

〈特 集〉

世界の国、地域における製品情報ファイル (PIF)–セーフティアセッサー (SA) 制度特集

The Role of Safety Assessor Education in the EU Cosmetic Product Information File System

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Abstract

In the European Union, the role of a safety assessor for cosmetics is vital for ensuring consumer safety and regulatory compliance. Under Cosmetics Regulation (EC) No 1223/2009, all cosmetic products sold within the EU must undergo a rigorous safety assessment, conducted by a qualified safety assessor, before they may reach the market. The safety assessor evaluates their safety, considering chemical structures, toxicological profiles and exposure levels of the ingredients, and the safety of the final product. A robust safety assessment helps identify potential health risks, ensuring that high standards of safety are maintained and products are safe for consumer use.

The safety assessment is documented in the Product Information File (PIF), a legally required dossier for each cosmetic product on the market. The PIF must include detailed information, such as product composition, (good) manufacturing methods, and the Cosmetic Product Safety Report (CPSR) completed by the safety assessor. To assess the safety of a cosmetic product, the assessors may rely on the practices of the Scientific Committee for Consumer Safety (SCCS), following its Notes of Guidance for regulated substances. The CPSR within the PIF ensures transparency and accountability, as regulatory authorities can inspect it at any time to verify compliance.

Receiving specialized training is essential for safety assessors. The complexity of cosmetic safety assessments requires a strong foundation in toxicology, chemistry, and dermatology. A well-trained safety assessor is better equipped to interpret scientific data accurately, assess potential risks, and make informed decisions. This training should ideally be provided by accredited institutions that offer up-to-date, comprehensive courses in cosmetic safety and regulatory standards. As cosmetics continue to evolve with new formulations and their safety must be based on animal-free methodology, ongoing professional development is equally crucial to stay current with scientific and regulatory advancements.

Key words: education, cosmetics, safety, safety assessor, risk assessment.