COOP Denmark *The Super Market: How Coop Denmark led national changes on PFAS*

Flame Retardant and PFAS Dilemma February 7, 2020 Green Science Policy, Berkeley

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AGENDA

Coop's position, policy and important initiatives

Why and how we manage to implement a ban

Concrete examples and networking – PFAS – a fight for more than 6 years





About Coop Danmark A/S

Coop is Denmark's largest retail enterprise and is owned by its 1.7 million members.

Coop Danmark operates the chains Kvickly, SuperBrugsen, Dagli'Brugsen, LokalBrugsen, Irma, fakta, fakta Q, Coop.dk and Irma.dk.

Together with the independent consumer cooperatives, the organisation has approximately 40.000 employees.

We have a very high focus on responsibility, CSR and social compliance, and work together with our suppliers to meet our requirements.

We have around 4000 products in private labels



Full national coverage

Coop hypermarkets, supermarkets and discount stores cover the entire country.

1100 shops all together





COOP

Honest products to honest prices

Coop has a long tradition of being a first mover. Coop bans particularly problematic substances that threaten health and the environment before the authorities.

<u>Why:</u>

- If legislation is too slow or inadequate. Hazardous chemicals need faster regulation and restriction
- When deep concern for health and/or environment
- To create the greatest possible safety and security for our customers
- PUBLIC RELATIONS: Maintaining a high consumer loyalty.
- High consumer demands in Denmark
- COMMERCIAL: Protecting the Coop brand.





When legislation is inadequate **COOP** – use of precautionary principle - examples:

1975:MINI RISK: Probably first hypoallergenic brand in the 2012: No use of nano particles and micro-plastics in world. personal care 1991: Ban of PVC in all packaging. 2014: Coop stops pesticides sold in all stores. 1991: Ban of chlorine bleaching of textiles and paper 2014: Ban on all fluorinated substances in food contact 1994: Ban optical brighteners and EDTA / NTA in laundry materials 2014: Ban of the allergenic preservative detergents Methylisothializone (MI) in branded goods and fragrance 1995: ban all allergenic preservatives and fragrances. 1997: Irma chain stop the sale of the detergent bleach allergens 2003: Ban of PVC and known phthalates in selected 2014: Irma to stop selling fabric softeners 2015: Coop stops sales of microwave popcorn due product groups. 2004: First mover: ban all substances in cosmetics and harmful PFAS in packaging. 2015: Coop introduces the world's first PFAS free toys that are suspected of being endocrine disruptors. 2005 Ban of the antibacterial agent triclosan, which is microwave popcorn. used in e.g toothpaste, deodorants and hand soaps. 2015: Ban BPA in thermal paper 2016: Ban BPA: Änglamark cans are free of the endocrine 2005: Ban of all fragrances in candles, and requirements for soothing test of all burning light. disruptor Bisphenol A. 2016: All detergents in Coop's own brands are Swan 2008: Ban of all Candidate List Substances from the EU list of specific harmful substances. It is today at 169 labeled, also discount products. 2016-2017: Ban fluoride in textile, no endocrine disrupting environmental hazardous substances. 2009: Ban all harmful phthalates (plasticizers). The list is UV filters and MI in branded goods 2019: Ban all PFAS in all cosmetics, including sellers brands currently at 18 phthalates. 2010: Ban BPA in baby feeding bottles 2019: requirements for labelling of toys for chemical 2010: No biocides in consumer products ingredients



How ? Cooporation and networking



OUR PRODUCT AND QUALITY REQUIREMENTS:

COOP'S BANS AND SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS ARE STATED IN THE TRADE AGREEMENTS. APPLIES TO ALL COOP'S OWN BRANDS.

COUNTS MORE <u>THAN 100</u> SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS ABOVE LEGISLATION

SCIENCE: Direct communication with academic researchers, authorities and scientists resulting in a substantial time saving (sometimes 10-15 years??)

- Early warnings concerns from scientist and NGO's
- SIN-list and other official lists
- SVHCs
- Authorities' reports, dialogue and more
- Criteria for ecolabel and allergy
- Universities
- Cooperation with experts and certified laboratories
- Networking (conferences, membership Chemsec Business group, seminars)

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HOW: Coop product quality requirements (PQR)

| Today: | Nordic procedure (Nordic Coops, Finland, Norway, Sweden and Denmark) | One big round for update every <u>second</u> year | Aim for highest possible Nordic harmonization |
|----------------------------------|--|--|---|
| Before a ban can be accepted: | <u>Strong</u> arguments why higher requirements are needed. | Clear clarifications for consequences (prices, limits number of suppliers?, possible safe substitution, impact quality??) | Document real business case |
| Prices still counts!! | After: | How to maintain the ban (control) | Secure safe substitution |

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Grundet fornyet mistanke om skadelige stoffer i mikro popkorn, har vi valgt helt at fjerne dem fra hylderne

Hellere være for forsigtig end bagklog. Den logik ligger bag beslutningen om at fjerne mikrobølgepopkorn fra alle vores butikker. Emballagen indeholder nemlig fluorstoffer, der er mistænkt for at være hormonforsstyrrende og kræfthremkaldende. Derfor tager vi nu konsekvensen og fjerner mikrobølgepopcorn fra hylderne. Det betyder nu ikke, at du skal undvære en hyggelig skål popkorn. I Coop har vi nemlig indkøbt ekstra mange af de færdigpoppede i stedet. Lun dem i ca. 1 min i mikroovnen og de smager som havde du poppet dem setv.

Special case: PFC's6 years of fighting for a needed regulation.

When it started: 2014: Helsingor Statement

- Affect growth, learning, and behavior of infants and older children
- Lower a woman's chance of getting pregnant
- Interfere with the body's natural hormones
- Increase cholesterol levels
- Affect the immune system
- Increase the risk of cancer
- Low birth weight, endocrine disruption effects, diabetes
 SCARY -CALLS FOR ACTIONS!!

Discussions and research with experts began in 2014

DTU (Xenia Trier) Senior scientist Phillippe Grandjean and more Reading scientific reports

Then Danish Television....

- •Leading experts in the world stated that the TDI level is 100-1000 too high (in 2014!!)
- •Children particularly vulnerable
- •We realized urgent action was needed !!
- •The concern was so deep and serious and the scientific proofs more than enough
- •Ban was adopted overnight !!



Business case was fortunately acceptable – and easier over time

When adopting the ban, <u>we did not know</u> the commercial impact. But the information's was so strong and scary, not a big deal to convince the commercial part to follow the ban:

•Paper - mechanical treatment - no other chemicals - Nordic Swan

•Textile: Bionic Finish (not more expensive)

•Cosmetics – full ban, but very expensive... NOT all Brand owner were willing to cooperate....

•Furniture and home textile - no coating

•Test analysis was developed over time. Now we test for total PFAS





Ban all PFAS in all cosmetics – including sellers brands

March 2019:

Covers foundations, male-up, mascara, night cream, day cream.



 \mathbf{COOP}

NyKemiLov.nu or **NEWREGULATION.NOW**

In September 2017 we launch our most ambitious campaign ever for chemicals.

We have made a draft for a DK Resolution for ban of PFAS and all bisphenols!

Help from scientists all over the world !



Dokument fra Fødevarestyrelsen Link til dokument grænseværdi for fluorerede stoffer i med grænseværdi Grænseværdi for indhold ag PFOS Link til GB 9685-2016 samt test standard. PFOA Optagelse på REACH Annex XVII Tekst fra Annex XVII Må ikke Link til dokument anvendes i blandinger og artikler Optagelse af PFOA på Kandidatlisten ECHAS baggrundsdokument Link til dokument Rapport fra Nordisk ministerråd juli 2017 Opfordring til omgående Link til dokument regulering af PFAS Nordisk Ministerråd Rapport med analyse 52 undersøgt for indhold af PFAS Link til dokument Rapport med anbefalinger til Link til dokument Polyfluoroalkyl Substances (PFASs) videre forskning Rapport 2015 Medforfatter Link til dokument Environmental and Occupational Health Philippe Grandiean Emerging Insights Into Health Risks Helsingør Statement on poly- and Gennemgang af effekter samt Link til dokument holdningdoapir perfluorinated alkyl substances (PFASs) forslag til regulering. The Madrid Statement on Poly- and Link til dokument Gennemgang af effekter samt Perfluoroalky/Substances (PFASs) forslag til regulering. Green Science Policy Institute Fluorinated Kort factsheet. Link til dokument

Kort factsheet

Link til dokument

PROPOSAL FOR A RESOLUTION IN THE DANISH PARLIAMENT

Concerning a ban on specific endocrine-disrupting compounds

(bisphenols and fluorinated chemicals)

THE DANISH PARI JAMENT IMPOSES ON THE COVERNMENT TO

Point 1

Introduce a national ban on all harmful bisphenol compounds e.g. bisphenol A. -S and -F (BPA, BPF, and BPS), and per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) in food contact materials as well as certain other consumer products including the recycling fase

Point 2

Initiate implementation of similar restrictions in the EU

Point 3

Initiate an investigation of the overall impact of potentially harmful chemical substances on humans and environment, described as the "cocktail effect" The investigation should evaluate the need for further regulations, including possible regulation of entire groups of substances, which are suspected to elicit endocrine-disrupting effects







A extreme success for SoMe, consumer support and visibility, collection of signature's <u>for a safer</u> <u>regulation</u>

Our campaign has won several digital prices !



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Coop's action did had an positive impact on Danish government chemical strategy

After our campaign for a new legislation and ban for PFAS and bisphenols a new 4 years chemical agreement was adopted.

Several key points and actions were addressed in the "Political Agreement on new joint chemicals initiatives 2018-21"

Coop received a letter from the Minister because our input helped DK to adopt an ambitious strategy. Miljø- og fødevareministeren

Coop, att. Malene Teller Blume Mail: <u>Malene.Teller.Blume@coop.dk</u> Fødevarer og forbruger Ref.EMISM Den 22. november 2017

Til Coop, att. Malene Teller Blume

På vegne af statsministeren og mig selv vil jeg takke for jeres henvendelse af 26. september 2017 om at forbyde skadelige bisphenoler og fluorerede stoffer i fødevareprodukter og forbrugerprodukter.

Der er netop indgået en politisk aftale om kemiindsatsen for 2018-2021 med alle Folketingets partier. Med den nye kemiindsats sætter vi ambitionsniveauet endnu højere op.Skadelig kemi skal ud af produkter og fødevarer. I aftalen sættes fokus på de grupper, der er mest sårbare over for kemiske stoffer – ufødte, børn og unge – fordi kemiindsatsen peger ud i fremtiden. Der arbejdes bla. på at fremme EUreguleringen af hele stoffrupper i stedet for at regulere stoffer et af gangen. Det kume fx være grupperne fluorerede stoffer og bisphenoler.

Den nye kemiindsats indeholder ligeledes initiativer i forhold til kombinationseffekter - et emme der også fremhæves i Coops forslag til beslutningsforslag. Eksempelvis skal der videreudvikles metoder til risikovurdering af kombinationseffekter af kemiske stoffer fra miljø- og fødevareeksponeringer.

Med venlig hilsen

Erh Sunde Jorres Esben Lunde Larsen

Washington State adopted a ban after intense debate and presure from NGO's





December 2018 – dramatically lowered TDI !! All warnings and worries came true....

The European Food Safety Agency (EFSA) recommended lowering the tolerated weekly exposure by a factor of 1,750 for PFOA and a factor of 80 for (PFOS)!!

The dramatic reduction of the threshold limit values calls for action.

September 2019: Very positive that the Danish Minister for Environment and Food are working on a <u>Danish ban on all PFAS</u> in food contact materials for paper and board.

Indicator value/limit: measured level of organic fluorine (TOF) in the food packaging paper or carton based food contact material is below 10 ug TOF/dm2.

OLITIK

Regeringen vil forbyde farlige stoffer i bagepapir

Det skal være slut med at bruge fluorstoffer, der hjælper med at afvise smuds og vand, mener regeringen.



Fluorstoffer skal være fortid i mademballage, mener fødevareminister Mogens Jensen (S). (Foto: Niels Christian Vilman © Ritzau Scanpix)

01. SEP. 2019 KL 23.58 [OPDATERET 02. SEP. 2019 KL 09.3 BEMJERK: ARTIKLEN ER MERE END 30 DAGE GAMMEL

Når produkter som madpapir, muffinforme og paptallerkener er gode til at afvise vand og snavs, skyldes det ofte såkaldte fluorstoffer.

Men stofferne er ifølge flere danske forskere og organisationer meget skadelige, og derfor vil regeringen forbyde stofferne i mademballage. Det skriver <u>Politiken</u> mandag.



Moving forward - All non-essential use of PFASs should be banned

Clear and "easy" policy:

All non-essential use of PFASs should be discontinued.

Coop therefore supports the world's leading researchers in defining the term "essential use". Consequently, continued use of PFASs must meet the following criteria to be considered "essential":

- needed to ensure health and life protection
- deemed critical to the functioning of society
- when there are no technically and economically feasible alternatives acceptable from an environmental and health perspective.

If one or more of these criteria are not met, the use of that PFAS cannot be considered essential!

https://coop.dk/godkemi/media/1172/pfas-coops-scopeand-ban.pdf



Source: Zurich Policy meeting 2017

https://ehp.niehs.nih.gov/doi/10.1289/ehp4158



A clear definition of PFAS ban is important

We follow the PFAS terminology from OECD:

The current terminology for PFAS is illustrated, as described by the OECD and other related recent publications the past decade. The general term "perfluoroalkyl(ated) substance", with the acronym PFAS.

PFAS are:

- either linear or branched chemicals that contain one or more perfluoroalkyl moieties,
- -CnF2n+1 or cyclic and/or ethers, that additionally include the generic perfluoro moiety formula CnF2n.
- any chemical that is addressed by name as ---perfluoro—

Find our document here:

https://coop.dk/godkemi/media/1172/pfascoops-scope-and-ban.pdf

Author: Stefan Posner



Overview of the current PFAS chemistry and terminology of polymers and nonpolymers.

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Thank you for your attention

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