



Safety of Bisphenol A Reaffirmed by NTP Expert Panel

On August 8, 2007, the National Toxicology Program's Center for the Evaluation of Risks to Human Reproduction (CERHR) released its long anticipated safety review on the chemical Bisphenol A (BPA).

The Panel of 12 independent experts in reproductive health concluded that relevant levels of human exposure to BPA present negligible or minimal risk to human health in all but one area. In that one area, the Expert Panel concluded that there was inadequate research to rate confidently the level of concern as minimal or negligible. Therefore, the Expert Panel recommended further research, conducted to meet their high standards, to remove uncertainties in the existing database. The Expert Panel also concluded that humans are exposed to only very minute quantities of BPA.

The findings of the CERHR Expert Panel evaluation are consistent with other recent comprehensive evaluations of the safety of BPA in which government and scientific bodies worldwide examined all of the relevant scientific information. Most recently, the European Food Safety Authority (EFSA) released a report on the safety of BPA by a panel of 21 independent scientific experts from throughout the European Union. All of these evaluations support the conclusion that BPA is not a risk to human health at the extremely low levels to which consumers might be exposed.

Today's use of BPA-derived epoxy resins is the result of over 60 years of research to develop and provide can coatings with the safest and most effective food contact performance. These coatings have been, and continue to be recognized as safe when used as intended by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration, the EFSA, the UK Food Standards Agency, the Japanese Ministry for Health and Welfare, and other global regulatory agencies.

The North American Metal Packaging Alliance, Inc. (NAMPA) represents stakeholders for the North American light metal packaging industry, including raw material producers, coating formulators, metal packaging manufacturers, food and beverage producers, and other allied entities. NAMPA's mission is to foster the use of sound science to influence public policy and to address health and environmental issues affecting light metal packaging in North America.