

Manufacturing Aids: The Cosmetic Industry's potential Toxic little secret

Do you ever wonder when you read a label on your favorite shampoo or moisturizer if what's listed is really the whole story?

Well, the ToxicFree® Foundation is here to inform you that almost every ingredient uses manufacturing aids whether good or bad as part of their process of making the individual ingredient or blend of ingredients.

Certified ToxicFree® ingredients may have manufacturing aids, but the ingredients must pass a stringent certification that includes 28+ forms of documentation. This ToxicFree® certification ensures that all ingredients have been put through a superior scrutiny test prior to certification that ensures that every ingredient will DO NO HARM™.

What is an acceptable manufacturing aid for the ToxicFree.® Foundation*?

When you see what is known as the INCI (International Nomenclature of Cosmetic Ingredients) name on your label like *Decyl Glucoside (a foaming/detergent ingredient)*, there are usually additional ingredients that do not have to be disclosed for many INCI's as they were used in the manufacturing process and considered **manufacturing aids**.

The INCI is ***Decyl Glucoside*** and the composition is as follows:

Composition	
INGREDIENTS	
<i>Constituent:</i>	
INCI	Decyl Glucoside
<i>Additive:</i>	
Manufacturing Aid	Water/Aqua

This is a preservative free ingredient and the manufacturing aid is Water which is accepted by the ToxicFree® foundation as there is no concern that this particular ingredient may have undesirable manufacturing aids which are disclosed on the composition statement above. *This is only 1 example for one ingredient; there are numerous others that are certified ToxicFree® as well.*

Please note: Not all ingredients with this INCI will have the same manufacturing aid of Water as the one listed, some may have undesirable manufacturing aids like formaldehyde. This one has been approved by the ToxicFree® Foundation.

Our Green Light Ingredients with no manufacturing aids are typically Organic or from natural sources and all are Certified ToxicFree®.

*Some of the accepted preservatives for the ToxicFree® Foundation are Benzyl Alcohol, Benzoic Acid, Sodium Benzoate, Potassium Sorbate, Lonicera Caprifolium Flower Extract & Lonicera Japonica Flower Extract to name a few.

What are unacceptable manufacturing aids for the ToxicFree® Foundation?

The INCI is ***Sodium Alpha Olefin Sulfonate*** (*a foaming/detergent ingredient*)

As an example, two versions of the *Sodium Alpha Olefin Sulfonate* listed above may have the same INCI, but the *manufacturing aids* are very different.

Version 1 Composition:

	<i>Intentionally Added Ingredients</i>
Manufacturing Aid	Water
INCI	Sodium Alpha Olefin Sulfonate
All listed below are	<i>Preservative:</i>
Manufacturing Aids	Magnesium Nitrate
	Magnesium Chloride
	Methylchloroisothiazolinone
	Methylisothiazolinone
	<i>Impurities:</i>
	Sodium Sulfate
	Sodium Chloride

Version 2 Composition:

	<i>Intentionally Added Ingredients</i>
Manufacturing Aid	Water
INCI	Sodium Alpha Olefin Sulfonate
All listed below are	
Manufacturing Aids	Citric Acid
	<i>Preservative</i>
	Formaldehyde
	<i>Impurities:</i>
	Sodium Sulfate
	Sodium Chloride

Please note: Not all ingredients with this INCI will have the same hidden ingredients as the one listed above and may not use any preservation system at all.

Both of the compositions above have the exact same INCI of Sodium Alpha Olefin Sulfonate on your label, but their manufacturing aids are clearly different. And while Methylchloroisothiazolinone & Methylisothiazolinone are definitely not preservatives we would choose, the other option is even worse with formaldehyde, a known toxic & cancerous ingredient.

As a part of the ToxicFree® confirmation process, these two ingredients would be rejected to use in any formulas.

The only way to truly know what every manufacturing aid entails is to get the composition statement & possibly the SDS using the new GHS (Globally Harmonized System). The composition statement from an ingredient supplier is where these manufacturing aids are disclosed. The consumer will have major challenges requesting and getting this information as it is considered proprietary. You may call the manufacturer of your product and ask them if they have the composition statements for their ingredients and if they will tell you what the manufacturing aids are, but this may also be a challenge as they consider this proprietary to themselves and the suppliers of their ingredients.