BISPHENOL A FACT SHEET

What the Experts Say

Bisphenol A (BPA) is an important chemical building block that is used primarily to make polycarbonate plastic and epoxy resins. It is also one of the best studied substances, with a large database of toxicological and exposure information available to assess human health concerns.

The scientific evidence supporting the safety of bisphenol A has been repeatedly and comprehensively examined by government and scientific bodies worldwide. In every case, these assessments support the conclusion that bisphenol A is not a risk to human health at the extremely low levels to which people might be exposed. Based on these assessments, bisphenol A has not been banned or restricted anywhere in the world.

Key examples of recent assessments and their conclusions include:

- In January 2007, the European Food Safety Authority released a comprehensive assessment of bisphenol A that was conducted by a panel of 21 independent scientific experts from throughout the European Union. Based on their review of the most recent scientific information, the panel increased by a factor of five the safe intake level for bisphenol A that was established in 2002. The increase was based on the panel's view that there is now more certainty about the safety of bisphenol A.

- In June 2006, a panel of scientific experts reported the results of their weight-of-the-evidence evaluation of low-dose reproductive and developmental effects of bisphenol A. Considering studies published through February 2006 and the results of a 2004 evaluation (see below), the panel concluded "*the weight of evidence does not support the hypothesis that low oral doses of BPA adversely affect human reproductive and developmental health.*"

- In January 2006, the German Federal Institute for Risk Assessment (BfR, Bundesinstitut für Risikobewertung) released a statement with their views on the safety of polycarbonate baby bottles. They noted "*The BfR does not recognize any health risk for babies that are fed from baby bottles made of polycarbonate.*"

- A November 2005 statement from the US Food and Drug Administration on the safety of food contact products made from polycarbonate concluded "*based on all the evidence available at this time, FDA sees no reason to change its long-held position that current uses with food are safe.*"

- In November 2005, a comprehensive risk assessment on bisphenol A conducted by scientists at the Japanese National Institute of Advanced Industrial Science and

Technology concluded that "*current exposure levels of BPA will not pose any unacceptable risk to human health.*"

- In March 2005, the Japanese Ministry of Environment reported the results of their own tests on bisphenol A, including a comprehensive reproductive test in laboratory animals. MOE concluded that there were no clear endocrine disrupting effects at low doses and that no regulatory action is required to manage risks.

- In 2004, a weight-of-the-evidence evaluation of low-dose reproductive and developmental effects of bisphenol A conducted by a panel of scientific experts organized by the Harvard Center for Risk Analysis "*found no consistent affirmative evidence of low-dose BPA effects for any endpoint*."

- In 2003, a comprehensive European Union risk assessment was published along with a critical review by the Scientific Committee on Toxicity, Ecotoxicity and the Environment that stated "*The CSTEE agrees with the conclusion of the RAR [Risk Assessment Report] that there is no convincing evidence that low doses of bisphenol A have effects on developmental parameters in offspring.*"

For more information on bisphenol A, please visit http://www.bisphenol-a.org.

We welcome media inquiries about bisphenol A. Please contact:

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