



NORTH AMERICAN METAL PACKAGING ALLIANCE, INC.
2200 Pennsylvania Avenue NW, Suite 100W - Washington, DC 20037-1701 - 866-522-0950 - www.metal-pack.org

Press Contact: Michelle Lancaster
202-223-4933
mlancaster@stantoncomm.com

NAMPA STATEMENT IN RESPONSE TO JAMA LETTER ON SOUP SURVEY

Findings Confirm Levels Assessed As Safe by Health Canada, FDA, and Others

Washington, D.C. (November 21, 2011): The North American Metal Packaging Alliance, Inc. (NAMPA) believes it is critically important that consumers are made aware of the potential misrepresentation of the small survey of canned soups as reported in a research letter to the *Journal of the American Medical Association (JAMA)*.

NAMPA Chairman Dr. John M. Rost issued the following statement regarding the study:

“The presence of bisphenol A (BPA) as reported by this study gives consumers no new information about health effects from BPA exposure from canned foods. The presence of BPA in the urine does not indicate a health risk.” In fact, what this study does confirm for consumers is that BPA is quickly excreted from the body through urine.

“The BPA exposure levels cited are not surprising, and in fact, are consistent with similar surveys of packaged food conducted within the past year by international government agencies, including the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Health Canada,” said Dr. Rost. “These government regulatory authorities, which are much more familiar with the benefits of epoxy resins and the limitations of alternatives for most canned goods, have consistently concluded that current exposures through canned foods do not pose a health risk to consumers, including newborns and infants.”

“As consumers evaluate the science on BPA, one particular study, funded by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and conducted by a team of scientists from the FDA, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), and the Pacific Northwest National Laboratory, offers compelling evidence that BPA is highly unlikely to cause human health effects. This comprehensive, first-of-its-kind clinical exposure study offers definitive evidence that even the highest exposure levels of BPA from canned foods and beverages did not lead to detectable amounts in the human blood stream, rendering it doubtful that BPA could cause health effects because the substance would never reach target organs.”

Dr. Rost noted, “Consumers need to remember that BPA-based epoxy coatings are used to keep food safe by enabling high temperature sterilization that eliminates the dangers of food poisoning from microbial contaminants and maintains the integrity of the can for continued protection

{0603.007 / 111 / 00086569.DOCX}

The North American Metal Packaging Alliance is an organization whose objectives are to support risk-based regulations in North America; influence regulation in other geographies, provide customers with needed information regarding well-founded technologies, and advocate risk-based decision-making in technology decisions.



Page 2

against contaminants. According to FDA records, there has not been an incidence of food-borne illness from a failure in metal packaging in more than 36 years.”

For more information on the Health Canada assessment, please visit:

http://www.hc-sc.gc.ca/fn-an/securit/packag-emball/bpa/bpa_survey-summ-enquete-can-con-eng.php

For a review of the EPA-funded serum study, please visit:

<http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/21705716>

#

About NAMPA

The North American Metal Packaging Alliance, Inc. and its members support sound science and trust the scientific review process that has protected our food supply for decades. For further information, visit www.metal-pack.org.