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Foreword

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The committee responsible for this document is ISO/TC 217, *Cosmetics*.

This second edition cancels and replaces the first edition (ISO 22718:2006), of which it constitutes a minor revision.

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Introduction

Microbiological examinations of cosmetic products are carried out according to an appropriate microbiological risk analysis in order to ensure their quality and safety for consumers.

Microbiological risk analysis depends on several parameters such as the following:

— potential alteration of cosmetic products;

— pathogenicity of microorganisms;

— site of application of the cosmetic product (hair, skin, eyes, mucous membranes);

— type of users (adults, children under 3 years).

For cosmetics and other topical products, the detection of skin pathogens such as *Staphylococcus aureus*, *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* and *Candida albicans* may be relevant because they can cause skin or eye infections. The detection of other kinds of microorganism might be of interest since these microorganisms (including indicators of faecal contamination e.g. *Escherichia coli*) suggest hygienic failure during the manufacturing process.

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