

Polycarbonate/Bisphenol A group

January 15, 2010

Reaction to the statement from the US Health and Human Services (HHS) and the US Food and Drug Administration (FDA) issued on Bisphenol A

No evidence of harm to children or adults – scientific research continues to be undertaken and evaluated by the authorities

The HHS statement issued today confirms that exposure to BPA in food contact products has not been proven harmful to children or adults. However, the agency suggests that more research needs to be done and provided guidance on how parents can choose to limit infant exposures.

Regulatory agencies around the world, which have recently reviewed the research, have reached conclusions that support the safety of BPA. In Europe, based on a weight-of-evidence approach, the recent assessments of European Commission and the European Food Safety Authority have consistently concluded that human exposure levels to BPA are low and within the safe limits set by government authorities. Extensive scientific studies have shown that BPA is quickly metabolized and excreted and does not accumulate in the body. BPA is one of the most thoroughly tested chemicals used today.

The members of the Polycarbonate/Bisphenol A group of PlasticsEurope are committed to the safety of their products, and the companies will continue to support laws and regulations that protect consumer safety. While the group recognizes that HHS and FDA are attempting to address public confusion about BPA, the industry group is disappointed that some of the recommendations are likely to worry consumers and are not well-founded.

Plastics made with BPA contribute safety and convenience to our daily lives because of their durability, clarity and shatter-resistance. Can liners and food-storage containers made with BPA are essential components to helping protect the safety of packaged foods and preserving products from spoilage and contamination. The industry remains committed to consumer safety, and will continue to review new scientific studies concerning the safety of BPA.

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