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Cosmetics — Microbiology — Microbiological limits

Cosmétiques — Microbiologie — Limites microbiologiques

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Foreword

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The procedures used to develop this document and those intended for its further maintenance are described in the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 1. In particular the different approval criteria needed for the different types of ISO documents should be noted. This document was drafted in accordance with the editorial rules of the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 2. www.iso.org/directives

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For an explanation on the meaning of ISO specific terms and expressions related to conformity assessment, as well as information about ISO's adherence to the WTO principles in the Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT), see the following URL: Foreword - Supplementary information

The committee responsible for this document is ISO/TC 217, *Cosmetics*.

Introduction

Every cosmetic manufacturer has a responsibility relative to the microbiological safety and quality of its products to ensure that they have been produced under hygienic conditions. Cosmetic products are not expected to be sterile. However they shall not contain excessive amounts of microorganisms nor specified microorganisms that have the potential to affect the product quality or consumer safety. Moreover, some cosmetic products which are considered to have low microbiological risk (see ISO 29621) may not need to be subjected to routine microbiological testing and manufacturers can decide not to test if they can ensure products meet this standard.

The manufacturer should follow the Good Manufacturing Practices described in ISO 22716 and take the necessary precautions to limit the introduction of microorganisms from raw materials, processing and packaging. When necessary, microbiological testing may be performed using ISO 21148, ISO 21149, ISO 16212, ISO 18415, ISO 18416, ISO 21150, ISO 22717, and ISO 22718.

The objective of this International Standard is to develop acceptable quantitative and qualitative limits for cosmetic finished products.