

# SAFEGUARDS

SGS CONSUMER TESTING SERVICES

HARDLINES

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## WHAT IS AN AUSTRALIAN COSMETICS REGULATION?

Australia Government regulates the ingredients used in the production and importation of cosmetic products in Australia. Cosmetic products should fulfill the requirement of **Cosmetic Standard 2007** which is an amendment of the *Industrial Chemical (Notification and Assessment) Act 1989*.



The definition of cosmetics in Australia is similar as that of the EU and US, i.e. a substance intended to contact with any external part of the human body, including the mucous membranes of the oral cavity and teeth, in order to clean, to change the appearance of, and to alter odor. Six cosmetic product categories are classified according to the *Cosmetic Standard 2007*. A table shows the product categories and the corresponding examples for your reference:

Product category	Product type
Face and Nail	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Products for nail care (including preparations that are applied topically to the nails to harden or to deter biting of the nails)</li><li>• Products for make up</li><li>• Products for colouring nails/varnish</li><li>• Tinted bases/foundation (liquids, pastes, powders) without SPF</li><li>• Products for making-up and removing make-up from the face and eyes.</li><li>• Products intended for application to the lips without SPF</li><li>• Face and Nail</li><li>• Face masks and scrubs</li></ul>
Hair care and hairdressing products	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Hair tints and dyes and bleaches</li><li>• Products for waving, straightening, and fixing</li><li>• Setting products</li><li>• Cleansing products such as lotions, powders, shampoos</li><li>• Conditioning products (e.g. lotions, creams, oils)</li><li>• Hairdressing products (e.g. lotions, lacquers,</li></ul>

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Product category	Product type
Oral Hygiene	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Products for care of the teeth and the mouth (other than desensitizing toothpastes/gels) including dental bleaches/whiteners and denture cleansers and adhesives</li> </ul>
Perfumes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Perfumes</li> <li>• Toilet waters</li> <li>• Eau de colognes</li> </ul>
Personal hygiene	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Feminine hygiene products</li> <li>• Deodorants</li> <li>• Antiperspirants</li> <li>• Cleansers such as toilet soap, deodorant soap, astringent and skin washes</li> <li>• Shaving products (e.g. creams, foams, lotions)</li> <li>• Bath and shower preparations (e.g. salts, foams, oils, gels, etc.)</li> <li>• Depilatories</li> <li>• After-bath powders</li> <li>• Hygienic powders</li> </ul>
Skin care	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Moisturising products for dermal application e.g. creams, lotions, gels, foams (without SPF)</li> <li>• Sunbathing products (without SPF or SPF &lt; 4)</li> </ul>

Ingredients in cosmetic products are classified as industrial chemicals, and new cosmetic ingredients (not yet listed in the Australian Inventory of Chemical Substances) are subject to notification to the National Industrial Chemicals Notification Assessment Scheme (NICNAS) for assessment unless they qualify for an exemption. Manufacturers and importers can check the conditions or restrictions of chemicals which are available for use in Australia, using the Australian Inventory of Chemical Substances (AICS) and the [NICNAS Cosmetics Guidelines](#).

In addition to regulation of cosmetic ingredients, there are also mandatory labeling requirement on cosmetic products according to the Trade Practices (Consumer Product Information Standards) (Cosmetics) Regulations 1991. The list of ingredients should be listed on the packaging or on the product itself if it does not contain packaging. The following products are regulated as therapeutic goods and are not regulated as cosmetics:

- Products that meet the definition of therapeutic goods in the *Therapeutic Goods Act 1989* including products that are for preventing, diagnosing, curing or alleviating a disease, ailment, defect or injury in persons;
- **Primary sunscreens with SPF  $\geq 4$**  as defined in AS/NZS 2604:1998;
- Antibacterial skin products where medicinal claim is presented on the label;
- Personal lubricants.

SGS provide various testing services on cosmetic products. Contact us now!

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WHEN YOU NEED TO BE SURE

