

## Talc and asbestos: are your products safe?

Talc is used in many cosmetics and personal care products to absorb moisture, prevent a product from caking, make a product opaque, or improve its feel on the skin. It is a naturally occurring mineral, composed of magnesium, silicon, oxygen, and hydrogen.

Although talc itself is considered safe, its use has been questioned since the 1960s because of contamination risks. In its natural state, talc is often found in the earth in close proximity to asbestos—a mineral that is known to be carcinogenic. For this reason, talc-mining sites must be chosen carefully and miners must take steps to purify the ore of any asbestos content.

In an effort to discover whether asbestos contamination in talc products is a real risk, the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) conducted tests from September 2009 through September 2010, using an independent asbestos testing laboratory. Tests examined cosmetic-grade raw talc from four of the nine talc producers that supply the US market, and 34 widely available retail products containing talc. No asbestos was found in any of the samples.

However, the FDA cautions that these results do not prove all products sold in the USA are free of contamination. Complete results of the test, including



details of all the retail products sampled, can be found at [www.fda.gov/Cosmetics/ProductAndIngredientSafety/SelectedCosmeticIngredients/ucm293184.htm](http://www.fda.gov/Cosmetics/ProductAndIngredientSafety/SelectedCosmeticIngredients/ucm293184.htm).<sup>©</sup>

Keep up with  
state legislation

ASCP sends email updates to members whenever there is a change in your state's legislation that will affect you—if you don't already receive emails from ASCP, contact us at [getconnected@ascpskincare.com](mailto:getconnected@ascpskincare.com) to be added to the mailing list. Another great resource is [www.nictesting.org](http://www.nictesting.org), the website for the National-Interstate Council of State Boards of Cosmetology. It provides information for every state and US territory.<sup>©</sup>



## Free flyers for graduation packets

Do your students know about the need for liability insurance as they enter professional life? Many will enter their first job as an employee or independent contractor, incorrectly believing that the spa's policy will cover them for personal liability. Help them protect their future careers, understand the risks, and know what questions to ask an employer to make sure they are safe. ASCP is happy to provide free flyers for schools to include in graduation packets, bringing this important issue to the attention of new graduates. To order flyers, call 800-789-0411 or email [getconnected@ascpskincare.com](mailto:getconnected@ascpskincare.com).<sup>©</sup>

### The \$60,000 Facial

...and the esthetician could have been the one who ended up paying for it.

That was the cost of the medical bills and the lawsuit after an esthetician's glycolic facial went wrong. **Accidents happen**, and you've taken steps to protect your students. Do they know how to protect themselves after graduation?

**Don't be fooled**—a spa's policy often does not provide adequate personal liability coverage for employees or independent contractors. Your students have invested time and money in their new career. Help them to safeguard their future.

There are dozens of other reasons to **join ASCP**, but this is the most important. Don't let the next treatment become the costliest one your student will ever receive.

Contact us for free information to add to your graduation packet.

more than just insurance

[www.ascpskincare.com](http://www.ascpskincare.com)

800-789-0411

[getconnected@ascpskincare.com](mailto:getconnected@ascpskincare.com)

ASCP  
Skin Care



## Makeup, skin, and hair products: by the numbers

A recent report from Thomson Reuters Intellectual Property Solutions revealed the huge number of new products that are patented in the field of personal care products every year. In 2011:

- 6,082 patents were filed worldwide in the cosmetics category, which includes antiperspirants, hair care, makeup, perfume, and skin care products.
- Makeup accounted for 42 percent of those patents, followed by skin care (31 percent) and hair care (21 percent).
- The company that filed the most patents worldwide in the cosmetics category was L'Oreal, with 322 new patents last year.

- Procter & Gamble filed the most new cosmetics patents in the United States. L'Oreal was the leader in Europe, and KAO Corporation was the leader in Asia.



## Upcoming events for educators

Mark your calendar! ASCP will have a presence at both events. Please come and say hello.

**July 27–30:** Cosmetology Educators of America (CEA) Annual Conference, Orlando, Florida. 800-831-1086; [www.beautyschools.org](http://www.beautyschools.org).

**September 8:** National Esthetic Teacher Training (NETT), Long Beach, California. <http://longbeach.skincareshows.com/Pre/nett.php>.<sup>©</sup>

PRRRT STD  
U.S. POSTAGE  
PAID  
EVERGREEN, CO  
PERMIT NO. 181

PO Box 1869, Evergreen, Colorado 80437



# face to face

ASCP News for the School Community

inside:

are your products safe?

free flyers

upcoming events

Issue #2, 2012

