



Republic of the Philippines  
Department of Health  
**FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION**



16 AUG 2016

**FDA ADVISORY**  
No. 2016-088

**TO : GENERAL CONSUMING PUBLIC, FIELD REGULATORY OPERATIONS OFFICE OF THE FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION, LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT UNITS**

**SUBJECT: Public Health Warning on Silver Cleaners containing Cyanide**

The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has ordered the monitoring of silver cleaners in the market, as well as the collection of samples of several brands to be tested for possible presence of the toxic chemical, **Cyanide**. This substance is classified as poisonous which can be rapidly absorbed by the body through inhalation, ingestion and dermal absorption. It blocks utilization of oxygen in all organs and liable to cause serious injury to human health that may lead to acute poisoning or death.

The FDA, thru its Common Services Laboratory, revealed positive results for presence of cyanide in the samples collected from the following establishments:

- a. Unisilver Store – Isetann Bldg., Quiapo, Manila and Metropolis, Alabang, Muntinlupa,
- b. Jewelrich, Incorporated – Isetann Bldg., Quiapo, Manila.

The FDA therefore warns the general public against using, buying and storing silver cleaning products found positive for Cyanide, as these pose imminent hazards and danger to both human and animal health. These include:

1. Product's Name: **Silver Sparkle (Primary Label/Box)/Flat Silver Dip Restore Brillanceto Silver (Secondary Label/Bottle)**  
Manufacturer and/or Address: **Town Talk” Polish Co. Ltd. Bolton BL1 2TQ England**





2. Product's Name: **Unisilver Silver Dip Restore Brilliance to Silver Silver Cleaner**  
 Manufacturer and/or Address: **First Industries Company / Unisilver; Not Indicated**



3. Product's Name: **Cleanse Silver (Copper) Cleaner**  
 Manufacturer and/or Address: **Not Indicated**



When buying silver cleaners, the consumers must be mindful of the following details:

1. Avoid buying those without instructions in English and/or in Philippine dialects such as Tagalog, Cebuano, Ilokano, etc.,
2. The product label should clearly indicate the following information:
  - a. The name and place of business of the manufacturers, packer, distributor, or seller,
  - b. The common or usual name of the chemical name.



- c. The signal word "**DANGER**" on substances which are extremely flammable, corrosive, or highly toxic;
- d. The signal word "**WARNING**" or "**CAUTION**" on all other hazardous substances;
- e. An affirmative statement of the principal hazard or hazards, such as "**FLAMMABLE**", "**VAPOR HARMFUL**", "**CAUSING BURNS**", "**HARMFUL OR FATAL IF SWALLOWED**" or similar wording to describe the hazard;
- f. Precautionary measures describing the action to be followed or avoided, such as "**Do not take internally**", "**Avoid breathing dust (or vapor)**" "**Avoid contact with eyes and prolonged skin contact**", "**Use only in a well-ventilated area**", except when this requirement is modified by regulations;
- g. First aid treatment, when necessary or appropriate and supplemented with the statement: "**Call a physician immediately**";
- h. The word "**POISON**" and the skull and crossbones symbols (☠) for any highly toxic substance, or when required by the regulation for special hazardous substance;
- i. Instructions for handling and storage of packages requiring special care such as "**Keep away from heat or open flame**", "**Do not expose to heat or store at temperature above 120° F**" (for pressurized container);
- j. The statement "**Keep Out of Reach of Children**" or its practical equivalent. If the article is intended for use by children and is not a banned hazardous substance, adequate directions for the protection of children should be explicitly stated.

All Field Regulatory Operations Officers are hereby ordered to continuously monitor all available silver cleaners in the market. All local government units and law enforcement agencies are requested to ensure that the above-mentioned brands are not sold or made available in their localities or areas of jurisdiction.

The public is enjoined to assist FDA in monitoring the market and to report any suspicious promotional or marketing activities for silver cleaners and their availability in the market through any of the following channels:

1. FDA's e-Report ([www.fda.gov.ph](http://www.fda.gov.ph))  
Reports can be sent to FDA via the e-Report section found in the upper right corner of the FDA website. By clicking e-Report, you will find the form that must be accomplished (refer to Figures 1 and 2).

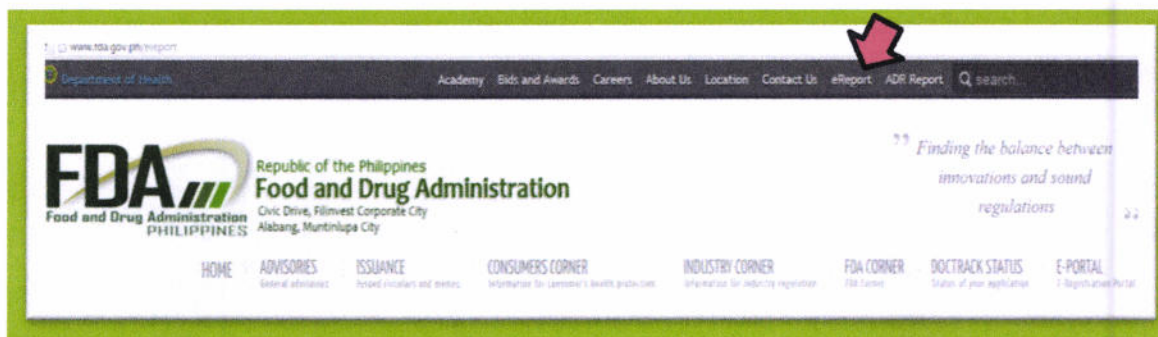


Figure 1. e-Report Section of the FDA Website

The screenshot shows the FDA website's e-report form. The header includes the FDA logo and the text "Republic of the Philippines Food and Drug Administration". The main heading is "FDA Public Assistance, Information, and Complaints Desk". Below this, there is a "Contact" section with the email address "report@fda.gov.ph". A "Miscellaneous Information" section provides instructions on how to use the form. The "Contact Form" section contains the following filled-in fields:

- Name: Jane Doe
- Email: jane.doe@gmail.com
- Subject: Report of Substandard Cosmetic Product
- Message: I was walking around ~~around~~ area and saw the establishment stacking up an empty container of expired cosmetic products. This should be made that the people there might be making counterfeit products by filling the containers with adulterated products.

At the bottom of the form, there is a "Send Copy to Yourself" checkbox, a "Captcha" field with the text "I'm not a robot", and a "Submit" button.

Figure 2. Filled-up e-Report Form

2. Send an email to [report@fda.gov.ph](mailto:report@fda.gov.ph)
3. Contact the FDA CRRR Customer Service Hotline at (02) 857-1984.

For information and guidance of all concerned.

  
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