



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 more than 50 years.

Approved by FDA as Safe 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.



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 are tough and durable materials and these attributes make them ideal for a wide range of consumer products including printed circuit boards, paints, windmill blades, and protective coatings in pipes and tanks.



BPA Safety is Confirmed by Governmental 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 well below government-set safety levels.

- In March 2016, the South Korean Ministry of Food and Drug Safety (MFDS) published its risk assessment of BPA. MFDS concluded: "There is no health concern for any age group from current levels of exposure to BPA."
- In February 2016, the FDA updated its assessment of BPA. "FDA's current perspective, based on its most recent safety assessment, is that BPA is safe at the current levels occurring in foods." In another recent update, the FDA answered the question "Is BPA Safe?" with a clear answer - "Yes."





- In January 2015, following a comprehensive re-evaluation of BPA exposure and toxicity, EFSA's scientific experts concluded that "BPA poses no health risk to consumers of any age group (including unborn children, infants and adolescents) at current exposure levels." Going beyond previous assessments, EFSA evaluated exposure to BPA not only from food, but also from a range of other potential sources.

- In September 2012, Health Canada released an updated assessment of BPA. Experts concluded that "current dietary exposure to BPA through food packaging uses is not expected to pose a health risk to the general population, including newborns and young children."

- In July 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.



More information on BPA is available at the following websites:

FDA:

<http://www.fda.gov/Food/IngredientsPackagingLabeling/FoodAdditivesIngredients/ucm355155.htm>

Health Canada:

www.hc-sc.gc.ca/fn-an/secureit/packag-embal/bpa/bpa_hra-ers-2012-09-eng.php

EFSA:

<http://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/press/news/150121.htm>

ACC:

<http://plastics.americanchemistry.com/BPA>

www.factsaboutbpa.org

Or by contacting:

Steve Hentges, Ph.D.
Polycarbonate/BPA Global Group
American Chemistry Council

Email: steve_hentges@americanchemistry.com

Extensive Scientific Research Supports the Safety of BPA

More than 20 in-depth studies from U.S. federal government scientists, which were designed to answer key questions about the safety of BPA, have been published in the peer-reviewed scientific literature. The results of these studies strongly support the safety of BPA and have been used by government agencies worldwide as part of the basis for their safety conclusions. Among the key findings from these studies:

- **Consumer Exposure to BPA is Extremely Low.** Large-scale biomonitoring studies in the U.S. and Canada show that typical consumer exposure to BPA is far below safe limits set by government agencies.
- **BPA is Rapidly Eliminated from the Body.** Numerous studies on laboratory animals show that BPA is efficiently converted after exposure to an inactive form, which is then rapidly eliminated from the body. These findings have been confirmed in clinical studies involving human volunteers exposed to BPA at levels much higher than typical consumer exposures.
- **No Risk of Health Effects at Typical Consumer Exposure Levels.** A large-scale study in laboratory animals found no reproductive or developmental health effects at doses even remotely close to consumer exposure levels. These results are consistent with the way that BPA is processed in the body, which make it very unlikely that BPA could cause health effects at typical consumer exposure levels.

