



Quick insight in Southeast Asia

PFAS in food contact materials (FCM)

Southeast Asia tightens food contact rules, Singapore sets the regulatory benchmark and Vietnam's export future hinges on PFAS-free packaging for Europe.

Due to the ability to confer oil- and water-repellency, PFAS have been widely reported in food packaging. Governments are taking action to ensure safer food-contact materials.

Singapore and most Southeast Asian (SEA) countries do not yet have explicit PFAS-specific bans for food-contact materials (FCM), but regulatory tightening is accelerating through broader food-packaging and FCM governance. [1][2] Singapore stands out as the regional front-runner because the Food Safety and Security Bill (passed January 2025) establishes a clear legal foundation to regulate food-contact articles, including powers to enable future bans on hazardous substances and to order product recalls, alongside an overall national approach that emphasises strict packaging safety expectations to prevent harmful chemical migration into food. [1][3]

Across SEA more broadly, most activity is focused on strengthening general FCM controls rather than PFAS-specific restrictions for example, ASEAN provides a common reference via its General Guideline on Food Contact Materials (general principles, traceability, inspection/control systems), which supports harmonization but is not itself a PFAS ban. [2][4]



Meet the SCIEX expert:
See Chung Yip
Field Applications and Market Development Manager, SEA

Fun fact

Southeast Asians drinks a lot of bubble tea

Bubble tea is more popular than you might think, with Southeast Asians spending around US$3.66 billion annually, according to a study. With millions of cups, lids, and straws consumed annually, the industry relies heavily on safe, food-contact packaging.



SCIEX
The power of precision

Vietnam deserves special attention because of so much of its production is exported to Europe: PFAS has been documented in market food-contact materials in Vietnam, and exporters face rising urgency as the EU's Packaging and Packaging Waste Regulation (PPWR, Regulation (EU) 2025/40) introduces binding PFAS restrictions for food-contact packaging from 12 August 2026, meaning packaged food exports to EU countries will increasingly depend on PFAS-compliant packaging specifications and evidence. [5][6][7].

In Indonesia, the Food and Drug Authority (BPOM) is in the process of implementing regulations for per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) in food contact materials (FCM). As of late 2025, a revised draft regulation removes 44 specific PFAS substances from the allowed list of components in food packaging.[8]

With ASEAN tightening PFAS controls in food-contact materials, laboratories need to be prepared before enforcement begins. SCIEX provides comprehensive, end-to-end PFAS testing solutions to ensure confidence in compliance.

Integrated PFAS testing solutions :

SCIEX and Phenomenex deliver high-sensitivity solutions for detecting and monitoring PFAS—persistent contaminants found in water, soil, food, and biological systems—helping labs meet global regulatory demands with confidence.

PFAS analysis solutions

Read PFAS technical notes:

Simultaneous quantitation and confirmation of per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) in food contact materials

Nontargeted and suspect screening of per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) in food contact materials

References

[1] Food Packaging Forum (12 Jun 2025). '2025 regulatory and waste management updates from South and Southeast Asia'.

[2] Food Packaging Forum (15 Apr 2021). 'ASEAN guidelines for FCM manufacture and use available online'.

[3] Sustainable Packaging Middle East & Africa (28 Aug 2025). 'Singapore strengthens food safety with rigorous packaging standards'.

[4] ASEAN (PFPWG). 'ASEAN General Guideline on Food Contact Materials' (PDF).

[5] Hoang et al. (2023). 'Perfluoroalkyl substances in food contact materials: preliminary investigation in Vietnam and global comparison'. Environmental Science and Pollution Research.

[6] Anthesis (6 Aug 2025). 'Forever Chemicals, New Rules: PFAS Compliance Under the EU's PPWR'.

[7] EUR-Lex. 'Packaging and packaging waste (from 2026) – Summary of Regulation (EU) 2025/40'.

[8] Indonesia Issues Revised Draft Regulation for Food Contact Materials

The SCIEX clinical diagnostic portfolio is For In Vitro Diagnostic Use. Rx Only. Product(s) not available in all countries. For information on availability, please contact your local sales representative or refer to www.sciex.com/diagnostics. All other products are For Research Use Only. Not for use in Diagnostic Procedures. Trademarks and/or registered trademarks mentioned herein, including associated logos, are the property of AB Sciex Pte. Ltd. or their respective owners in the United States and/or certain other countries (see www.sciex.com/trademarks). © 2026 DH Tech. Dev. Pte. Ltd. MKT-37369

danaher.