



The Cosmetic, Toiletries and Fragrance Association of Singapore

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To Whom It May Concern:

Recently a report by a US organization called “Campaign for safe cosmetics” has named a number of brands for containing lead in their lipsticks.

Lead is not allowed as an ingredient in cosmetics and is part of the Annex II of the ASEAN Cosmetic Directive listing the substances banned “beyond unavoidable traces”. Lead is an impurity in some of the colours used, in water, in minerals, etc.

The usually recognize safe maximum limit in cosmetics is 20 ppm, this is also the limit set up by HSA. The report mentions that the level in the products was in the range of 0.2-0.7 ppm i.e. 30 to 100 times lower than the limit.

The report also makes reference to the limit in candies. This is not relevant as the candy weight is about the same as the whole lipstick. While you do eat the whole candy, I have never seen anyone eating the whole lipstick!

Consumers in Singapore must rest assured that cosmetics placed in the market are safe. Companies are taking all the right steps to ensure that their products meet the most stringent safety standards.

Nevertheless, HSA is always monitoring the safety of the products placed in the market. CTFAS collaborates with the Authorities and actions are always taken with the objective to protect consumers.

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