



Priority Substances List October 2008

Substance	Status	Action	Action Dates
Azo dyes	Not used in foods		Complete
	The four azo dyes of particular concern ¹ will not be used in new cosmetic products.	No new uses approved.	Complete
	CI 20170, CI 27290, CI 12150 not used in any products	Phase out complete	Complete
	CI26100 is still used in a small number of products.	Remove all uses in Boots brand products	Target update: Dec 2009
	Other azo dyes continue to be used	Continue to look at the implications for other azo dyes in association with relevant trade associations	Progress review date: July 2009
Benzene	Not used as an active ingredient		Complete
	Not used as a solvent in the manufacture cosmetic and toiletry products		Complete
	Benzene free materials must be used and benzene must not have been used in the manufacture of raw materials e.g. carbomers, polymers.	Strict level in place for raw material of <1ppm.	Complete
	UK Food Standards Agency produced a survey investigating benzene levels in soft drinks in 2006. Six Boots products were sampled. All products were either below or on the limit of detection therefore no further action was necessary. For further information visit the Food Standards Agency website.	Continue to carry out due diligence testing to ensure Boots products are free from this risk material.	Ongoing

¹ CI 20170, CI 27290, CI 12150, CI 26100

Substance	Status	Action	Action Dates
BFRs (Brominated Flame Retardants)	Minimal usage - as a component of circuit boards	Continue to work with suppliers to identify alternatives. Replace current usage where possible	Ongoing Progress review date: July 2009
	BFR was highlighted as a potential contaminant issue in fish oils. For the last 5 years Boots have continued to carry out our own due diligence testing independent from our suppliers. All analysis were below all levels of concern.	Continue due diligence program throughout 2008 & 2009	Progress review date: July 2009
Bisphenol-a (products intended for food contact)	Not used as a direct ingredient.		Complete
	Only ever present as a low level contaminant in a very small area of Boots inventory.	Continue to monitor new research. Avoid where suitable alternative materials are available.	Progress review date: July 2009
	There are a number of research papers suggesting low level of BPA from polycarbonate could cause problems to human health and the environment. The European Food Safety Authority (EFSA) carried out a re-evaluation of all the data and continued to support the use of polycarbonate in the food industry. Boots believe the continued use of polycarbonate is safe but we do offer alternative materials for our customers that have a concern.	Continue to contribute to scientific debate Continue to offer products using alternative materials Carry out impact assessment for precautionary phase out	Progress review date: July 2009 Progress review date: Ongoing - alternatives available in all stores Progress review date: Feb 2009
Dioxane (1:4 dioxane)	Present as low level contaminant in ethoxylated surfactants	Maximum levels implemented for raw material and finished product.	Complete Target progress date: July 2009
		Continue to challenge the supply chain to investigate further reducing our internal maximum levels.	

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Dioxins and polychlorinated biphenyls in products	Not used as a direct ingredient in Boots products		Complete
	All fish oils used in Boots supplements are tested by our suppliers to ensure compliance to regulations.	This testing recently highlighted a problem with one specific batch of product. This product was recalled as a precautionary measure due to levels slightly in excess of statutory limits. For further information visit Food Standards Agency Website .	Ongoing
	We independently test Boots fish oils as part of our due diligence protocol. All products tested as part of the 2007 - 2008 due diligence program were all below our tight specifications	Continue to carry out due diligence testing throughout 2008 - 2009.	Progress review date: July 2009
Artificial Musk	Nitro musks – Prohibited for manufacture in all Boots Brand products since 2002 Musk Xylene (CAS: 81-15-2) has been nominated to be one of the first chemicals to be placed on the Substance of Very High Concern list which is part of new REACH chemical legislation.	Any use of nitro musks to be phased out.	Target completion date: July 2008 Complete
	Polycyclic musks – Prohibited for manufacture in all Boots brand products since July 2008	Any use of polycyclic musks to be phased out	Target completion date: July 2008 Complete
	To ensure compliance to our policy we have carried out testing of existing product for the presence of these substances	The products that were tested all confirmed that they were free from both types of artificial musk	Ongoing

Substance	Status	Action	Action Dates
Nitrosamines	Not used as active ingredients		Complete
	We operate a nitrosamine testing facilities in our own laboratories		Ongoing
	Tight concentration limits are set and enforced for raw materials with potential for contamination	Continue testing for contamination	Progress review date: July 2009
	Guidelines published on avoiding nitrosamine formation in products	Seek to identify new contamination risk combinations	Complete
Parabens	Used as a preservative in Boots products. The overwhelming safety and environmental data on these preservatives supports their continued use in products.	Continue to monitor scientific developments and public concerns	Progress review date: July 2009
Phthalates	Prohibited for use in consumer products (cosmetics, toiletries, food, medicines)		Complete
	We are removing the use of DEP in fragrances as a precautionary measure as suitable alternatives are readily available. Any existing uses are being phased out.	Prohibited for manufacture in all Boots brand products since July 2008	Complete

Substance	Status	Action	Action Dates
Phthalates	<p>Other phthalates (diethylhexyl phthalate [DEHP], dibutyl phthalate [DBP]) banned for use in these products.</p> <p>Dibutyl phthalate (CAS: 84-74-2) has been nominated to be one of the first chemicals to be placed on the Substance of Very High Concern list (SVHC) which is part of new REACH chemical legislation.</p>		<p>Complete</p>
	<p>Phthalates are present as a plasticiser in some plastic products and packaging</p>	<p>Continue to look for alternatives</p>	<p>Progress review date: July 2009</p>
		<p>Encourage suppliers to seek alternative materials</p>	<p>Progress review date: July 2009</p>
PVC (Polyvinylchloride)	<p>Declining use in new product packaging as suitable alternatives are readily available for most applications – where PVC is used it is often the best material of choice.</p>	<p>Continue to evaluate alternatives</p>	<p>Progress review date: July 2009</p>
	<p>We will only use PVC where it makes technical and commercial sense compared to alternatives.</p>	<p>Continue to look at alternative additives</p>	<p>Progress review date: July 2009</p>
		<p>Seek to reduce the long-term use of PVC by promoting the use of alternatives where possible</p>	<p>Progress review date: Feb 2009</p>

Substance	Status	Action	Action Dates
Triclosan	Prohibited for use in plastic articles, clothing and similar types of goods.		Complete
	Triclosan has been used in cosmetic and toiletries as an active microbial but only where it can be shown to deliver a consumer benefit.	Continue to phase out use in existing products.	Target completion date Jul 2010
	Phase out in all cosmetic and toiletry products initiated 2008	Phase out date 2010	Target completion date: 2010
	Not used in a new product development since 2005.		
Acrylamide in foods	Can be present as low level contaminant in some cooked food. Primarily fried and baked potato crisps/snacks, biscuits and some breads.	Due diligence testing of Boots brand food products that are of greatest risk.	Progress review date: July 2009
		Dialogue with suppliers is ongoing to challenge them to reduce the levels of acrylamide in Boots foods to as low a level as is practically possible.	Progress review date: July 2009

Biodiversity Impact of Raw Materials

Boots recognise that there can be social and biodiversity impacts arising from the production and sourcing of chemicals derived from natural materials.

One such example concerns chemical products derived from palm oil.

We have addressed these issues through Boots Biodiversity Policy and Biodiversity Action Plan. These can be found in the biodiversity section of Boots [CSR website](#) together with details of our approach on specific issues such as palm oil.