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# **Persistent contaminants (including PFAS) removal with Activated Carbon and Ion Exchange Resins technologies ; For water, soil and sediment remediation**

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Miljøringen, April, the 17th , 2024

# HUMAN ACTIVITY HAS LEAD TO THE CONTAMINATION OF THE ENVIRONMENT



Industrial wasteland

Firefigthing excercises



PFAS



Waste Chemicals

Industrial surface run-off

Leaks in gas stations

Spills

Fume deposits



BTEX, PAH, MTBE...  
Contaminant Plume



Pesticides



Dioxins  
Heavy metals

## CONSEQUENCES OF CONTAMINATION

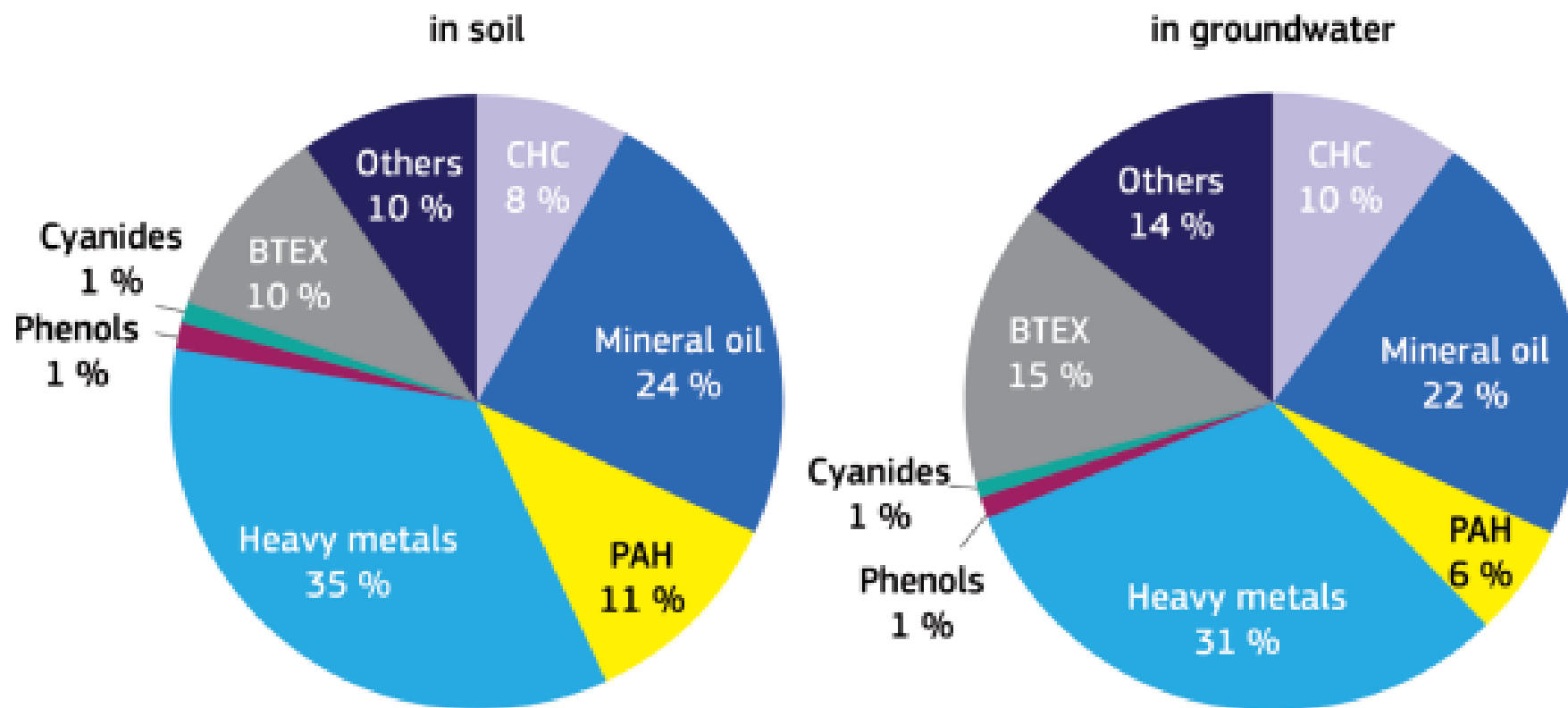


- Restricted access zones → Population displacement
- Food chain contamination → Restrictions on local food
- Contamination of water sources
- Reduction of soil fertility → risk on food security
- Health concerns: cancer, nervous system damage, cardiovascular diseases, breathing disorders, birth defects, skin defects, chronic kidney diseases, immune system disorders, premature mortality, etc...
- Propagation of antimicrobial resistance genes in soil microorganisms → health risks



## MOST FREQUENTLY OCCURRING CONTAMINANTS

### Most frequently applied occurring contaminants



Source : European Commission. Joint Research Centre. Progress in the management of Contaminated Sites in Europe. Marc van Liedekerke, Gundula Prokop, Sabine Rabl-Berger, Mark Kibblewhite, Geertrui Louwagje. 2014

## ACTIVATED CARBON FOR REMEDIATION

A **100% natural** product

With a **high surface area**  
per unit mass ( $>1000 \text{ m}^2/\text{g}$ )

A versatile **adsorbent**  
for gas & liquid streams

Used in hundreds of **purification**  
applications, incl. remediation (pump&treat,  
thermal desorption, stripping, SVE, etc...)

- Volatile Organic Compounds
- Volatile aliphatic hydrocarbons
- Volatile Chlorinated Hydrocarbons
- BTEX
- MTBE
- $\text{H}_2\text{S}$
- Dioxins
- Mercury

- VOCs, VAH, VCH, BTEX, MTBE as above
- Mineral Oil Hydrocarbons
- Total Petroleum Hydrocarbons
- Chlorinated compounds
- Pesticides
- PAH
- Diesel
- Fuel
- PFAS
- Cyanide
- Mercury
- $\text{H}_2\text{S}$
- Ammonia

## ION EXCHANGE RESINS FOR REMEDIATION

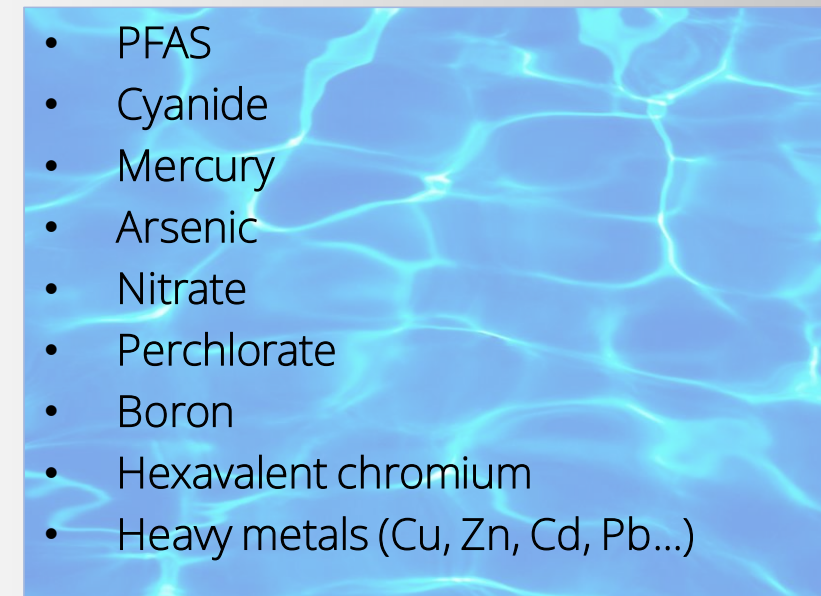
**Selective removal**  
of microcontaminants

Very **high loading** capacity

In-situ **regenerable**  
easy chemical regeneration

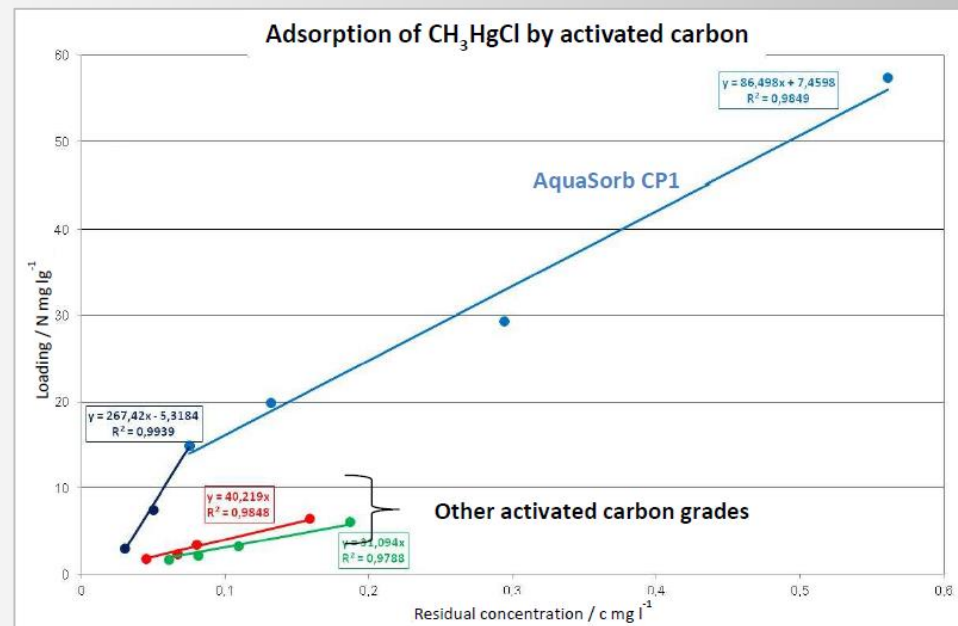
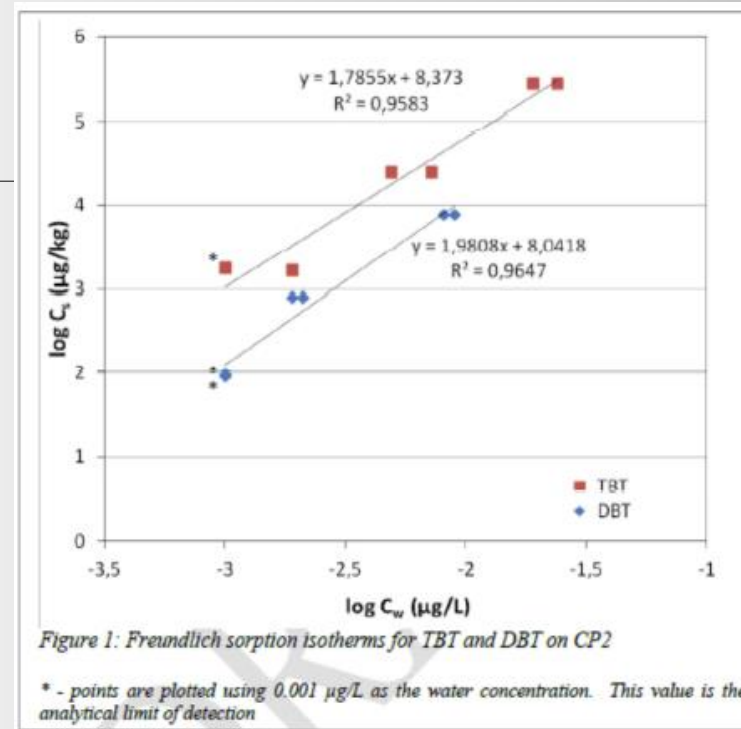
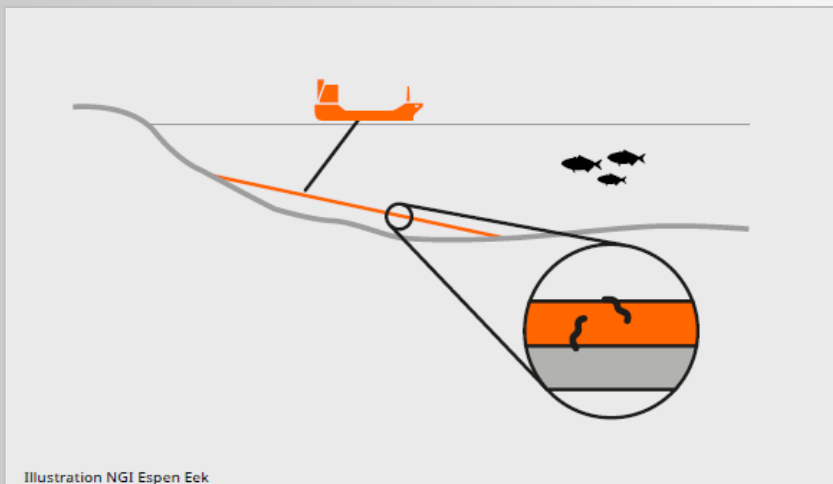
By **capturing** undesirable **ionic species**, resins are a complementary medium to activated carbon.

- PFAS
- Cyanide
- Mercury
- Arsenic
- Nitrate
- Perchlorate
- Boron
- Hexavalent chromium
- Heavy metals (Cu, Zn, Cd, Pb...)



## SUCCESS STORY #1 : FJORD REMEDIATION

- Challenge: Pollution of sediments in the Fjords due to industry and shipping activities, transferred via the food chain : PAH, TBT, dioxins and furans, PCB, DDT and heavy metals
- Process: Capping of sediments
- Solution: Sustainable powder activated carbon made from renewable raw material: AquaSorb™ CP
- Lifetime: Definitive treatment

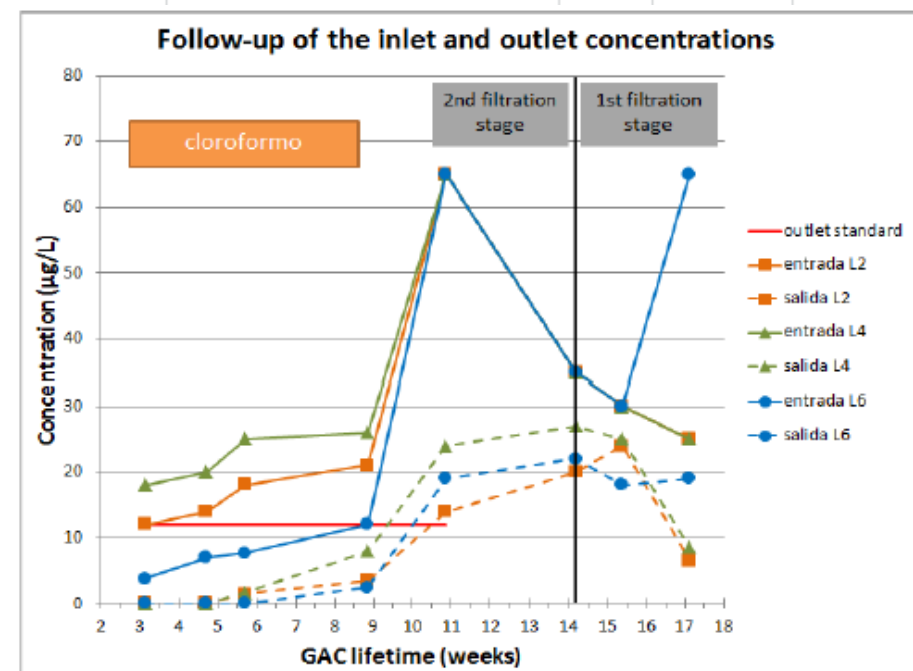




## SUCCESS STORY #2 : RIVER REMEDIATION

- Challenge: River contamination by chemicals from former industries (discharging wastewater into the river)
- Process: River lagoon → separation of hydrocarbons by flotation → coagulation-flocculation → sand filtration → GAC filtration (1<sup>st</sup> step) → GAC filtration (2<sup>nd</sup> step) → storage of water before discharge into the river
- Solution:
  - Flow = 50 m<sup>3</sup>/h/line
  - 6 lines in parallel x 2 filters in series
  - AquaSorb™ CS in AquaFlow™ V20H
- Lifetime: Replacement every 10 weeks

Parámetro	Límite	unit
Cadmio	5	µg/L
Mercurio	1	µg/L
Hexaclorobenceno	30	ng/L
Hexaclorociclohexano (suma)	100	ng/L
DDT	25 000	ng/L
Tetracloroetileno	10	µg/L
Tetracloruro de Carbono	12	µg/L
Cloroformo	12	µg/L
Hexaclorobutadieno	0,1	µg/L
Tricloroetileno	10	µg/L



## SUCCESS STORY #3 : SOIL REMEDIATION

- Challenge : Mercury/zinc/VHOC contaminated soil of a brand new middle school
- Process : Excavation of soil → Soil heated to 350°C
- Solution:
  - WATER. Flow = 67 m<sup>3</sup>/h \* 4  
4 lines in parallel x 3 filters in series  
GAC → ReSorb (22m<sup>3</sup>/f) → Resinex CH-23 (3,5 m<sup>3</sup>/f) for zinc removal  
8 AquaFlow V20H
  - AIR (Mercury vapor @ 5-10°C). Flow = 700 m<sup>3</sup>/h  
2 lines in parallel x 2 filters in series  
ReSorb (2 m<sup>3</sup>/f) → AddSorb VQ1 (2 m<sup>3</sup>/f)  
4 EcoFlow C2
  - CONDENSATE @ 5-10°C. Flow = 5 m<sup>3</sup>/h  
3 filters in series  
ReSorb (2 m<sup>3</sup>) → VQ1 (2 m<sup>3</sup>) → CH-80 (2 m<sup>3</sup>) for mercury  
3 AquaFlow LM2000
- Duration: Initially : 3-6 months → Reality = 3 years!

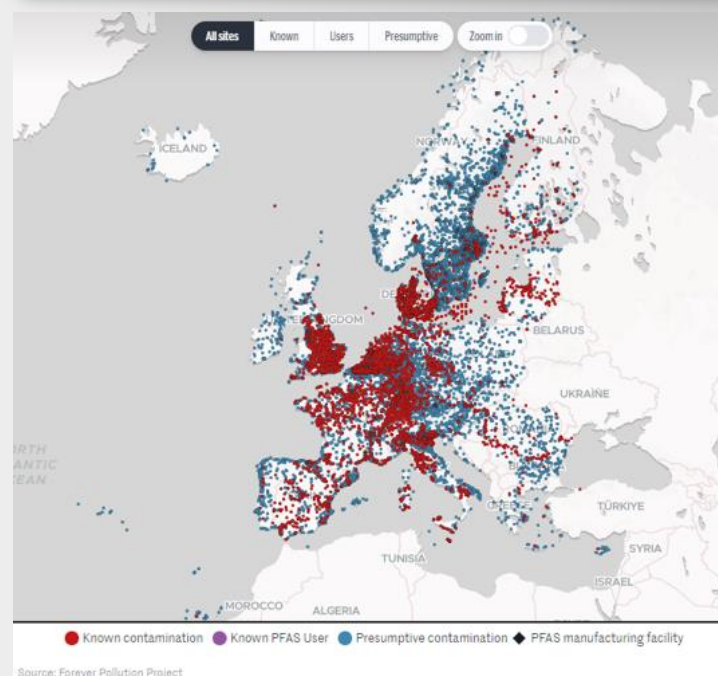
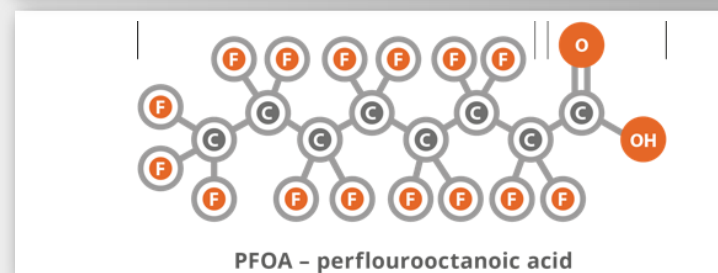


## POLY- AND PERFLUOROALKYL SUBSTANCES (PFAS) CHALLENGE

- Manmade chemical compounds
- Since 1950s
- Carbon chains with fluorine atoms attached
- Large number of compounds (~10 000)
- Most common: PFOA, PFOS, PFNA, PFBS, PFHxA...
- **FOREVER CHEMICALS:** persistent (POP), bio-accumulative, mobile and toxic
- **All around us:** food (packaging), cosmetics, consumer goods, fire fighting foam...



The C-F bond is one of the shortest and strongest in nature



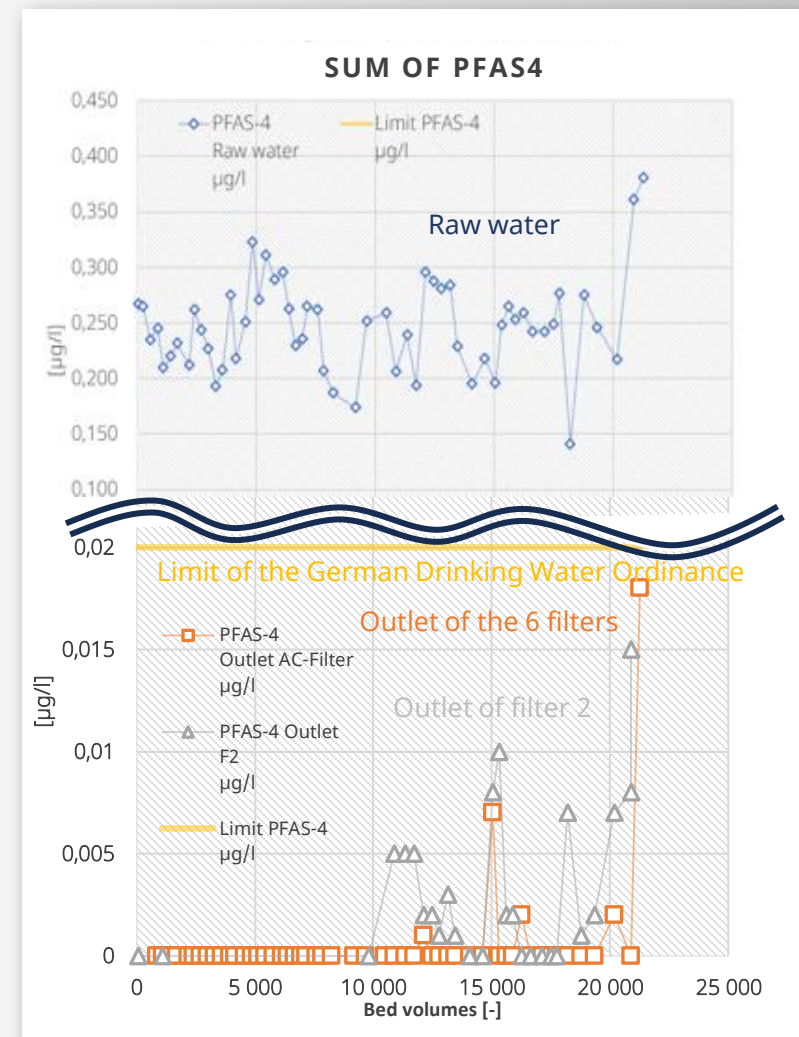
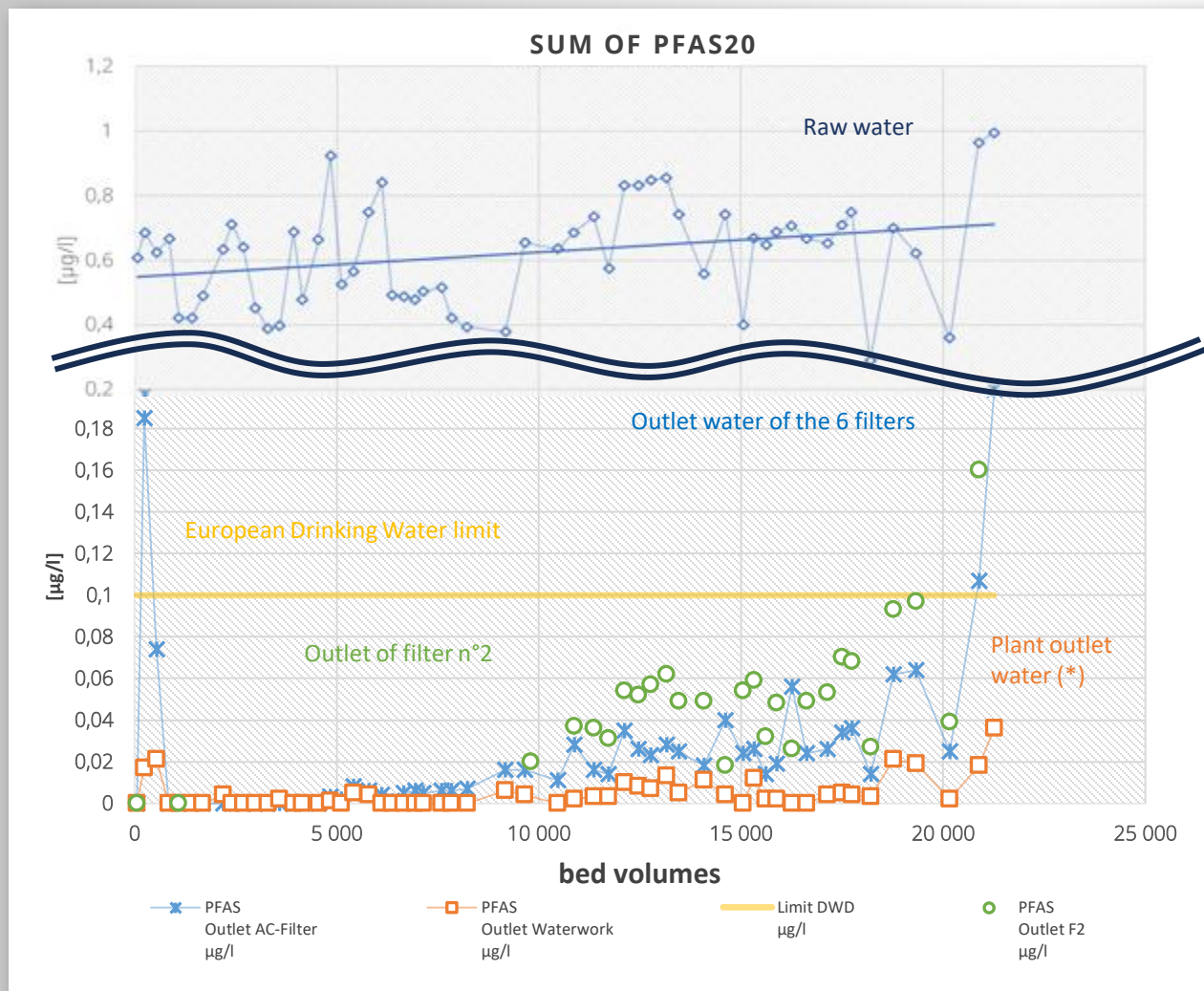
## SUCCESS STORY #4 : GROUNDWATER REMEDIATION (1/2)

- Challenge: PFAS contamination of groundwater (intended to drinking water production) due to fire fighting exercises at the nearby airport:
  - PFAS20 = 500-700 ng/L
  - PFAS4 = 200-300 ng/L
- Target:
  - PFAS20 < 100 ng/L (European drinking water standard)
  - PFAS4 < 20 ng/L
- Process: Wells → activated carbon
- Solution:
  - 6 filters **AquaFlow™ V20H** in parallel x 60 m<sup>3</sup>/h filled with **AquaSorb™ 6300**
  - **Safe reactivation** : Official extension of Jacobi-Germany permit for the reactivation of PFAS loaded GAC used for drinking water production (after an extensive trial in coordination with the authorities)
- Lifetime: up to 20 000 BV



Pic.: Aachener Zeitung, 12.4.2023

# SUCCESS STORY #4 : GROUNDWATER REMEDIATION 2/2



## JACOBI'S OFFER FOR REMEDIATION

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*The supply chain  
for adsorption  
in remediation*

- Activated Carbons:
  - ✓ Organic contaminant removal (liquid phase/gas phase)
- Resinex:
  - ✓ Heavy metals removal
- Other media : arsenic removal...
- Mobile Filtration Units:
  - ✓ Air or effluent treatment
  - ✓ Rental units for temporary treatment or emergency units
- Services :
  - ✓ Safe reactivation
  - ✓ Recycling capacity
  - ✓ Compliant disposal options
- Technical expertise
- Solutions compatible with Sustainable Development


## Sparks - Jacobi Carbons' local partner in Norway

- 3 x 30 years of experience with materials to the process industry.
- Market leader in Norway for activated carbon.
- Friendly, efficient and local follow-up.
- [www.sparks.as](http://www.sparks.as)




**Our team**


Skills, insight and relevant industrial experience are the fundamental building blocks of our services.




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