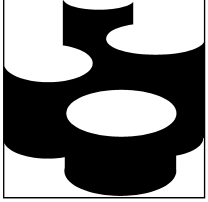


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Can Manufacturers



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CMI STATEMENT REGARDING BPA

The Can Manufacturers Institute (“CMI”) is committed to providing consumers with products that meet or exceed all government health, safety and quality standards. We are aware of claims reported in the media regarding the safety of bisphenol A (“BPA”) in certain consumer products. BPA is a key ingredient of the epoxy resins used in metal food packaging to prevent spoilage and contamination. BPA levels found in beverage and food can coatings, however, are well below exposure safety limits set by government bodies worldwide. CMI continues strongly to support the use of BPA epoxy coatings and believes our coatings are essential to food safety.

On January 15, 2010, the Obama Administration and FDA reaffirmed BPA is safe for current uses. FDA’s position on the current safety of BPA concurs with the European Union, Canada, Australia, New Zealand, Japan and even California. FDA has expressed “some concern,” i.e., data gaps, regarding children which warrant further study, but not enough concern to encourage consumers to change their purchasing of canned products. Their concern has led to several new FDA studies. Further, the National Institutes of Health (NIH) has devoted \$30 million in stimulus money to study the safety of BPA. Our industry welcomes FDA and NIH review of BPA.

Human exposure to BPA from can coatings is minute and poses no health risk that has been recognized by any governmental authority. Numerous studies that measure actual exposure levels have confirmed that typical human exposure to BPA from can coatings are hundreds of times below safe exposure levels. It is important to remember that all components of packaging that come into contact with food or beverages undergo stringent testing and must comply with FDA regulations before use. All of our food and beverage cans meet or exceed federal, state and international health and safety standards.

Our recommendation to consumers is simple: Don't sacrifice food quality, nutrition and shelf life for unsubstantiated claims. CMI members are committed to providing safe, nutritious and refreshing canned food and beverages to consumers. In sum, metal cans are safe and provide the highest quality packaging for food and beverages on the market today.