

L'Occitane, animal testing and the Leaping Bunny

L'Occitane has never tested cosmetics and their ingredients on animals and we have been happy to have them certified by the Leaping Bunny logo. Unfortunately, it has become clear that companies which sell their products in the People's Republic of China trigger testing on animals by the Chinese authorities, so although the companies are not testing on animals themselves, animal testing is resulting from marketing their products there.

L'Occitane, like a number of other companies, had the Humane Cosmetics Standard (Leaping Bunny) certification revoked for this reason, since ideally we should like companies not to sell to China until the situation changes. **However, unlike a number of companies selling in China, it is only fair to note that L'Occitane has been very active working with us and our European associates, the ECEAE, working in a joint working group to talk with the Chinese authorities and accelerate the move to acceptance of alternatives. Not every company engaged in China has shown this commitment and L'Occitane is clearly keen to encourage change.**

We appreciate their help and there are some signs of progress, since the Chinese Government has now accepted the first non-animal alternative test and more are expected to follow. We hope that the time will come in the not too distant future when L'Occitane's products can be tested in China using alternatives, as they are elsewhere, and we will then welcome them back to our certified list so they can once again carry the Leaping Bunny.

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