

# Tech Talk

Monthly Newsletter by Spectro Group

## Director's Desk

With great enthusiasm, we would like to thank you for making our Newsletter a success. It's really heart-warming to see so many positive responses from you all. Your feedback for our Newsletter encourages us to present before you the best current news and articles. We are happy to share with you, our monthly Newsletter "Tech-Talk" which is designed to be an elemental source for leading information related to developing technologies, ingenious techniques and innovative approaches. This newsletter is contemplated to highlight electrifying forthcoming activities and resources of our organization.



**Kuldeep Dhingra**  
Managing Director



**Sushant Gupta**  
Executive Director

We invite you to a new paradigm created by Spectro to examine the resources on our website which includes details of our amplifying services using science to harness cutting-edge technologies and experience the *Spectro difference*.

## Brief about Spectro

Spectro commenced to serve in the year 1995 and during the span of 20 years, Spectro Group of companies has created a globally recognized position in the field of Testing, Calibration, Auditing, Certification, Training, Inspection, R&D, Special Purpose Equipment Designing & Manufacturing and various other activities. Steadily building a reputation for reliability and fast turnaround, the organization grew rapidly and today we feel proud to have our presence all over the country.

## 12,000 standards for food additives & ingredients set by FSSAI

The Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) has finalized 12,000 standards for food additives and ingredients in order to do away with the current lengthy process of product approval. This move is expected to benefit food companies as they will not be required to seek product approval from FSSAI if they comply with these standards. At present, there are 375 FSSAI safety standards for food items but none for food additives and ingredients.



Contd.

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Under the aegis of the health ministry, FSSAI has fixed maximum limit for use of food additives in various food groups to ensure that the intake of additives does not exceed the acceptable daily intake. Similarly, it has set norms for use of ingredients in preparation of processed food items. The regulator is also in the process of setting standards for imported food items to ensure safe products are sold in the domestic market.

Food safety regulator FSSAI has come up with quality and safety norms to regulate food or health supplements, nutraceuticals, foods for special medical purpose, and functional and dietary foods and has sought public comments on the same. At present, India does not have any kind of regulatory guidelines for approval and monitoring of such products.

As per the norms, “no person shall manufacture, pack, sell, offer for sale, market or otherwise distribute or import any food products referred to in these regulations unless they comply with the requirements laid down in these regulations.” The formulation of the foods should be based on sound medical or nutritional principles and supported by validated scientific data, wherever required. FSSAI also said that no hormones or steroids or psychotropic ingredients should be added in these foods.

The labels should clearly mention the purpose, the target consumer group and the physiological or disease conditions that they address, apart from the specific labelling requirements as mentioned against each type of food. “The labels, accompanying leaflets, or other labelling and advertising of all types of foods, referred to in these regulations, should provide sufficient information on the nature and purpose of the food as well as detailed instructions and precautions for their use,” FSSAI has said.



A food that has not been particularly modified in any way but is suitable for use in a particular dietary regimen because of its natural composition should not be designated as 'food supplements' or 'special dietary' or 'special dietetic', or by any other equivalent term, it further clarified. The food authority may suspend or restrict the trade of such foods as have been placed in the market that are not clearly distinguishable from foods for normal consumption nor are suitable for their claimed nutritional purpose, or may endanger the human health. The statement also made it clear that “the food authority may, at any time, ask a food business operator manufacturing and selling such special types of foods to furnish details regarding the history of use of nutrients added or modified and their safety evaluation.”

After the Maggi noodles controversy, the FSSAI has stepped up measures to strengthen the quality standards for food products. It is reviewing the existing standards set for caffeine content, metal and toxic contaminants and other residues in the food products. The regulator is also in the process of setting standards for imported food items to ensure safe products are sold in the domestic market.

#### **References:**

Times of India

Consumer Voice

Financial Express

Business Standards

According to various Environmental Protection Agencies (EPAs), the laundry detergents are marketed in plastic packets that mostly happen to be non-biodegradable and non-recyclable. The big volume of detergent packaging generates heaps of plastic rubbish creating an enormous environmental impact. The European branch of the International Association for Soaps, Detergents and Maintenance Products launched an industry-wide initiative in the year 2009 to substantially reduce the size of detergent powder packaging by manufacturing smaller packages filled with highly concentrated detergent powders. The industry association, however, pointed out that for making such a packaging-reduction strategy successful, the consumers must first of all carefully read the printed labels and then make a habit to proportionately cut down on the quantity of detergent powder to be taken in a bucket. This is because, in the new perspective, significantly less quantity of the detergent powder would be required for the same cleaning efficiency of the powder as observed before because of the adoption of new concentrated formula strategy. If this initiative comes into practice in a vast country like India, the problem of creation of huge-sized plastic heaps in the streets can also be drastically reduced.

### What You Can Do or Look out for

- Avoid products that list active ingredients of chlorine or ammonia, which can cause respiratory and skin irritation and will create toxic fumes if accidentally mixed together.
  - Protect water quality and aquatic life by refusing to purchase detergents containing phosphates, which may cause algal blooms, or alkylphenol ethoxylates, including nonylphenol and octylphenol. (Unfortunately, these ingredients are rarely, if ever, disclosed on labels).
- Don't waste detergent. Household habits can be hard to break. While single-use packs make proper dosage simpler for average-size loads, it's all too easy to inadvertently waste the new concentrated products by using the same amounts you added of the old products. Remember to follow the directions on the packaging and actually measure – the best detergents have clearly marked lines on their fill caps and pictures of the actual caps on their instructions.
  - When possible, make your own detergents. You can use soap and other household cleaning products. Soap, unlike detergents, is made from animal fat and is an excellent cleanser because of its ability to act as an emulsifying agent. Being salts of weak acids, soaps get converted by mineral acids into free fatty acids. These fatty acids, having a lower solubility, form a precipitate or soap scum, rendering them ineffective in acidic water. The formation of these insoluble salts in hard water can be overcome by mixing in such household chemicals as borax or washing soda that can help get better results.
  - One of the traditional alternatives to detergents is reetha, which is known for its washing properties and is used in a number of shampoo preparations as well.



### References

Consumer Voice

# Spectro Group of Companies



## Major Activities

Testing	Calibration	Training	Inspection	R&D	Automation	Reverse Engineering
	⇒ Metals & Alloys			⇒ Building Materials		
	⇒ Non Destructive Testing			⇒ Minerals & Chemicals		
	⇒ Rubber & Polymers			⇒ Leather & Textiles		
	⇒ Food and Agro Products			⇒ Water & Environment		
	⇒ Coal, Solid Fuels & Petroleum			⇒ Paper & Packaging Materials		
	⇒ Electrical & Electronics			⇒ Hazardous Substances		
	⇒ Pharmaceuticals & Drugs			⇒ Clean Room Validation		

## Our Joint Venture Labs

## Project Sites

Spectro Testing & Research Center Pvt. Ltd. (Jaipur)

Spectro Research Lab Ventures (P) Ltd. (Kanpur)

Spectro Testing (P) Ltd. (Jammu)

Spectro SSA Labs (P) Ltd. (Mumbai)

Spectro Global Experts Pvt. Ltd. (Bhubaneswar)

Spectro Shyam Labs (P) Ltd. (Kolkata)

PATA (Uttar Pradesh)

Roorkee (Uttarakhand)

Durgapur (West Bengal)

Jaisalmer (Rajasthan)

Hyderabad (Telangana)

Patna (Bihar)



We will be pleased to receive your valuable queries, feedback and suggestions on our email ID: [newsletter@spectrogroup.com](mailto:newsletter@spectrogroup.com)

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