

Safety Assessments of Natural Ingredients in Cosmetics

Quality, safety, efficacy and labeling requirements are regulated differently in various regions, making it difficult to identify relevant regulations and ensure compliance where cosmetic products are marketed. Intertek's safety assessment services for cosmetic ingredients can help you become a trusted and valued ingredient supplier and achieve regulatory compliance.



Background

With the increased demand of using sustainable and renewable raw materials for the production of cosmetic formulations, the cosmetic industry is looking more and more for plant-derived extracts. Botanical extracts used in cosmetic formulations can be very complex, with hundreds of components. Critical compounds can be identified within the extracts and may represent a risk to the consumer's health (i.e. some alkaloids, etc.).

Like every cosmetic ingredient, those from natural origin shall be evaluated through a rigorous safety assessment in order to be used in cosmetics (EU Regulation 1223/2009/ CE, SCCS's Notes of Guidance).

Key insights

Safety evaluation is based on key principles:

- Use of specific databases, exposure data from traditional use (food, traditional medicines) and all other existing complementary data
- If data gaps are identified, then the extract needs to be :
 - Characterized through analytical testing
 - Assessed with additional safety data through alternative approaches (QSAR, TTC...)

Our services

To help manufacturers and raw material suppliers to assess their botanical extracts, Intertek provides a wide range of services :

- Safety Assessment Services :
 - Literature Review and Data Collection
 - Toxicological profiles of your ingredients and raw material safety assessments
 - QSAR, Read Across and Threshold of Toxicological Concern (TTC) approaches
 - Clinical Research Studies to support R&D and Safety assessment
- Analytical Characterization of Natural Extracts :
 - Analysis of qualitative / quantitative composition
 - Identification and quantification of substances such as proteins, furocoumarines, saccharides, allergens etc ...
- Identification of the impurities, residues, contaminants (solvents, pesticides, heavy metals, ...)
- Regulatory support: INCI registration, REACH
- Marketing Claim Support (efficacy, safety...)
- California Prop. 65 analysis and the 'naturally occurring exemption'
- Naturel Origin Index Calculation (ISO 16128)

The Intertek advantage

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.

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For more information



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