# INTERNATIONAL STANDARD

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# Cosmetics — Microbiology — Enumeration and detection of aerobic mesophilic bacteria

Cosmétiques — Microbiologie — Dénombrement et détection des bactéries aérobies mésophiles



Reference number ISO 21149:2006(E)

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### Foreword

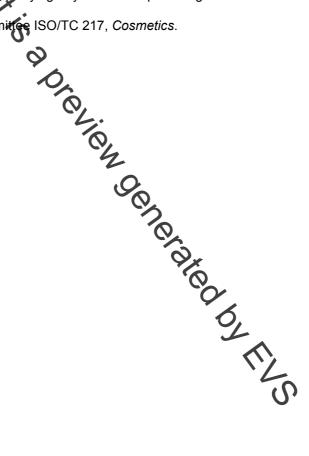
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ISO 21149 was prepared by Technical Committee ISO/TC 217, Cosmetics.



# Cosmetics — Microbiology — Enumeration and detection of aerobic mesophilic bacteria

## 1 Scope

This International Standard gives general guidelines for enumeration and detection of mesophilic aerobic bacteria present in cospetics,

— by counting the colonies on agar medium after aerobic incubation, or

by checking the absence of pacterial growth after enrichment.

Because of the large variety of cospnetic products within this field of application, this method may not be appropriate for some products in every detail (e.g. certain water immiscible products). Other methods (e.g. automated) may be substituted for the tests presented here provided that their equivalence has been demonstrated or the method has been otherwise validated.

If needed, microorganisms enumerated or detected may be identified using suitable identification tests described in the standards given in the Bibliography.

In order to ensure product quality and safety to consumers, it is advisable to perform an appropriate microbiological risk analysis, so as to determine the types of cosmetic products to which this International Standard is applicable. Products considered to present a low microbiological risk include those with low water activity, hydro-alcoholic products, extreme pH values, etc.

#### 2 Normative references

The following referenced documents are indispensable for the opplication 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 21148:2005, Cosmetics — Microbiology — General instructions for microbiological examination

#### 3 Terms and definitions

For the purposes of this document, the following terms and definitions apply.

#### 3.1

#### aerobic mesophilic bacteria

mesophilic bacteria growing aerobically under the conditions specified in this International Standard

NOTE In the described conditions, other types of microorganisms (e.g. yeast, mould) can be detected.

#### 3.2

#### product

portion of an identified cosmetic product received in the laboratory for testing