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**WATH** WEST AFRICA TRADE HUB  
CENTRE POUR LE COMMERCE  
EN AFRIQUE DE L'OUEST

# **Cosmetics Labeling Requirements**

**Shea Finished Products Training  
Coconut Grove Hotel  
Dec. 12-13, 2006  
Casey E. Troy**



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# **U.S. Labeling Laws**

**The U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) regulates cosmetics under two federal laws:**

- **The Federal Food, Drug and Cosmetic Act (FDC or FD &C)**
- **The Federal Fair Packaging and Labeling Act (FPLA)**
- **(Country of Origin statement required by U.S. Dept of Commerce)**



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# What is a Cosmetic?

**The FDC Act defines cosmetics as:**

- **“Articles intended to be rubbed, poured, sprinkled, sprayed on or otherwise applied to the human body or any other part thereof for cleansing, beautifying, promoting attractiveness, or altering the appearance”**
- **They are not drugs!**



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# What is a Drug?

**The FDC Act defines drugs as:**

- **“Articles intended for use in the diagnosis, cure, mitigation, treatment, or prevention of disease in man or other animals**
- **Third category of “cosmetic-drugs,” e.g. deodorant containing antiperspirants, makeup containing sunscreen**



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# **LABELING BASICS**



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# Principal Display Panel (PDP)

**The part of the label most likely to be  
displayed to consumers**

- 1. Statement of Identity: “hand cream,”  
“ultra rich body butter”**
- 2. Net Quantity of Contents: Lower 30% of  
outer container, **MUST** state **BOTH**  
metric and “English” equivalent**



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# Back Panel

- 1. Ingredient Statement**
- 2. Warning Statement**
- 3. Name and Address of Manufacturer,  
Packer, or Distributor**
- 4. Country of Origin**



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# 1. Ingredient Statement

- **List in descending order of predominance**
- **Use proper nomenclature (FDA 21 CFR 701.3)**
- **<1% may be listed without respect to order of predominance**