



COSMETICS EUROPE:
N° 6: METHOXYETHANOL ETHOSYETHANOL AND
ETHOXYETHANOLACETATE AS COSMETIC INGREDIENTS

AUGUST 1997

COLIPA RECOMMENDATION N° 6
METHOXYETHANOL, ETHOXYETHANOL
AND ETHOXYETHANOLACETATE
AS COSMETIC INGREDIENTS

Background

The following three substances :

METHOXYETHANOL
ETHOXYETHANOL
ETHOXYETHANOL ACETATE

have been classified Toxic for Reproduction Category 2 under the provisions of the Dangerous Substance Directive (67/548/EEC).

According to Directive (76/769/EEC) on the Marketing and Use of Dangerous Preparations, levels equal to or greater than 0.1 % of these substances are not allowed in preparations placed on the market for use by the general public.

These two directives, by the way of derogation, do not apply to cosmetic products as defined by the Cosmetics Directive (76/768/EEC). Nevertheless, Colipa has decided to recommend to its members not to use these three substances in cosmetic products.

Recommendation

METHOXYETHANOL, ETHOXYETHANOL, ETHOXYETHANOL ACETATE should not be used in cosmetic products.

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