



Statement

For Immediate Release

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UPDATED EUROPEAN RISK ASSESSMENT CONCLUDES BISPHENOL A IS SAFE FOR CONTINUED USE IN CONSUMER PRODUCTS

ARLINGTON, VA – The European Commission’s updated risk assessment report of bisphenol A (BPA), published June 11, 2008, confirms that consumers can continue to use polycarbonate and epoxy products with confidence.

In its final report, the European Commission concluded that products made from BPA, such as polycarbonate and epoxy resins, are safe for consumers and the environment in current applications. This conclusion reaffirms the findings of the 2003 European risk assessment of BPA and is consistent with conclusions of the scientific assessments of other regulatory bodies including the U.S. Food and Drug Administration, the Japanese authorities and the European Food Safety Authority (EFSA).

As reported on FoodNavigator.com (<http://www.foodnavigator.com/news/ng.asp?id=85908>), Karin Aschberger, a European Chemicals Bureau representative, said:

“We found that the margin of safety is high enough in relation to consumer exposure of BPA in plastic packaging and, as a result, there is no need for further information, testing or risk reduction measures beyond those which are being applied already.”

BPA is an intermediate in the manufacture of polycarbonate plastics and epoxy resins – valuable materials found in a wide range of consumer and industrial products. The shatter resistance, safety, clarity and durability of polycarbonate plastic make it a material of choice for products as diverse as baby bottles, CDs, safety goggles and eye glasses, electrical and electronic equipment, drinking bottles and even aircraft cockpit windows. Epoxy resins are used in a variety of applications in the electrical, electronics, transport, construction and aerospace industries. Food cans lined with epoxy based coatings contribute to the hygienic and safe conservation of food.

BPA is one of the few chemicals for which a full official scientific risk assessment has been completed by the European Commission and its Member State experts. The 2008 assessment:

- Includes all potentially affected age groups of consumers including babies and small children;
- Reflects the latest available science on BPA as well as the current use pattern of products;
- Considered both small exploratory studies that did not follow established protocols as well as large-scale comprehensive, statistically robust studies that did follow accepted international protocols and standards such as the Good Laboratory Practice Directive; and



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- Reconfirms that there is no concern for the consumer resulting from the use of products made from materials based on BPA, such as polycarbonate and epoxy resins.

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