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Edition 2

SOUTH AFRICAN NATIONAL STANDARD

Ingredient labelling of cosmetic products

WARNING
This document references other documents normatively.

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SANS 98:2024
Edition 2

Table of changes

Change No.	Date	Scope

Foreword

This South African standard was prepared by National Committee SABS/TC 217, *Cosmetics*, in accordance with procedures of the South African Bureau of Standards, in compliance with annex 3 of the WTO/TBT agreement.

This document was approved for publication in November 2024

This document supersedes SANS 98:2012 (edition 1.1).

Reference is made in 3.1.3 to the "relevant national legislation". In South Africa this means the Medicines and Related Substances Act, 1965 (Act No. 101 of 1965).

Reference is made in 4.1 to the "relevant national legislation". In South Africa this means the Legal Metrology Act, 2014 (Act No. 9 of 2014) and the Foodstuffs, Cosmetics and Disinfectants Act, 1972 (Act No. 54 of 1972) as amended.

Annexes A and B are for information only.

Compliance with this document cannot confer immunity from legal obligations.

Introduction

The purpose of ingredient labelling is to ensure transparency to the consumer, to give adequate information about the product, and to avoid purchase of a product that contains an ingredient that the consumer does not wish to use.

To achieve transparency, it is essential to ensure uniformity throughout the world in the names used for the ingredients in cosmetic products. This will help the consumer to identify the same ingredient in products manufactured in different countries. It is recognized that South Africa needs to adopt legislation pertaining to the full ingredient listing of cosmetic products, not only to bring the industry in line with global trends, but also to further the responsible attitude being taken towards the effective control of the South African cosmetic industry through self-regulation.

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Ingredient labelling of cosmetic products

1 Scope

This standard specifies ingredient labelling requirements for cosmetic products in South Africa.

2 Normative references

The following referenced documents, in whole or part, are normatively referenced in this 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. Information on currently valid national and international standards can be obtained from the South African Bureau of Standards.

2.1 Standards

ISO 22715, *Cosmetics – Packaging and labelling.*

2.2 Other publications

EC Regulation 1223/2009, *The European parliament and of the council of 30 November 2009 on cosmetic products (recast) – (Text with EEA relevance).*

3 Definitions and abbreviations

For the purposes of this standard, the following definitions and abbreviations apply.

3.1 Definitions

3.1.1
botanicals
cosmetic ingredients directly derived from plants

3.1.2
bulk container
large portable container in which a large quantity of cosmetic product is packed

NOTE 1 A bulk container can be a drum or a box.

NOTE 2 The hospitality industry is an example of an industry to which these bulk containers with cosmetic products are supplied.

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3.1.3
cosmetic product
any article, preparation or substance (except a medicine as defined in the relevant national legislation (see foreword)) intended to be rubbed, poured, sprinkled or sprayed on or otherwise applied to the human body, including the epidermis, hair, teeth, mucous membranes of the oral cavity, lips and external genital organs, for purposes of cleansing, perfuming, correcting body odours, conditioning, beautifying, protecting, promoting attractiveness or improving or altering the appearance, and includes any part of ingredient of any such article or substance

3.1.4
harmonized labelling
labelling that aligns with the European Union (EU), and United States of America (USA)

3.1.5
indelible (marking)
lettering that remains legible throughout the period for which the product is used

3.1.6
ingredient
any substance, including any cosmetic additive, and any constituent of a compound ingredient that is used in the manufacture or preparation of a cosmetic product and that remains in the final product

3.1.7
ingredients with restricted use
substance that is controlled or limited for use in cosmetic products, including active ingredients that could be controlled or limited by relevant regulations

3.1.8
label
all printed information on the primary packaging, outermost packaging, secondary packaging or bulk container, or wherever otherwise provided together with the physical product

3.1.9
marking
legible and visible lettering of sufficient size so that the details can be read by a person with normal vision at a distance of about 30 cm, or by a person wearing normal corrective lenses without having to resort to aids such as magnification

3.1.10
outermost packaging
packaging on which the ingredient list is visible without opening or removing any part thereof

NOTE Outermost packaging can be primary packaging or secondary packaging.

3.1.11
primary packaging
packaging designed to come into direct contact with the contents
[ISO 22715]

3.1.12
secondary packaging
packaging designed to contain one or more primary packages and any protective materials, if present
[ISO 22715]

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3.1.13
solvent
material used to disperse or dissolve another ingredient

3.1.14
transparent outer packaging
outermost packaging through which the contents inside are visible and that is designed so that the contents inside can be seen

3.1.15
trivial name
name for an ingredient that is usually well known to consumers

NOTE The international nomenclature of cosmetic ingredient (INCI) nomenclature for trivial names is based on latin names used in the European pharmacopoeia and is different from the names that are used in the USA.

3.2 Abbreviations

CI: Colour Index

EU: European Union

INCI: International Nomenclature of Cosmetic Ingredient

OTC: Over the Counter

USA: United States of America

4 General requirements

4.1 Ingredient labelling for all cosmetic products shall comply with the relevant national legislation (see foreword).

4.2 All cosmetic products marketed in the Republic of South Africa shall have ingredient labelling on the outermost packaging (see 3.1.10), except if the package is too small or has a shape that precludes labelling (see 5.2).

4.3 The requirements for ingredient labelling as specified in this standard apply to cosmetic products:

a) imported and locally manufactured products marketed and sold in South Africa;

b) professional products;

c) free samples (see 4.8);

d) tester samples (see 4.8);

e) products sold by mail order;

NOTE Direct selling, direct marketing, vendors, online marketing.

f) multi-component products (see 4.9); and

g) products sold in bulk for use in the hospitality industry and in dispensing machines in hotels and other public facilities (see 4.10).

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4.4 All ingredients shall be listed.

NOTE An incomplete listing of ingredients is considered as misleading.

4.5 The following are not classified as ingredients (see 3.1.6) and shall not be listed:

a) impurities in the raw material used;

b) subsidiary technical materials used in the preparation but not the final product, such as filtration aids and decolourizing agents, which would subsequently be removed; and

c) materials and solvents used as carriers for perfume and aromatic compositions.

4.6 The marking shall be indelible, easily legible and visible.

4.7 Ingredients shall be declared on the outermost packaging of the cosmetic product, headed or preceded by the word "INGREDIENTS". The word "INGREDIENTS" shall be declared in a manner that would differentiate it from the actual list of ingredients and may be used alone or enclosed in a rectangle with the list of ingredients (see annex A).

NOTE The use of capital letters for the word "INGREDIENTS" is recommended.

4.8 For free samples and tester samples off-pack labelling can be used in accordance with the requirements for small packages (see 5.2).

4.9 If a multi-product pack is sold as a whole and not divided before selling, the ingredient declaration shall either appear only once on the outermost packaging, or be visible through the transparent outer packaging. The ingredient declaration shall show a separate list for every product in the pack.

4.10 For products sold in bulk, ingredient labelling shall appear on the bulk container.

4.11 Although the use of the USA, EU or harmonized INCI labelling systems is acceptable in South Africa, South African companies shall use the EU INCI labelling system only, unless the product is intended for export to destination countries where this is not permitted (e.g. the USA). In such a case the INCI harmonized labelling system may be used.

NOTE The USA INCI labelling system is acceptable for South African companies that are affiliated to companies in the USA.

5 Specific requirements

5.1 Order of declaration

The ingredients shall be listed as follows:

a) ingredients in percentage concentrations of 1 % or more shall be declared in descending order of percentage concentration in the formulation;

b) ingredients in percentage concentrations of less than 1 % may be listed in any order;

c) if solutions of ingredients are used, the ingredients shall be listed based on their percentage concentration as active matter;

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d) if a raw material is supplied as an intentional mixture or blend, each individual ingredient shall be declared separately according to the recognized INCI nomenclature, taking into account its total percentage concentration in the finished product;

e) in cases where a solvent is deliberately incorporated to dissolve or disperse other ingredients, that solvent shall be listed according to the INCI nomenclature, taking into account its percentage concentration in the finished product;

f) if the parfum (fragrance) or aroma (flavour) used has the presence of substances, the mention of which is required as specified in annex III of EC regulation 1223/2009, these shall be indicated in the list prior to colourants, irrespective of their function in the product.

g) colourants may be listed in any order after all the other ingredients.

NOTE Percentage concentration is the concentration expressed as a mass fraction.

5.2 Small packages

If a package is too small or has a shape that precludes labelling, the necessary ingredient declaration shall be given on a label, tag, tape or card fixed to or enclosed with the cosmetic product, or in a notice in close proximity to the display in which the product is offered.

5.3 Ingredients that require "warning" or "caution" statements

There are several ingredients listed in annexes of the EC regulation 1223/2009. These ingredients shall be labelled with "warning" or "caution" statements and/or "other limitations and requirements" and/or "conditions of use and warnings to be printed on the label" of the above-mentioned annexes.

5.4 Ingredients with restricted use

5.4.1 Ingredients with restricted use (see 3.1.7) shall be listed in the INCI nomenclature, as part of the ingredient list, and separately as specified in EC regulation 1223/2009 ("conditions of use and warnings to be printed on the label").

5.4.2 Imported products classified as cosmetics in South Africa, but known as "over the counter (OTC) drugs for human use" in the USA, shall be labelled with the active ingredient and the established drug name (as in the US pharmacopoeia) and the quantity of the ingredient on both the primary packaging and secondary packaging in accordance with ISO 22715.

6 Nomenclature used for ingredient labelling

6.1 General

6.1.1 The raw material supplier should take the necessary steps to ensure that an INCI name is applied for, and when allocated, the INCI name shall without unnecessary delay be used in the ingredient declaration.

6.1.2 There are several differences between the USA and EU interpretations of the INCI nomenclature. Users should review the applicable national laws and regulations of the relevant region to ensure that the INCI nomenclature used for labelling is appropriate for their intended markets.

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6.1.3 The following list indicates where differences in interpretation of the INCI nomenclature between the USA and the EU are most frequently encountered:

a) colourants;

b) botanicals;

c) denatured alcohol;

d) USA OTC drug ingredients;

e) trivial names; and

f) fragrance or parfum and flavour or aroma (see 6.2.1).

6.1.4 If the harmonized labelling system is used, the EU INCI nomenclature and the trivial name for each ingredient should follow each other (see column 2 of table A.1).

6.2 Specific cases

6.2.1 General terms

Where common nomenclature for some general terms used in the ingredient labelling has not been established, the following wording shall be used (see annex B):

a) for "perfume", use "PARFUM" (EU labelling system), or "PARFUM (FRAGRANCE)" (harmonized labelling system); and

b) for "flavour", use "AROMA" (EU labelling system), or "AROMA (FLAVOUR)" (harmonized labelling system).

6.2.2 Trivial names

6.2.2.1 For trivial names, the EU INCI nomenclature (Latin name) shall be used, except in cases where the harmonized INCI nomenclature is required (see 4.11). Examples are:

a) the EU name, accepted only in the EU, for example "Aqua (water)" (see B.1); or

b) the harmonized name, accepted in both the EU and the USA, for example "Aqua (water)" (see B.2).

6.2.2.2 In cases where the harmonized INCI nomenclature is used, the EU name shall be listed first, before the bracket.

6.2.3 Cosmetic colourants

6.2.3.1 For cosmetic colourants, the EU INCI nomenclature (colour index (CI) number) shall be used, except in cases where the harmonized INCI nomenclature is required (see 4.11). Examples of these include

a) the CI number, accepted only in the EU, for example "CI 42090" (see B.1), or

b) the harmonized name, accepted in both the EU and USA, for example "CI 42090 (blue 1)" (see B.2).

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6.2.3.2 In cases where the harmonized INCI nomenclature is used, the CI number shall be listed first, before the bracket. If an ingredient that is classified as a colourant is used for other purposes, the alternative INCI nomenclature shall be used (see for example, titanium dioxide in EC regulation 1223/2009).

6.2.4 Products in a decorative cosmetic range

For a range of decorative cosmetic products with a common base formulation marketed in several colour shades, all colouring agents in the range may be listed on each product in the range, provided that the ingredient items are preceded with the sign "+/-" and both the sign and the ingredient items are enclosed in square brackets "[+/.....]". Alternatively, the statement "MAY CONTAIN" followed by the relevant INCI nomenclature may be used.

NOTE The above will facilitate the use of a single list of ingredients for an entire colour range of similar products.

6.2.5 Botanicals

For botanicals, the EU INCI nomenclature (linné index) shall be used, except in cases where the harmonized INCI nomenclature is required (see 4.11). Examples of these include

a) the Latin name, accepted only in the EU, for example "melaleuca alternifolia", or

b) the harmonized name, accepted in both the EU and USA, for example "melaleuca alternifolia (tea tree) leaf oil".

NOTE Botanicals that have undergone chemical modification are named according to the conventional INCI nomenclature, which are not based on the linné system.

6.2.6 Alcohol

6.2.6.1 For products that contain denatured alcohol, the INCI nomenclature "ALCOHOL DENAT." shall be used.

6.2.6.2 For products that contain undenatured alcohol, the INCI nomenclature "ALCOHOL" shall be used.

6.2.7 Hydrocarbon propellants

The INCI nomenclature for the hydrocarbon propellant shall be used. In cases of hydrocarbon mixtures, each hydrocarbon component shall be listed in descending order with respect to its percentage concentration in the finished product.

6.2.8 Soap ingredients

6.2.8.1 In the case of soap bars, the ingredients declared shall be the fully saponified ingredients that could be expected to be present in the finished product, rather than the oils, fatty acids and saponification base(s) used in the preparation of the soap itself.

6.2.8.2 An example of this is where coconut oil and palm kernel oil are saponified with sodium hydroxide. The ingredients declared should be sodium cocoate and sodium palm kernelate.

6.2.8.3 Free fatty acids, saponifiable oils and saponification bases shall not be declared, unless these unconverted ingredients could be expected to be present in the finished product.

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6.2.9 Parfum (fragrance) and aroma (flavour) ingredients

6.2.9.1 The presence of substances, the mention of which, is required as specified in EC regulation 1223/2009 shall be indicated in the ingredient list irrespective of their function in the product.

6.2.9.2 This provision extends the ingredient labelling to ensure that these specific substances are labelled by their individual INCI name, even if they are introduced in the cosmetic product as part of a complex ingredient.

6.2.9.3 The labelling requirement is linked to the presence of the substance above the threshold concentration mentioned in EC regulation 1223/2009, irrespective of the substance's function, and irrespective of its source (i.e. whether added directly or as a component of a complex cosmetic ingredient such as botanical extracts, essential oils, fragrance compositions, aroma compositions). The thresholds are 0,001 % for leave-on products, and 0,01 % for rinse-off products.

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Annex A
(informative)

Listing of ingredients

Below is the order of declaration for ingredients of the hypothetical formulation given in table A.1.

INGREDIENTS:
AQUA (WATER), SODIUM LAURETH SULFATE, SODIUM C12-15 PARETH SULFATE, PROPYLENE GLYCOL, GLYCOL DISTEARATE, PEG-60 HYDROGENATED CASTOR OIL, PEG-12 DIMETHICONE, ALOE BARBADENSIS LEAF EXTRACT, CUCUMIS SATIVUS (CUCUMBER) FRUIT EXTRACT, PEG-14 AVOCADO GLYCERIDES, POLYQUATERNIUM-6, PARAFFINUM LIQUIDUM (MINERAL OIL), GELATIN, ACRYLATES/C10-30 ALKYL ACRYLATE CROSSPOLYMER, COCAMIDE MEA, LAURETH-10, TRIETHANOLAMINE, TETRASODIUM EDTA, PARFUM (FRAGRANCE), LIMONENE, LINALOOL, CINNAMAL, ALPHA-ISOMETHYL IONONE, DIAZOLIDINYL UREA, METHYLPARABEN, PROPYLPARABEN, CI 42090 (BLUE 1)

NOTE In this context, the EU (USA) convention has been used throughout.

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Table A.1 — Example of a hypothetical formulation showing complex, actual and theoretical raw material percentage concentrations

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Raw material trade name	**Raw material INCI description**	**Complex %**	**Actual %**	**Theoretical make-up %**	**Theoretical %**	**Listing order**
Deionized water	Aqua (water)	N/A	50,037	50,0370 + 8,400 + 7,200 + 0,8295 + 0,900	67,367	1
Hampene Na4	Tetrasodium EDTA	N/A	0,100	0,100	0,100	Random after 7
SF 1288	PEG-12 dimethicone	N/A	1,050	1,050	1,050	7
Mackernium 006	Polyquaternium-6	N/A	0,750	0,750	0,750	Random after 7
Propylene glycol	Propylene glycol	N/A	0,960	0,960 + 0,560 + 0,555	2,075	4
Empicol ESB3/X	Sodium C12-15 pareth sulfate	30	12,000	3,600 (+ 8,400 water)	3,600	3
Empicol ESB 70	Sodium laureth sulfate	70	24,000	16,800 (+ 7,200 water) + 0,355	17,155	2
Euperlan PK771	Glycol distearate (and) Sodium laureth sulfate (and) Cocamide MEA (and) Laureth-10	50 30 10 10	3,950	1,975 1,185 (30 %) = 0,355 (+ 0,8295 water) 0,395 0,395	1,975 0,000 0,395 0,395	5 Random after 7 Random after 7
Lipocol HCO 60	PEG-60 hydrogenated castor oil	N/A	1,250	1,250	1,250	6
Fragrance	Parfum (fragrance)	N/A	0,600	0,600	0,600	Random after 7
Carbopol ETD 2020	Acrylates/C10-30 alkyl acrylate crosspolymer	N/A	0,200	0,200	0,200	Random after 7
Crovol AP10G	PEG-14 avocado glycerides	N/A	0,800	0,800	0,800	Random after 7
Microcare DMP	Propylene glycol (and) Diazolidinyl urea (and) Methylparaben Propylparaben	56 30 11 3	1,000	0,560 0,300 0,110 0,030	0,000 0,300 0,110 0,030	 Random after 7 Random after 7 Random after 7
Triethanolamine 99 %	Triethanolamine	N/A	0,300	0,300	0,300	Random after 7
Encapsulate white pearl	Aloe barbadensis leaf extract (and) Paraffinum liquidum (mineral oil) (and) Gelatin	45 45 10	1,500	0,675 0,675 0,150	0,675 0,675 0,150	Random after 7 Random after 7 Random after 7
Herbasol extract cucumber	Water (and) Propylene glycol (and) Cucumis sativus (cucumber) fruit extract	60 37 3	1,500	0,900 0,555 0,045	0,000 0,000 0,045	 Random after 7
FCF blue 1	CI 42090 (blue 1)	N/A	0,003	0,003	0,003	Last
TOTAL			**100,000**		**100,000**	

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Annex B
(informative)

Examples of ingredient labelling that use EU and harmonized INCI nomenclature

B.1 Acceptable in the EU only

INGREDIENTS:
AQUA, ALCOHOL DENAT., HAMAMELIS VIRGINIANA, SODIUM PCA, MEL, PRUNUS AMYGDALUS DULCIS, PARAFFINUM LIQUIDUM, MELALEUCA ALTERNIFOLIA OIL, PARFUM, PHENOXYETHANOL, METHYLPARABEN, PROPYLPARABEN, LIMONENE, LINALOOL, CINNAMAL, ALPHA-ISOMETHYL IONONE, CI 17200, CI 42090

B.2 Acceptable in the EU and the USA

INGREDIENTS:
AQUA (WATER), ALCOHOL DENAT., HAMAMELIS VIRGINIANA (WITCH HAZEL) EXTRACT, SODIUM PCA, MEL (HONEY), PRUNUS AMYGDALUS DULCIS (SWEET ALMOND) OIL, PARAFFINUM LIQUIDUM (MINERAL OIL), MELALEUCA ALTERNIFOLIA (TEA TREE) LEAF OIL, PARFUM (FRAGRANCE), PHENOXYETHANOL, METHYLPARABEN, PROPYLPARABEN, LIMONENE, LINALOOL, CINNAMAL, ALPHA-ISOMETHYL IONONE, CI 17200 (RED 33), CI 42090 (BLUE 1)

NOTE For the sake of consistency and where relevant, the order of listing is EU (USA) throughout, as illustrated in the above example.

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Bibliography

EU Inventory of cosmetic ingredients.
http://ec.europa.eu/consumers/cosmetics/cosing

Personal care product council.
http://www.personalcarecouncil.org

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