SCANCOS CONFERENCE

November 20TH-21ST 2025
Best Western Plus Park Globetrotter Copenhagen Airport
Copenhagen, Denmark

SCANCOS
Scandinavian Society of Cosmetic Chemists

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Thursday, November 20th

11:30 – 13:00	REGISTRATION AT THE ENTRANCE TO THE CONFERENCE ROOM
12:00 – 13:00	LUNCH IN RESTAURANT
13:00 – 13:10	WELCOMING WORDS & PRESENTATION OF THE BOARD
13:10 – 13:30	The Future Is Personalized: Harmonizing Microbiome & Skin Data for Cosmetics Innovation **Spyridon Markos**, Senior Scientific Advisor & Key Account Manager, QACS Lab, Gold Sponsor

Highlighting emerging trends in microbiome-friendly skincare and the growing demand for personalized skin compatibility testing. We share insights from the first Greek skin microbiome study using NGS, correlating microbial profiles with VISIA-measured skin attributes. Our integrated approach combines in vitro, ex vivo, and in vivo methods to support science-based product development and microbiome-aligned skincare recommendations.

13:35 – 14:05	Novel applications of cellulosic fibres and berry processing side streams for skin care **Panu Lahtinen**, Senior Scientist, VTT

The presentation entitled "Novel technologies for natural antimicrobial ingredients" focuses on the development and application of natural antimicrobial ingredients for high-value personal care products. The case examples from various projects explore the use of cellulose fibers and VTT Innoberry Technologies® to create functional hydrogels and patches for cosmetics and skin care.

The presentation highlights the growing market need for natural and healthy ingredients in the pharma and personal care sectors, emphasizing their benefits for skin microbiomes, cosmeceuticals, and sustainability. It outlines VTT's approach to developing these products, including the use of natural

multifunctional ingredients and various technological processes such as bioprocessing, cell culture technology, and dry fractionation. The production processes for these natural ingredients involve the use of extracts, cell cultures, and press cakes of natural and cultivated berries, with a focus on sustainable and efficient methods. The presentation also includes case studies demonstrating the effectiveness of natural hydrogels and cellulose membranes in reducing microbial viability and combating antibiotic-resistant microbes such as MRSA.

Key benefits of the natural formulations include their antimicrobial, antioxidant, and anti-inflammatory properties, as well as their ability to balance skin microbiota and serve as bio-compatible, iron-chelating antimicrobial biomaterials. The presentation also discusses the advantages of nanocellulose in personal care products, such as its moisturizing, film-forming, and optical properties.

14:10 – 14:30	Biotech powered biomimetic bond building - a vegan keratin recharge to elevate hair strength beyond repair **Mike Hindley**, R&D Specialist, Croda

The hair repair market has evolved rapidly with the rise of bond-building technologies — a space dominated by just a few hero brands like K18 and Olaplex. Yet, until now, no ingredient supplier has offered an equivalent solution that empowers brands to deliver this next-level repair performance. In this presentation, we unveil a biotech-driven, vegan keratin innovation designed to rebuild, reinforce, and elevate hair strength beyond visible repair, bringing new opportunities for differentiation in the high-growth bond-building segment.

14:40 – 15:00	Smart, everyday skin protection – from formula to face **Henk de Jager,** Technical Manager, Jan Dekker

Today’s consumers don’t just want skin that looks good – they expect skincare to actively support true skin health. Social media and growing awareness of environmental stressors have fuelled this shift: people know that daily protection goes beyond the surface.

Cosmetic ingredients can strengthen the skin's natural defences and even help the body boost its own. We'll share inspiring examples of how this works, along with a closer look at product protection strategies like antioxidants. Plus, we'll clear up a few common (and costly) misconceptions along the way.

15:00 – 15:30	COFFEE 'FIKA' BREAK & NETWORKING

15:35 – 16:05	SPF-Testing beyond Erythema – The new alternative Methods ISO 23675 (Double Plate) and ISO 23698 (HDRS) **Mathias Rohr**, Director (COO), Normec Schrader Institute

Since decades the SPF of a sunscreen was measured by provoking an erythemal reaction on volunteers. Carried out on basis of a well-known ISO standard (ISO 24444) nowadays with a big ethical question mark. Since one year now two alternative methods are available without any ethical concerns. One pure in vitro approach named Double Plate Method and one hybrid method, named HDRS (Hybrid Diffuse Reflectance Spectroscopy) a combination of in vivo Reflectance Spectroscopy and in vitro transmission measurements on a PMMA-plate. The new alternative methods became an ISO standard in December 2024 and were published as ISO 23675 (Double Plate) and ISO 23698 (HDRS). The presentation will describe and compare the two new alternative test methods. Technical side parameters, the calculation of results as well as their practical implementation will be discussed.

16:10 – 16:30	Nature is Not White: Protecting You Through a More Conscious Industry **Alejandro Franco**, Co-Founder & Co-CEO, Kaffe Bueno

A brief look at how legacy standards have shaped our industry's perception of protection, safety and progress, and why rethinking these standards is key to creating a more conscious and protective industry for people, planet and for the industry itself.

16:35 – 16:50	Technical on the impact of psychological stress on the skin through the cortisol **Thara Hocine**, EMEA Sales Manager, Expanscience

Psychological stress and cortisol disrupt the skin's natural barrier, leading to dryness, redness, and discomfort that affect both appearance and emotional well-being. Unsaponifiable molecules from Camellia Oil offer a clinically proven, eco-designed solution that restores skin balance, soothes inflammation, and improves quality of life, protecting you from inside and out stress.

17:00 – 18:00	ANNUAL MEETING
18:30 – 19:00	MINGLE & PRE-DRINKS
19:00 – 22:00	DINNER
22:00 – 00:00	HOTEL BAR IS OPEN

Friday, November 21st

09:00 – 09:10	OPENING DAY 2

09:10 – 09:40	Protective Power of Algae: Extraction, Characterization, and Application of Bioactives for Skincare Innovation **Ditte Baun Hermund**, Associate Professor, DTU National Food Institute

Algae-derived bioactive compounds represent a promising class of multifunctional ingredients for protective skincare applications. This presentation will highlight recent research on the extraction, characterization, and formulation of bioactives from seaweed and microalgae, with a focus on their multifunctional properties on skin health and skin care formulations. Emphasis will be placed on compounds with antioxidant and barrier-enhancing properties, and their integration into cosmetic formulations. The talk will also address formulation strategies to ensure product stability and efficacy, as well as safety concerns associated with algae-based ingredients. By bridging marine biotechnology and formulation science, this work contributes to the development of algae-based skincare solutions.

09:45 – 10:05	Cutting-edge marine biotechnology to enhance skin metabolism and reinforce its barrier **Samira Reyhani**, Sales Development Specialist, Croda, Silver Sponsor

In today's world, where environmental stress and urban lifestyles constantly challenge our skin, protecting and strengthening the skin barrier has become more essential than ever. This presentation explores how advanced marine biotechnology can restore skin vitality from within. We'll dive into scientific research and efficacy studies showcasing how an innovative active ingredient boosts skin metabolism, energizes cells, and enhances barrier resilience — helping skin stay healthy, radiant, and protected against daily stressors.

10:10 – 10:25	Facts and legends about the use of exosomes in cosmetics **Olivier Paquatte**, Head of Scientific & Technical Development Personal Care, Safic-Alcan

The author will first describe the structure and the composition of exosomes and how to prepare, purify and formulate them. Then, he will provide several examples illustrating the use of exosomes in cosmetics. Finally, strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and threats concerning this technology will be discussed.

10:30 – 11:00	COFFEE 'FIKA' BREAK

11:00 – 11:20	Challenges regarding EU Safety Assessment related to NOAEL/PoD, skin penetration, claims, packaging materials, especially reused plastics and migration studies and the 80+ allergens to be declared **Jørgen Gade Hyldgaard**, Consultant, Hygade

Challenges regarding EU Safety Assessment related to NOAEL/PoD, skin penetration, claims, packaging materials, especially reused plastics and migration studies; Synthetic polymer microparticles (SPM) standards. Nano Materials. How to handle the 80+ allergens, ways to effectively assess safety of cosmetic products. How do we give natural ingredients and products a fair evaluation? How do we handle and respect our ethical challenges?

11:25 – 11:45	Mechanisms of boosting antimicrobial efficacy in cosmetic formulations **Markus Schroeder**, R&D Director, Cosphatec, Silver Sponsor Cosphatec

The presentation outlines the chemical and biochemical mechanisms that underpin antimicrobial efficacy in cosmetic formulations using alternative preservation strategies. The focus lies on the comparative analysis of substance classes and their interactions. The discussed substance classes include organic acids, glycols and diols, medium-chain fatty acid derivatives, Ethylhexylglycerin as well as plant extracts and ferment-based ingredients. In addition, formulation-related hurdles that contribute to microbial control like

pH reduction, lowering of water activity and modulation of redox potential will be considered. The aim is to provide a mechanistic understanding of how these components function individually and synergistically, enabling formulators to design microbiologically stable products without relying on traditional preservatives but using established antimicrobial mechanisms.

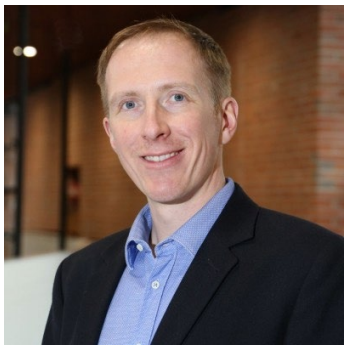
11:50 – 12:10	Prevent Grainy Textures: How the Liquid Oil Phase Influences Bloom in Shea Butter Formulations **Johan Pettersson**, Product Development Manager, Scientific Competence Center, AAK Personal Care

Graininess or "bloom" — a sandy texture caused by large crystal formation — is one of the most persistent challenges formulators faces when working with natural butters like shea. A critical yet often overlooked factor is how the choice of the liquid oil phase in the cosmetic formulation impacts bloom formation. This presentation explores how the polarity of the liquid phase directly influences nucleation rates, crystal growth, and the time required to reach a stable crystalline form — all of which impact the final product's texture, appearance, and stability. By understanding and controlling this element, formulators can proactively protect themselves from formulation failures, ensuring smoother textures and maintain stability under diverse conditions.

12:15 – 12:20	CLOSING WORDS
12:20 – 13:30	LUNCH IN RESTAURANT

The Speakers

Spyridon Markos is Senior Scientific Advisor and Sales Manager at QACS, a leading lab in microbiome and cosmetic product testing. With 24 years of experience bridging microbiology, molecular biology, and applied biotechnology, he specializes in microbiome-compatible skincare innovation. His expertise spans NGS, in vitro and in vivo testing, and regulatory support for microbiome-based cosmetic claims. Spyridon has represented QACS at key industry forums, including the Skin Microbiome Congress (The Hague, 2024 & 2025), advocating for science-based, personalized approaches in cosmetic product development.



Mr. Panu Lahtinen is a Senior Scientist and a project manager at VTT Technical Research Centre of Finland. He is one of the most experienced nanocellulose scientists in Finland. He specialises in the fibre and biomass processing and has an extensive knowledge in nanocellulose technologies. Since 2008 he has been managing the production, quality control and assurance of cellulose nanomaterials at VTT. Panu Lahtinen has been working for VTT since 2002 in projects related to cellulosic fibres, biomedicals, novel technologies for natural antimicrobial ingredients, 3D printing, fibre-based packing, and foodstuffs.

Mike Hindley is Research and Technology Specialist at Croda Beauty, with a focus on new product development and new test method development for hair care applications, with extensive experience in product presentation to external customers and collaborative discussions with academic and industrial partners.

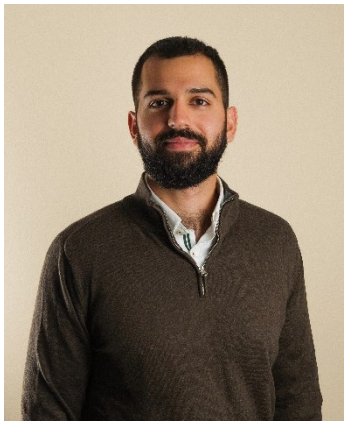
Henk de Jager is the Product and Regulatory Specialist for the Jan Dekker portfolio, which includes actives, preservatives, functionals such as UV filters and antioxidants, as well as vegetable oils and butters. With a strong background in chemistry, gained through his studies in Groningen and Leiden (NL), Henk has been part of the Jan Dekker team since 1997 (since 2012 part of IMCD).

He focuses on developing customised, future-proof solutions, particularly in the field of preservation, combining product-technical expertise with regulatory and safety knowledge. Passionate about sustainable innovation, Henk strives to create effective solutions that ultimately make a difference in customers' final products.

Mathias Rohr studied physics and bio-physics at University of Göttingen / Max Planck Institute (MPI) für Strahlenchemie/Mülheim-Ruhr Germany. Since the early 90's he is an employee at Institute Dr. Schrader Germany. Over 3 decades he is involved in the development of biophysical devices and test methods in the field of skin physiological testing. In particular, the interaction of light and skin is a fundamental part in his clinical research history.

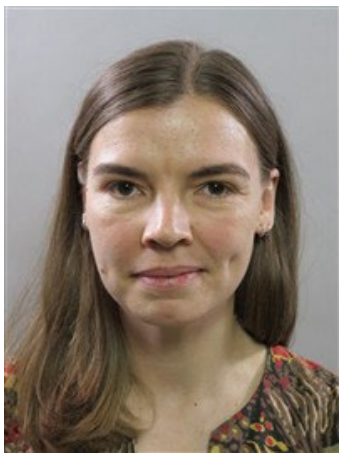
Beside classical SPF testing, methods like LIOAS (Laser Induced Opto-Acoustic Spectroscopy), Photoacoustic Spectroscopy of Sunscreens, NIR-RS (Near InfraRed Remission Spectroscopy), Skin surface analysis by FOITS (Fast Optical In vivo Topometry of Human Skin), ICL-S (Induced ChemiLuminescence of Human Skin to investigate Oxidative Protection in vivo) and finally HDRS (Hybrid Diffuse Reflectance Spectroscopy) can be named as a research extract of his daily work.

Working on the international standardization of sunscreen testing methods and possible alternatives, he is a member of the ISO working group (WG 7) dealing with Sun Protection Test Methods, CEN, DIN, or the sunscreen working group of the German Society for Scientific and Applied Cosmetics (DGK).

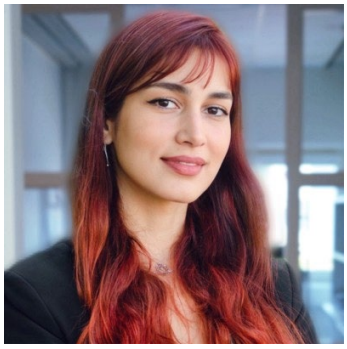


Alejandro Franco is the Co-Founder and Co-CEO at Kaffe Bueno. With his background in business and biochemistry, he is the bridge between the market and R&D, ensuring the company's innovations address specific market needs and consumer pains. He oversees business development, overall strategy and operations, strategic partnership development, and circular projects.

With a double degree in Chemical Engineering and Marketing, **Thara Hocine** brings a unique blend of scientific rigor and strategic insight to the cosmetic industry. This dual expertise enabled her to start her career in the biotech sector, before joining Laboratoires Expanscience in 2022 as EMEA Sales Manager for Cosmetic and Nutraceutical Actives division.



Ditte Baun Hermund is associate professor from DTU National Food Institute, specializing in sustainable bioactive ingredients from both seaweed and microalgae, and their applications in food and skincare products. With a strong academic and research background, Ditte's work bridges the gap between marine biotechnology and skincare, focusing on algae-derived compounds and their multifunctional roles in skincare formulations. Her research explores the efficacy, safety, and environmental impact of algae- based ingredients, contributing to the development of innovative and sustainable cosmetic formulations. At Scancos, Ditte will share insights into the latest advancements in algae-based ingredients, highlighting both scientific findings and industry applications.



Samira Reyhani is Sales Development Specialist at Croda Nordica, with a background in Molecular Biology. She works across the beauty and pharma sectors, bridging scientific innovation with practical formulation, helping brands create effective, sustainable skincare and haircare solutions.

Olivier Paquatte graduated with a Ph.D. in Biophysics from University of Houston, Texas, USA in 1988 and held various R&D positions in companies such as P&G, L'OREAL and GIVAUDAN. He joined LASERSON in 2005 as "Head of Marketing and Applications" and SAFIC-ALCAN "Life Sciences Department" in 2014 where he is now Head of Technical & Scientific Development Personal Care.

Jørgen Gade Hyldgaard, Hygade ApS

Education: Chemical Engineer, Organization HD, Toxicology, Safety assessor

Experience: First standards for Nordic Swan, Hygiene standards, Initiator and leader of project substitution, Technical director Plum

Started Hygade ApS in 2002 and daughter, Mette 2012. Main areas: Safety assessment for Cosmetic Companies.

Dr. Markus Schröder is the Director of Research & Development at Cosphatec GmbH in Hamburg, Germany. He holds a PhD in Biochemistry from Otto von Guericke University Magdeburg, where he conducted research on protein interactions in synaptic scaffolding. Prior to joining Cosphatec, he worked as a research associate at the Leibniz Institute for Neurobiology, contributing to several EU- and DFG-funded neuroscience projects.

At Cosphatec, Dr. Schröder leads the development of innovative raw materials for cosmetics, with a particular focus on alternative preservation strategies. The company specializes in biobased and sustainable solutions for cosmetic formulations of all kinds, aiming to reduce reliance on conventional preservatives while enhancing product safety and performance. His work bridges academic research and industrial application, combining scientific rigor with market-oriented innovation.

Johan Pettersson has an engineering degree with a MSc in biotechnology from Lunds Tekniska Högskola and works as a Product Development Manager at the Scientific Competence Center in Karlshamn, Sweden. He specialises in lipid crystallisation, physical chemistry and surface chemistry. Johan works with product development, troubleshooting and conducts research in the area of lipid crystallisation.