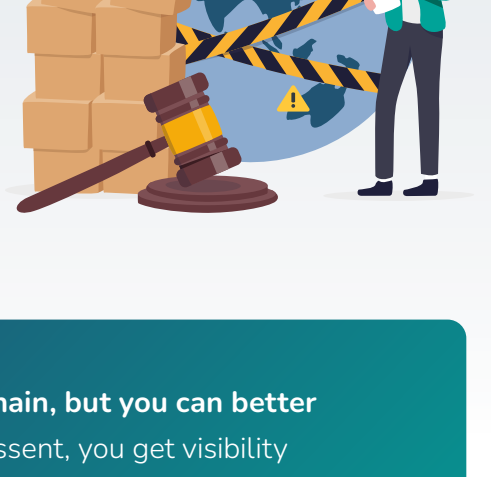


Action Plan: Avoiding PFAS Obsolescence

Your Checklist for Success

Reliable, predictable access to parts is the core of good supply chain sustainability management. But regulatory changes and market forces can threaten your business continuity.

Today, a global wave of PFAS regulations — from U.S. states, Canada, the EU, Japan, Singapore, Australia, China, and Taiwan — is reshaping the market. Combined with rising legal action against chemical producers and downstream manufacturers, this pressure is driving the obsolescence of parts that contain PFAS or depend on PFAS somewhere in the manufacturing process.



You can't control which parts will disappear from your supply chain, but you can better control your risks and how much they could impact you. With Assent, you get visibility into where PFAS live in your supply chain and AI-enhanced tools to engage suppliers about obsolescence risks, putting you back in the driver's seat.

What Parts Are at Risk?

Billion-dollar lawsuits¹ and shrinking market demand are making PFAS manufacturing an unsustainable business venture. That's why 3M is phasing out all PFAS production — including approximately 25,000 products that simply use PFAS — by the end of 2025.² Several other chemical manufacturers are quietly following suit.

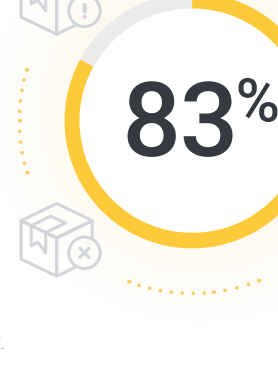
This seismic shift in the market means that the parts, materials, and equipment you rely on will undergo major changes in performance, durability, cost, and availability. Assent customers are identifying PFAS in both direct and indirect materials in these commonly used parts:

- ▶ Gaskets
- ▶ O-rings
- ▶ Seals
- ▶ Lubricants
- ▶ Hoses and tubing
- ▶ Wires and cable
- ▶ Fuel-, oil-, and chemical-resistant components
- ▶ Non-wetting (hydrophobic) surface coatings
- ▶ Heat-resistant components
- ▶ Tape and adhesives
- ▶ Maintenance supplies like industrial cleaners
- ▶ Personal protective equipment (PPE)
- ▶ Electronic components
- ▶ Plastic parts
- ▶ Coatings
- ▶ Inks
- ▶ Plastic packaging
- ▶ And many, many more

⚠ Assume You Use PFAS

Eighty-three percent of Assent customers have already identified at least one PFAS in their parts, and the rest are likely just behind.

With PFAS used so widely, it's not a matter of *if* they're in your supply chain. It's a matter of *where*, and how soon you can find them.



¹ 3M. (2024, April 1). 3M Settlement with Public Water Suppliers to Address PFAS in Drinking Water Receives Final Court Approval. <https://investors.3m.com/news-events/press-releases/detail/1836/3m-settlement-with-public-water-suppliers-to-address-pfas>

² 3M. (n.d.). Our PFAS Exit. <https://pfas.3m.com/exit-information>.

Phasing Out PFAS: Planning Checklist

PFAS has created unprecedented change in global supply chains. And it has manufacturers like you asking these questions:

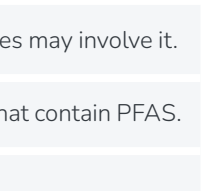
- ▶ What happens when a part in my product is no longer available?
- ▶ How will this impact our bottom line?
- ▶ What are my options? How long will it take to manage?



● Identify PFAS Risks in Your Supply Chain

🕒 1–2 YEARS

To understand the risk your business faces, you need to know how and where you're using PFAS, where you're getting it from, and what your suppliers are planning for the near and long term. Use this checklist to start identifying your biggest risk areas, set priorities, and take early action before obsolescence impacts your operations.



- ☐ Educate your suppliers on PFAS and help them pinpoint which of their products or production processes may involve it.
- ☐ Survey suppliers on their PFAS use in purchased materials and determine which products have parts that contain PFAS.
- ☐ Ask suppliers that use PFAS if they're replacing, retiring, or redesigning their goods.
- ☐ Determine potential **market restrictions** by identifying products in scope of regulations that ban PFAS in specific categories (e.g., products for children, or textiles), especially at the U.S. state level.
- ☐ Identify **product continuity risk** by creating a priority list of products and parts with PFAS-related attributes (e.g., heat or electrical resistance, water repellence, non-stick).
- ☐ Determine **operational risk** by identifying where maintenance, repair, and operations (MRO) materials contain PFAS and may be vulnerable to obsolescence or reduced performance.

How Assent Helps

- ▶ Trains suppliers to improve PFAS awareness and reporting
- ▶ Automates PFAS surveys to streamline data collection
- ▶ Evaluates bills of materials (BOMs) for finished goods
- ▶ Highlights product and supplier risks in intuitive dashboards
- ▶ Provides declarations you can share with your customers
- ▶ Supports your program with guidance from Assent's PFAS experts

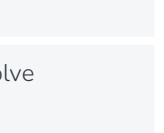
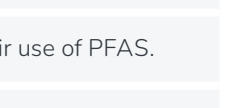
Take the next step! Get our free guide for a deeper look at how to stay ahead of PFAS risks.

[Download the Guide >](#)

● Make Last-Time Buys

🕒 6 MONTHS–1 YEAR

Parts that contain PFAS could be at a higher risk for early obsolescence. You should consider a last-time buy of components as you redesign and requalify your products and manufacturing processes. Product chemical regulations have always had an impact on the supply chain, which is why manufacturers need to take the steps outlined below.



- ☐ Identify critical components and materials that contain PFAS in your processes and products.
- ☐ Anticipate an increase in your budget as demand for materials shifts and suppliers draw down their use of PFAS.
- ☐ Locate appropriate long-term storage for any last-time buys.
- ☐ Expect higher competition for parts as suppliers discontinue products faster than manufacturers can evolve their portfolios.
- ☐ Plan for potential inventory write-offs of unused parts that contain PFAS if regulations shrink your market or customers demand PFAS-free products before you can use up existing stock.
- ☐ Begin formulating a long-term plan for when your stockpile runs out.

How Assent Helps

- ▶ Identifies high-risk PFAS parts across your products
- ▶ Queries your suppliers for their plans to discontinue or reformulate parts
- ▶ Highlights which PFAS are most urgent to act on, since some are more regulated than others
- ▶ Connects at-risk parts to affected products using your product BOM

Want help planning before it's too late? Get insights and real-life examples of how manufacturers are tackling PFAS challenges.

[Read Our Guide >](#)

● Source Replacements & Redesign for Compliance

🕒 6 MONTHS–1 YEAR

🕒 1–2 YEARS

Keeping your current products on the market may mean finding replacement parts for the ones that will be obsolete. And ultimately, redesigning your products to eliminate the use of PFAS may become necessary. But it's not as simple as swapping one material for another. Redesign can trigger a domino effect of testing, reengineering, and customer-facing updates. Here are some steps you can take to streamline the process.



- ☐ Identify any critical parts and functions that currently rely on PFAS, especially those tied to specific certifications (e.g., functional safety or emissions).
- ☐ Determine whether removing PFAS will alter how the product operates or performs under stress, particularly in high-precision or high-safety contexts.
- ☐ Work with your sourcing department to identify PFAS-free alternative parts and components.
- ☐ Test the product with replacement components to verify that performance, compatibility, and safety meet expected parameters and specifications.
- ☐ Change your product warranty, guarantee, or customer service and repair contracts if new parts aren't working as well as the old.
- ☐ Change your preventive maintenance plans for MRO materials, if necessary. New PFAS-free parts may not last as long, resulting in more material use and more frequent machine maintenance, impacting materials, labor, and line-down costs.
- ☐ Update technical documentation — for example, engineering drawings, safety data sheets (SDS), and product specs.
- ☐ Assess downstream risks, including liability if changes lead to product failure or reduced lifespan.

How Assent Helps

- ▶ Identifies which parts contain PFAS and may need replacement based on suppliers' plans
- ▶ Maps replacements to affected products using your BOM
- ▶ Supports updates to product declarations with accurate supplier data

Ready to turn PFAS disruption into a **competitive advantage**?

[Get Your PFAS Playbook >](#)

● Recertification

🕒 TYPICALLY 1 YEAR, BUT OFTEN DELAYED

Once a product is redesigned, recertification may be required. Many market access approvals and certifications are tied to specific materials or performance benchmarks. Changing a high-performance critical component (like an O-ring) may void existing certifications unless your product is retested and requalified. That's why it's essential to plan ahead for certification updates, documentation changes, and potential testing delays. Use this checklist to prepare.



- ☐ Create a list of market access regulations and certifications related to where you sell your product:
 - ▶ Chemical regulations like REACH, RoHS, TSCA, California Proposition 65, CEPA, etc.
 - ▶ Market access certifications like CE, RCM, KCC, SASO, CCC, FCC
 - ▶ Commercial certifications like UL, CSA, ETL, NSF
- ☐ Update declarations and dossiers, including:
 - ▶ Substances of Concern In articles, as such or in complex objects (Products) (SCIP) database submissions
 - ▶ Sustainability certifications or environmental marketing claims
- ☐ Schedule third-party lab testing early. These labs often face long backlogs. One manufacturer had to **wait over six months**³ for a single retest due to lab capacity issues.

How Assent Helps

- ▶ Flags PFAS-dependent parts using automated supplier surveys
- ▶ Visualizes risk across products to eliminate dashboards
- ▶ Engages suppliers on their plans to streamline PFAS and whether replacement parts will still meet certification thresholds

Need a deeper understanding of PFAS requirements and how to **stay ahead**?

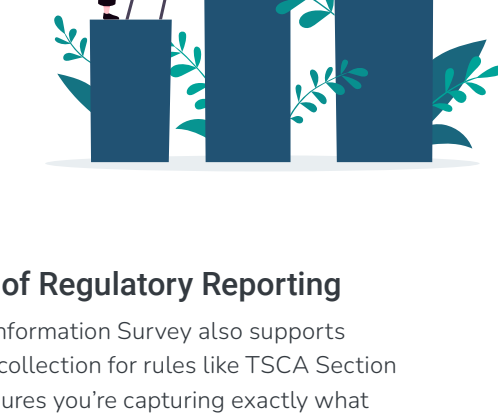
[Download the PFAS Handbook >](#)

³ BPI. (n.d.). Certification FAQ. <https://bpipworld.org/certification-faq>

Success Depends on PFAS Data

Understanding where you're using PFAS in your facility, processes, and finished products is the **only way** to know how much risk you face and whether your revenue is at stake.

Even regulators acknowledge that collecting data from upstream suppliers is the best way to understand where PFAS lurk in your materials. But without a solution to identify PFAS in your supply chain, you're **completely in the dark**, and the task and topic are too complex to handle manually. Our PFAS solution gives you the power to:



Differentiate Risk by Substance

Not all PFAS are regulated the same. For example, PFOS and PFOA are highly restricted, while PTFE may be exempt under certain laws. Assent flags these differences using a six-source regulatory list and explains how a substance is regulated.

Stay Ahead of Regulatory Reporting

The Extended Information Survey also supports expanded data collection for rules like TSCA Section 8(a)(7). This ensures you're capturing exactly what the EPA is asking for, including article-level data and source disclosure data.

See What's Coming Next

Assent's Extended Information Survey gives you forward-looking insight into supplier plans — including whether parts will be discontinued, reformulated, or offered as a last-time buy — and where PFAS is being sourced. With this data, you can stay ahead of parts obsolescence with planned phase-outs and source replacements with confidence.

Trace Impact Across Every Product

When your bill of materials (BOM) data is uploaded to the Assent platform, we don't just tell you a part contains PFAS — we show you every product that uses that part. This means you can instantly assess the scope of a single substance's impact, saving time and reducing manual risk analysis.

If you rely on PFAS in your supply chain, it could take you up to **six years** to fully recover from obsolescence disruptions. You need to **act today** to minimize the impact on your revenue and stay competitive. Book a PFAS demo to get started.