

# UNBOXED!

## EXPOSING THE PROBLEM OF PFAS IN FOOD PACKAGING

### WHAT ARE PFAS?

PFAS, which has recently become a "four-letter word" among consumers, is an acronym for the class of chemicals called **PER- AND POLYFLUOROALKYL SUBSTANCES.**



These man-made compounds help paper packaging **RESIST WATER, GREASE AND OIL PENETRATION; MINIMIZE STAINING AND HELP PACKAGING PERFORM BETTER.**



Since the 1940s, brands have relied on PFAS' **FUNCTIONALITY, PROCESSABILITY AND NEARLY UNIVERSAL APPLICABILITY.**



# 5,000

DIFFERENT TYPES OF PFAS — MOST HAVEN'T BEEN WELL STUDIED.<sup>1</sup>

### THE PROBLEM WITH PFAS

- ▶ Over time, we've come to understand how PFAS use impacts people and the world around them.
- ▶ PFAS are called "forever chemicals" because they don't break down naturally in the environment.
- ▶ Once PFAS enter landfills, they can contaminate the ground water and enter the food chain.
- ▶ Food served in PFAS-treated food packaging may also directly expose consumers to these chemicals.<sup>2</sup>
- ▶ Experts are concerned about possible health effects from PFAS exposure.
  - ▶ Weakening of immune systems
  - ▶ Lower fertility rates
  - ▶ Higher cholesterol levels
  - ▶ Higher risk of certain cancers
- ▶ PFAS have been banned in some regions, including Washington State and Denmark. Others, like California, are considering action.

# 4 YEARS

HOW LONG IT TAKES FOR SOME PFAS IN THE HUMAN BODY TO DECREASE BY HALF.<sup>3</sup>

# 46%

OF FOOD CONTACT PAPER (LIKE FOOD WRAPPERS)

CONTAINED PFAS IN A 2017 STUDY.<sup>4</sup>

### SMARTER SOLUTIONS WITH PFAS-FREE TECHNOLOGY FROM SOLENIS

No universal alternative currently exists for PFAS in paper-based packaging, but Solenis has developed sustainable options for specific paper-based applications. Our PFAS-free innovations help you implement solutions that keep pace with fast-evolving regulations while better protecting people and the environment.

#### FOR FLEXIBLE PACKAGING

- ▶ TopScreen™ Biowax-based Barrier Coatings
- ▶ TopScreen™ Oil & Grease Resistant Barrier Coatings



#### FOR PAPER AND BOARD

- ▶ TopScreen™ Water Repellent Barrier Coatings



#### FOR CUPSTOCK

- ▶ TopScreen™ Barrier Coatings



#### FOR MOLDED PULP

- ▶ Contour™ PFAS-free Oil and Grease Resistant Technology



## UNBOX THE RIGHT BARRIER SOLUTION FOR YOUR FOOD AND BEVERAGE PAPER PACKAGING.

New Solenis PFAS-free food packaging barrier solutions provide the sustainability and food safety benefits all stakeholders want — and demand — in food packaging. Our experienced team will develop safer, eco-friendly packaging formulations that meet your brand's sustainability goals.

WE'RE READY TO DEVELOP A CUSTOMIZED, SUSTAINABLE SOLUTION THAT MEETS YOUR REQUIREMENTS.



CONTACT OUR EXPERTS NOW.

✉ [SolenisCommunications@solenis.com](mailto:SolenisCommunications@solenis.com) 🌐 <https://solenis.com/en/PFAS-free-barriers>

SOURCES: <sup>1,2</sup> <https://www.consumerreports.org/toxic-chemicals-substances/potentially-hazardous-pfas-found-in-fast-food-packaging-report-finds/>, <sup>3</sup> <https://www.atsdr.cdc.gov/toxprofiles/tp200-c1-b.pdf>, <sup>4</sup> <https://pubs.acs.org/doi/10.1021/acs.estlett.6b00435>