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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **Flawed Monkey Study Provides No Compelling Evidence of Human Reproductive Risk from BPA**

### *North American Metal Packaging Alliance Says Methodology Renders Study of Little Practical Value*

**Washington, D.C. (September 25, 2012)** -- The North American Metal Packaging Alliance, Inc. (NAMPA) said today that the recently published study of the effects of bisphenol A (BPA) exposure on the reproductive health among test monkeys has little relevance to people. The limited study conducted by researchers at Washington State University examined two small groups of rhesus monkeys, one group fed BPA at levels 10,000 times higher than normal human exposure, while the other group received direct injections of BPA under the skin.

Dr. John M. Rost, Chairman of NAMPA, noted that the study size and methodology pose serious limitations and the study fails to meet National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences (NIEHS) standards for relevancy to human health.

“This latest study relied on a flawed methodology we have seen used time and again by the same academic researchers,” said Dr. Rost. “Using such small scale groups of test animals, with less than 10 animals in each group, feeding them oral doses at levels far beyond typical human BPA exposure and using direct injections, simply does not reflect how people are exposed and provides no compelling evidence of a risk to the reproductive health of humans.”

The limited findings cited by the authors occurred in the group of test animals that were dosed continuously through devices implanted into the body, clearly outside the reality of human exposure. Those exposed via ingestion, the way people are exposed, showed no statistically significant effects. BPA exposure monitoring has shown that the human body’s metabolic process rapidly metabolizes and evacuates BPA naturally, leaving little bioactive BPA in the bloodstream.

Robust, scientifically sound clinical studies on BPA, particularly a 2011 study sponsored by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and performed by the Pacific Northwest National Laboratory (PNNL), U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA), and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), provide reassuring information regarding BPA. The Teegarden *et al.* study found that even a diet high in BPA does not show any measurable level of “free-BPA” in the bloodstream. This indicates that if BPA is not in the blood, it cannot be passed to



the fetus. These findings are further supported by a recent study conducted by the FDA, which showed BPA did not cause developmental effects in a clinical setting.

NAMPA reminds consumers that metal packaging enables high temperature sterilization of food products when initially packaged, which is critical in maintaining the sterility and safety of food products. According to FDA records, there has not been an incidence of food-borne illness from a failure in metal packaging in more than 30 years. Today's metal packaging technology provides families with an economic source of safe and nutritious foods.

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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).