



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.





More information on BPA is available at the following Web sites:

HHS & FDA:

www.hhs.gov/safety/bpa
[www.fda.gov/NewsEvents/
PublicHealthFocus](http://www.fda.gov/NewsEvents/PublicHealthFocus)

Health Canada:

[www.chemicalsubstanceschimiques.
gc.ca/fact-fait/bisphenol-a-eng.php](http://www.chemicalsubstanceschimiques.gc.ca/fact-fait/bisphenol-a-eng.php)

EFSA:

[www.efsa.europa.eu/en/topics/
topic/bisphenol.htm](http://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/topics/topic/bisphenol.htm)

ACC:

[http://plastics.
americanchemistry.com/BPA](http://plastics.americanchemistry.com/BPA)
www.factsaboutBPA.org

Or by contacting:

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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 August 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.
- In September 2010, after reviewing more than 800 scientific studies on BPA, an EFSA panel of independent scientific experts concluded that low doses of BPA are not a risk to human health and stated that they “could not identify any new evidence which would lead them to revise the current Tolerable Daily Intake.”
- In August 2010, Health Canada stated that “the current dietary exposure to BPA through food packaging is not expected to pose a health risk to the general population, including newborns and infants.”
- In a January 2010 update, FDA made it clear that BPA is “not proven to harm children or adults...” and the principal deputy commissioner stated that “if we thought it was unsafe, we would be taking strong regulatory action...” Since the update, extensive safety research conducted in FDA’s own laboratory has provided additional strong support for the safety of BPA.

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 November 2010, a World Health Organization 30-person expert panel supported the continued use of BPA in contact with food. In addition, the German Society of Toxicology (April 2011) reached conclusions very similar to the many government agencies that have reviewed the science on BPA, specifically that “the available evidence indicates that BPA exposure represents no noteworthy risk to the health of the human population, including newborns and babies.”

