

Testing and the cosmetics regulations

REGULATION (EC) No 1223/2009 OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL OF 30 November 2009 ON COSMETIC PRODUCTS

These regulations apply to all cosmetic products for sale in the European Economic Area (EEA).

Annex 1 of these regulations describes the testing you require. Excerpts of this are shown below.

1. Quantitative and qualitative composition of the cosmetic product

The qualitative and quantitative composition of the cosmetic product, including chemical identity of the substances (incl. chemical name, INCI, CAS, EINECS/ELINCS, where possible) and their intended function. In the case of perfume and aromatic compositions, description of the name and code number of the composition and the identity of the supplier.

A cosmetic safety assessor will be able to help you with a large proportion of these requirements. We would be happy to give you the names of assessors that other customers of ours use.

2. Physical / chemical characteristics and stability of the cosmetic product

The physical and chemical characteristics of the substances or mixtures, as well as the cosmetic product.

The stability of the cosmetics product under reasonably foreseeable storage conditions.

ESP will be able to help you prepare the required Product Information Pack (PIP) by providing Stability and Compatibility testing.

3. Microbiological quality

The microbiological specifications of the substance or mixture and the cosmetic product. Particular attention shall be paid to cosmetics used around the eyes, on mucous membranes in general, on damaged skin, on children under three years of age, on elderly people and persons showing compromised immune responses.

Results of preservation challenge test.

Preservative challenge testing and quality control testing have long been a recommendation for cosmetic products. They are now a requirement. MCS will be able to advise you on which of these tests you must have and which would be the most appropriate for your product.