

# Helping you understand the requirements of the COSMOS standards



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# WHICH SCHEME IS RIGHT FOR ME?

There are 5 types of certification schemes offered by COSMOS, two of these schemes are retail facing: COSMOS Organic and COSMOS Natural.

With both organic and natural certification the entire supply chain is considered. All ingredients must meet green chemistry principles, packaging and cleaning materials are checked and all facilities are inspected.



- For a product to be labelled **organic e.g 'Organic facial oil'** 95% of ALL ingredients must be organic
- For **leave on products**, 95% of all physically processed agro-ingredients\* must be organic and at least 20% of the total ingredients must be organic.
- For **rinse off products**, 95% of all physically processed agro-ingredients must be organic and at least 10% of the total ingredients must be organic.



COSMOS Natural products are made of naturally sourced ingredients and may or may not contain organic ingredients.

# TYPES OF INGREDIENTS

Within the COSMOS standard, ingredients are defined by 6 categories:

## **PPAI –physically processed agro ingredient**

- Herbs, oils, water or oil -based extracts. PPAIs can be organic or non organic.
- Certified organic essential oils and carrier oils are 100% organic PPAIs if they don't contain anything else.

## **CPAI – chemically processed agro ingredient**

- Alcohol, glycerin and plant based surfactants
- Certified organic alcohol is an organic CPAI but not always completely organic. Check on the COSMOS database or with your supplier the weight of the pure alcohol and remaining weight of water.
- Certified organic glycerin is not a completely organic CPAI. Check on the COSMOS database or with your supplier. It is usually 96.7% organic.

## **Water**

Note - water cannot be organic and therefore the % organic will be affected depending on amount of water used

## **Minerals and ingredients of mineral origin**

List of permitted ingredients can be found here: COSMOS standard 6.1.2 and Appendix IV

## **Ingredients with petrochemical moieties**

List of permitted ingredients with petrochemical moieties can be found here: COSMOS Appendix V.3

Note - No more than 2% of your total product can be petrochemical moiety (this excludes the permitted preservatives and denaturing agents in Appendix V.1).

## **Non natural ingredients**

List of permitted ingredients of non natural origins, e.g. benzyl alcohol, can be found here: COSMOS Appendix V.1.

# PERMITTED INGREDIENTS

Within the standard, there are permitted ingredients which can be found in the following places:

- ❖ Ingredients with organic content listed on the COSMOS certified ingredients database <http://cosmos-standard-rm.org/data/indexrmorg.php>
- ❖ Non organic ingredients listed on the COSMOS approved raw material database: [www.cosmos-standard-rm.org](http://www.cosmos-standard-rm.org) password: COSMOSRM
- ❖ With ingredients that meet the COSMOS standard a raw material questionnaire completed by the supplier/manufacturer may be required
- ❖ Organic ingredients certified to a recognised organic standard (EU organic regulation, NOP, JAS, Brazil organic standards, etc.) are permitted.

Some ingredients can be a combination of PPAI, CPAI, NNI, petrochemical moiety, mineral and/or water, you will need to know the percentage of each. This information can be found in the following places:

- COSMOS certified ingredient database
- COSMOS raw material database
- Your suppliers
- Your certification officer





# HOW TO COMPLETE THE MULTI INGREDIENT PRODUCT SPECIFICATION & KNOW YOUR ORGANIC/NATURAL PERCENTAGE





# CALCULATING YOUR ORGANIC %

The MIPS will allow you to calculate the total organic percentage, the natural percentage and the total organic PPAI percentage of your product.

This will also calculate what category your product falls under e.g. 'organic' 'made with organic' 'natural'.

The % will need to be stated on your product labelling, so calculating your percentage is extremely important as this will determine in which product category your product can be listed (organic, made with organic or natural).

$\% \text{ Org PPAI} / \text{ total PPAI} = ( e ) / ( c )$	99.61
$\% \text{ natural origin} = 100 - ( a ) - ( b )$	99.85
$\% \text{ total of organic ingredients of total product} = ( e ) + ( f )$	51.16





# BRANDING AND LABELLING YOUR PRODUCT



COSMOS  
ORGANIC



COSMOS  
NATURAL



# COSMOS ORGANIC BRANDING/LABELLING



If you have identified that COSMOS organic is the scheme for you, and have completed your MIPS, you should be able to identify your % organic content within your product. Here we explain how you can present this information on product and packaging.

## NON-NEGOTIABLE:

- The Soil Association COSMOS organic symbol must be used on your retail label and visible at point of sale.
- Indicate the organic percentage “XX% organic of total”.
- Indicate the natural percentage “XX% natural origin of total” unless the product is 100% natural.
- Organic ingredients (organic PPAIs) must be shown as “from organic agriculture” “organically grown”, “organically produced” or “organic ingredient” in the INCI list.
- Ingredients made from from organic raw materials (organic CPAIs) must be shown as “made using organic ingredients”, “made from organic xxx” in the INCI list.

## OPTIONAL:

- You can indicate the organic percentage excluding water and minerals as “y% organic of total minus water and minerals”. Note – you may give prominence to either of the percentage indications.
- You are permitted to change the colour of the SA/COSMOS organic symbol on product and packaging.

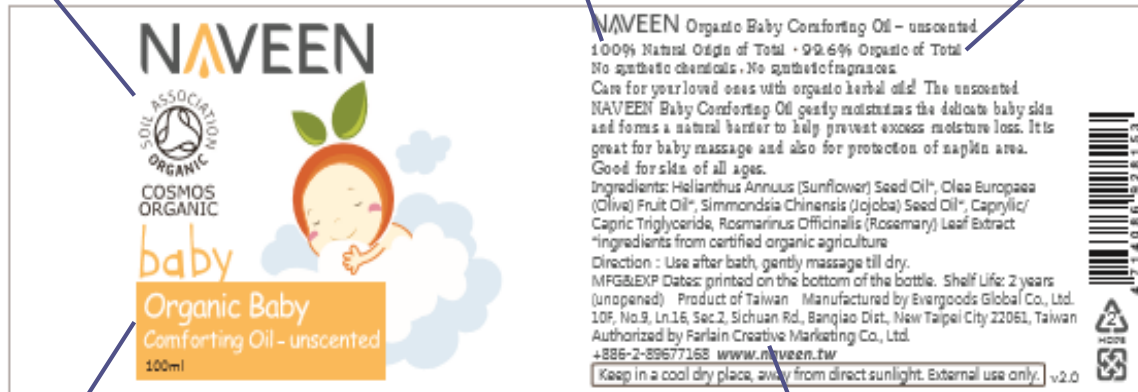


# EXAMPLE - COSMOS ORGANIC LABELING

SA Organic COSMOS symbol

Percentage statement “xx% natural origin of total” must be used, unless product is 100% natural, then no statement is required

Percentage statement “xx% organic of total” must be used



Product can be listed with “organic” in the product title

INCI list: Organic PPAI ingredients indicated as “from organic agriculture” “organically grown”, “organically produced” “organic ingredient”. Organic CPAIs indicated as “made using organic ingredients” or “made from organic xxx”

**FAQ: When can I use ‘organic’ in the product title or product description?** For product titles such as ‘Organic Body Oil’ at least 95% of the total product has to be organic. When making organic claims in descriptions or anywhere else on pack you need to make sure the claim you make can be substantiated with evidence. It would be acceptable to say something like ‘This product contains organic and natural ingredients’ provided the product contains organic ingredients.

# EXAMPLE: COSMOS 'MADE WITH' ORGANIC INGREDIENTS



**Beauty Promise**

**Purifying Aloe Vera Gel Cleanser**

**Purifying Aloe Vera Gel Cleanser**

**SOIL ASSOCIATION ORGANIC COSMOS ORGANIC**

**Purifying Aloe Vera Gel Cleanser**

- NATURAL & ORGANIC INGREDIENTS: contains no artificial scents.
- Mild, gentle and suitable for all skin types.

98% Natural Origin of total  
10% Organic of total

Splash away dirt and excess oil with our purifying Aloe Vera Gel Cleanser which combats existing blemishes, helps prevent future blemishes and controls oil and shine. This refreshing purifying Aloe Vera gel cleanser leaves skin with purified and refreshed with sine-free, matte finish and a radiant, health glow.

Ingredients: Water, Decyl Glucoside, Cocamidopropyl Betaine, Sodium Cocoyl Glutamate, Disodium Cocoyl Glutamate, Citric Acid, Aloe Barbadensis Leaf Juice Powder\*, Glyceryl Caprylate, Glyceryl Undecylenate, Xanthan Gum, Sodium Caproyl/Lauroyl Lactyl Lactate, Triethyl Citrate, Citrus Nobilis (Mandarin Orange) Peel Oil\*, Mentha Piperita Water\*, Sodium Anisate  
\*Ingredients from organic certified agriculture

Directions: Apply sufficient quantity to moistened skin with circular motions, avoid direct contact with eyes, rinse with clear, warm water and for external use only.  
Product volume: 120 ml / 3.55 fl.oz. Produce of Taiwan  
MFG & EXPdates: Printed on the bottom of the product.  
Distribute by: Beauty Promise Co., Ltd.  
6F, No 202-1, Nong'an st, Zhongshan Dist., Taipei, Taiwan 104  
MFG address: 10F, No9, Ln16, Sec2, Sichuan Rd., Banqiao Dist., New Taipei City 220, Taiwan  
Keep in a cool and dry place, away from direct sunlight.  
The aroma fragrance may slightly change after a period of time, it is normal and will not affect on the quality of the product. Due to natural of product, please ensure the pump is dry and clean after each use to keep product quality.

4 712972 680048



Percentage statement "xx% natural origin of total" must be used, unless product is 100% natural, then no statement is required

Percentage statement "xx% organic of total" must be used

INCI list, Organic PPAI ingredients indicated as "from organic agriculture" "organically grown", "organically produced" "organic ingredient" organic CPAIs indicated as "made using organic ingredients", "made from organic xxx"

SA Organic COSMOS symbol



# COSMOS NATURAL BRANDING/LABELING



If you have identified that the COSMOS Natural scheme is right for you, and have completed your MIPS, you should be able to identify your % natural contents within your product. Here we explain how you can present this on product and packaging.

## NON- NEGOTIABLE:

- The Soil Association COSMOS Natural symbol must be used on your retail label and visible at point of sale.
- Must indicate the natural percentage as “xx% natural origin of total”. For products that are 100% natural, this indication of the percentage natural origin is not required but may be used.

## OPTIONAL:

- Identify organic ingredients and ingredients made from organic raw materials, but in the INCI list only. This must be limited to the wording: “from organic agriculture” for PPAIs and “made using organic ingredients” for CPAIs or similar expressions (see previous) using the same font as used for the INCI list.
- May display the organic percentage “XX% organic of total” if applicable anywhere on pack (however if used on the front it must be in the smallest font size and only in conjunction with the COSMOS Natural symbol also on the front and the organic ingredients identified in the ingredients list, the organic ingredients may then also may be named on the front in the smallest font size.
- On back of pack – you may display organic percentage excluding water and minerals “y% organic of total minus water and minerals”.
- You are permitted to change the colour of the SA/COSMOS organic symbol on product and packaging but cannot use the colour green in any hue.



# EXAMPLE: COSMOS NATURAL LABELLING

Any organic claims must go on back or sides

Percentage statement "xx% natural origin of total" must be used, unless product is 100% natural

Soil Association Natural symbol

In INCI may list organic PPAI ingredients indicated as "from organic agriculture" "organically grown", "organically produced" "organic ingredient"; organic CPAIs indicated as "made using organic ingredients", "made from organic xxx"

<p><b>Directions:</b> Apply onto dry face and neck and massage in. Add water to turn the gel into a milk, and wash off with warm water. Use a muslin cloth for best results.</p> <p><b>Ingredients:</b> Prunus Ameriicola (Aprioot) Kernel Oil*, Glycyerrhiz Prunus Amygdalus Dulcis (Sweet Almond) Seed Oil*, Rosa Damascena (Rose) Flower Water*, Sucrose Laurate, Citrus Aurantium Dulcis (Orange) Fruit Water*, Rosa Canina (Rosehip) Seed Extract*, Rubus Chamaemorus (Cloudberry) Seed Oil, Rubus Idoeus (Raspberry) Seed Extract, Tocopherol (Vitamin E), Aqua, Oxycoccus Palustris (Cranberry) Seed Oil, Vaccinium Vitis-Idaeo (Lingonberry) Seed Oil, Ribes Nigrum (Blackcurrant) Seed Oil, Vaccinium Myrtillus (Bilberry) Seed Oil, Calluna Vulgaris (Heather) Flower Extract, Spiraea Ulmaria (Meadowsweet) Extract, Rhodiola Rosea (Roseroot) Root Extract, Benzyl Alcohol, Salicylic Acid, Sorbic Acid, Hippophae Rhamnoides (Sea Buckthorn) Fruit Extract*, Rosmarinus Officinalis (Rosemary) Leaf Extract*, Helianthus Annuus (Sunflower) Seed Oil, Alergenia Benzyl Alcohol.</p> <p>* From Organic Agriculture, 99% Natural Origin of Total, 93.9% Organic of Total.</p> <p>Store in a cool dark place. Do not freeze.</p> <p>For external use only. Keep out of reach of children. Not suitable for children under 3 years.</p>    <p>Made in the UK Ihana Skincare, Reading, RG2 9AJ www.ihanaskincares.com</p>	<p>Our Beri-Activ Cleansing Gel is a unique formula gel-to-milk cleanser. The gel deep cleanses your skin and unclogs pores, turning into a silky milk when you add water, leaving your skin soft and smooth.</p> <p><b>Organic Apricot Kernel and Sweet Almond Oils</b> gently draw impurities out of the skin, while anti-inflammatory <b>Heather Flower Extract</b> soothes and <b>Meadowsweet Extract</b> tones the skin. Our signature <b>Beri-Activ Antioxidant Complex</b> then softens, brightens and hydrates, leaving your skin feeling flawless.</p> <p><b>Beri-Activ Antioxidant Complex:</b> our unique blend of seven antioxidant rich Arctic Berry Oils and Extracts:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Cloudberry</b> - Anti-Ageing, Skin Brightening</li> <li>• <b>Cranberry</b> - Skin Conditioning and Restructuring</li> <li>• <b>Bilberry</b> - Anti-Ageing, Maintains skin elasticity and suppleness</li> <li>• <b>Lingonberry</b> - Hydrating, Anti-Ageing, Skin Lightening</li> <li>• <b>Raspberry</b> - Anti-inflammatory, UV-B and UV-C Protection</li> <li>• <b>Blackcurrant</b> - Nourishing, Anti-inflammatory</li> <li>• <b>Sea Buckthorn</b> - Aids skin cell regeneration</li> </ul>	 <p>BERI-ACTIV CLEANSING GEL</p> <hr/> <p>50ml e / 1.7 fl.oz</p>
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Organic percentage statement is not required, but when used must state: "xx organic of total", it can go anywhere on pack, but if on front must be same as the smallest font size and the organic ingredients must be identified in the ingredients list



# COSMOS NATURAL BRANDING/LABELING



## MARKETING 'ORGANIC' WITHIN A COSMOS NATURAL PRODUCT

If your COSMOS Natural product contains some organic ingredients, you cannot make any claim relating to organic, either ingredients or percentages, on the front of the packaging, except to indicate the organic content of the total product (and the ingredients concerned) on the front of the packaging, provided:

1. It appears in text that is no more prominent than the smallest text on the front of the packaging
2. It appears in conjunction with the COSMOS NATURAL signature
3. The organic ingredients concerned are also identified in the INCI list



# THE CLEANING STANDARDS



COSMOS  
ORGANIC



COSMOS  
NATURAL





# MEETING THE CLEANING STANDARDS



In relation to Section 9 of the COSMOS standard, any surface that comes into contact with COSMOS products must be cleaned with approved cleaning substances.

COSMOS will accept any plant-based cleaning products certified by the following organic certification bodies, we will ask you to provide the product name within the application:

- Soil Association
- Ecocert
- Ecogarantie
- ICEA
- Nature & Progres, United States National Organic Program (NOP) or Australian Organic Standards (AOS).
- Products endorsed by labels including Nordic Swan or Ecolabel may be used if the natural origin of their ingredients can be confirmed

You must have an inspection system in place to ensure only compliant cleaning/disinfection products are used before you make COSMOS products. You must have cleaning procedures, records and details of staff training. This will be checked at your inspection.

You must ensure no residues are left following cleaning, for instance by using a final potable water rinse.

**Note:** Some cleaning products made by Greenscents and Bentley Organic are certified by Soil Association and can be used.

# PERMITTED CLEANING MATERIALS:

If you wish to use a product which is not certified or prefer to use your own cleaning materials, below are the materials permitted within the standard:

- iso-propyl alcohol
- amphoteric surfactants
- hydrogen peroxide
- mineral acids and alkalis
- peracetic acid (and stabilising agents)
- formic acid
- Ozone

To use any of these materials you must provide a technical specification and safety data sheet.

Note: You can use surfactants which are already approved on the COSMOS positive list.

[www.cosmos-standard-rm.org](http://www.cosmos-standard-rm.org)  
password: COSMOSRM

## PERMITTED SURFACTANTS:

Amphoteric surfactants  
Plant based surfactants

You must provide a technical specification and safety data sheet for each cleaning material

In addition we may need:

- Details of how the surfactant is made
- Toxicity and biodegradability data
- Non GM info

## PERMITTED WATER AND PLANT-BASED CLEANING MATERIALS:

- Water or steam – provided 6.1.1 is met.
- Conventional ethanol – non GM information required
- Organic ethanol – no further information required
- Conventional vegetable oils (for natural bleed runs) – crop information required
- Organic vegetable oils (for organic bleed runs) – no further information required



# ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT PLAN



COSMOS  
ORGANIC



COSMOS  
NATURAL



# ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT PLAN



As part of your COSMOS application you must provide an environmental management plan. The plan must cover the whole manufacturing process and all residual products and waste that result from this. The plan must be implemented effectively.

We have supplied an Environmental management plan template for you to use, this should be within your application zip-file.

If you have ISO 14001 accreditation, we don't need a plan, please provide a copy of your ISO certificate with your application, or if there is national legislation you have to comply with, which covers all of the above points, you also don't need to provide a plan.

## **Brandholders and office-based operations**

If you are not directly involved with manufacturing (e.g. a brand, trader or distributor) you must still have an environmental management plan. Areas you must consider energy usage in relation to your business, efficiency of insulation and heating systems etc. are energy usage. Your plan could consider also transport, transport routes of the shipped goods.

# SOIL ASSOCIATION WEBSITE

For more information including FAQ's please visit the certification side of the Soil Association website.  
<https://www.soilassociation.org/certification/health-beauty-certification/faqs/>

