SCANCOS CONFERENCE

November 19th - 20th 2026
Venue 7A Posthuset, Vasagatan 28
Stockholm, Sweden

SCANCOS
SCANDINAVIAN SOCIETY OF COSMETIC CHEMISTS

RETHINKING THE FORMULA

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Thursday, November 19th

11:30 – 13:00	REGISTRATION AT THE ENTRANCE TO THE CONFERENCE ROOM Conference Room – Aulan, 6th Floor 7A Posthuset, Vasagatan 28, Stockholm
12:00 – 13:00	LUNCH IN FOYER TO THE CONFERENCE ROOM
13:00 – 13:05	WELCOMING WORDS & PRESENTATION OF THE BOARD
13:05 – 13:30	Cosmetics Testing 101: An Introduction to Essential Testing for Product Development and Claim Support **Yiannis Kapetanstratakis**, Head of Regulatory and Clinical, QACS Lab, Gold Sponsor

This introductory session provides a practical overview of the key testing approaches used throughout cosmetic product development. Participants will gain an understanding of the different categories of cosmetic testing, including safety, efficacy, compatibility, and microbiological assessments, as well as the role each plays in regulatory compliance and claim substantiation. Designed for professionals seeking a foundational understanding of cosmetic testing, the presentation will highlight common methodologies, study design considerations, and best practices for selecting the most appropriate testing strategy for a product's objectives.

13:30– 13:55	Plasticizing Waxes: Enhancing Stability and Texture in Cosmetic Formulations **Chathuri Dilanka**, Product Chemist, Koster Keunen Holland BV

Waxes give cosmetic products their structure, from lipsticks and balms to creams and sun care. Yet the same crystals that provide this structure can also cause some of the most familiar formulation problems: bloom, graininess, sweating, brittleness and flaking.

This presentation explores how plasticizer waxes help formulators take control of wax crystallization. It explains, in an accessible way, what a plasticizer is, how

it interacts with wax molecules, and why the right balance between compatibility and mobility is the key to flexible, stable and pleasant-feeling products.

The talk connects the underlying science with everyday formulation practice and explains how plasticizers can be used to improve texture, stability and performance across sticks, balms and emulsions.

13:55 – 14:20	One Technology – Three Functional Biopolymers: From Biomass Fractionation to Cosmetic Functionality **Katja Latvala**, Commercial & Marketing Director, CH-Bioforce

Plant-based side streams contain a complex network of valuable polymers, yet conventional processing often focuses on only one fraction.

This presentation explores an integrated fractionation approach designed to separate cellulose, hemicellulose and lignin while preserving their functional potential.

Using oat husk as an example feedstock, it considers how both raw material origin and processing can influence the properties of the resulting biopolymers. Their different and complementary roles in cosmetic formulation will be illustrated through selected examples.

The presentation follows the journey from complex plant material to functional building blocks for new cosmetic applications.

14:20 – 14:45	Advance solution for thermal hair protection up to 230 °C **Paul Ranshuysen**, Business Development Manager, Nouryon, Silver Sponser

Heat styling is a key part of modern hair routines, but repeated exposure to high temperatures can damage the hair fibre, leading to dryness, breakage, frizz and loss of shine. This presentation explores how Nouryon's film-forming polymers can help protect hair during thermal styling by creating a protective barrier between the hair fibre and heated appliances.

Using wetting-force measurements and scanning electron microscopy (SEM), the presentation evaluates the thermal protection performance of a range of film-forming technologies at temperatures of up to 230°C. Beyond heat protection, these polymers can provide additional styling benefits such as hold, anti-frizz performance, curl definition, volume and smoothness.

14:45 – 15:15	COFFEE 'FIKA' BREAK & NETWORKING

15:15 – 15:40	Exploring Structural Diversity in Next Generation Glycolipid Biosurfactants **Elise Buggenhout**, Senior Formulation and Application Manager, AmphiStar, Silver Sponser

The cosmetics industry is increasingly seeking ingredients that combine sustainability, performance, and mildness. While biosurfactants offer a promising alternative to conventional surfactants, the range of commercially available molecules remains limited.

AmphiStar presents a next-generation biosurfactant platform based on a broad library of glycolipids produced through microbial fermentation of upcycled agri-food side streams. By exploring structural diversity across these molecules, the work provides insights into how molecular structure influences key properties such as surface activity, foaming, emulsification, antimicrobial behavior, and skin mildness.

Combining validated sustainability performance with advanced strain engineering and process development, this work outlines a pragmatic and scalable pathway for the evolution of sustainable surfactants, moving from impact reduction today toward high-performance, next-generation solutions for tomorrow's cosmetics industry.

15:40 – 16:05	Cleansing for Skin Longevity: Leveraging Naturally Derived Glucosides and Biosurfactants **Ivan Pagin**, Sales Manager, Lamberti

Skin longevity is emerging as a key driver in skincare, increasing demand for cleansing systems that effectively remove impurities while preserving skin

barrier function and long-term skin health. Fermentation-derived glycolipids represent promising mild surfactants, but their broader use is limited by formulation challenges, including sensoriality, foam performance and cost-effectiveness. Hybrid surfactant systems offer a practical solution: synergistic blends of glucoside derivatives and glycolipids achieve effective cleansing, enhanced sensoriality and outstanding skin mildness. These systems also improve formulation robustness and commercial viability, bridging the gap between biotechnology-driven innovation and consumer expectations in modern cleansing products.

16:05 – 16:25	Bridging Anti-Aging and Longevity Through NAD^+-Driven Ester Technology **Dean Feebery**, Sales Director for the EMEA Region, Grant Industries

Longevity has emerged as a defining trend in cosmetic science, yet it remains conceptually blurred and disconnected from practical formulation strategies. Rather than replacing anti-ageing, longevity reframes it at the cellular level by preserving skin function and resilience over time. In this context, the age-related decline of NAD+ (nicotinamide adenine dinucleotide) has gained increasing attention as a key driver of cellular dysfunction, linking energy metabolism, DNA repair, and skin aging.1 Current cosmetic approaches to modulate NAD+ pathways remain limited by poor skin penetration, suboptimal stability, and tolerability challenges associated with conventional actives such as niacin or retinol.

This raises a critical question:

- How can longevity be translated into cosmetic formulations that deliver measurable benefits, are clearly communicated to consumers, and move beyond their association with dietary supplements?

Bakuchiyl Nicotinate is specifically engineered to combine the biological activity of bakuchiol and niacin within one molecular structure. Unlike a simple combination of both actives, the esterified architecture enables synergistic multi-pathway activity associated with NAD^+-driven skin longevity, including effects on DNA repair (PARP), extracellular matrix integrity, inflammatory signaling, and antioxidant defense.

Consistent with this synergistic mechanism, results demonstrated a +359% induction of the NAD^+/NADH ratio versus stressed control. Importantly, these biological effects exceeded those observed with bakuchiol, niacin, and their

[1] Cf. Zhu, X.-H., Lu, M., Lee, B.-Y., et al., NAD Contents, 2015.

non-esterified combination, highlighting the ester's functional advantage. In addition, the ester structure enhances lipophilicity, enhances permeation, and improves tolerability by reducing niacin-induced flushing.

Overall, the ester approach goes beyond a conventional longevity concept by delivering broad-spectrum efficacy, combining established anti-aging benefits with targeted cellular-level modulation. The presentation highlights the validation strategy, including gene expression analysis, ex vivo human skin explant models under UV-A stress and in vivo monitoring of carbonylation and inflammatory markers.

16:25 – 16:50	What's next in beauty? The products ingredients & brands shaping tomorrow **Kicki Norman**, Journalist and Co-Founder, Daisy Beauty

What does the future hold for the beauty industry, and how are evolving consumer expectations reshaping our shelves? In this forward-looking session, veteran beauty journalist and Daisy Beauty co-founder Kicki Norman takes us on a journey through the trends defining tomorrow's market. Drawing on decades of industry expertise and an insider's pulse on emerging innovations, this talk explores the breakthrough ingredients, transformative product categories, and visionary brands currently capturing the attention of modern consumers.

16:50 – 16:55	DAY 1 WRAP UP
17:00 – 18:00	ANNUAL MEETING
18:30 – 19:00	MINGLE & PRE-DRINKS Scandic Continental Hotel, Vasagatan 22
19:00 – 22:00	DINNER Scandic Continental Hotel, Vasagatan 22

Friday, November 21st

09:00 – 09:05	OPENING DAY 2

09:05 – 09:45	Simplification or overload? The new complex regulatory landscape **Camilla Fagerberg**, Communication & Public Affairs Manager KoHF

The European cosmetics industry is facing an increasingly complex and interconnected regulatory landscape. This presentation will explore the practical implications of the Chemical Omnibus and the Urban Wastewater Treatment Directive, followed by an outlook on important upcoming developments. Topics will include the Packaging and Packaging Waste Regulation and its anticipated labelling requirements, new guidelines for sun care products, the European Product Act and the Empowering Consumers Directive. The session will highlight what companies should monitor and begin preparing for as the regulatory framework continues to evolve.

09:45 – 10:10	Solving the Sun Care Trilemma: Stability, Sensory and SPF, with one ingredient **Ellen Copsey**, Technical Sales Manager, Personal Care, Sappi

Sunscreen formulation presents significant challenges. Due to consumer demand, the cosmetic industry is shifting towards natural alternatives for traditionally used synthetic ingredients. However, this shift must not compromise on product performance or skin feel. With tightening regulations, the rise of brands' ingredient blacklists, and consumer expectation for high SPF sun care to feel like skin care, desirable sunscreens are becoming harder than ever to formulate. There are 3 main pillars to a successful sunscreen formulation: 1) Stability; 2) Sensory and 3) SPF efficacy. Very often, formulation strategies to improve one of these areas will have a negative impact on another, bringing a challenge to the formulator to find the balance between them. This presentation will review these challenges and how multifunctional novel cellulose technologies can simultaneously bring improvements to all 3 areas alongside naturality and biodegradability.

10:10 – 10:35	Preservative Free Systems in Cosmetics **Ulf Åkerström**, VP & Chief Innovation Officer, Skinome Research AB

Cosmetic products must remain safe from first use to last, and any microbial growth can compromise that safety. Conventional preservatives prevent such growth, but their antimicrobial action does not stop in the product: it continues on the skin, where it may affect the microbiome. Some preservatives can also cause irritation and contact allergy. Preservative-free formulation is often described as removing something. We argue the opposite: preservative-free is not the absence of something, but the presence of a system. By carefully combining ingredients, formulation, packaging and production conditions, products can be made microbiologically safe – and gentler on the skin – by design. The question is not whether to preserve, but to find the solution that best delivers a safe, functional product that also benefits the skin – and to verify this in the finished product. The talk presents two randomised, double-blind clinical studies comparing how preservative-free and preserved skincare affect the skin.

10:35 – 11:05	COFFEE 'FIKA' BREAK

11:05 – 11:30	Emollients for personal cleansing **Dr. Lisette Streefland**, Business Development Manager for the Segment Hair Care & Cleansing, Evonik Operations GmbH

Cleansing our skin even just with water increases its TEWL. When adding conventional surfactants, even more lipids are washed out of the skin. Apart from using very mild biosurfactants (rhamnolipids), natural-based emollients with a proven refatting effect can be incorporated in rinse-off formulations to counteract this. These advanced emollients are discussed alongside their complementary benefits, such as improved skin feel, enhanced foaming, and optimized viscosity.

11:30 – 11:55 A new approach to atopic dermatitis: restoring microbial diversity

Jaana Ailus, Application Science Consultant, Uute Scientific

Reduced exposure to environmental microbial biodiversity has been linked to the rising prevalence of immune-mediated diseases, such as atopic dermatitis. Previous intervention studies indicate that restoring contact with microbiologically rich materials supports our immune system. In our study with participants with atopic dermatitis, we observed several skin benefits from regular use of a lotion containing microbial diversity.

The study was randomized, double-blind, placebo-controlled clinical trial. Total of 142 participants with atopic dermatitis were randomly assigned to either a group provided with a lotion containing microbial extract or a control group with placebo lotion. The microbial extract used in the first group restores the contact with natural microbial diversity. The use of atopic dermatitis (AD) medication was not restricted. Outcomes in this study involved transepidermal water loss (TEWL) and Erythema index, AD medication use, Eczema Area and Severity Index (EASI) and adverse events.

The group using lotion with microbial extract had fewer AD medication users and fewer medication days compared with the control group. During the winter period, the regular use of microbial extract prevented the deterioration of skin barrier integrity. The control group had statistically significant increase on both TEWL and Erythema index in the winter, whereas similar change was not observed in the group with microbial extract. No differences in adverse events were observed between groups, demonstrating a good tolerability and safety of the microbial extract in sensitive and atopic skin.

The biodiversity-rich microbial extract as an active ingredient is a new approach to help people suffering from atopic dermatitis. Restoring exposure to environmental microbial diversity can improve skin barrier function and hence prevent irritation and redness of the skin. Biodiversity rich microbial extract represents a novel approach for dermatological and cosmetic formulations targeting atopic skin.

11:55 – 12:20	Upcycling & Circularity isn't a trend, it's an efficiency revolution **Marc Desmarais**, Product Development Activist, Origin by Ocean

In 2026, simply going "natural" is no longer a sufficient sustainability strategy. As regulations push for greener products and consumers continue to demand affordability and performance, the question remains: how do we bridge this gap? In this presentation, we will discuss how circularity and upcycling can help bridge this gap and create a more resilient, future-proof industry that can adapt to our changing climate and shifting geopolitics.

12:20 – 12:25	CLOSING WORDS
12:25 – 13:25	LUNCH IN FOYER TO THE CONFERENCE ROOM

The Speakers



Yiannis Kapetanstratakis holds a Bachelor's Degree in Chemistry from the University of Patras, Greece. Studied Forensic Science at Strathclyde University Glasgow, U.K. He joined the QACS LAB team in 2012. Served and gained knowledge in the Microbiological, Stability laboratories and then moved to Risk Assessment. He is heading the Regulatory and Clinical department that focuses on Regulatory Affairs, Safety Assessment and Efficacy Testing of Cosmetic Products. Yiannis is a member of the Hellenic Society of Toxicology and the Forensic Science Society, Board Member of the Greek Society of Cosmetic Scientists. Yiannis also represents ERPA (European Responsible Person Association) at European Commission's Sub-Groups on Borderline Products and CPNP.



Chathuri Dilanka is a Product Chemist at Koster Keunen Holland BV in the Netherlands, a specialist in natural waxes, wax esters and wax derivatives since 1852. She holds a degree in Chemistry and a Master of Business Administration, a combination that allows her to bridge laboratory science with market and customer needs.

In her role, Chathuri develops new waxes designed to enhance the properties of cosmetic applications, from texture and stability to sensory performance. She also works closely with customers, providing technical application support and helping formulators find the right wax-based solutions for their products.



Katja Latvala is working at the intersection of bio-based material innovation, cosmetic science and market application. Her background spans both technical and commercial roles across global beauty companies giving her broad experience throughout the cosmetics sector. She holds a Master’s degree in Development and Management of Cosmetics Expertise from Laurea University of Applied Sciences and is a co-inventor of a patent-pending cosmetic

technology. Today, her focus is on turning emerging bio-based technologies into relevant, practical and high-performing cosmetic solutions.



Paul Ranshuysen, a Biotechnology graduate from TU Delft, built his career in innovation and market intelligence at Cosun across food, feed, home care and personal care. He is now a Business Development Manager at Nouryon, driving growth in the personal care.



Elise Buggenhout is the Senior Formulation & Application Manager at AmphiStar, where she leads the evaluation and application development of biosurfactants for personal care and home care. With nearly a decade of expertise in the personal care and cosmetics sectors, she combines a strong technical background in cosmetic ingredients and formulations, with a passion for sustainable innovation. Elise holds a Master's degree in Pharmaceutical Sciences from Ghent University and an Advanced Master in Innovation & Strategic Management from Solvay Brussels School, and is passionate about bridging scientific insight with practical application.



Ivan Pagin holds a degree in Organic Chemistry and began his career in specialty polymers research. He later moved into the cosmetics industry as a Sales Manager for a company specializing in botanical active ingredients. Since then, he has built his career in personal care sales, first with a leading Italian ingredients distributor and, since 2022, within Lamberti Home & Personal Care Division. In his current role, he supports customers across the EMEA region.



Dean Feebery holds an SCS Diploma in Cosmetic Science from the London College of Fashion (University of the Arts London). With nearly three decades of experience spanning technical formulation and commercial leadership, he spent over 20 years at the formulation bench developing high-performance products for major organisations including Procter & Gamble, Walgreens Boots Alliance, and LF Beauty. Following a decade managing commercial and technical portfolios at IMCD UK, he currently serves as the Sales Director for the EMEA region at Grant Industries.



Kicki Norman has worked as a journalist since 1995 and as a magazine writer and editor since 1997. Since 2005, she has specialized in beauty journalism, and in 2009 she co-founded Daisy Beauty, one of Sweden's leading beauty media brands.

With a career spanning decade of beauty industry insights, Kicki has a unique perspective on the evolution of products, ingredients, brands and consumer trends. She is obsessed with skin care ingredients, fragrance mists and bold lipsticks - and endlessly curious about what beauty consumers will want next.



Camilla Fagerberg is working as Communication & Public Affairs Manager at KoHF Kosmetik- och hygienföretagen, the trade association for the cosmetic and detergent industry in Sweden. Camilla has studied chemical engineering and journalism, and has 30+ years of experience in the cosmetic and consumer goods industry at several companies and in positions varying from regulatory affairs to communication and brand PR.

Working at KoHF is the perfect combination of deep diving into regulations, both existing and what lays ahead, and discussing the practical implications for the cosmetic industry with politicians, authorities and other stakeholders, and not to forget assist member companies in their regulatory work.



Ellen Copsey has 9 years of experience working in formulation across the food and personal care industries, with 5 years specializing in sun protection. Her experience spans both raw materials and finished product, as an Applications Scientist at a UV filter supplier and a Product Development Manager for multiple global brands. Ellie previously managed Sappi's applications lab as a Market Applications Specialist for Personal Care before transitioning into technical sales.



Ulf Åkerström is one of Sweden's leading experts in skin research and the development of both medical and cosmetic skincare products.

His expertise lies in the design and formulation of skin barrier-strengthening and microbiome-modulating skincare and sun care products. He has extensive experience in developing evidence-based formulations that strengthen the skin barrier, promote a balanced skin microbiome, and improve skin health through carefully selected ingredients and clinically validated performance.



Dr. Lisette Streefland obtained her PhD degree in Physical Organic Chemistry at the University of Groningen in the Netherlands in 1998. After two postdoc positions in the Netherlands and the United Kingdom, she has held several managerial positions in the producing and supplying cosmetic industry in Germany for the last 26 years.

Since 2023 she is the Business Development Manager for the Segment Hair Care & Cleansing for the region EMEA at Evonik Operations GmbH in Essen.



Jaana Ailus is representing Uute Scientific, which produces a microbial extract used as an active ingredient in cosmetics. She is the Head of R&D at Laponie Ltd. and a frequent application science consultant with Uute Scientific. Jaana has over 20 years of experience in the cosmetic industry, and she is specialised in creating bespoke products for formulation clients as well as skincare for sensitive and problem skin under the brand Laponie of Scandinavia. Jaana is a cosmetic chemist who is currently finishing doctoral studies at Liverpool John Moores University, School of Pharmacy and Biomolecular Sciences.



Marc Desmarais, a beauty innovator with 25+ years in global product development and R&I, has been empowering brands to launch sustainable innovations since 2018. At Origin by Ocean, Marc champions our ocean regenerating ingredient technology, helping brands to integrate circular & regenerative solutions into their R&D pipeline. At SCANCOS he will bring some hot takes on sustainability and why it's kind of chic to make efficiency your new eco-strategy.