

Isopropanol

Isopropanol (CAS 67-63-0), also known as isopropyl alcohol and 2-propanol, is a versatile and volatile solvent widely used in consumer products. A search of the NIH Household Products database (<http://householdproducts.nlm.nih.gov/>) lists over a thousand products encompassing the categories of arts and crafts, automotive, home maintenance, cleaning, personal care, and pet care. Due to this widespread use of isopropanol in household products, it is not surprising that isopropanol is present in most indoor environments.

One area listed above is personal care products. Examples of personal care products include cosmetics, soaps, deodorants, lotions, perfumes, hair coloring supplies, nail care supplies, and oral hygiene supplies. The Personal Care Products Council sponsors a website (cosmeticsinfo.org) that provides useful information regarding the VOCs and ingredients present in personal care products. For instance, the Council lists the benefits of using isopropanol in personal care products. Besides being a useful solvent for dissolving necessary ingredients, it also serves as a diluent for decreasing the thickness of liquids and can be utilized as a de-foaming agent for when liquid products are shaken. Also, due to isopropanol's volatility, it evaporates rapidly, thereby yielding the cooling effect felt when aftershaves and lotions are applied to the skin.

About Prism Analytical Technologies, Inc.

Prism Analytical Technologies, Inc. is a leading consultative air testing laboratory in the United States that is devoted to the chemical identification and analysis of contaminants in the air. We are a recognized leader in the development and deployment of ambient air testing methodologies for Fortune 100 and 500 companies, industrial hygienists, and environmental consultants. Prism's science-based technologies and wide range of air testing support help clients solve indoor air quality, process control, industrial, and environmental challenges.