

Beauty & Personal Care

Naturalness According to ISO 16128



The ISO 16128 standard has been developed to answer questions as regards to natural and organic cosmetics. What defines a cosmetic as natural or organic? To answer this question, there was a need to work on a common and harmonized definition of natural and organic ingredients.

With a solid experience in the cosmetics industry, Intertek is a partner of choice for your naturalness index calculations and can notably train your teams to this standard.

The ISO 16128 standard entitled "Guidelines on technical definitions and criteria for natural and organic cosmetic ingredients and products" has two parts :

- The first one published in 2016 allows to define categories of ingredients.
- The second published in 2017 provides guidance to calculate the indices attached to the different categories of ingredients.

This international standard was developed specifically for the cosmetics sector. It does not require certification and provides guidelines to help suppliers and manufacturers in the cosmetics sector to define a natural or organic ingredient.

It allows you to know whether a particular ingredient is natural or organic and therefore calculate the percentage of naturalness of your finished cosmetic product.

You are a supplier of raw materials

Intertek calculates the indices / naturalness contents of your ingredients & raw materials. A cosmetic product can only be qualified as "natural" if the finished product contains a minimum of 95% of ingredients such as "natural" or "of natural origin". An ingredient is considered a "natural derivative" as soon as it contains more than 50% natural raw materials, so it may be possible to enter the percentage of naturalness displayed on a product.



This standard can be applied voluntarily by manufacturers, and its use is not subject to control, unlike certified products. Applying the voluntary ISO 16128 standard does not allow the affixing of the organic name or logo on its finished product.

You are a responsible person

Contact with suppliers is our daily life! We collect the necessary information from your suppliers by ensuring optimal project monitoring (reminders, follow-up, etc.). Our teams also calculate the percentage of naturalness of your formulas.

For your brand to be claimed "ISO 16128 standard" in order to indicate on its packaging "XX% natural ingredients". We need to analyze the content of the product formula to see if it will be completely conventional with the presence of other chemical ingredients.

The Intertek advantage

Intertek helps local and international companies to ensure their products meet quality, safety, hygiene, and social and environmental responsibility standards around the world.

Intertek is a leading Total Quality Assurance provider to industries worldwide. Our network of more than 1,000 laboratories and offices in more than 100 countries, delivers innovative and bespoke Assurance, Testing, Inspection and Certification solutions for our customers' operations and supply chains. Intertek Total Quality Assurance expertise, delivered consistently with precision, pace and passion, enabling our customers to power ahead safely.

Total Quality. Assured.

For more information

 cosmetics.assuris@intertek.com

 intertek.com/home-personal-care/