Good Manufacturing Practices (GMP)

Good manufacturing practice is nothing new. It has been in the industry for many years and its importance has grown steadily over the years. Many countries and distributors won’t entertain products that are not from a facility working to this standard. In years gone by a declaration on headed paper stating you manufacture to GMP was standard practice, but no longer shows full commitment to modern quality standards and expectations. This doesn’t meet the grade anymore.

Are you using a facility that manufactures to GMP!?

Article 8 of the Cosmetics Regulation (EC) No. 1223/2009 requires that the manufacture of cosmetic products shall comply with good manufacturing practices in order to ensure a high level of protection of human health.

What Is GMP?

GMP is a quality management tool – a set of principles designed to ensure the appropriate standards of quality, hygiene and safety are maintained throughout the manufacturing process and that the end product is fit for purpose.

The CTPA (Cosmetic, Toiletry & Perfumery Association) identifies the following criteria which must be satisfied if a product is to be considered fit for purpose:

- Is it the right product?
- Does it meet all the regulations for that product?
- Was it developed correctly?
- Is it manufactured to the correct formulation?
- Is it free from contamination?
- Is it in good condition (no spoilage or breakdown)?
- Is it in the right container?
- Does it satisfy the weight declaration?
- Is it correctly labelled?
- Is it properly sealed in its container and protected against damage and contamination?

Why is GMP Important?

Besides being a legal requirement, GMP greatly reduces the risk of a product being placed on the market in a sub-standard or unsafe condition. Failure to adhere to GMP could potentially result in product recall, a costly and damaging process which can have a seriously
negative effect on the confidence and goodwill of consumers and retailers alike. It could also adversely affect liability insurance premiums or invalidate insurance cover.

GMP Standards
There are various GMP standards in existence, including Council of Europe GMPc, CTPA GMP guide and ISO 22716. Some manufacturers merely issue a broad statement of compliance with GMP in general, without providing evidence of having certified GMP standards integrated into a quality management system.

The Responsible Person should ensure that their manufacturers have the highest standard of GMP possible, independently certified by accredited auditors.

ISO 22716
Only ISO 22716 is presumed under the Cosmetic Regulation to give automatic compliance to GMP. ISO 22716 is the international GMP standard for cosmetics issued by the International Organisation for Standardisation, the world’s largest body responsible for international standards. It was developed in response to the new updated EU Cosmetics Regulation, ensuring a smooth integration with other quality management systems such as ISO 9001 and the British Retail Consortium (BRC) standard for consumer products.

ISO 22716 provides standards for the production, control, storage and shipment of cosmetic products. It is accepted globally by regulators around the world, facilitating the often onerous process of exporting products to overseas markets.

GMP at Herrco
Herrco’s customers can rest assured that all products are manufactured to the highest standards of GMP and are fully compliant with ISO 22716. Herrco Cosmetics are independently audited at least once per year by LRQA (Lloyds Register Quality Assurance) to ensure that our ISO 22716, ISO 9001 and BRC standards for consumer products are maintained, in addition to our own in-house high standards.

Herrco ISO 22716 GMP Certificate
Herrco Cosmetics
4-9 Broadway Drive
Halesworth
Suffolk
IP19 8QR
United Kingdom

+44 (0) 1986 874 149

www.herrco.co.uk