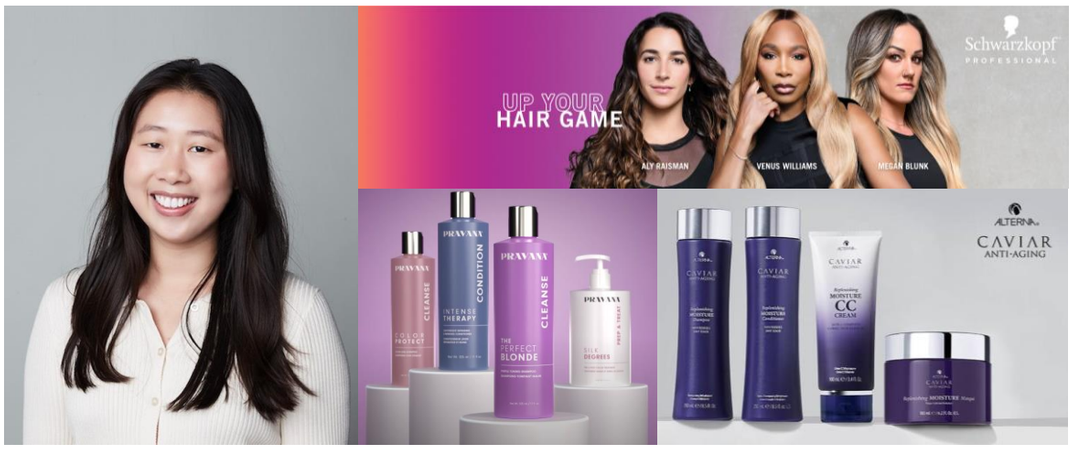
Jennifer Leung, Senior Scientist*



Bio:

Jennifer is currently a Senior Scientist at Henkel (Darien, CT), working in the R&D department of professional hair products. Her job entails formulating and scaling up various hair products for professional brands. She is passionate about innovation and sustainability. Jennifer graduated from the University of Kentucky in Merchandising, Apparel, and Textiles (B.S.) and completed graduate school in Fiber Science at Cornell University (M.S.). During her undergraduate years, she worked in the Textile Laboratory as a technician under Dr. Easter. She further applied the knowledge from the lab to her internships at GE and ArcWear, where she helped develop sensors in washers and conducted safety testing for different PPE. Jennifer furthered her research in the polymers space during graduate school and in her internship with AirForce, working on biosensor development. The opportunities she could have and the experience she gained through the Department of Retailing and Tourism Management were crucial stepping stones in leading her to where she is today.

Job Description:

As a Senior Scientist, Jennifer is responsible for developing hair care products, including shampoos, conditioners, treatments, and styling products. This role involves designing and conducting experiments to understand ingredient interactions, product stability, and performance under various conditions. She collaborates closely with cross-functional teams, including marketing, packaging, regulatory, and production to ensure that the formulations meet brand goals and comply with safety and industry standards. She is also responsible for troubleshooting formulation challenges and optimizing processes for scale-up from the lab to manufacturing. Beyond formulating for brands, she researches new ingredients, trends, and technologies, leveraging their expertise to create formulations that address specific consumer needs like moisture retention, scalp health, and hair repair. Jennifer enjoys being involved in the full product development cycle from building the product.

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