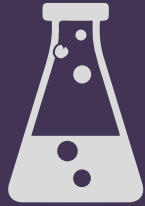




APPLYING FOR CERTIFICATION



CERTIFICATION BODIES

review relevant documents and evaluate the compliance of products and ingredients.



TO APPLY to have retail products or ingredients certified, companies choose from one of the COSMOS authorised Certification Bodies and contact their chosen Certification Body directly.



The Certification Body issues certificates as proof that a certified product or ingredient is **COMPLIANT WITH THE COSMOS-STANDARD**.



AUDIT The applicant's site is audited by the Certification Body.

HOW TO CHOOSE

AN AUTHORISED CERTIFICATION BODY



Manufacturers or brand owners should **CHOOSE THE CERTIFICATION BODY** that best meets their needs and we recommend to contact a number of possible Certification Bodies if you don't already work with an authorised one.



There is a wide ranging choice as most Certification Bodies operate internationally and they all implement the COSMOS-standard consistently. All Certification Bodies have **DIFFERENT STRENGTHS** and there are a number of criteria you may want to consider in your choice.



For example, the level of technical support or certification fees may vary. Whilst many Certification Bodies certify internationally they tend to be particularly strong in their home markets. Some Certification Bodies are allied to an association (or charity) with additional possible benefits. And depending on the brand's key markets the consumer recognition of the Certification Body's logo (which is displayed in conjunction with the COSMOS signature) may play a **ROLE IN YOUR CHOICE**.

The COSMOS-standard

is a trusted consumer guarantee and the largest international standard for organic and natural cosmetics. The COSMOS-standard is managed by a not-for-profit and independent association – the Brussels based COSMOS-standard AISBL. 11 authorised Certification Bodies offer world-wide COSMOS certification.

www.cosmos-standard.com