

Cosmetics Testing for the EU



The EU Definition of Cosmetics

The EU defines cosmetics as substances or mixtures used externally on any part of the body (including skin, hair, nails, lips, and vulva), or teeth and oral mucosa, mainly for cleansing, fragrance, or protection to achieve and maintain good hygiene, beautifying or eliminating body odour.

Why Test Cosmetics for the EU?

The EU has stringent regulations that dictate the registration, evaluation, authorisation, and restriction of ingredients and materials used in the manufacture and sale of cosmetics in the EU, as well as their labelling:

EU Regulation No. 1223/2009/EC officially came into effect on 11 July 2013 in all 27 EU member countries, and Norway, Iceland, and Liechtenstein.

EU Regulation No. 1907/2006/EC (REACH) also plays a leading role. As does Regulation **1272/2008/EC** (CLP Regulation).

Which Products Require Particular Attention?

Product Categories	Product Categories under EU Regulations	Product Categories	Product Categories under EU Regulations
Anti-dandruff shampoo	Cosmetics	Cleansing wipes	Cosmetics
Acne products	Pharmaceuticals	Tattoo stickers	Cosmetics
Hair growth products	Cosmetics / Pharmaceuticals (depending on claims)	Soaps	Cosmetics
Sunscreen products	Cosmetics	Plastic fake nails	Non-Cosmetics

What about Labelling?

Always make sure the necessary information is clearly and noticeably marked on a conspicuous location of the sales packaging. **Information must include the name and address of the responsible party, their address (imported products must indicate the country of origin), net content, minimum shelf life, and precautionary warnings, as well as production batch number, product functional attributes and an ingredients list.**

Which Substances are Prohibited and Restricted?

Substances classified as carcinogenic, mutagenic, or reproductive toxic are prohibited, except for some conditions.

Various pigments and preservatives, although permitted, are also restricted.

Who are the Regulatory Bodies?

- European Commission
- Scientific Committee on Consumer Safety (SCCS)
- Competent authorities of each EU member country
- European Cosmetic and Perfumery Association (COLIPA)

How can STC help?

STC offers one-stop testing services to help you meet EU requirements:

Service	Testing Scope / Documentation
Packaging Materials Testing	Total concentration of lead, cadmium, mercury, and hexavalent chromium
Cosmetics Ingredients Testing	Heavy Metals: Lead, cadmium, mercury, arsenic, antimony, nickel (soluble)
	Microorganisms: Aerobic thermophilic bacteria, Molds and yeast, Escherichia coli, Staphylococcus aureus, Pseudomonas aeruginosa, etc.
	Harmful Substances: Formaldehyde, dioxane (raw materials containing ethoxy structure), nitrosamines (formulas containing amines), phthalates, and more
	Preservative Challenge Testing and Stability Testing: Evaluation of the stability of preservative efficacy of the product against microorganisms
Regulatory Supporting Documents	Cosmetic Product Safety Report (CPSR)
	Chemicals Safety Data Sheets (SDS)
	Ingredient Label Review

GDCCDF2401E_GD202401



Find out more, contact us now.



STC (Guangdong)



+86 769 8111 9888



+86 769 8111 6222



gdccfd@stc.group



No.68, Fumin South Road, Dalang, Dongguan, Guangdong, China



www.stc.group