



# About BPA

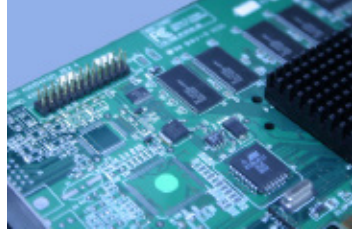
Bisphenol A (BPA) is used to make plastics and resins that are essential to many consumer and industrial products for modern living, including many applications important to public health and food safety. BPA is one of the most thoroughly tested chemicals used today and has a safety track record of 50 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.



## Enables 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 hundreds of 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 set by government agencies in the United States and Canada.



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](http://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:**

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

[www.factsaboutBPA.org](http://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 well below government-set safety levels.

- 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 November 2014, 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 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.

## 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 September 2011, an international panel of experts organized by WHO (World Health Organization) and FAO (Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations) released a report on their review of all the latest scientific evidence on BPA and concluded that "initiation of public health measures would be premature." The experts also concluded that BPA does not accumulate in the body, is rapidly eliminated in urine, and that it is difficult to interpret the relevance of studies claiming adverse health effects from BPA.

