

Regulatory Status of Methylisothiazolinone (MIT) and Methylchloroisothiazolinone & Methylisothiazolinone (CMIT/MIT)

August 2017 update

Methylisothiazolinone (MIT)

Rinse-off

A European regulation restricting Methylisothiazolinone (MIT) in rinse-off cosmetic products was published in the Official Journal on 7th of July 2017. Commission Regulation (EU) 2017/1224 amends Annex V of the EU Cosmetics Regulation ((EC) No 1223/2009) and reduces the maximum allowed concentration of MIT from 100 ppm to 15 ppm in rinse-off products.

Regulation (EU) 2017/1224 provides transition periods during which cosmetic manufacturers can make adjustments to product formulations and arrange for the withdrawal of non-compliant products from the market. The regulation's relevant deadlines are:

- Effective 27 January 2018 only cosmetic products which comply with this Regulation shall be placed on the Union market.
- Effective 27 April 2018 only cosmetic products which comply with this Regulation shall be made available on the Union market.

Leave-on

From 12th of February 2017, cosmetic products must comply with EU legislation prohibiting the use of MIT in leave-on cosmetic products (including wet wipes).

Ashland preservatives containing MIT:

- Optiphen MIT
- Optiphen MIT Plus
- Optiphen MIT Ultra

Methylchloroisothiazolinone & Methylisothiazolinone (CMIT/MIT)

The combination of Methylchloroisothiazolinone & Methylisothiazolinone (CMIT/MIT) in 3/1 ratio is approved as a preservative blend for rinse-off cosmetic products at the maximum concentration of 15 ppm in the EU.

Annex V of the EU Cosmetics Regulation makes it clear that the use of CMIT/MIT is incompatible with the use of MIT alone in the same product.

Ashland preservative products containing CMIT/MIT

- Rokonsal S-1 – LiquaGard S-1

ALTERNATIVE PRESERVATIVE SYSTEMS

Are you looking for suitable non-isothiazolone-containing preservative systems? The Ashland team can assist you, and our microbiological laboratories can perform challenge tests to support your reformulation work. Please find some suggested alternatives of our Optiphen™, Suttocide™, LiquaPar™ and Rokonsal™ preservatives range below:

- Products with pH up to 6 can be protected with modern preservatives such as Optiphen DP and Optiphen DLP, Rokonsal/ Optiphen ND, Optiphen Plus and Optiphen BD.
- Systems that need broader pH ranges can be preserved with Optiphen, Optiphen 200 and 300, Germaben II and Suttocide A.
- Short-chain Paraben-based formulations including LiquaPar ME and Rokonsal/ LiquaPar MEP are available.

If you are interested in alternative antimicrobial approaches, please consider our Conarom P-2 and Conarom B aromatic.

For more information on these products, please contact your Ashland sales representative or technical contact directly.

SEE NEXT PAGE FOR USEFUL LINKS >

**Below links lead you to further information
and technical papers:**

<http://www.cosmeticsandtoiletries.com/testing/toxicityanalysis/Free-Formaldehyde-Preservative-Stability-in-Personal-Care--Part-I--Water-325737371.html>

<http://www.cosmeticsandtoiletries.com/testing/toxicityanalysis/Free-Formaldehyde-Preservative-Stability-in-Personal-Care-Part-II--Formulations-325742851.html>

http://www.happi.com/issues/2015-07-01/view_suppliers-corner/preservative-technology-at-ashland-ideal-for-wipes-483904/

<http://www.cosmeticsdesign.com/Formulation-Science/A-new-ingredient-from-Ashland-adds-fragrance-and-acts-as-a-preservative-for-wipes-and-other-personal-care-products>

http://www.ashland.com/file_source/Ashland/Industries/Personal%20and%20Home%20Care/Articles/PC-11312.9_PC_Preservatives.pdf

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