BULLETIN VC-863

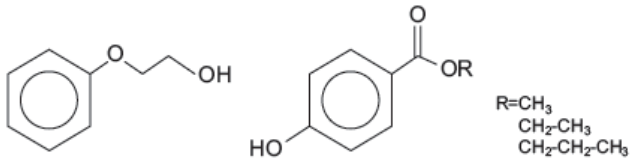
LiquaPar™ MEP/ Rokonsal™ MEP preservative

Preservative for Cosmetics Industry

Product Description

LiquaPar MEP/ Rokonsal MEP preservative is liquid preservative system which consists of a combination of Methyl-, Ethylparaben and Propylparaben in Phenoxyethanol.

Formula



Phenoxyethanol (and) Methylparaben (and) Ethylparaben (and) Propylparaben

Suggested Applications

Rinse-off-Cosmetics	LiquaPar MEP/ Rokonsal MEP preservative has proven to be an effective preserving system for rinse-off-products like shampoos, shower-gels, foam-baths etc. The commonly slightly acidic pH of these products is advantageous for an effective use of the LiquaPar MEP/ Rokonsal MEP preservative.
Care-Products	Due to its good skin-compatibility LiquaPar MEP/ Rokonsal MEP preservative is suitable for high-quality care-cosmetics like creams, emulsions, lotions and gels. On account of its good dispensability it can be used in O/W-emulsions as well as in W/O-emulsions.

Dosage and Processing

LiquaPar MEP/ Rokonsal MEP preservative should be used in cosmetic products at concentrations in the range 0.3% to 1.0%. When preserving simple surfactant-products sometimes dosages of 0.2 % are sufficient. The exact dosage depends on the end product formulation and can be determined by suitable laboratory-testing. The staff of Ashland Inc.'s microbiological laboratories will be pleased to give customers the appropriate support.

In emulsions, LiquaPar MEP/ Rokonsal MEP preservative can be added to the pre-emulsion water or oil phase or added post-emulsification at 60 - 70°C during the manufacture of the formulation. Heating processes up to 85°C will be tolerated. For cold mixed systems, LiquaPar MEP/ Rokonsal MEP preservative can be added early in the process, while the system is thin enough to allow for adequate mixing. LiquaPar™ MEP/ Rokonsal MEP is compatible with most cosmetic raw materials and can be used at pH levels of 3.0 – 7.5 It is recommended to apply intensive stirring in aqueous products with low contents of emulsifiers to achieve a uniform dispersal of the active ingredient.

Product Properties

Microbiological Profile

LiquaPar MEP/ Rokonsal MEP is a liquid preservative system which is effective against Gram positive and Gram negative bacteria, yeast, and mold.

Technical Data

Appearance :	colorless to light yellow solution
Odor :	characteristic
pH-Value :	not applicable, glycolic solution
Density :	1.12 - 1.13 g/ml

Regulatory profile Parabens

Methyl and Ethyl

Approved in the EU up to 0.4% (as acid) for a single ester and 0.8 % (as acid) for mixtures of esters.

Propyl

Approved in the EU where the sum of individual concentrations of propyl and butyl parabens does not exceed 0.14% (as acid). Prohibited in leave-on cosmetic products for application to the nappy area of children below 3 years. For leave on products not intended to be applied to the nappy area of children less than 3 years, the following label warning should be used "Do not use on the nappy area". Using the maximum dosage of Ashland´s recommended 0.3 – 1.0% dosage range will result in a final concentration of propyl paraben (expressed as acid) of 0.04%, well below the EU limits.
For more details please contact your sales/technical contact and ask for the regulatory update letter.

Stability

Although Phenoxyethanol is slightly volatile, LiquaPar MEP/ Rokonsal MEP preservative is stable at temperatures up to 85°C. It is always best to add the preservative at the coolest temperature as possible. For cold mixed system, add the LiquaPar MEP/ Rokonsal MEP preservative early in the process to allow for adequate mixing. pH-tolerance is given for acidic and neutral environment. Oxidizing agents, strong acids and alkalis lead to decomposition of the active ingredients. The paraben components may become partially deactivated by non-ionic surfactants and highly ethoxylated emulsifiers; as a result, these materials should be minimized or avoided.

Storage

Storage is recommended in tightly closed original-containers at temperatures between 5°C and 25°C.

INCI-Nomenclature

122-99-6	Phenoxyethanol
99-76-3	Methylparaben
120-47-8	Ethylparaben
94-13-3	Propylparaben

More details regarding handling, toxicity and labelling are available in the Safety Data Sheet (SDS).