MOSH/MOAH testing

The mineral oil hydrocarbons MOSH and MOAH can be found in packaging materials and migrate into consumer products such as food and cosmetics. The main sources of MOSH/MOAH contamination are adhesives, recycled paper and printing inks.

In order to prevent potential adverse health effects to consumers, France has severely restricted the use of these substances in printing inks for paper and cardboard packaging. The new limits concern MOAH with 1 to 7 aromatic rings and MOSH with 16 to 35 carbon atoms.

Until December 31, 2024, MOAH is prohibited in printing inks at levels greater than 1%.

As of January 1, 2025, the following regulations apply to MOSH and MOAH:

- MOAH is prohibited if the ink contains more than 0.1% or the mass concentration of compounds with 3 to 7 aromatic rings in the ink is more than 1 ppm (mg/kg).
- MOSH is prohibited if the content is more than 0.1%.

Secure market access for your products in France by proving that they comply with the new, stricter requirements. We can help you with our chemical analysis and affordable testing packages!

High precision, lower costs

TEST PACKAGE MOAH (LIMIT VALUES UNTIL END OF 2024)

Substances	Aromatic rings	Limit value	Sample quantity	Price (Euro)	Test duration			
МОАН	1-7	1% (10,000 mg/kg)	10 g	275	10 working days			
(The test report also contains the measurement result for MOSH.)								

TEST PACKAGE MOAH & MOSH (LIMIT VALUES FROM 2025)

Substances	Aromatic rings	Limit value	Sample quantity	Price (Euro)	Test duration
МОАН	1-7	0,1% (1000 mg/kg)			
МОАН	3-7	0,0001% (1 mg/kg)	10 g	690	20 working days
MOSH	16-35 C atoms	0,1% (1000 mg/kg)			



What is being tested?

The French decree applies to printing inks used for paper and board packaging. This includes packaging components such as instruction manuals or ID stickers if they are made of printed paper or board.

Testing of liquid inks is recommended. It is also possible to test the printed materials, but this is more complex. In the case of conspicuous findings, further analysis is required to determine whether the substances originate from recycling processes. These are allowed by French law.

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TÜV Rheinland LGA Products GmbH Tillystraße 2, 90431 Nuremberg, Germany Tel. +49 911 655 5225 service@de.tuv.com

