BMI® Bomatic, Inc.
PLASTIC PACKAGING

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May 08, 2012

To whom it may concern,

Subject: Regarding BPA in plastic bottles manufactured and sold by Bomatic Inc.

The plastic bottles produced and sold by Bomatic Incorporated that are manufactured from polypropylene (PP), high density polyethylene (HDPE), polyethylene terephthalate (PET) or Polyvinyl Chloride (PVC).
NONE OF THESE RESINS USED BY BOMATIC TO PRODUCE PLASTIC BOTTLES CONTAIN BPA.

Bomatic Incorporated is dedicated to our commitment to be a responsible supplier who always respects the health and safety of our employees, contractors, customers and the community, as well as the quality of the environment.

Thank you,

Kresten Hestehave
Vice President
Bomatic Inc.

The Claim: Plastic Water Bottles are Unsafe

Support: A cardinal study published in 1998 in *Toxicology and Industrial Health* found that low doses of bisphenol A, a chemical used in the production of hard plastics and the coating of aluminum cans, caused reproductive and developmental abnormalities in rats. These findings spawned a *Consumer Reports* article blasting the substance, and the floodgates opened for terrifying headlines. Various research groups found that BPA was migrating from plastic containers into food and water, causing a maximum average intake of one-tenth of a microgram per day (the EPA has set an "acceptable daily intake" level at 3.6 micrograms per day, based on a 160-pound male). Then in January, the FDA proposed a review of BPA concerns and potentially removing BPA from plastic baby bottles entirely.

The Truth: Not all plastic is created equal. BPA-containing materials have a recycling number of 7 (look for the little triangle). The soft, disposable bottles that carry your water and soda are made with polyethylene terephthalate (PET). They're marked with a recycling number of 1 and are not suspected to contaminate your drink.

Since most of the research on BPA has used rats as subjects, results are poorly replicated in humans. We metabolize BPA much more efficiently than rats, so whatever effect might be seen in the little critters will be decreased in us. Additionally, the acceptable daily intake of BPA for humans is one one-thousandth of the amount it takes to show any effect in rats, according to the EPA (that effect, by the way, is decreased body weight). "Adverse effects have never been observed in humans," says Michael Karmin, Ph.D, a toxicology professor emeritus at Michigan State University. "If you look at the various groups and government organizations all around the world, they almost all agree with the conclusion that there isn't anything that they see happening."

Bottom Line: "Everything is toxic. It's the first rule of toxicology," Karmin says. The important thing is to set safe limits. The amount of BPA that we take in each day is negligible, and we have no reason to believe that greatly exceeding those amounts could cause harm.

Ball Corporation
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March 31, 2012

Thank you for your inquiry regarding bisphenol-A (BPA). The following provides an overview of the benefits of epoxy-based can coatings and BPA, regulatory statements on the safety of epoxy can coatings and what Ball is doing regarding this issue.

Benefits of Epoxy-based Can Coatings

Almost all aluminum and steel beverage and food cans use epoxy-based coatings inside cans as a barrier between the metal and the products in the can. Ball buys these coatings from suppliers.

- Cans are coated with epoxy resin to prevent corrosion, extend shelf life, protect the food contents from the metal packaging and protect the metal packaging from the food contents.
- Metal packaging with internal coatings reduces the potential for serious illness by enabling high temperature sterilization.
- This sterilization virtually eliminates the dangers of food poisoning from microbial contaminants.
- Epoxy-based coatings have been used in cans for decades to protect the product inside the can through various packing processes and to increase its shelf life afterward.

Regulatory Agency Statements on the Safety of Epoxy-based Can Coatings

Epoxy-based coatings may contain trace amounts of BPA. Regulatory agencies in the United States, Canada, Europe, Japan, Australia and New Zealand have reviewed scientific evidence regarding epoxy-based can coatings and have consistently stated these coatings to be safe.

- These regulatory agencies have stated repeatedly that human exposure to BPA from epoxy-based can coatings is well below safe exposure limits set by government bodies worldwide.
- In March 2012, The U.S. Food & Drug Administration rejected the Natural Resources Defense Council's (NRDC) petition to ban bisphenol-A (BPA). The FDA said that petitioners did not present compelling scientific evidence to justify new restrictions on the much-debated chemical, though federal scientists continue to study the issue.
- Prior to this response, the FDA last commented on BPA on Jan. 15, 2010, when it concluded, "FDA is not recommending that families change the use of infant formula or foods, as the benefit of a stable source of good nutrition outweighs the potential risk from BPA exposure."

- Health Canada issued in August 2010 a follow up report about BPA found in soft drink and beer cans. It stated that “the results of this survey clearly indicate that exposure to BPA from the consumption of soft drink and beer products would be very low” and concluded, “The low levels of BPA found in these products confirm Health Canada’s previous assessment conclusion that the current dietary exposure to BPA through food packaging uses is not expected to pose a health risk to the general population."

What Ball is Doing

While these regulatory agency statements affirm the safety of epoxy-based can coatings, public discussion continues regarding bisphenol-A. Ball recognizes that significant interest exists in offering alternatives to epoxy-based coatings, and we have been proactively working with coatings suppliers and our customers to evaluate next generation coatings.

- Currently there is not a viable alternative to epoxy-based coatings that meets the existing requirements of all products packaged in cans.

- Early results from ongoing test packs that began in mid-2008 using potential alternative coatings have been mixed.

- Coatings companies are working on alternatives to epoxy coatings. Once they are identified, it will then be a question of how long it will take the new coating(s) to obtain regulatory approval and to be produced in sufficient amounts by suppliers to meet the needs of the market.

- Ball has converted some foods to cans that use an FDA-approved non-epoxy-based coating, typically involving less acidic products.

- We will work continue to work closely with our suppliers on potential alternative coatings and monitor regulatory activity on this issue.

We are committed to responding to our customers’ needs. If interest continues in non-epoxy-based coatings, Ball will offer cans with those coatings when the coatings become commercially available. Meanwhile, we will continue to monitor regulatory activity on this issue.