 39
89079 Ulm

Date: August 19, 2019

Forced Change: Discontinuation of PFOS containing products – AZ 9260 Photoresist

Dear Mr. Koch and Mr. Rinke,

Merck Performance Materials GmbH is committed to continuous improvement in delivering products of the highest performance and quality. As part of this effort we regularly monitor the constantly evolving regulatory landscape.

We have to inform you that the **UN Stockholm Convention** and subsequently the EU legislation have stopped any exemptions for the use of PFOS-related substances and their derivatives in photolithographic applications.

According to this regulation (Regulation **(EU) 2019/1021 of the European Parliament and of the Council**), the production, sale and use of PFOS-related substances and their derivatives represent a violation of the law in the EU. Since the product AZ 9260 contains a PFOS-related surfactant which is affected by that regulation, Merck may no longer supply this product.

We understand that this regulation will have significant impact on your ongoing operations. We have assessed options to mitigate the impact of this change and we're glad to be able to offer to you a replacement product. We will assure to provide you with samples of this replacement product and offer further support to enable a smooth and quick transition.

We apologize for the inconvenience caused by this forced change.

Your account manager will get in touch with you to jointly define an action plan in order to mitigate the effects from this EU regulation.

Please be assured that we are fully committed to support you in this situation.

Thank you very much for your kind understanding and cooperation.

Sincerely,



Peter Duerichen
Head of Global Portfolio Management
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