

PFAS Removal: LANXESS Selective Resin Proves Its Worth in Industrial Use

- **Lewatit MDS TP 108 reliably removes PFAS from wastewater**
- **Field trial at Chemours: More than 99%* of all fluorinated organic compounds adsorbed**

Cologne, May 5, 2026 – With Lewatit MDS TP 108, LANXESS offers a selective resin that reliably removes even short- and ultrashort-chain PFAS (per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances) from wastewater – a task at which conventional ion exchange resins and activated carbon filters frequently fail. A field trial at fluorochemicals company Chemours Netherlands B.V. in Dordrecht has demonstrated that the resin delivers this performance at industrial scale: More than 99 percent* of all fluorinated organic compounds were removed from the wastewater during the production process.

PFAS are commonly referred to as “forever chemicals” because they break down only very slowly, accumulate in the environment and in living organisms, and can cause harm there. Short- and ultrashort-chain PFAS with two to seven carbon atoms pose a particular technical challenge for sewage treatment plants and waterworks: they adsorb poorly on activated carbon and bind stably in many ion exchange resins, especially when competing anions are present.

Specifically designed to treat wastewater contaminated with short-chain PFAS, LANXESS developed and launched the monodisperse selective resin Lewatit MDS TP 108 (**M**ono **D**ispers **S**mall) in 2024. Compared with conventional ion exchange resins, its resin beads have a diameter approximately one-third smaller. This results in significantly higher capacity and therefore longer service life. Thanks to faster exchange kinetics, the MDS resin maintains its performance even at high flow rates.

LANXESS AG

Contact:
Mark Mätschke
Corporate Communications /
Trade Press
Kennedyplatz 1
50569 Cologne
Germany

Phone +49 151 746 13 747
mark.maetschke@lanxess.com

Chemours employs a three-stage purification process. In the first step, reverse osmosis produces a PFAS-depleted permeate and a small-volume, PFAS-enriched concentrate. In the second step, activated carbon filters bind the long-chain PFAS from the concentrate – a necessary preparatory step, since these compounds would otherwise occupy the selective resin and block it for short-chain PFAS. In the third step, a cascade of three Lewatit MDS TP 108 vessels – one primary filter and two polishing filters – removes the short-chain PFAS with two and three carbon atoms.

“Our tailored ion exchange resins have bound more than 99%* of all fluorinated organic compounds from the wastewater. After use, they are incinerated at high temperatures to destroy the PFAS,” explains Björn Dinges, Application Technology Manager at LANXESS.

The complete water treatment plant, including specialized operating procedures for all subsystems, was designed and supplied by engineering partner Logisticon Water Treatment B.V., Groot-Amers, Netherlands. At Chemours, the plant has been in regular operation since mid-2025 following a multi-month trial period and is making a significant contribution to sustainably reducing process emissions of fluorinated organic compounds at the site while meeting strict regulatory requirements.

For comprehensive information on products from the Liquid Purification Technologies business unit, visit <https://lanxess.com/en/products/products//lewatit--mds-tp-108> and <https://lewatit.com>.

*) The figure was changed from 99.9 percent to 99 percent after publication.

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Press Release

LANXESS is a leading specialty chemicals company that generated sales of EUR 5.7 billion in 2025 and currently has around 11,700 employees in 32 countries. The company's core business is the development, manufacturing and marketing of chemical intermediates, additives and consumer protection products. LANXESS holds leading positions in sustainability ratings, including the Dow Jones Best-in-Class Index and the MSCI ESG and ISS ESG ratings.

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Contact:
Mark Mätschke
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Three-stage ion exchange resin vessel cascade for adsorption of short-chain PFAS at Chemours in Dordrecht, South Holland (Netherlands). Photo: Chemours Dordrecht, courtesy of Logisticon Water Treatment

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