

Press release

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IFSCC poster award for Symrise on the skin effects of blue light and the protective properties of Dragosine®

- International cosmetics association IFSCC selects Symrise poster as one of the ten best
- Blue light effects explained and the remedying properties of Dragosine® based on own research results

The International Federation of Societies of Cosmetic Chemists (IFSCC) has recognized Symrise for a scientific poster that got unveiled at the federation's 26th conference at the end of 2021. The jury chose the Holzminden group's contribution as one of the top ten out of 300 posters presented. On the poster, Symrise showed the negative effects of blue light on skin, based on its own ex vivo skin model research results. They relate to the exposition of the skin to sunlight and also to the blue light emitted by the screens of technical devices, such as cell phones. They also showed how the Symrise cosmetic ingredient Dragosine® – also known as L-Carnosine – protects skin against these effects.

Consumers are increasingly looking for cosmetic products that protect them from blue light. Symrise subsidiary Cutech, which specializes in this kind of study, researched the effects of blue light on skin and the protective effect of Dragosine® from July 2020 to March 2021. In a first step, the experts in the lab in Italy used human skin that had been donated by abdominal plastic surgery patients to test blue light radiation. The researchers evaluated the effect in terms of the reactive oxygen species (ROS) as an indicator of oxidation and the number of melan A-positive cells in the basal layer of the skin as an indicator of pigmentation or tanning. The result showed an increase in ROS production and in melan-A positive cells following radiation. This means that blue light exerts a pro-oxidative effect that promotes pigment and makes the skin age, among other things.

In the next step, the researchers treated the skin with protectants such as Dragosine® and irradiated it again. The experts determined that the Symrise ingredient lowered the ROS values as well as the number of melan-A positive cells. This indicates that Dragosine® offers an effective and reliable solution that can mitigate the negative effects of blue light on the skin. This study also showed that researchers can use the ex vivo skin model for evaluating the consequences of blue light radiation and the protective effect of the preparations tested.

"Our customers already knew and loved Dragosine® as a skin ingredient with a broad spectrum of useful properties for healthy-looking skin," says Dr. Cristina Girardi, scientist at the SYMRISE ex vivo screening service CUTECH. "With the new knowledge we have gained from this study, we can add its new anti-blue light effect as a property. This expands the number of potential applications for our customers."

Symrise continues to research the effect of Dragosine®

At an award ceremony that took place virtually because of the pandemic, the IFSCC honored the communication of the research results on the poster presented at the federation's 26th conference. The jury, led by Frédéric Leroy, Chairman of the IFSCC Science Committee, presented the award for one of the ten best posters, praising the exemplary quality and significance of the research as well as the conclusions derived from it.

“We feel delighted about the recognition of our poster by the IFSCC,” says Girardi. “The prize shows that we can use our innovative power to develop ingredients as well as finding new uses for a proven product. We feel very proud of this achievement.”

Symrise would like to continue to use the *ex vivo* skin model that it used in this study in order to confirm that Dragosine® protects the skin against consequences of blue light, such as oxidative stress and induced proinflammatory cytokines. The company also wants to test Dragosine's® effectiveness in protecting skin against radiation induced skin impairments, important sources of aging and damage.

About Symrise:

Symrise is a global supplier of fragrances, flavors, food, nutrition and cosmetic ingredients. Its clients include manufacturers of perfumes, cosmetics, food and beverages, pharmaceuticals and producers of nutritional supplements and pet food.

Its sales of € 3.8 billion in the 2021 fiscal year make Symrise a leading global provider. Headquartered in Holzminden, Germany, the Group is represented by more than 100 locations in Europe, Africa, the Middle East, Asia, the United States and Latin America.

Symrise works with its clients to develop new ideas and market-ready concepts for products that form an integral part of everyday life. Economic success and corporate responsibility are inextricably linked as part of this process. Symrise – always inspiring more ...

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