

Technote # 9

Dibutyl Phthalate and Nail Color

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Dibutyl Phthalate (DPT) and other related phthalates have been used safely in cosmetics for decades. Many government agencies, including that FDA, EPA, Health Canada, several scientific bodies in Europe and Japan, as well as, the highly respected Cosmetic Ingredient Review (CIR) have all examined the safety of these useful cosmetic ingredients. None of these agencies have concluded that wearing nail color causes problems for women, pregnant or otherwise.

The recent media reports on DBP were prompted by an environmental group that suggested the low levels of DBP found in women during a recent study was due to normal use of cosmetics. Furthermore, they have incorrectly implicated the use of DBP in nail color as the primary culprit.

There are some very important factors that lower the probability of DBP absorption, which makes these claims extremely unlikely:

1. DBP evaporates very slowly, thereby reducing the risk of over exposure by inhalation.
2. The Center for Disease Control has said that over exposure to phthalates could result if the product were heated or sprayed in the air as a mist, but neither of these applies to proper use of nail color products.
3. Nail color is applied to the natural nail or a nail enhancement, so skin absorption is highly unlikely.

Therefore, based on the findings of the above-mentioned regulatory agencies, Creative Nail Design, Inc. is convinced that our nail enamel is safe when used as directed.