TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS FOR ORGANIC AND NATURAL COSMETIC PRODUCTS

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1. INTRODUCTION

The Ethical and Environmental Certification Institute (ICEA), in collaboration with a group of producers and the Institute of Cosmetology of the University of Ferrara has developed the hereby specification in order to define the requirements expected from a cosmetic that has the claim "green", "organic" or "natural" and allow all stakeholders access to the certification of their products.

2. ADDED VALUE

Unlike for food products, in fact, European and international regulations do not provide for the technical standards of production and labelling to protect and regulate the use of ecological terms, organic or natural.

There is, in consequence, the need and opportunity to propose a voluntary certification system that make up for this lack of mandatory control scheme.

Products obtained in accordance with this specification may claim on the label and in advertising the term of compliance "Eco Bio Cosmetics" or "natural cosmetics", besides the LOGO provided for in regulation. The term Eco Bio cosmetics in Anglo-Saxon language translates into "Organic Cosmetics" and “Cosmetico Ecologico” or “Cosmetico Organico” in Spanish. Certification and control are carried out by ICEA in compliance with the requirements imposed by the norm EN 17065.

3. NORMATIVE REFERENCES

- Regulation CE n. 1223/2009 on cosmetic products and subsequent amendments and additions
- Decision of the European Commission of febbruary 9th 2006 (2006/257/EC) I.N.C.I.
- UNI CEI EN 17065:2012 - Assessment of the conformity of requisites for organisms which certifies products, processes and services.
- UNI CEI EN 45020:1998 – General Terms and definitions regarding the legislations and related activities.
- UNI EN ISO 19011:2002 – Guidelines for the Audit of the System of Qualità Management.

4. FIELD OF APPLICATION

The specifications are applied to cosmetic products as well as those covered and defined in the Regulation CE n. 1223/2009 and subsequent amendments and additions.

Products for animal use as well as adjuvants, ingredients, raw materials, auxiliaries or simple natural substances that can be used in cosmetics and for animal use are also included in the field of application.

5. PRINCIPLES AND ASSESSMENT CRITERIA

a) Permit also in the field of body care using low environmental impact products and able to express the maximum protection possible for the health of consumers, as well as meet their expectations through a correct definition, complete and transparent of Organic & Natural Cosmetics.

b) Define the minimum requirements for products "Organic Cosmetics" and "Natural Cosmetics",

to be granted with the certification mark ICEA.

c) To promote and encourage:

- the use of raw materials from organic farming;
- the absence of objectionable materials from the ecological point of view, both in the same product and packaging;
- the absence of vegetable raw materials considered "at risk", or allergens, irritants or with evidence of probable harm to human health;
- the reduction of environmental impact due to unnecessary packaging (single package) or non-recyclable (we promote packaging from renewable raw materials, recyclable materials or connected to a drawback of the gaps);
- the production of cosmetics through the most modern environmentally friendly techniques;
- the consumption of natural and organic cosmetics, allowing consumers an easy and immediate recognition of these cosmetics.

Priority criteria taken as reference in the selection of raw materials and in the **list of substances that are not to be used for certification ICEA Organic Cosmetics & Natural Cosmetics brand** are:

- poor skin compatibility;
- toxicity and side effects in humans;
- poor eco-compatibility;
- synthetic origin.

The list of forbbiden substances includes certain classes:

- PEG, PPG derivatives (surfactants, emollients, solubilizing, solvents, etc.;
- ethoxylated compounds (surfactants, emulsifiers, solubilizers, etc.);
- notoriously aggressive surfactants and poor skin-compatible;
- substances that may cause environmental and ecological damage;
- compounds that can give rise to nitrosamines (carcinogenic substances);
- animal derivatives such as collagen, tallow, placenta, etc.;
- Silicones and silicone derivatives;
- Acrylic polymers (rheological modifiers, emulsifiers, film forming, antistatic agents, etc.);
- preservatives such as formaldehyde and its donors, thiazolinones, Phenylmercury derivatives, carbanilides, borates, halogenated phenols, halogenated cresols;
- synthetic origin dyes**;**
- derivatives of aluminium and silicon of synthetic origin.

6. REQUISITES AND SPECIFICATIONS OF PROCESS AND PRODUCT

REQUISITE	Organic[1]	Natural[2]
6.1 RAW MATERIALS		
6.1.1 For each product must be provided to ICEA the qualitative composition, with its INCI names. In case of doubt about the conformity of the process of production of the raw materials used, the certifying body may request further documentation and information to the applicant for certification.	●	●
For each product must be provided to ICEA the documentation that proves the microbiological safety (challenge test) and clinical tests of skin tolerability (patch test). These tests are not only required in rare cases when these safety requirements are obvious and implied.	●	●
6.1.2 For the proper performance of the control activities ICEA will examine the quantitative formulations at the laboratories of preparation. All information will be treated with the utmost confidentiality, in accordance with the appropriate procedures to ensure the protection of company know-how.	●	●
6.1.3 To further protection of the consumer, the manufacturer shall notify any additives present in the raw materials prior to their use, such as preservatives. This will also serve to the certification body in its audit to assess the presence of any substances not declared on the basis of data provided in the cosmetic dossier.	●	●
6.1.4 With regard to the essential plant oils used as fragrances in cosmetics, they can not be declared in accordance to the law that allows to call them Perfume, without specifying the nature or percentage. All the perfumes, essences, fragrances, flavours and their mixtures must nonetheless be accompanied by an appropriate statement of the supplier and/or manufacturer to certify their compliance with Annex 3 with the exception, obviously, of those substances naturally present in the essential oils.	●	●
6.1.5 With regard to the means for the application of the cosmetic product as in the case of disposable wipes in both single and multiple package is only permitted the use of certified organic cotton according to the main international certification schemes (GOTS, Organic Exchange, Global Recycle Standard).	●	●
6.2 VEGETABLE RAW MATERIALS		
6.2.1 It is forbidden the use of plants or their parts when their use in cosmetics can put them at risk of extinction. These plants are allowed only when it is certain that come from cultivation.	●	●
6.2.2 It is always PROHIBITED the use of genetically modified vegetable raw materials or irradiated with ionizing radiation.	●	●
6.2.3 It is allowed the use of vegetable glycerin.	●	●
6.2.4 In the case of Organic Cosmetics, vegetable raw materials (defined as plants or parts of them) must come from certified organic agriculture. The organic production method must be certified on the basis of a regulated	●	

(1) Eco Bio Cosmesi (IT), Organic Cosmetics (UK/USA), Cosmetico Ecologico (SP) Cosmetico Organico (SUD AMERICA)
(2) Cosmesi Naturale (IT), Natural Cosmetics (UK/USA)

● The requirement is applicable to the case in question and its compliance is mandatory for certification.

REQUISITE	Organic[1]	Natural[2]
Control System and Certification (for example EC Regulation 834/07, NOP, JAS, COR etc.) or of a voluntary system provided to comply with the IFOAM Basic Standards and criteria. Conventional raw materials (= NOT organic) are accepted only in cases where it is not possible to find on the domestic market the certified ingredient. In any case, the cosmetic product can be certified "Organic Cosmetics" only if it contains raw materials from certified organic agriculture.		
6.2.5 For "Natural Cosmetics" certification it is not mandatory the use of organic raw materials. Nonetheless, in case they are used, it can be reported in the product description on the label and in the list of ingredients (INCI).		●
6.3 ANIMAL RAW MATERIALS		
6.3.1. Raw materials from animals cannot be used when it involves their elimination.	●	●
6.3.2 Raw materials by bacterial fermentation are allowed.	●	●
6.3.3 It is forbidden the use of animal glycerine.	●	●
6.3.4. It is forbidden the use of collagen, keratin, chitosan, chitin, ceramides and elastin, heparin, hyaluronic acid, nucleic acids and enzymes (and their derivatives) of animal origin.	●	●
6.3.5 As regards the Organic Cosmetics certification, raw materials produced or derived from animals must be certified organic. The organic production method must be certified on the basis of a regulated Control System and Certification (for example EC Regulation 834/07, NOP, JAS, COR etc..) or of a voluntary system provided to comply with the IFOAM Basic Standards and criteria. Conventional raw materials (= NOT organic) are accepted only in cases where it is not possible to find on the domestic market the certified ingredient.. The organic raw materials should be reported in the list of ingredients (INCI).	●	
6.3.6 For "Natural Cosmetics" certification it is not mandatory the use of organic raw materials. Nonetheless, in case they are used, it can be reported in the product description on the label and in the list of ingredients (INCI).		●
6.4 INORGANIC RAW MATERIALS AND PRODUCS WITH SPECIAL UTILITIES		
6.4.1 The inorganic raw materials are generally accepted, with the exception of those listed in the annexes of prohibited substances.	●	●
6.5 CHEMICAL RAW MATERIAL		
6.5.1 The raw materials produced by chemical processes are allowed only in cases where there are no viable alternatives.	●	●
6.5.2 It is not admitted the ethoxylation of the raw material.	●	●
6.5.3 It is not allowed the use of chemical sunscreens.	●	●
6.5.4 The raw materials included in the classes of substances referred to in point 2 and listed in the annexes (list of substances NOT to be used to get certified) are not admitted.	●	●

REQUISITE	Organic[1]	Natural[2]
6.5.5 It is admitted the use of *caprylyl glycol* as a preservative of the cosmetic product for a maximum concentration equal to 1% or of *etidronic acid* only in the case of cosmetic products made on oiled basis (solid soaps) to a maximum concentration of 0,15% or the use of *guar hydroxypropyltrimonium chloride* to a maximum concentration equal to 1% and *betaine* for a total maximum concentration of 3%.	●	●
6.6 GENETICALLY MODIFIED ORGANISMS		
6.6.1 It is forbidden the use of genetically modified organisms.	●	●
6.6.1 The Applicant of the certification must acquire the certification statements about the non-use of GMO's and their derivatives for the ingredients produced from raw materials such as corn, potatoes and soybeans and other substances that are greatly at risk of GMO's which do not fall within the scope of the EC Regulation 1829/03 and EC 1830/03 related to labelling and traceability of genetically modified organisms.	●	●
6.7 IRRADIATION		
6.7.1 It is forbidden the irradiation of the finished product with ionizing radiation as well as the use of irradiated ingredients with germicidal or bactericidal / fungicidal purposes.	●	●
6.8 PACKAGING		
6.8.1 Recyclable containersare allowed only for primary packaging (in contact with cosmetics, bottles, cylinders, etc.). Hazardous materials for health and those releasing monomers hazardous to the environment are not allowed.	●	●
6.8.2 For the secondary packaging, in addition to not being allowed materials hazardous to health, it is required small and environmentally friendly packaging. *Some examples of correct application of the above criteria are:* 1. *label and cap of the same material of the bottle to allow for proper recycling;* 2. *use of mono-material spray devices or dispensers.*	●	●
6.8.3 The packaging material must be as small as possible, unless this is not necessary according to the characteristics of the product and of the communication to the consumer. All materials used in the packaging of the cosmetic product must be approved by ICEA also in this respect.	●	●
Materials contained in Annex 2 are not allowed for any kind of packaging.	●	●
6.9 LABELLING		
6.9.1 Labels and claims must be truthful and supported by tests or reliable scientific bibliography	●	●
6.9.2 In the list of ingredients (INCI) is necessary to indicate those derived from certified organic farming.	●	

REQUISITE	Organic[1]	Natural[2]
6.9.3 To the best knowledge and consumer information it is necessary to indicate on the label the certified raw materials and it is desirable to bring their quantitative percentage on the finished product.	●	●
6.9.4 All labels and all information materials related to certified products must bear logos and wordings in accordance with the hereby regulation and must be explicitly evaluated and approved by ICEA. Products that bear ICEA mark without being duly certified must be withdrawn from the market at the expense of the manufacturer.	●	●

7. METHODOLOGY OF CONTROL

7.1 NUMBER / FREQUENCY OF INSPECTION VISITS

In the start-up phase of certification, ICEA verifies all the production sites of the Organization considered as "critical" for the purposes of conformity of the product.

Surveillance audits will be carried out at least annually. The number and type of production unit to be verified, as well as any analytical testing, is established by ICEA in relation to the number and criticality of the production sites, the number of products and any non-compliance and infringements committed previously.

ICEA reserves the right to perform additional visits (also unannounced) and / or to intensify surveillance activities in case of serious non-compliance detected in the normal controls or reported by other stakeholders.

7.2 ELEMENTS OBJECT OF ICEA INSPECTION VISITS

During the audit at the applicant's facilities shall be assessed all aspects of the quality system applicable to the obtaining of the product and summarized in the following list.

1. Quality system related to the product / process / service
2. Control of documents and data
3. Procurement and supplier qualification
4. Identification and traceability of the product
5. Control of the process
6. Control of non-conforming product
7. Corrective and preventive actions
8. Handling, storage, packaging, preservation, administration and delivery
9. Personnel Training
10. Claims
11. Quality Internal inspection visits
12. Reviewing

7.3 TESTS AND TEST METHODS

For the purpose of verifying compliance with the standard, ICEA and the applicant organization will be able to resort to analysis carried out at qualified laboratories. Whether ICEA or the applicant organization will have to rely on accredited tests on the basis of the regulation UNI EN 17025 in all cases where they are available.

8. MODALITIES OF DECLARATION OF CONFORMITY

8.1 CERTIFICATION TRADEMARK

Licensees will be able to use one of the following brands of ICEA certification in relation to the type of product being certified. The certification trademark must always be clearly reported to the certified product and complies with the specification.

All in accordance with the provisions of REGULATION OF THE USE OF ICEA LOGO AND ADVERTISING OF CERTIFICATION.

ORGANIC COSMETICS

NATURAL COSMETICS

The trademark “Organic Cosmetics & Natural Cosmetics” is granted to:

- Products that meet the requirements of this specification and are part of a line of certified products.
- In the event that the company also produces not certified cosmetics, the line of "Organic Cosmetics & Natural Cosmetics" must have a graphic quite distinct from non-certified products, so that consumers be able to differentiate immediately the products certified from non-certified.

However, in the case of companies where the name of commercial trademark matches the name of the same manufacturer, in order to not create disadvantage, it is possible to maintain the same trademark, with the condition that the certified line is immediately recognizable by the consumer compared to non-certified products.

9. OTHER CERTIFICATONS OR CONTROL SERVICES THAT CAN BE MANAGED BY ICEA IN JOINT DECISION

	REGULATIONS FOR CERTIFICATION OF PRODUCTS INTENDED FOR VEGETARIAN AND VEGAN CONSUMERS (DTR 03) Cosmetic obtained by avoiding the use of / ingredients / adjuvants /manufacturing aids of animal origin obtained by the sacrifice and / or mistreatment of animals (it is admitted honey, are excluded a priori: the placenta, cochineal and silk).
	REGULATIONS FOR CERTIFICATION OF PRODUCTS INTENDED FOR VEGETARIAN AND VEGAN CONSUMERS (DTR 03) Cosmetic obtained throughout the entire production cycle without the use of any substance/ingredient of animal origin and other products of livestock or animals that did not undergo sacrifice and/or mistreatment.
	Standard which sets out criteria to avoid an increase in the testing of cosmetics on animals, and to ensure a "cruelty free" company policy, for example free from animal cruelty. This standard has been developed by the world's largest animal welfare organizations, led by the European Coalition to End Animal Experiments (ECEAE), of which LAV is an Italian member, in addition to being the only authorized to use the trademark in Italy that enhances the products and companies that meet the requirements of the aforementioned standard

10. ANNEXES

Annex 1 – List of substances to NOT use to obtained the certified brand ICEA Organic Cosmetics. See website www.icea.info

The list was developed using the European Inventory of cosmetic ingredients adopted by the European Commission Decision of February 9th 2006 (2006/257/EC) and the COSING, the database of the European Commission on ingredients and substances for cosmetic use (ec.europa.eu/consumers/cosmetics/cosing).

The substances not listed in the inventory that are being added (I would remove this in red) must be submitted to specific evaluation of the Technical Committee and the Commission of Certification ICEA in accordance with the principles referred to in paragraph 3 of these specifications.

The list of permitted and prohibited materials is also available on the free software available on the website ICEA CHECK Cosmetics www.icea.info.

Annex 2 - Prohibited materials for packaging

- polyvinyl chloride and its derivatives
- Bakelite
- Plastics that release dioxins in the combustion process

Annex 3 - List of substances not permitted and/or limited in order to obtain the certification of perfumes and approval for use in products with the trademark Organic Cosmetics ICEA. See website www.icea.info