

# Michelle Miller

michellechem.com

cell: 619-890-6028



## SUMMARY

Michelle is a formulation chemist with extensive experience in product development for personal care and pharmaceutical industries. She has been responsible for projects from concept to production with attention to innovation, quality, and process manufacturing optimization.

- Formulate topical products
- Proficient with emulsion and polymer technologies
- Expert analyst of OTC claims
- Assists with regulatory and FDA affairs
- Conducts formula optimization and stability tests on key candidates for NDA filing
- Produces tech packages for product development to include: Formula Card, Ingredient List, Manufacturing Diagram and Tentative Specifications

## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

### NATURAL PRODUCT GROUP, Chatsworth, CA

#### Senior Chemist

February 2017 – Present

Develop new formulas for Nature's Gate and Arbonne in accordance to their strict ingredient policy: no ethoxylates, parabens, and sulfates. Also develop products for Private Label customers as well based off of Product Development Requests submitted through Marketing.

### COSMEDERM BIOSCIENCE, La Jolla, CA

#### Formulation Chemist

April 2012 – May 2016

Improves existing product lines and develops new formulations using Cosmederm's patented technology for distribution via doctors' offices. Formulate topical drug vehicles to be used for IND filing with the FDA for pharmaceutical applications. Research compendia status of excipients in drug formulations, preferably USP and in some cases even GRAS.

### MILLENNIUM LABORATORIES, Rancho Bernardo, CA

#### Associate Scientist

June 2010 – April 2012

Prepares samples to be tested via Olympus enzyme immunoassay analyzer and HPLC-MS/MS. Analyzes data and reported lab test results of drug metabolites using test methods approved by CAP, NY, and CLIA. Validates new test methods for production. Troubleshoots instrument errors and malfunctions as they occur. Assists in instrument repair and proper calibration maintenance. Trains new associate scientists and coordinate weekend scheduling among fellow scientists to provide complete analytical coverage for the CLS staff.

### FORMULATION CONSULTANT, San Diego, CA

October 2009 – October 2014

Develops and validates new formulas. Prepares finished-good MSDS and regulatory documents for EU or global compliance. Writes manufacturing procedures. Supports quality control and adjusts production batches as needed. Analyzes and proposes ideas for product innovation and enhancement.

### CREATIVE NAIL DESIGN, Vista, CA

#### Research and Development Skin Care Chemist

April 2007 – August 2009

Works closely with nail professionals and marketing to improve existing products. Develops new niche lines targeted to the nail industry. Writes formulas, operating procedures, and specifications for manufacturing.

Supervises pilots to production scale-up. Formulates two manicure product lines for marketing rebrand strategy: each containing a hand soak, sugar/salt scrub, moisturizing mask, massage lotion, and hand cream. Improves the stability and manufacturing process using available legacy equipment for existing and new formulas. Helps implement cost-reduction strategies through vendor and purchasing communications, raw material consolidation, and formulation. Responsible for reviewing raw material name assignments and breakdowns, product ingredient decks, and safety warnings for global compliance as a member of the Regulatory and Safety Committee.

**SHWOOMP!, San Diego, CA**

**Research and Development Manager**

**February 2005 – March 2007**

Designs new body care lines for a small retail company by working closely with the owners to help turn their vision into a reality. Establishes new procedures for formula development and maintenance using Excel for cost analysis. Engineers a small-scale QC program for releasing batches, including a microbiology protocol and batch coding system. With limited capital and resources, plans and implements a production strategy. Establishes contacts with vendors for fragrances, raw materials and packaging. Orders and procures raw materials. Sets up purchasing accounts, trains new technicians, determines appropriate batch sizes, and creates compounding procedures to maximize quality and minimize cost.

**THIBIANT INTERNATIONAL, Chatsworth, CA**

**February 1996 – January 2005**

**Research and Development Manager**

**2002 – 2005**

Under the supervision of the director, manages a team of 10 chemists, three lab technicians, and three project assistants by assigning work, establishing objectives and goals, reviewing project status, and interfacing with other departments. Writes SOPs for research and development. Manages the expectations of demanding customers. Learns how to listen, empathize with, and motivate an eclectic team with different backgrounds and beliefs. Coordinates with manufacturing to schedule pilot batches and fill trials.

**Research and Development Supervisor**

**2000 – 2002**

Reviews lab work order submissions of a team of chemists for completion before submitting to marketing or sending to the customer. Helps QC by adjusting OOS production batches. Assists fellow chemists with lab assignments while completing my own. Arranges meetings with vendors to keep the lab up-to-date with the latest trends and technologies.

**Senior Chemist**

**1998 – 2000**

Formulates new products based on work orders from marketing for potential and current customers. Creates new formulas and revises them with feedback from marketing and the customer. Supervises pilot and production batches. Using a colorimeter and Pantone guide, color matches various cosmetic bases, including foundations.

**EDUCATION**

B.S., Biochemistry, University of California San Diego

**CERTIFICATIONS**

- Chemistry and Formulations of Color Cosmetics, Society of Cosmetic Chemists
- Sunscreen Chemistry and Formulation, Society of Cosmetic Chemists

**TRAINING**

- GMP Training for OTC Products from the Center for Professional Advancement
- DOE Mixture Design for Optimal Formulations Software by Stat-Ease
- AACC ACCENT Training Fundamental LC-MS/MS and Methods Developments