About BPA

Bisphenol A (BPA) is used to make plastics and resins that are essential to many consumer and industrial products for modern living, including many applications important to public health and food safety. BPA is one of the most thoroughly tested chemicals used today and has a safety track record of 50 years.

Approved by FDA for Safe Use in Food Contact

BPA is commonly used to make polycarbonate plastic and epoxy resins, both of which have been approved for decades by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA), the European Food Safety Authority (EFSA), and numerous other government agencies worldwide, for use in food-contact applications:

- **Polycarbonate plastic**: This lightweight, shatter-resistant plastic provides a clear view of food in durable and temperature-resistant storage containers that help keep food fresh.
- **Epoxy resins**: By protecting food from contamination and spoilage, cans with epoxy resin linings have a shelf life of two years or longer, which is essential to feeding large numbers of people in disaster-relief and military operations. Food banks, families on a budget, and others benefit from the extended shelf-life of canned foods made possible by BPA.

Delivers Unique Benefits for Consumer Products and Industrial Uses

Polycarbonate plastic provides strength and shatter-resistant qualities that are beneficial for bicycle helmets, cell phones, safety glasses, CDs, and many other products. Epoxy resins have attributes that also make them ideal for a wide range of consumer products including printed circuit boards, paints, windmill blades, and protective coatings in pipes and tanks.

Consumer Exposure is Extremely Low

A consumer would have to ingest more than 1,300 pounds of food and beverage each day (that have been in contact with polycarbonate plastic) to reach the BPA "safe exposure level" established by government bodies in Europe and the United States. Consumer exposure to BPA from all sources is minute and well below safety standards set by government regulatory agencies around the world. Extensive data from biomonitoring studies conducted by the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) show that typical human exposure to BPA from all sources is approximately 1,000 times below the safe intake level recently set by EFSA.
BPA Safety is Confirmed by Government Scientists

The consensus of major government agencies around the world is that BPA is safe as used in food-contact applications. Scientists informing those bodies have stated in their assessments that exposure levels to BPA are many times lower—even 1,000 times lower—than government-set safety levels.

- In June 2013, the FDA updated their assessment of BPA. Experts concluded that “available information continues to support the safety of BPA for the currently approved uses in food containers and packaging.” The assessment is based on the review by FDA scientists of hundreds of studies, including the latest studies on BPA initiated by the agency.

- In September 2012, Health Canada released an updated assessment of BPA. Experts concluded that “current dietary exposure to BPA through food packaging uses is not expected to pose a health risk to the general population, including newborns and young children.”

- In December 2011, EFSA updated their comprehensive scientific assessment of BPA that had been conducted by a panel of independent scientific experts from throughout the European Union. The update reaffirmed the panel’s previous conclusion (September 2010) that they “could not identify any new evidence which would lead them to revise the current Tolerable Daily Intake,” which is a safe intake level.

- In July 2011, the Japanese National Institute of Advanced Industrial Science and Technology (AIST) announced its most recent comprehensive BPA risk assessment, concluding that “the risk of BPA with regard to human health was believed to be very small.” This conclusion is consistent with AIST’s previous 2005 BPA risk assessment.

Many Studies Support the Safety of BPA

Government regulatory agencies have declared that BPA is safe as used in many applications, including food contact applications. These conclusions are based on numerous scientific studies and supported by other scientific organizations.

- None of the many hundreds of studies on BPA has shown a direct cause-and-effect relationship between BPA and any human health effect.

- Numerous scientific studies show that the very small amount of BPA that may be ingested by a person during normal daily activity is efficiently converted to biologically inactive metabolites, which are eliminated from the human body within 24 hours.

- In September 2011, an international panel of experts organized by WHO (World Health Organization) and FAO (Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations) released a report on their review of all the latest scientific evidence on BPA and concluded that “initiation of public health measures would be premature.” The experts also concluded that BPA does not accumulate in the body, is rapidly eliminated in urine, and that it is difficult to interpret the relevance of studies claiming adverse health effects from BPA.