

## The highs and lows of cosmetics production

With clients including Revlon, Coty and P&G, Tory Manning, J.A. King's Industry Business Manager, is an expert when it comes to keeping equipment in check

**C**alibration of measurement equipment is definitely not part of the sexy side of the cosmetics industry. Quite often, operations and maintenance departments consider calibration to be a necessary evil, requiring a great deal of time and paperwork. World-class manufacturing operations, however, understand how good calibration can positively affect profitability.



Calibration means making sure your measurement equipment is measuring exactly the way it says it is. So if your recipe calls for 100g of a particular ingredient, calibration ensures your scale is actually weighing out 100g, not 95g or 105g. Any piece of equipment that takes or relies on a measurement and is integral in your process, from an oven to a micrometre, a moisture metre to scales, must be regularly calibrated.

Ignoring equipment calibration can be a regulatory and production nightmare. For example, an out-of-tolerance tank monitor at a major American toiletries manufacturer led to the vessel overflowing, spilling litres of product all over the floor. The filling line was shut down for hours to clean up the spill and the lost product cost was well into the thousands of dollars.

At a contract manufacturer of cosmetics, a scale interface was not correctly calibrated to work with the process controller, so ingredients weren't filling at the correct amount required by the recipe. The resulting batch cost the company \$23,000. Regular calibration by a professional measurement company could have avoided both.

However, not all metrology and calibration companies are created equal. If you have ISO/IEC 9001 registration, calibration should be done by an ISO/IEC 17025 accredited company. Even without 9001, a company would do well to stick to a 17025 accredited provider, as this certifies that the lab is technically competent and can produce precise data. 17025 also demonstrates that they have a robust system to ensure the quality of their processes and measurements.

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Tory Manning, Industry Business Manager at J.A. King

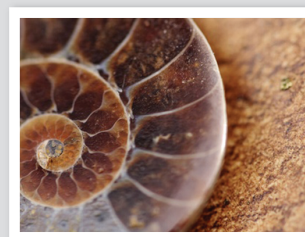
### PROVIDER CHECKLIST

- On-site service** If they can come to you, it will save time and money
- Sophistication** Complex calibrations require more than just scale/balance knowledge
- Tank and liquid training** In cosmetics, tanks are a fact of life. Ensure your calibrator can control them
- Hazard experience** The ability to cope with and operate in hazardous areas is essential
- Tracking service** Your calibrator should track your assets and calibrations electronically online

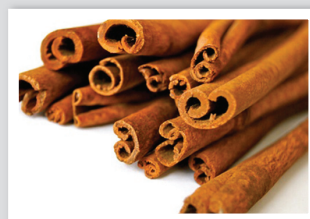
### SUPPLIERS NEWS

#### SPICING UP SKIN CARE

Biopharmaceutical skin care company Biofrontera has launched Belixos Gel. The cooling day care gel combines extracts of cinnamon bark, in the active ingredient complex Sepicontrol A5, and *Mahonia aquifolium*, with Biofrontera's biocolloid technology. It is designed for inflamed, reddened skin and is said to offer ideal care for those with rosacea and acne.



to synthetic peeling particles such as those made from polyethylene. In user trials, the powder was proven to create smoother skin after use and achieve in-depth cleansing.



#### A BRAND NEW LOOK

Elemis is due to undergo a complete brand refresh in Q1 2016, overhauling its existing packaging (pictured). Séan Harrington, Managing Director of Elemis, told CBN: "The new brand refresh isn't about changing our product or name, it's about improvement."

Read more at [cosmeticsbusiness.com](http://cosmeticsbusiness.com)



#### UNDER THE SEA

Swiss active substance manufacturer Rahn has taken inspiration from the sea floor for its latest launch. Fossil Peeling Powder contains the protective shells of diatoms that created a sediment on the sea floor millions of years ago. It is a medium granulometry powder suitable for exfoliation on facial skin as well as rougher areas such as the feet or knees. The 100% natural powder provides an alternative

#### BATH TIME BOTTLED

Design consultancy Biles Inc has redesigned UK retailer Superdrug's own range of bathroom products. The range consists of two fragrance variants in both bubble bath and shower gel formats, and is intended to provide a value offering for consumers. The packs were inspired by the designs of Katharine Hamnett's 1980s t-shirts.



#### A SOFT TOUCH

Penford Products, a bioproducts developer, has launched a new conditioning polymer designed to be used in hair and skin products. PenCare DP is a patent pending, naturally-based cationic polymer with superior deposition and enhanced conditioning that aims to leave hair and skin smooth and soft. To support the commercial launch of PenCare DP, Penford has partnered with chemical distributor Univar.

