

HOLDIND STATEMENT

Silicones industry calls for refinements in risk assessments by the Scientific Committee on Consumer Safety

Brussels, 15 September 2015 – The following statement can be attributed to CES – Silicones Europe further to its contribution to the public consultation on the draft Opinion of the European Commission's Scientific Committee on Consumer Safety (SCCS) on cyclopentasiloxane (D5) in cosmetic products.

The SCCS approach does not allow for an accurate and conclusive assessment of the safety of D5 for its use in cosmetics. It uses assumptions and approaches intended and expected to overestimate exposure and health hazard. The conclusion drawn is not necessarily that there is a risk to human health but rather that there is a need for additional refinement of the information.

CES – Silicones Europe recommends that specific refinements be made on both the exposure assessment as well as the current approach on the hazard endpoints selected for assessing potential risk. A robust quantitative weight of evidence assessment should be conducted on the hazard of D5; and a more sophisticated approach to assessing risk should be used given the extremely low amounts of D5.

There is nothing more important to the silicone industry than the safety of its products. More than 50 years of scientific research have been dedicated to assess the safety of silicones and siloxanes relative to workers, consumers, the environment and manufacturing processes. The results of this continuous research and testing demonstrate that, based on the available information, the use of D5 in cosmetic products is considered safe.

In 2010, the SCCS confirmed the safety of D5 in cosmetic products¹. As demonstrated by numerous scientific studies supported by other regulatory bodies and more recently by independent scientists², D5 is a non-toxic, non-hazardous substance that can be supplied in very high purity.

The Silicones industry and the Cosmetics industry have worked together to provide to the public consultation by 20th August, a constructive contribution that allows for an accurate and science-based evaluation of the safety of D5 in cosmetic products by the SCCS.

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About cyclosiloxanes D4 and D5:

D4 and D5 are cyclosiloxanes, basic members of the broad family of silicone materials. D4 and D5 are two of the three cyclosiloxanes in commercial production and their use has been proven safe for human health and the environment. For more information on their uses and safety profiles, please visit our **Cyclosiloxanes Information Centre** at www.cyclosiloxanes.org.

About CES – Silicones Europe: We are a non-profit trade organisation representing all major producers of silicones, silanes and siloxanes in Europe. CES is a sector group of the European Chemical Industry Council (CEFIC), which is both the forum and voice of the European chemicals industry. We provide health, safety and environmental information and are dedicated to the principles of Responsible Care. For more information, visit www.silicones.eu and follow us on Twitter [@siliconesEU](https://twitter.com/siliconesEU).

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¹ http://ec.europa.eu/health/scientific_committees/consumer_safety/docs/sccs_q_096.pdf

² <http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/25768720>