

## FLUOROTECHNOLOGY FOR SUSTAINABLE, HIGH-PERFORMANCE OUTDOOR APPAREL & EQUIPMENT

FluoroTechnology products offer unique, highly-beneficial performance properties to the outdoor industry, such as breathable membranes and long-lasting Durable Water Repellent (DWR) finishes that provide water repellency, oil repellency, stain resistance and soil release with abrasion resistant finishes for apparel and equipment.

In the most important applications, FluoroTechnology products help keep people safe by delivering life-saving protection in extreme weather and temperatures. Ultra-harsh and emergency conditions become survivable and are less drastic.

Oil repellence, long considered a luxury by the outdoor user, is increasingly understood to prevent loss of water repellency from oils such as body oil, sun tan lotion, food and dirt.

Garments and equipment treated with FluoroTechnology also have a longer useful life, therefore reducing energy and water used to manufacture replacements. They also require less frequent laundering, lower wash temperature and shorter drying time, further reducing use of water and energy.



The use of FluoroTechnology in the outdoor apparel and equipment industry supports more than 5,000 jobs in the U.S. and almost 40,000 jobs in Europe. Globally, FluoroTechnology materials and products specific to the outdoor apparel and equipment industry generate a total of \$27.3 billion in economic output.<sup>1</sup>

### High-Performance Outdoor Applications

- Apparel
- Footwear
- Tents
- Sleeping Bags
- Backpacks
- Ropes

### FluoroCouncil's Commitment to Sustainability

FluoroCouncil and its members are working with regulatory authorities and other stakeholders worldwide to innovate and drive increasingly sustainable FluoroTechnology solutions, including the global transition from long-chain PFAS<sup>2</sup> to alternatives such as short-chain fluorochemicals. Short-chain fluorochemicals are alternatives to the long-chain PFAS that provide the same valuable properties, but with improved environmental and human health profiles.

All FluoroCouncil companies are charter members of the [2010/2015 PFOA Stewardship Program](#), a global partnership with U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) based on goals to eliminate perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA) and related chemicals from facility emissions and product content by the end of 2015. Similar programs are in place with Environment and Health Canada. A significant volume of data has been developed and rigorously evaluated by industry and regulators, supporting the conclusion that the short-chain alternative substances offer equivalent performance with improved environmental and human health profiles.

According to [the U.S. EPA](#), "data indicate that [shorter-chain chemicals] have substantially shorter half-lives in these animals than PFOA and are less toxic than long-chain PFAC chemicals."

<sup>1</sup> Based on preliminary estimates of 2013 data by the American Chemistry Council.

<sup>2</sup> PFAS = per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances

#### THE FLUOROCOUNCIL MEMBERS ARE:

Archroma Management LLC, Arkema France, Asahi Glass Co., Ltd., Daikin Industries, Ltd.,  
Solvay Specialty Polymers, and The Chemours Company LLC