



NORTH AMERICAN METAL PACKAGING ALLIANCE, INC.
1203 19th Street NW, Suite 300 • Washington, DC 20036-2401 • 866-522-0950 • www.metal-pack.org

CONTACT:

Michelle Lancaster

(202) 223-4933

mlancaster@stantoncomm.com

**NAMPA Reiterates Support for Scientific Review Process,
Welcomes Congressional Calls for Expedited Review of BPA**

The North American Metal Packaging Alliance, Inc. (NAMPA) welcomes the Congressional request to the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) to expedite and clarify its review of the scientific research on the safety of bisphenol A (BPA) in food and beverage packaging applications.

NAMPA has and will continue to support FDA's actions to provide a thorough review of the scientific evidence regarding BPA in an open, transparent assessment process. We agree with Representatives Waxman and Stupak that it is of the utmost importance that FDA "thoroughly and fairly reviews the best science on BPA" during this process and the risk assessment relies on sound science. A timely review will provide the public confidence in the safety of these products and demonstrate FDA's commitment to the scientific review process and effective risk assessment.

This review process in the international realm has led to the conclusion, time and again, that BPA does not pose a risk for human health at the existing levels in food and beverage packaging applications. The European Food Safety Authority, German Federal Institute for Risk Assessment, Food Standards Australia New Zealand, and Health Canada have all reviewed the most recent science and concluded that the existing margin of safety for BPA is fully protective of human health in these products.

The metal packaging industry emphatically supports these assessments and has the utmost interest in protecting public health. It is this very reason that epoxy resins for metal packaging are so critical -- they ensure food safety by enabling high temperature sterilization that eliminates the dangers of food poisoning from microbial contaminants. The simple fact is there is no readily available, suitable alternative to BPA-based can coatings that meets the essential safety and performance requirements for the broadest spectrum of foods now packaged in metal and glass containers, and there is not a regulatory agency in the world that has recommended a ban on the use of BPA in food packaging applications, including Health Canada and the Japanese government.

NAMPA is responding to the current Congressional request for more information on BPA. NAMPA looks forward to the outcome of the ongoing scientific safety assessment of BPA by the appropriate regulatory experts.

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About NAMPA

The North American Metal Packaging Alliance, Inc. and its members support sound science and trust the scientific review process that has protected our food supply for decades. For further information, visit www.metal-pack.org.

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The North American Metal Packaging Alliance, Inc. is an organization whose objectives are to support risk-based regulations in North America, influence regulation in other geographies, provide customers with needed information regarding well-founded technologies, and advocate risk-based decision-making in technology decisions.