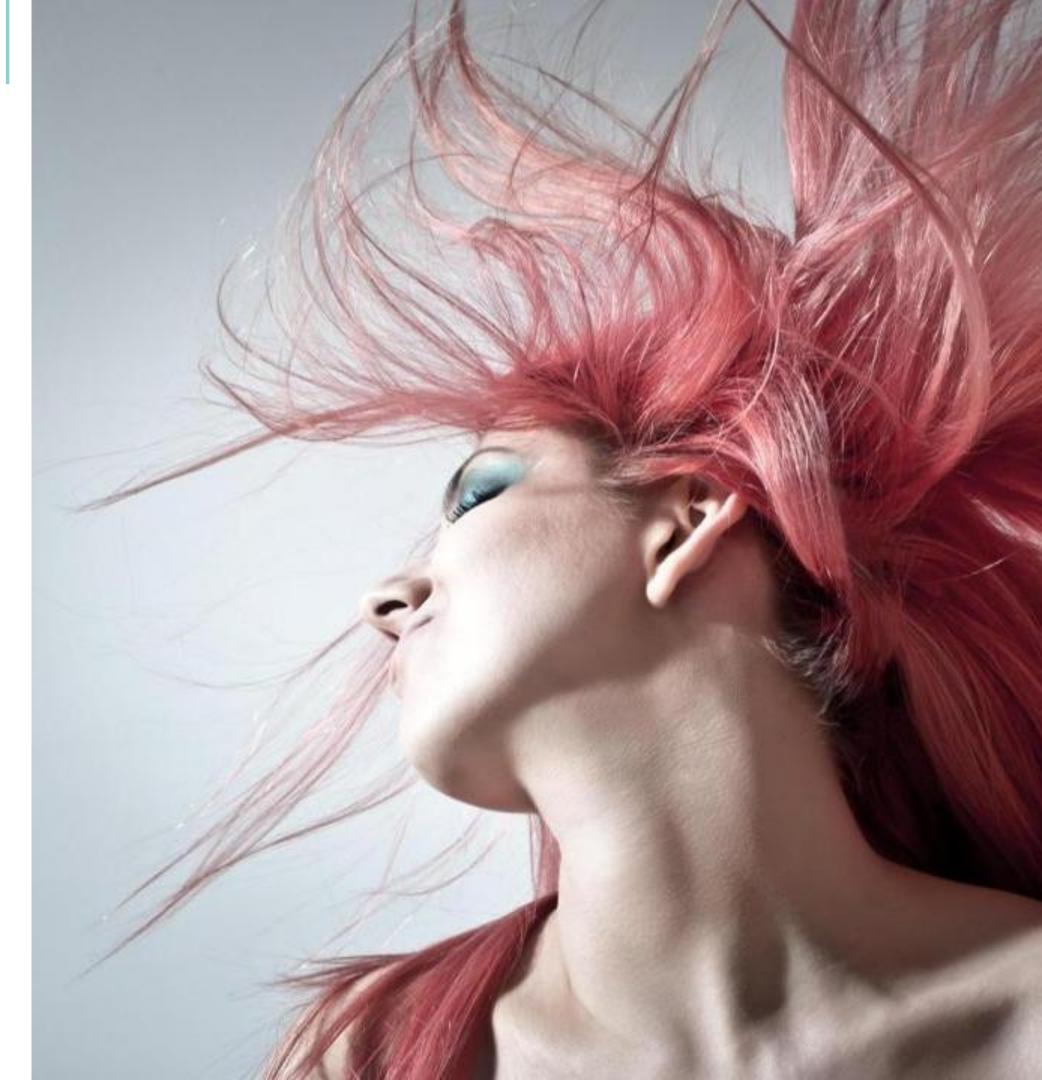
In-Home Use Testing for Claims Substantiation

Claims · Insights · Validation · Risk Mitigation

theBenchmarkingCompany

Understanding the Beautys Personal Care Consumer is What We Do



About Us

The Benchmarking Company (TBC) is a bi-coastal consumer research firm that delivers need-to-know information about the beauty, personal care and wellness buyer. Whether it's through our popular consumer in-home use testing programs, quantitative online surveys, intimate focus groups, or pilot testing programs, The Benchmarking Company's multidisciplinary and focused approach to uncovering consumer buying behavior helps our clients sell-in and sell more.



What Makes TBC Different

We believe every sound business decision is built on solid research. Since our inception in 2006, TBC has worked with hundreds of indie brands and industry giants to substantiate consumer perception claims. With an eye toward regulatory and legal risk mitigation, our methodologies help companies garner 5-star claims that enable their products to stand out. Leveraging our organically built consumer panel of more than 275,000 vetted male and female beauty and personal care buyers, every brand's testing panel is customized to ensure consumer relevance. When testing is finished, our proprietary Benchmark Library shows brands where their claims scored against like products we have tested, enabling brands to tailor their marketing to win a greater share of the consumer's spend.



Why It Is Important to Conduct Consumer Testing

- Guidance for Innovation
- Avoid Million Dollar Mistakes
- Mitigate Regulatory & Legal Risk
- Give the Consumer the Proof They
 Demand

Regulatory & Reputational Risks of Unsubstantiated Claims



FTC Action

FTC action ranges from warning letters to lawsuits, which can result in heavy fines and costly lawsuits with the Federal Government.



NAD

False and/or unsubstantiated claims put your brand at risk of a challenge by a competitor or NAD, with potentially costly outcomes.



Class Action

66% of consumers would likely join a class action suit for false advertising if the product claimed it provided a benefit it did not deliver.*



Loss of Trust

97% of consumers say brands should conduct claims testing to prove the effectiveness of their products. 95% expect brands to deliver products that do what the package says it will do.*

TBC's Risk Mitigation Approach To Claims Validation

Mitigating the risk of false claims is paramount to the claims substantiation process. Fines and legal action from the FDA, FTC, or NAD (National Advertising Division) can pose a significant threat to businesses that either tout false claims (without any substantiation) OR to those brands that go about the claims process in the wrong way. At TBC we offer your brand third-party independent research that can withstand legal and regulatory scrutiny. As experts, we know the right language for every audience as well as the language to avoid when making cosmetic and supplement claims.

TBC follows international testing standards such as the ASTM standard for Sensory Claim substantiation

TBC has a deep bench of experts to craft compelling cosmetics claims. We'll guide you through the process to make sure you don't make nono claims!

Selecting from the TBC proprietary panel of 275,000 men and women from across the US, we are able to ensure your panel is consumer-relevant.





Claims are Important When Marketing to Women

92% would be more likely to purchase a product if the research results were visible to her (i.e. package or POS display)

94% are more likely to believe a product will solve a problem if it has validated claims

92% say consumer claims differentiate one brand's products from another





Men Look For Claims Before Purchasing

91% would be willing to pay more for a product if they knew it worked and delivered on its promises

89% find consumer claims important when buying a high-cost personal care item

83% trust 'men like them' saying that a product works more than a brand saying the same thing

Consumers Demand Proof



Proof Comes in Many Forms



Consumer Claims



Video Testimonials



Ratings & Reviews

Consumer Claims Are Most Compelling

When shown consumer and clinical claims from actual print advertisements touting the same product benefits, respondents from an online research study stated the consumer claim was more compelling than the clinical claim for the same product. Why? Because consumers trust real people who have used the product and can attest that it works.

Consumer Claims

VS

Clinical Claims

82%	Anti-aging Serum	18%
81%	Razors	19%
75%	Mascara	25%
69%	Acne Treatment	31%

Claims are Important

For Sell-In & Sell-Through

Not only do retailers like QVC, Sephora, Ulta and CVS expect the brands they carry to conduct testing to validate their marketing claims, but more and more retailers are demanding it as a prerequisite to carrying the product.

86% of consumers said, "I would be more likely to shop specific retailers that require consumer claims testing for the products they carry."

TBC is an approved QVC/HSN vendor for consumer claims validation for on-air use. 35+ brands use TBC-tested claims on their product pages on Sephora.com















Types of Products We Test



Skincare

Cleansers serums, moisturizers, acne treatments, brightening treatments, KP, eczema, eye creams, etc.



Intimate Care

Menstrual products, sexual wellness products, intimate care products, OTC products for specific conditions, etc.



Hair Care

Shampoo, conditioner, scalp serum, styling products, devices including dryers, flat irons, curlers, etc.



Wellness/Supplements

CBD, powders, gummies, tinctures, massagers, TENS devices, products to support overall health, etc.



Color Cosmetics

Mascara, brow products, foundation, primers, lip color, eye color, concealer, nail color, etc.



Personal Care

Oral care, body care, men's grooming products, soaps, moisturizers, tanning products, SPF, razors, deodorant, etc.



Types of In-Home Use Tests

As Varied as Your PD and Marketing Needs

- Branded
- Blinded
- Prototype/Pilot
- New SKU/Old SKU
- New formulation
- New formulation vs. Old

- Formula A vs. B for efficacy
- New set/Regimen
- Competitive
- Fragrance preference
- Usage instruction efficacy
- Advertising compliance

Consumer-Relevant Panels

Whether you are looking to test a beauty product for men or women, for long hair or short, for a specific skin type or complexion, TBC will create the perfect consumer-relevant panel for your IHUT. With more than 275k+ vetted beauty and personal care buyers, and with more than 10 million data points on which to choose the panelists, you establish the criteria, and we build your ideal panel.

- Geographic location
- Shopping habits
- Skin concerns
- Age
- Ethnicity
- Average spend on beauty
- Household income
- Values





Legal Consent

TBC will gather legal consent from all panelists on your behalf prior to the study.

Testing Protocol

The TBC team will design your study's testing protocol to be followed by all panelists.

Claims Development

TBC will work with your team to develop compliant cosmetics and OTC claims.



Send Products to Panelists

TBC will handle all the packing and shipping to your panel of testers.

Survey Responses

Using our proprietary software, we gather and aggregate your survey responses.

Certify and Validate Claims

TBC provides a certified report of results and substantiated claims.

Testing your products with your target consumer will garner valuable feedback while mitigating your brand's legal, regulatory and reputational risk. It is an opportunity to make things good (and then better) and right (and then fantastic) for the men and women who use the products.

In-Home Use Testing (IHUT): Process Overview Final Survey Panel Document Project Kick-Off Logistics Deliverables Management Creation Recruitment Development of Recruitment Launch Screener Final Report Communication Receive Product with Panelists **Parameters** Screener Samples **Testimonial** Panelist Selection Product Info User Guide Oversight of Addendum Prepare/Ship to Sheets Survey Intervals Creation **Panelists** Confirm Panelist Raw Data Files Samples: Labeling Self-Assessment Address Panelist Confirm **Participation** Before & Afters (if & Delivery Date Delivery/Track Questionnaire Issues applicable) (Claims) Shipments Establish Project Issue Incentives Timeline for Completes 9 to 12 days 5 to 7 days 3 to 5 days 3 to 7 days 3 to 28 7 days

days*

^{*}a typical skincare study is often 28 days, but may be shorter or longer based on your product's target efficacy date.

Add-on Services



BENCHMARKS

TBC also provides
benchmarked claims with
each completed IHUT,
showing how your brand's
claims stacked up against
similar products that we
regularly test!



VIDEO TESTIMONIALS

TBC collects panelist video testimonials that can be used for marketing, (pairing well with the written testimonials that are already part of our offering).



BEFORE & AFTER PHOTOS

Study panelists submit selfies throughout the course of the study to visually demonstrate the cosmetic changes and benefits of using the products.



ZOOM SESSION W/ PANELISTS

TBC conducts post-study
Zoom sessions with select
panelists for a deeper-dive
into your study's findings.

My skin is noticeably tighter, reducing the laugh lines extending from the edges of my lips to my nose. I thought only surgery could fix those. Also made the lines between my eyes much less noticeable. I've tried many serums, including some very expensive brands. None of them are even close to being as effective as TLC Framboos. I also love the packaging. It makes it very easy to get the same amount every time I use it without risking contaminating the product.

—Donna B., Henrietta, TX





"At first, I thought the straightener wouldn't work for me since there are no heat adjustments. I thought it may not get hot enough. I have thick hair and it can be hard to style. This was not the case! It worked PERFECT for me and I love the overall results. I currently own a another straightener, but I LOVE this styler so much better. It is gentle on my hair, glides effortlessly, and my hair looks shiny and smooth. Overall, I would absolutely prefer this styler over any other straightener I have used in the past." —Amber W., St. Augustine, FL



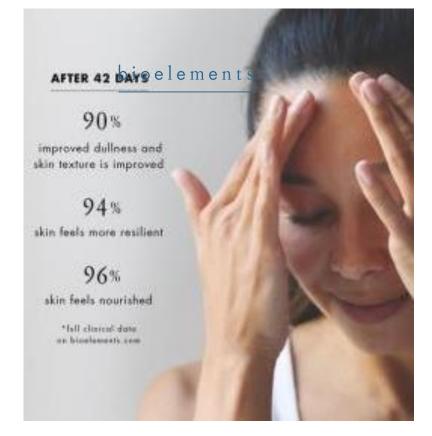
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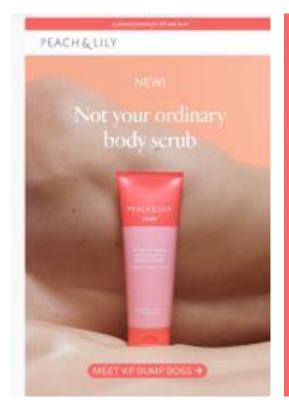
At each check-in, panelists may provide open-ended feedback and testimonials about the products they test. Panelists grant permission for the brand to use these testimonials in their marketing efforts. Smart companies leverage these testimonials along with their 5-star ratings to give consumers the confidence to purchase their product.

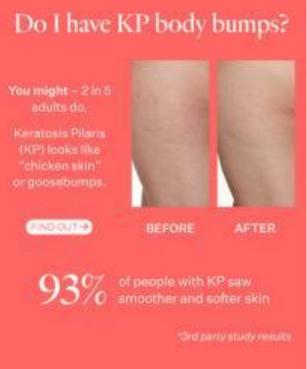
Nains In Use



















What people are saying:

- 86% agree Sleep Drops has helped promote a healthy sleep cycle**
- · After 1 day, 82% agree Sleep Drops was effective in helping them find sleep**
- · 92% agree it does not leave them feeling groggy in the morning**

** Independent consumer testing panel of 109 people who used Double Strength Sleep Drops for 14 days completed and completely a selfassessment of their experience.



Results

95%

said dull skin is brighter in

said fragile skin texture appears reinforced within 10 said skin appears firmer,

more resilient, and suppleness appears restored in 28 days

creases, and lines are visible minimized within 28 days



WHAT'S IN THE BUNDLE	+
INGREDIENTS	+
HOW TO USE	+
MINDFULLY DESIGNED	+
OUR RESULTS	17
97% agree these products were gentle and non-irritating	
- 92% agree skin looks healthier	
- 92% agree these products work better together	
- 89% agree skin appears more youthful	
Independent consumer study, 35 people, 28 days.	



BE ORIGINAL BE NATURAL BE GOOD

Come in for a personalized consultation and discover have NEW SKINSORIALS unleashes your skin's most vibrantly healthy looking glow.







Improves the appearance of dark marks and blemishes.

It's simple, easy to use, and it works. This award-winning 3-in-1 cleansing bar is a mask, cleanser, and exfoliator all-in-one!

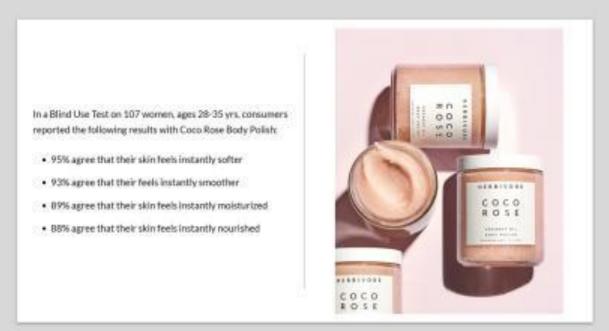


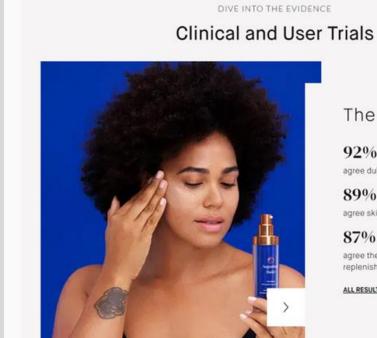






Jaims, Jaims Everywhere





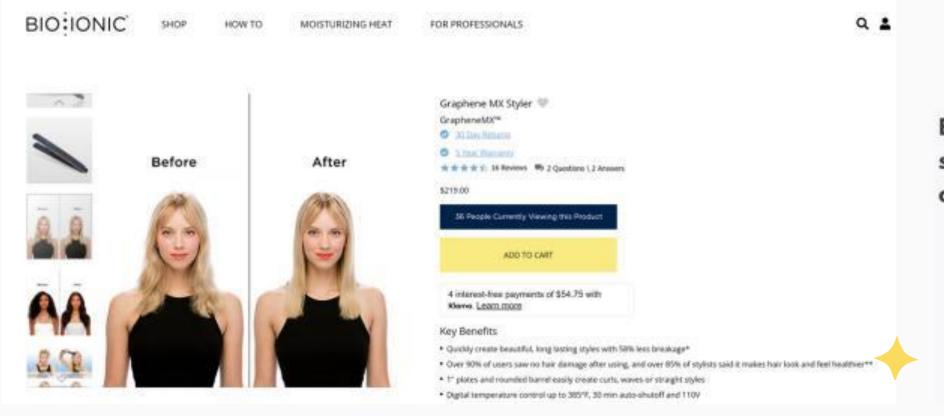
The Cream 92% agree dull skin appears brighter. 89% agree skin appears healthier.

agree their complexion looks plump and replenished.

ALL RESULTS FOR THIS PRODUCT







Believe the hype. Mighty Patch is a smarter way to handle pimples overnight.

MIGHTY

PATCH'



Beauty From the Inside Out Claims



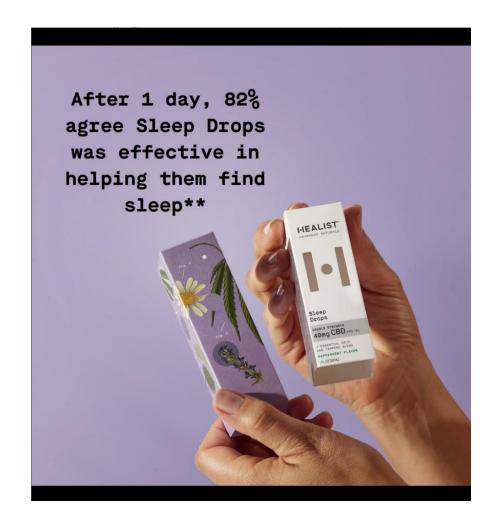
Consumer Study Data:

85% of users reported that hair feels stronger*

84% of users reported that hair looks noticeably healthier*

84% of users have noticed less hair loss since taking this supplement*

*Based on a 12 week consumer study of 115 participants













CRUELTY FREE



TRIPLE LAB TESTED



VEGAN



NO HIGH



NON GMO

^{**} Independent consumer testing panel of 109 people who used Double Strength Calm Drops for 14 days consecutively and completely a self-assessment of their experience.



Jains On Product Packaging



REAL RESULTS

97% said skin felt and looked

94% said skin looked brighter and more even-toned* 93% said skin looked transformed*









Claims at Point of Sale

Give Your Consumer The Proof They Seek

Whether your consumer is buying in-store or online, for 3 out of 4 consumers, claims at the point of sale highly influence their purchase decision while also helping your products stand apart from competitive products.





A Match Made in Paradise

Sephora is feeling the tropical vibes.
You can find our Organic Coconut
Melt and Coconut Body Glow at
Sephora stores nationwide. Plus, for
a limited time, get your travel-ready
Coconut Mini Melt in Sephora's
Beauty On The Fly section.

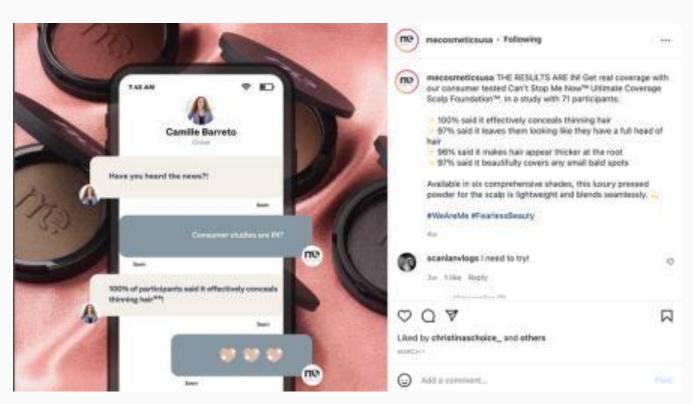
GET TROPICAL

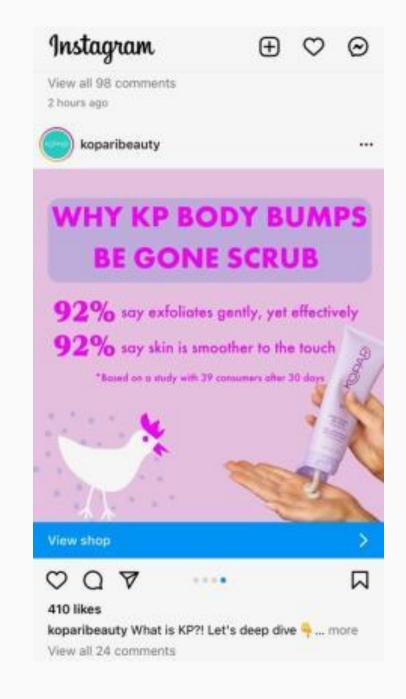
Exfoliation:
The Best Thing You
Can Do For Your Skin

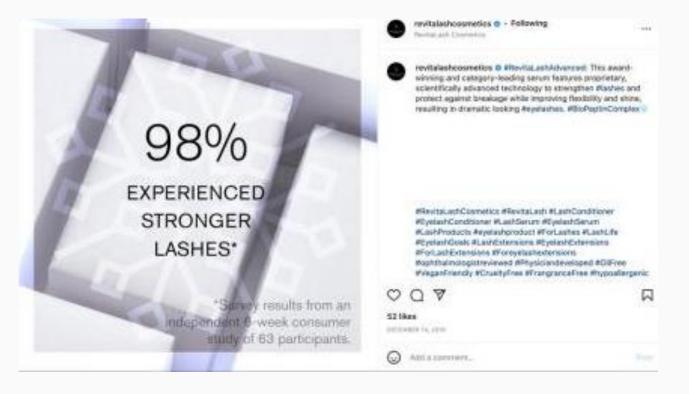
- 55% agreed that skin feets amouther jather 14 days)
- 50% agreed that skin appears refreshed and ranewed jather 14 days)
- 51% agreed that skin appears refreshed and ranewed jather 14 days)
- 10% agreed that skin appears refreshed and ranewed jather 14 days)
- 10% agreed that skin appears refreshed and ranewed jather 14 days)

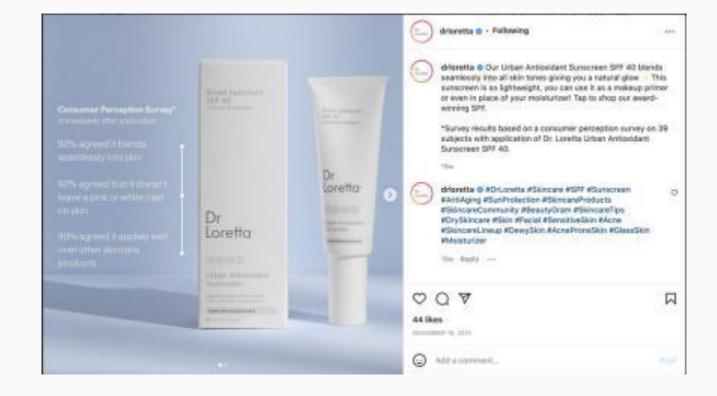
Vains Use in Social Media







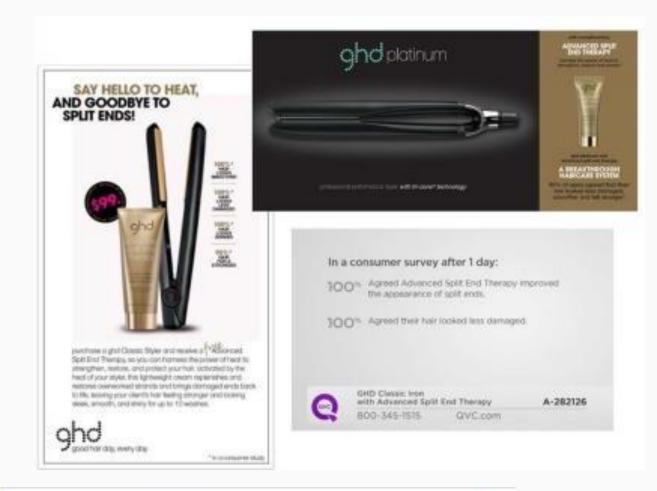


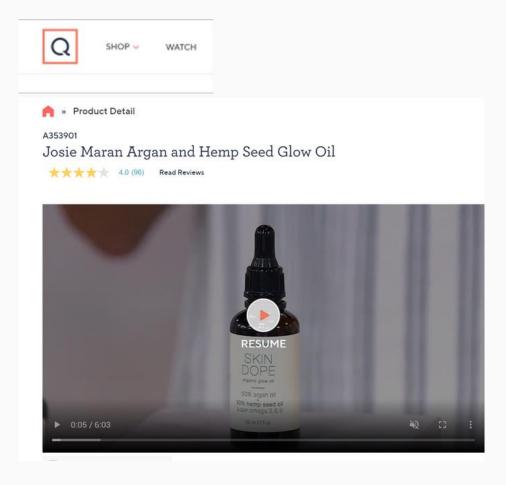


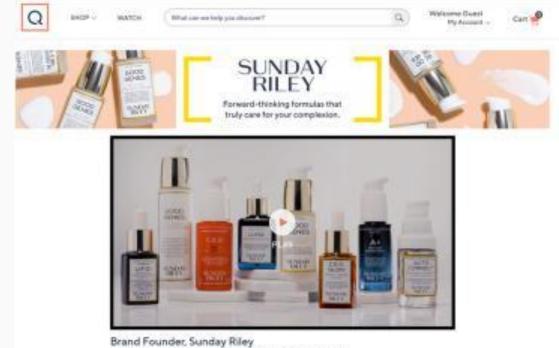
On-Air Use

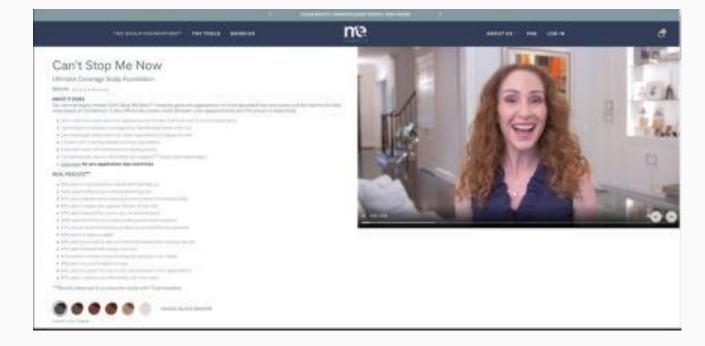




















"TBC provides us with actionable insights that help make our products more relevant for today's consumer. Using their dynamic consumer testing platform we are able to hone in on the unique elements that help our products stand out in today's crowded beauty marketplace."

"We have had a very positive experience working with TBC. In-home use testing with TBC is now a standard part of our product development lifecycle. Obtaining these substantiated consumer claims and key data points allows us to be more buttoned up with our process and helps us to promote our products more effectively to our target market."

Caroline Goodner CEO "TBC has been amazing, and they are such a pleasure to work with! You can tell they have so much experience and knowledge in the beauty and personal care industry, and they just get it! They have made every project so easy for us, from recruiting the right consumers to guiding us in developing claims, and delivering the results we're looking for. They're always willing to work with us to accommodate our timelines and our needs."

Goodner Senior Brand Manager

Kate Helfrich SVP, Global Product & Service Innovation

Mat Our Vients Say



"TBC is the easiest part of my process.

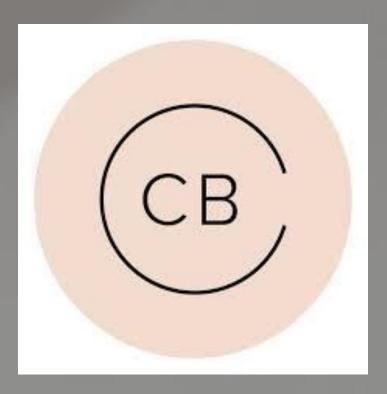
The TBC team is super knowledgable and I would 100% recommend their services to another brand because you get what you ask for, on-time, and they make it simple."

Jacob Douglas Director of Innovation



"TBC is a trusted name in claims validation. Aside from meticulous and fast customer service, TBC's depth of panelists and insights bring us valuable hidden data."

Jessie Reder Vice President Product Development & Regulatory



"The TBC team is so professional, always available and helped us obtain a tremendous amount of valuable information. We are incredibly happy with the report, data and results."

Kristin Spinn Vice President of Marketing Clean Beauty Collective



patchology JHIJEIDO



"It's phenomenal—we still use the claims garnered from our tests with TBC. They're on our website, we talk about them on-air, and they continuously market the benefits of our products while putting us center-stage with established competitors."

"TBC is one of our go-to testing houses for consumer perception studies pre-launch.

Their knowledge and expertise with consumer testing and regulatory claims compliance are an influential factor in our continued collaboration, especially for our global launches. It's refreshing to work with a firm that will go above and beyond to accommodate all of our testing needs."

"There is no doubt that TBC helped us navigate the murky waters of communication with regards to consumer claims. It was reassuring to put Elemis in the hands of industry experts and come out with a robust list of usable claims that will help us further sell-in and sell through."

Chris Hobson Founder & CEO

Remona Gopaul, Manager, Technical Information, Group USA. Sean Harrington
President & Co-Founder

Fusta Few of the Brands BU Works With



bareMinerals Perricone MD

















Neutrogena







OLDEN DOOR'

MADISONREED













H few More...







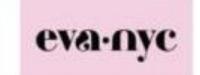








FURTUNA







































































Some More









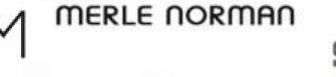


PIXI by StriVectin























Vitabrid















SY.



Unmarked











































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