

**Cosmetics - Microbiology - Evaluation of the
antimicrobial protection of a cosmetic product (ISO
11930:2012, Corrected version 2013-05-01)**

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NATIONAL FOREWORD

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English Version

**Cosmetics - Microbiology - Evaluation of the antimicrobial
protection of a cosmetic product (ISO 11930:2012, Corrected
version 2013-05-01)**

Cosmétiques - Microbiologie - Évaluation de la protection
antimicrobienne d'un produit cosmétique (ISO 11930:2012,
Version corrigé 2013-05-01)

Kosmetische Mittel - Mikrobiologie - Bewertung des
antimikrobiellen Schutzes eines kosmetischen Produktes
(ISO 11930:2012, korrigierte Fassung 2013-05-01)

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Foreword

This document (EN ISO 11930:2012, Corrected version 2013-05-01) has been prepared by Technical Committee ISO/TC 217 "Cosmetics" in collaboration with Technical Committee CEN/TC 392 "Cosmetics" the secretariat of which is held by AFNOR.

This European Standard shall be given the status of a national standard, either by publication of an identical text or by endorsement, at the latest by October 2012, and conflicting national standards shall be withdrawn at the latest by October 2012.

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Endorsement notice

The text of ISO 11930:2012, Corrected version 2013-05-01 has been approved by CEN as a EN ISO 11930:2012 without any modification.

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Introduction

This International Standard is to be used in the overall evaluation of the antimicrobial protection of a cosmetic product.

The antimicrobial protection of a product can come from many sources:

- chemical preservation;
- inherent characteristics of the formulation;
- package design;
- manufacturing process.

This International Standard defines a series of steps to be taken when assessing the overall antimicrobial protection of a cosmetic product. A reference method for a preservation efficacy test (challenge test) along with evaluation criteria is also described in this International Standard.

The data generated by the risk assessment (see ISO 29621) or by the preservation efficacy test, or both, are to be used to establish the level of antimicrobial protection required to minimize user risk.

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Cosmetics — Microbiology — Evaluation of the antimicrobial protection of a cosmetic product

1 Scope

1.1 General

This International Standard comprises:

- a preservation efficacy test;
- a procedure for evaluating the overall antimicrobial protection of a cosmetic product which is not considered low risk, based on a risk assessment described in ISO 29621.

This International Standard provides a procedure for the interpretation of data generated by the preservation efficacy test or by the microbiological risk assessment, or both.

1.2 Preservation efficacy test

This test is a reference method that is to be used to evaluate the preservation of a cosmetic formulation. It applies to cosmetic products in the market place.

This test is not required for those cosmetic products for which the microbiological risk has been determined to be low (see Annex A and ISO 29621).

This test is primarily designed for water-soluble or water-miscible cosmetic products and can require adaptation, for example to test products in which water is the internal phase. The test described in this International Standard involves, for each test micro-organism, placing the formulation in contact with a calibrated inoculum, and then measuring the changes in the micro-organism count at set time intervals for a set period and at a set temperature.

NOTE This test can be used as a guideline to develop an in-house method during the development cycle of cosmetic products. In this case, the test can be modified or extended, or both, for example to make allowance for prior data and different variables (microbial strains, media, incubation conditions exposure time, etc.). Compliance criteria can be adapted to specific objectives. During the development stage of cosmetic products, other methods, where relevant, can be used to determine the preservation efficacy of formulations.

1.3 Procedure for evaluating the antimicrobial protection of the cosmetic product

This procedure is based on careful consideration of the following points.

- Results of the preservation efficacy test. Not all cosmetic products will require a preservation efficacy test (see Annex A and ISO 29621).
- Formulation characteristics and data provided by the microbiological risk assessment (see ISO 29621). The analysis of the microbiological risk assessment is based on an overall approach. In particular, it integrates variables such as characteristics and composition of the formulation, its production conditions, the characteristics of the packaging in which the formulation will be delivered to the market place, recommendations for use of the cosmetic product and, when relevant, the area of application and the targeted user population (see Annex D).

2 Normative references

The following referenced documents are indispensable for the application of this document. For dated references, only the edition cited applies. For undated references, the latest edition of the referenced document (including any amendments) applies.

ISO 16212, *Cosmetics — Microbiology — Enumeration of yeast and mould*

ISO 18415, *Cosmetics — Microbiology — Detection of specified and non-specified microorganisms*

ISO 21148, *Cosmetics — Microbiology — General instructions for microbiological examination*

ISO 21149, *Cosmetics — Microbiology — Enumeration and detection of aerobic mesophilic bacteria*

ISO 22716, *Cosmetics — Good Manufacturing Practices (GMP) — Guidelines on Good Manufacturing Practices*

ISO 29621, *Cosmetics — Microbiology — Guidelines for the risk assessment and identification of microbiologically low-risk products*

3 Terms and definitions

For the purposes of this document, the terms and definitions given in ISO 21148 and the following apply.

3.1

cosmetic formulation

preparation of raw materials with a qualitatively and quantitatively defined composition

3.2

cosmetic product

finished cosmetic product that has undergone all stages of production, including packaging in its final container for shipment

3.3

antimicrobial protection of a cosmetic product

ability of a cosmetic product to overcome microbial contamination that might present a potential risk to the user

NOTE The overall antimicrobial protection includes preservation of the formulation, the specific manufacturing process and protective packaging.

3.4

preservation of a cosmetic formulation

set of means used to avoid microbial proliferation in a cosmetic formulation

EXAMPLES Preservatives, multifunctional compounds, hostile raw materials, extreme pH, low water-activity values.

3.5

reference method

method applied by interested parties to assess a product on the market and in case of dispute

3.6

development method

in-house method

method used during the development stage of a product before the product is put on the market