

## **Cosmetic product recall notification** - Formaldehyde concentrations.

Hi there Carolyn,

From time to time we come across information we feel some members may find useful. Often, it comes as a result of an alert from one of our Member salons.

For those members using **Locks Lash--Jet Lash Adhesive** and **Keratin Complex Smoothing Therapy** , ....

The following email regarding these products has come from the West Australian Health Department. Obviously, Members outside Australia need to check their own health and safety regulations.

Please read and act as you see fit.

Greg Milner, co-founder & CEO

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**From:** Nicholson, Elisha [mailto:[Elisha.Nicholson@health.wa.gov.au](mailto:Elisha.Nicholson@health.wa.gov.au)]  
**Sent:** Thursday, 4 November 2010 12:22 PM  
**Cc:** Downes, Jaala; Withers, Llewellyn; Carpenter, Jane  
**Subject:** Recall Alert - Unsafe levels of formaldehyde in cosmetics  
**Importance:** High

Dear Colleagues,

Following a number of complaints, the Australian Competition & Consumer Commission (the ACCC), in association with the National Industrial Chemicals Notification & Assessment Scheme (NICNAS), has conducted a survey of formaldehyde levels in cosmetic products and has received the results from the first phase of sampling. There are two products that have levels of formaldehyde that exceed the safe limits as determined by Australian government authorities.

The analytical testing was undertaken by a NATA accredited laboratory for testing of formaldehyde in liquids and solids. Both the ACCC and NICNAS are confident that the results are robust and that they confirm that the safe limits of 0.2% have been significantly exceeded in both cases.

The ACCC Recalls & Hazard Assessment Section has already contacted the suppliers of these products and advised them of the results and requested that they initiate a voluntary safety recall of their product(s). However, this action alone is unlikely to alert all salons to the hazard and fully recover the products in circulation. These products are typically supplied through salon suppliers but applied to the public through salons. We are told there are around 26,000 salons throughout Australia, including Western Australia.

It was thought by the Department of Health (WA), that as Local Government Environmental Health Officers (EHO's) are tasked with carrying out regular inspections of beauty salons and hairdressers, they may be able to establish whether these products are being used at salons during these inspections.

**Please note that no extra inspections are required. It is only asked that inspections of such premises - including routine or those due to complaint - ensure these products have been returned to the supplier or disposed of appropriately.**

*(See links to these recalls on the ACCC Website for pictures of these products and details regarding how the products should be returned or disposed of)*

**Locks Lash--Jet Lash Adhesive**

Formaldehyde concentration 13,000 mg/kg or 1.3%

Distributor: Beauty Secrecy Corp Pty Ltd, Dandenong , Victoria 3175 Distributer's website:<http://beautysecrecy.com.au/home>

ACC Recall Site: <http://www.recalls.gov.au/content/index.phtml/itemId/996763>

**Keratin Complex Smoothing Therapy**

Formaldehyde concentration 22,000 mg/kg or 2.2%

Dateline Imports Pty Ltd,Banksmeadow, Sydney NSW 2019

Importer's website: <http://www.datelinecity.com/>

ACC Recall Site: <http://www.recalls.gov.au/content/index.phtml/itemId/996798>

Your assistance with this matter is most appreciated. Please contact Pharmaceutical Services on 9222 6883 should you have any further queries.

Llew Withers

Acting Managing Scientist

Environmental Health Hazards Unit