

Search DuPont

Go [Advanced Search](#)

Products & Services

Markets

Consumer Solutions

DuPont Overview

Science

Investor Center

News & Media

Social Commitment

Careers

News Releases

[DuPont Worldwide](#) | [DuPont Home](#)

DuPont Daily News

News Releases

Product News

Year at a Glance

Speeches

Position Statements

Publications

Multimedia Gallery

Comprehensive Scientific Study Confirms Consumer Articles with DuPont Materials are Safe for Consumer Use *Peer-Reviewed Science Concludes Consumer Use of Articles Are Not a Source of PFOA in People*

WILMINGTON, Del., April 20, 2005 — A comprehensive scientific study confirms consumer articles made with or using DuPont materials are safe to use. The study was published by *Environmental Science & Technology*. The full text of the study is at <http://pubs.acs.org/cgi-bin/asap.cgi/esthag/asap/pdf/es048353b.pdf>.

The independent peer-reviewed study, sponsored by DuPont, concludes that the use of consumer articles with DuPont materials would not result in quantifiable exposure to perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA).

DuPont initiated the study, conducted by Environ, an independent research firm, to better understand the potential for consumer exposure and to determine what risk there is, if any, from PFOA, also known as C-8. PFOA is used as a processing aid in the manufacture of fluoropolymers, some of which are sold under the DuPont™ Teflon® brand. It may be found at very low trace levels in some fluorotelomers products, which are used primarily to provide stain resistance to a number of textile products and grease-resistance to paper packaging. DuPont is one of several companies globally that produce these materials.

The study examined a wide variety of ways consumers could be exposed through common household products such as cookware and clothing, including through the skin, in the air, and orally. All ages of consumers, from infant to adult, as well as adult trade professionals, were considered. To assure accuracy and provide the most reliable test results, dozens of consumer articles were assessed using extremely conservative exposure models. A peer-review panel, moderated by Dr. George Gray, executive director of the Harvard Center for Risk Analysis, evaluated the study to ensure its scientific rigor and validity.

"Cookware coated with Teflon® underwent rigorous scientific testing designed to see if any PFOA could be detected under exaggerated or extreme cooking conditions, and none was found," said Dr. Jay Murray, a board-certified toxicologist and one of the three experts who provided peer consultation on the study. "In fact, even when cookware coated with Teflon® was abraded [scratched] with a knife, no PFOA was detected. Cookware coated with Teflon®, along with other consumer articles that were tested, is safe and poses no health risks from PFOA." The results of this study are consistent with earlier studies by the China Academy of Inspection and Quarantine and the Danish Technological Institute that showed no exposure to PFOA from the use of non-stick cookware.

The margins-of-safety for all articles tested ranged from 30,000 to over 9 billion, which dramatically exceeds the margins-of-safety of 100 to 1,000 typically used by regulatory agencies to judge the safety of chemicals. "The study confirmed that the margins of safety calculated from the extremely low trace levels of PFOA detected on consumer end use articles are thousands of times safer than the margins of safety typically considered acceptable by regulatory agencies. Based on results

 [e-mail this page](#)
 [printer friendly](#)

from the study, the use of the tested products would not result in quantifiable levels of PFOA in the blood," said Dr. Robert Rickard, DuPont chief toxicologist.

As part of DuPont's ongoing commitment to environmental stewardship and because questions on PFOA persist, the company already has made significant reductions in PFOA emissions from our manufacturing operations. By year-end 2006, DuPont will have reduced emissions of PFOA in the United States by more than 98 percent. DuPont, in cooperation with other major producers of fluoropolymers, has also announced that by year-end 2006, it will reformulate its dispersion products used for coating applications. This move will reduce the potential for emissions at dispersion processors by more than 90 percent. In addition, DuPont will reduce trace PFOA content in end-use telomer products by more than 85 percent, also by year-end 2006.

DuPont is a science company. Founded in 1802, DuPont puts science to work by creating sustainable solutions essential to a better, safer, healthier life for people everywhere. Operating in more than 70 countries, DuPont offers a wide range of innovative products and services for markets including agriculture, nutrition, electronics, communications, safety and protection, home and construction, transportation and apparel.

#

04/20/05

The DuPont Oval, DuPont™, and Teflon® are registered trademarks or trademarks of DuPont or its affiliates.

Do you have a question, upgrade or comment about this page? Please contact [Corporate Information Center](#). Thank you for your feedback!

[Back to Top](#)

Page updated: April 20, 2005

[FAQs](#) | [Site Map](#) | [Legal Notices & Terms of Use](#) | [PRIVACY](#) | [Contact Us](#)

[Go](#)

Copyright© 1995 - 2005 DuPont or its affiliates. All Rights Reserved. The DuPont Oval Logo, DuPont™, The miracles of science™ and all products denoted with ™ and ® are trademarks or registered trademarks of DuPont or its affiliates.