

## POSITION STATEMENT

The concept of “handcrafted” frequently means different things to different people. Since this term is key to the whole of the Handcrafted Soap and Cosmetic Guild, it is important that the definition of handcrafted being used is understood and agreed upon.

### “HANDCRAFTED”

The processes of making and selling handcrafted soap, cosmetics, and candles are complex and involve many steps. These may include creating the recipe; measuring and mixing; adding scent and color; creating the shape by molding, cutting and/or trimming; selecting containers and closures, designing and creating packaging; as well as marketing, displaying and selling the final product. Depending on the methodology of the individual, some of these steps are done “by hand” through creative and artistic expression of a pre-fabricated base or all of these steps are done “by hand” beginning with the raw ingredients.

For the purposes of the Handcrafted Soap and Cosmetic Guild, a soap or cosmetic is deemed to be “handcrafted” if:

- 1) A majority of the time, energy and processes used in its creation by the hand crafter are “by hand”,
- 2) A minimal use of mechanized equipment is employed, and
- 3) The product manufacture is overseen manually, not by an automated system.

### DEALING WITH THE PRESS AND PUBLIC

In dealing with the press, from this point forward the official spokesperson for the HSCG shall use this terminology and it shall also be used in brochures and on the HSCG website. Members are encouraged to similarly adopt this terminology and use it when dealing with their customers and the public at large.

Approved by the  
HSCG Board of Directors

Approved by  
HSCG Membership

#### History:

2013	(v2) Updated to focus on definition of “handcrafted”
2022	(v3) Reviewed and updated to include candles.