

— **Director**
Fluoropolymers Product Group



Fluoropolymer
Product Group



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Fluoropolymers Product Group Director

Plastics Europe's Fluoropolymers Product Group is seeking a dedicated professional to champion its mission.

The Fluoropolymers Product Group is a division of Plastics Europe¹ and represents companies producing fluoropolymers within the European Economic area and the UK. As the voice of the industry across the European Economic area and the UK, the group is committed to sustainable development of fluoropolymers as a material. It advances the interests of the member of the Fluoropolymer Product Group and advocates for an informed debate and balanced regulatory environment grounded in scientific facts that enables European industries to thrive while maintaining sustainability and competitiveness.

Since their discovery in the 1930s, Fluoropolymers have played an essential role in many industrial applications contributing to significant advancement in areas such as aerospace, communications, electronics, industrial processes, architecture, and medical applications.

Fluoropolymers also have a crucial role to play in the Circular Economy. Through their unique combination of properties, they contribute to emission reductions and more efficient use of resources across different sectors. Fluoropolymers can be defined as type of PFAS²; however, their toxicological properties differ from other fluorochemicals within the PFAS family. In ongoing discussions about future regulations for PFASs, it is important to recognise that not all PFASs are alike. Fluoropolymers, while part of this group, are safe and offer significant benefits to both society and the environment.

1. Plastics Europe is the pan-European association of plastics manufacturers with offices across Europe. For over 100 years, science and innovation has been the DNA that cuts across our industry. With close to 100 members producing over 90% of all polymers across Europe, we are the catalyst for the industry with a responsibility to openly engage with stakeholders and deliver solutions which are safe, circular and sustainable. We are committed to implementing long-lasting positive change.
2. Per and PolyFluoroAlkyl Substances





The Role

The Fluoropolymers Product Group is looking for a Product Group Director who will be in charge of leading the work of the Fluoropolymer Product Group during a time of change and evolution in the sector especially seen the trends and developments in the circular economy, sustainability and EU Green Deal.

The ideal candidate will provide leadership to position the Fluoropolymer Product Group at the forefront of the industry and will develop a strategic plan to advance the group's objectives. The Product Group Director will work closely together with the Group's Management Committee to set direction and priorities while ensuring the activities remain aligned with the overall Plastics Europe's strategy, in close collaboration with the Plastics Europe Managing Director.

The Product Group Director for Fluoropolymers has a direct reporting line to the Plastics Europe Managing Director in its capacity as Leadership Team Director for Plastics Europe.

Responsibilities

Setting strategy

- Develop the strategic objectives and priorities in cooperation with Fluoropolymers Management Committee and Plastics Europe Managing Director and lead their implementation.
- Provide leadership and direction to the European Fluoropolymer industry to promote its interests and image, while also defending its reputation and products.
- Actively lead, direct and co-ordinate the activities of the Fluoropolymers Product Group, in alignment with Plastics Europe' overall objectives and strategy.

Membership and group management

- Lead the Fluoropolymers Group's secretariat, i.e. implementation of the strategy, budgeting and financial reporting, people management for the Administrative Assistant, management of service providers and negotiation of related contracts
- Ensure effective functioning of the Product Group activities and sub-groups as per the Plastics Europe statutes and Product Group Internal Rules, including all applicable internal processes/policies and relevant sub-delegations, as the case may be
- Constructively contribute as Product Group Director to Plastics Europe's Leadership Team

Engagement and Strategic Partnerships

- Build and maintain strong networks with all important stakeholders, including opinion leaders and decision makers in politics, the business community and the media
- Act as spokesperson of the Fluoropolymers Product Group to advocate and represent the Product Group in official and professional bodies to communicate and safeguard the interests of the industry

Public Affairs

- Constructively contribute to legislative and regulatory procedures relevant to the Fluoropolymers Group
- Establish the Fluoropolymers Group as trusted source of information on fluoropolymers for policy makers both at EU level and in EU member states
- Anticipates evidence needs in emerging policy scenarios or in fast paced debates

The candidate should be a highly experienced professional who demonstrates:

- Higher education degree (master/MBA)
- Relevant international working experience (minimum 10 years) at a senior level within a company, association or as a consultant
- Experience working with associations and within a larger organization comparable with Plastics Europe an advantage.
- Fluency in written and spoken English; good knowledge of another European language would be an asset.
- Proven knowledge of the EU political landscape and legislative process, knowledge of EU chemicals and related policy an advantage.
- Proven experience in strategic leadership and extensive policy awareness to enable identification of opportunities and threats when formulating strategy and evaluating long-term impact.

- Ability to develop integrated advocacy plans and shape policy discussions to establish the group as a prominent voice in the policy debate.
- Demonstrated management and organizational skills: results oriented, accountable, solution driven.
- Excellent networker with excellent social and cross-cultural and diplomatic skills
- Strong capacity to leverage collective intelligence and has experience facilitating and creating collaborative relationships with high-level stakeholders in context of complex negotiations or debates.
- Excellent communication and negotiation skills, including comfort as public speaker, speaking at conferences and seminars.
- Strong experience in project and staff management, including budgeting.
- Inspiring, self-starting leader who can motivate and lead small team.
- Outstanding interpersonal, strong verbal and written communication and negotiation skills
- Self-confidence, balanced and constructively critical with a positive attitude

The full-time position is based in Brussels / Belgium and requires regular EU travels.

Recruitment Process



The executive search firm Dober Partners has been retained to draw up a shortlist of prospective candidates against the criteria set out in this job description and using their discretion and expertise to help recruit a new Director together with leadership of the Fluoropolymers Product Group and PlasticsEurope. If you wish to apply for this exciting position, please send your CV to the Dober Partners team below, as soon as possible to qualify for interviews with the Selection Committee.

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