# BBCA Virtual Workshop Recap

Beauty Retail: Proactive Product Testing Solutions
Post COVID-19



## **OUR THINKERS**

We are so grateful to the industry executives who took time out of their very busy day to daydream and reimagine alongside the team at Base Beauty Creative Agency.

Natasha Cornstein CEO, Blushington

Elana Drell Szyfer CEO, RéVive® Skincare

Laszlo Moharita Head of Global R&D eCommerce & New Business Initiatives, J&J

Rachel Brown Editor in Chief, Beauty Independent

Sonia Summers CEO, Beauty Barrage

lan Ginsberg CEO, CO Bigelow

Ellen Friedman EVP, RPG

Dena Bruckman CMO, Grande Cosmetics

Jodi Katz Founder + Creative Director, Base Beauty Creative Agency

Robin Placke Director of Strategy + Client Services, Base Beauty Creative Agency

Elisa Vitale Design Director, Base Beauty Creative Agency

Nathalie Banker VP PR, Base Beauty Creative Agency

The following pages are a result of the pre-work and brainstorm that occurred via Zoom on Friday, April 24, 2020. All attendees participated without compensation and without any goal other than to move the retail experience ahead and to share these ideas with our industry at large.



## **BRAINSTORM GOALS**

- What does sampling of the future look like post-COVID-19 at self-service shopping and guided beauty counter shopping?
- How does the retail and spa experience change post-COVID-19?
- How can we make the consumer comfortable and infuse trust, fun and play into this new world?



# INSIGHT GATHERING

Retail Experience Research | Consumer Survey

# TESTER INSIGHT GATHERING | Existing Tester Landscape

### **Testers as Pathway to Purchase**

- 93% of female consumers research before purchasing: testing products, reviewing claims and seeking consultations at beauty counters.\*
- Foundations, lipsticks, eyeshadows, nail polishes, brushes, fragrances and moisturizers are try-on favorites.

#### **Risk of Testers**

- Dermatologists advocate strongly for the abolishment of cosmetic testers in retail stores.
- Major retailers have undergone lawsuits against customers contracting infections linked to in-store testers

#### **Testers in Store**

• Some retailers attempt to provide sanitary options via store monitors and single use applicators while maintaining the experiential try-on moments.

#### **Virtual Testers**

- The desire for more sanitary options inspired innovations like virtual try-on technology.
- Advancements in face detection technology and color accuracy have made virtual try-on a viable option instore and online.
- Beauty brands are connecting with Millennials and Generation Zs through these digital platform options.
- China increasingly relies on AR and AI technology and distributes it to other markets.

<sup>\*</sup> The Benchmarking Company



# INSIGHT GATHERING | Consumer Survey

### WE JUST HAD TO ASK

BBCA conducted a survey amongst consumers dreaming about returning to shopping for beauty IRL to find out how their habits would change post-COVID-19.

86%

Test makeup before purchasing.

61%

Utilize in-store try-ons.

76%

Utilize take-home samples.

Base Beauty Survey, April 2020

# INSIGHT GATHERING | The Consumer

Why do you try product before purchasing?

Color/shade matching.

I like to see how lipstick matches my complexion.

To make sure the coverage is good.

So I know I'll like the consistency. To see if I like the eyeshadow pigments.

To feel if it's greasy.

So I can see if it lasts through the day.

For fun!!!

To make sure it doesn't irritate my skin.

To avoid returns!



Base Beauty Survey, April 2020

# **INSIGHT GATHERING** | The Consumer

### **Post-COVID Shopping**

• As we navigate a post-COVID-19 world, the consumer's need for safety and hygiene while she shops will be heightened. This will affect how she experiences products, interacts with testers and makes her decision to purchase.

You never know where the next virus can stem from!

I don't think I'll want to touch samples or be touched by the salesperson.

I now have NO desire to test in store products knowing someone else touched it.



Base Beauty Survey, April 2020

# POST-COVID-19 RETAIL EXPERIENCE

Brainstorm Results

# **SOLUTION 1** | Self-Service & Sales-Assisted Retail

## From Self-Service to a Supervised Sampling Show

- Retailers that are keen to meet the consumer's new hygienic desires and have the imagination to really rethink the retail experience will adopt staff-managed testing bars with animation destined to drive customers in the door.
- This bar becomes a focal point in the store to not only draw attention to the hygienic approach to product testing, but to create a unique show, the type of bar experience only a beauty retailer can put on.
- Staffers in store assist customers with tester requests via employee iPads. For customers who don't want or need staff assistance, an app connects the customer directly to testing bar attendee.
- "Bartenders" wearing branded gloves and masks receive product requests and fulfill them in a glass enclosed area. Hundreds of products across brands are available for distributing in sachets, tubes or bottles.
- The bartender creates a customized hygienic package for the consumer who is notified via text message that their selections are ready.

Concept art by Base Beauty Creative Agency on following page.



- Glass enclosed space
- Center of the store
- Unit's design draws the eye
- Staffer wears protective gear
- Hundreds of products available as free samples
- Requests come in via app
- Monitors notify customers of their "order" progress

# SOLUTION 2 | Retail, Spa & Salon

## From Soiled Samples to Automated Dispensing

- The counter, end-cap and gondola will be redesigned to shine a spotlight on hygienic and easy-to-experience product samples.
- The typical products testers of open primary packaging will no longer be available, replaced by sensor-driven automated dispensers.
- But, the customer still wants to see the product, which will be on view and enclosed in plexiglass glorifiers.
- A variety of automatic dispensers will be developed for optimal use on liquids (foundation, serum), creams (lipstick, lip gloss, moisturizer, eye cream) powders (foundation, eye shadow, blush, bronzer, highlighter) and fragrances.
- These machines will be self-service with disposable cups and applicators keeping the process hygienic from start to finish.

Concept art by Base Beauty Creative Agency on following page.

- Liquid products are dispensed by touch-less, motion-activated dispensers
- Eye shadow and lipstick samples available on single-application perforated sheets, dispensed by motion activation
- Consumers can see, but not touch, the packaging so that she knows what to expect when she buys the product.

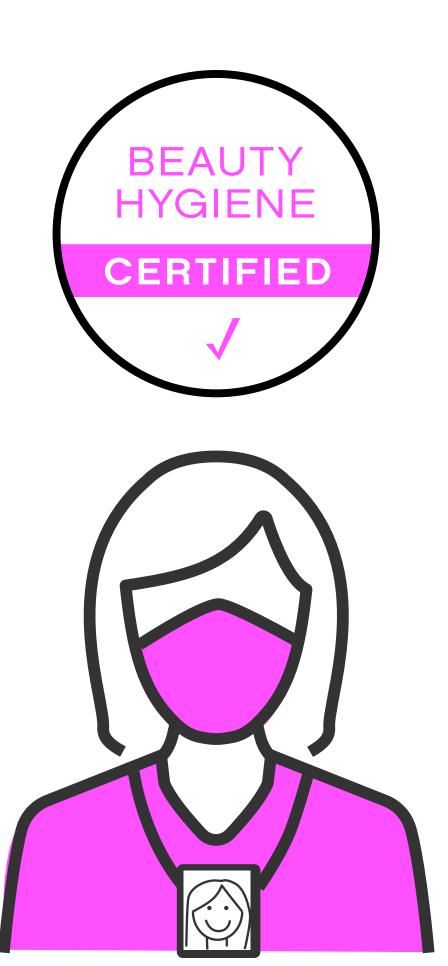


Concept art by Base Beauty Creative Agency

# SOLUTION 2 | Retail, Spa & Salon

## Assurance of hygiene protocols while maintaining the fun

- Dermatologist advisors will establish hygiene training and certification programs for retailers, spas and staff to assure the consumer that the most hygienic techniques are implemented and maintained.
- This certification program will be a third-party marketed endorsement, separate from the retailer and serves the consumer, just like the Good Housekeeping seal.
- PPE-compliant uniforms will be reimagined by fashion designers in the brand aesthetics of the spa or retailer.
- Staffers will wear mask and gloves along with name badges featuring a photo of the staffer in a favorite full beauty look, so the consumer can see their friendly expression and beauty personal style without the mask.



Concept art by Base Beauty Creative Agency

## **About Base Beauty**

# Big Agency Skills... Small Agency Vibes

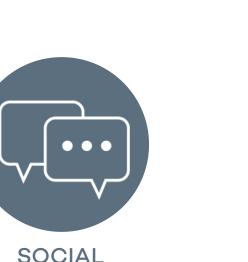
# Experts in beauty & wellness

We're a team of all-female creative beauty professionals with significant in-house experience at major beauty brands.



# WE CREATE EVERYTHING THE CONSUMER SEES AND TOUCHES









CREATION







**INFLUENCER** 





# CONTACT BASE BEAUTY

Jodi Katz, Founder & Creative Director jodi@basebeauty.com 917.703.4580

231 West 29th Street Suite 802 New York, NY 10001

basebeauty.com

wherebrainsmeetbeauty.com

@BaseBeautyCreativeAgency

@wherebrainsmeetbeautypodcast