

Facts on PTD aka: 2,5-Toluenediamine Sulphate

Unfortunately it appears that there are a number of companies jumping on the “PPD-free” bandwagon claiming that their colour is permanent, PPD-free, safe to use, non-irritant, toxin free and “without the unnecessary risks of a PPD formulation”.

The truth is that if you have a permanent oxidative (uses peroxide) hair colour then it either uses PPD or PTD 2,5-Toluenediamine Sulphate.

The problem is that the reactions to PPD are exactly the same as PTD; the toxicity is exactly the same and the warnings are exactly the same.

However, the real issue is that to create the same colour with PTD you need at least ONE AND A HALF times the concentration of PTD than you do with PPD.

As an ethical manufacturer it is of great concern that members of the public are being misled into thinking that somehow these “alternatives” are safer and give the impression that skin allergy tests are not required.

Whether the colour says PPD-free or not, a patch test MUST be carried out.

What is of the utmost importance is not singling out one ingredient, but looking at the formulation as a whole.

The level of pigment in regular and some more natural hair colour brands combined with the use of a high pH and 9% or even 12% Hydrogen Peroxide is what should be of concern.

Tints of Nature use the lowest level of PPD averaging 0.42% including a true Black.

OCS uses the lowest level of PPD averaging 0.33% including a true Black.

The legal limit for PPD in the EU is 4% and for PTD is 6%. Tints of Nature and OCS campaigned to get the legal level dropped from 6% to 2%. However, it appears that the rest of the industry requires a higher level of PPD/PTD to achieve the same colour!