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**Additional Scientific Perspective Offered on Pending FDA Decision on BPA**

**Washington, D.C. (March 21, 2012)** -- The U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) will soon respond to the Natural Resources Defense Council's (NRDC) petition to ban bisphenol A, more commonly known as BPA. FDA must respond to the NRDC petition, which includes a request for immediate regulatory action to ban BPA for all food contact applications, by March 31, 2012.

As you might be covering the pending FDA action, please be aware that FDA is not required to make a final safety decision on BPA; it is only required to respond to NRDC's request for immediate regulatory action. You should also consider the following information, which may be useful in adding balance to your coverage:

- **BPA-Based Epoxy Resins Are Safe:** Experts in regulatory science from the World Health Organization, FDA, the European Food Safety Authority, Health Canada, Japan, Australia, and New Zealand are all in agreement -- when the comprehensive body of research on BPA is evaluated by unbiased scientific experts, the conclusion is the same: BPA-based coatings, when used in food packaging, do not pose a health risk to the general population, including infants and young children.
- **Epoxy Resins Offer Unique Food Safety Benefits to Consumers:** BPA-based can coatings outperform all other coating materials when it comes to protecting the food and beverage contents of a metal can. Metal can coatings made with BPA eliminate the risk of food poisoning from bacteria because those coatings allow the cans to undergo the high temperature sterilization needed to kill germs.
- **Alternatives to Epoxy Resins Are Not Prepared to Fill the Market Need:** There is no readily available alternative to BPA on the market today that is approved by regulators and provides the same high degree of safety and performance for the broadest range of canned food products.

For additional information on the science, the safety, and the state of alternatives, please contact us to speak with subject-matter experts that can serve as a resource on the topics of BPA or the pending FDA action:

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- Dr. John Rost -- Chairman, North American Metal Packaging Alliance, Inc. (NAMPA);
- Dr. Mitchell Cheeseman -- Former Acting Director, FDA Office of Food Additive Safety; and
- Dr. Julie Goodman – Principal, Gradient Corporation, and Adjunct Instructor, Harvard School of Public Health.

For interview requests, please contact Abbey Race at 1-800-426-1887 or via e-mail at [arace@stantoncomm.com](mailto:arace@stantoncomm.com).

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#### 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](http://www.metal-pack.org).