CLAIMS

1. A vesicular formulation comprising vesicles, that comprise a phospholipid, a non-ionic surfactant and a modified component, in which the modified component is a lipid or a surfactant covalently bonded to an Agent of Interest (AOI), such that when the AOI is external to the vesicle, the entirety of the AOI molecule is outside the vesicular membrane.

2. A formulation according to Claim 1 in which the AOI is bonded to a surfactant component of the vesicle.

3. A formulation according to Claim 1 or 2, in which the AOI is bonded to a lipid component of the vesicle.

4. A formulation according to Claim 1, 2 or 3, in which the vesicle comprises both a modified surfactant component and a modified lipid component.

5. A formulation according to Claim 1, 2 or 3, in which a single AOI is bonded to a modified component.

6. A formulation according to any preceding claim, in which a plurality of AOIs are bonded to a modified component.

7. A formulation according to Claim 6, in which the AOIs are homogenous.

8. A formulation according to Claim 6, in which the AOIs are heterogeneous.

9. A formulation according to any of Claims 1 to 7, in which the AOI is selected from the group consisting of an element, an ion, an inorganic salt, a small molecule, an amino acid, a peptide, a protein, a micronutrient, a macromolecule or a macrocyclic molecule.

10. A formulation according to any of Claims 1 to 7, in which the AOI is selected from the group consisting of a skin structural protein (such as elastin or collagen), a therapeutic protein, a carbohydrate, a chromophore-containing macromolecule (such as a porphyrin), a vitamin, a metal or metal salt, a non-metallic element or non-metallic salt, melanin or a melanin analogue, or an anti-inflammatory (such as an NSAID).

11. A method of delivering an AOI through the skin of a patient, the method comprising topically applying to the skin of the patient a vesicular formulation according to any of Claims 1 to 10 in an amount sufficient to penetrate the skin to deliver the AOI, in which the AOI is a cosmetic or a skin care AOI.

12. A method of delivering an AOI according to Claim 11, in which the vesicular formulation is according to any of Claims 7 to 10 or a formulation containing a blend of vesicles according to any of Claims 1 to 6 or 9 or 10, each with a different AOI.

13. A method of making the formulation in accordance with any of Claims 1 to 10, the method comprising attaching an AOI to a lipid or surfactant component to form a modified component and mixing the modified component with a phospholipid or non-ionic surfactant, such that when the AOI is external to the vesicle, the entirety of the AOI molecule is outside the vesiclular membrane.

14. A vesicular formulation according to any of Claims 1 to 10, for use in treating a disease.

15. A vesicular formulation for use according to Claim 14, in which the formulation is topically applied.

16. A vesicular formulation according to any of Claims 1 to 10 for use in skin care, or cosmetics.