



Cosmetic Regulatory Updates 2015 in Mainland China

A ChemLinked Team Work Shared
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China began cosmetic regulatory reform in earnest in 2014. In 2015 the reforms made significant progress. In 2015, China State Council released the second draft of the overarching cosmetic regulation in China- Regulation concerning Supervision and Administration over Cosmetics for public consultation; the outdated Cosmetic Safety Technical Standard 2007 has been replaced by Cosmetic Safety Technical Standard 2015; and the long-awaited Guidance for Cosmetic Safety Risk Assessment had also been drafted by CFDA and released for public consultation.

Time	Regulation	Reference News
20 Jul 2015	Regulation Concerning Supervision and Administration over Cosmetics	<i>China Makes Significant Changes to the Overarching Cosmetic Regulation</i>
10 Nov 2015	Guidance for Cosmetic Safety Risk Assessment	<i>CFDA Release Long-awaited "Guidance for Cosmetic Safety Risk Assessment" for Public Consultation</i>
15 Dec 2015	Cosmetics Manufacture Licensing	<i>China to Require Cosmetics Manufacture License from 2016</i>
23 Dec 2015	Cosmetic Safety Technical Standard 2015	<i>CFDA Finally Releases Cosmetic Safety Technical Standard 2015</i>
23 Dec 2015	Inventory of Existing Cosmetic Ingredients 2015	<i>CFDA Releases New Inventory of Existing Cosmetic Ingredients in China (IECIC 2015)</i>

REGULATION CONCERNING SUPERVISION AND ADMINISTRATION OVER COSMETICS

The most significant cosmetic regulatory reform in China in 2015 was the overhaul of Regulation concerning Supervision and Administration over Cosmetics.

CFDA announced it was to amend Regulation concerning Supervision and Administration over Cosmetics in the second half of 2013, and later released the first draft on Nov 2014. On 20 Jul 2015, the Legislative Affairs Office of China State Council promulgated the second version of the Regulation concerning Supervision and Administration over Cosmetics (draft) for public consultation.

Compared to the previous draft released in Nov 2014, this draft contains more significant changes to the management of cosmetics and ingredients. It thoroughly amends the classification of cosmetics and the registration requirements of new cosmetic ingredients and refines the labeling requirements and manufacturing management.

EXPANDED PRODUCT RANGE

In accordance with the first draft, the latest draft classifies oral products such as toothpaste as cosmetic products subject to regulation. The revised draft expressly specifies that oral care products should be included in the category of cosmetics aligning with U.S., European and Japanese frameworks.

However, CFDA doesn't explicitly state how to deal with certain commonly used medical terms such as "anti-cavity" and "anti-bacteria". The draft does not clarify if usage of claims relating to medicinal functionality will classify a product as a medicine or a cosmetic.

REVISED COSMETIC CLASSIFICATION

In the new draft, the previous classification of "cosmetics for special purpose" and "cosmetics for non-special purpose" is revised to "special cosmetics" and "general cosmetics". "Special cosmetics" have been consolidated from a total of nine categories to just five categories which include hair dyes products, hair perming products, whitening products, sunscreens and other special cosmetics. CFDA may adjust the scope of special cosmetics according to risk assessment results.

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