

Pressemitteilung



Mineral oils: Cosmetics industry cannot understand concerns of *Stiftung Warentest*

Frankfurt am Main, May 26, 2015.

Consumers can use cosmetic products which contain mineral oils without any concerns. Like all cosmetic products they meet the high statutory requirements in terms of safety. The absence of health risks is ensured through extensive safety assessments. This applies also to products which contain mineral oil aromatic hydrocarbons (MOAH). In a current assessment the Federal Institute for Risk Assessment likewise reaches the conclusion that according to the present state of knowledge no health risks are to be expected for consumers as a result of the absorption of mineral oils in cosmetics through the skin:

<http://www.bfr.bund.de/cm/349/mineral-oils-in-cosmetics-considering-all-available-scientific-evidence-no-health-risks-are-to-be-expected-from-absorption-vie-the-skin.pdf>. The cosmetics industry cannot, therefore, understand the criticism voiced in respect of these products by *Stiftung Warentest* in its issue 6/2015.

Mineral oils have important functions in cosmetic products. In this connection the safety of consumers is a top priority for the manufacturers. They use exclusively highly refined and high quality mineral oils of pharmaceutical grade.

Stiftung Warentest criticizes in its test in the issue 6/2015 the occurrence of aromatic hydrocarbons, so-called MOAH (mineral oil aromatic hydrocarbons) in some cosmetic products. However, the quantities of MOAH which can still be contained in the product after maximum purification are safe for consumers. This is proven by numerous independent studies and safety assessments. There are no indications suggesting that mineral oil in cosmetic products have a carcinogenic effect.

Further information:

http://www.ikw.org/fileadmin/content/downloads/Sch%C3%B6nheitspflege/2015-05-26_Mineraloele_in_kosmetischen_Mitteln_EN_formatiert.pdf

The German Cosmetic, Toiletry, Perfumery and Detergent Association (IKW) with head office in Frankfurt am Main was set up in 1968 and is today one of the highest-profile industry associations in Europe. On a national and European level it defends the interests of more than 400 companies from the fields of beauty and home care. With sales revenues of almost EUR 17 billion, the member companies cover approximately 95 percent of the market and employ around 500,000 people.

As far as scientific, regulatory or business topics are concerned, IKW is the contact for its member companies, ministries, public authorities, consumers, institutions and associations as well as for the media. With specialist knowledge and service orientation the experts of the competence partners beauty care and home care within IKW answer questions on skin and hair care, beauty and self-esteem as well as hygiene and cleaning. More information available on www.ikw.org

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