



# Foods of Del Monte.

Nourishing Families. Enriching Lives. Every Day.™

Consumer Affairs  
P.O. Box 80  
Pittsburgh, PA 15230-0080  
800-543-3090  
412-222-4123 fax

May 13, 2008

Ms Liz Hawley  
Willie Street Co- Op  
1221 Williamson St  
Madison, WI 53703-3754

Dear Ms Hawley:

Thank you for your call and for your inquiry regarding Bisphenol-A (BPA) in Del Monte canned products. We're glad you took the time to contact us.

We can assure you that canned food is safe. All of the materials used in our standard protective coatings, some of which contain trace amounts of Bisphenol A, are approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration for use in food contact applications, and for more than 40 years have played an essential part in food preservation.

Human exposure to BPA from can coatings is extremely small and poses no known health risk. Epoxy can coatings are approved for food contact use by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration and other government agencies worldwide, which have examined the scientific evidence and consistently reached the conclusion that such low levels of BPA are not a risk to human health. Del Monte Foods is committed to providing high quality, nutritious and great tasting products to consumers, and will continue to work with trade associations such as the Grocery Manufacturers Association and the International Food Information Council to follow developments in this area closely.

The Grocery Manufacturers Association (GMA) has just released a science policy paper, "Bisphenol A: A Guide for Consumers, Policymakers and the Media," designed to provide current and scientifically accurate information on the safety of BPA. While this study is very in-depth, we believe that many consumers will appreciate the detailed information that is contained. Please visit [http://www.gmabrands.com/publications/SciPol\\_Bisphenol.pdf](http://www.gmabrands.com/publications/SciPol_Bisphenol.pdf) to read the GMA science policy paper on BPA.

We also recommend two additional sources of information on the topic:

[www.ific.org/publications/qa/bisphenolaqa.cfm](http://www.ific.org/publications/qa/bisphenolaqa.cfm)  
[www.fda.gov/oc/opacom/hottopics/bpa.html](http://www.fda.gov/oc/opacom/hottopics/bpa.html)

Should you have any additional questions, please don't hesitate to contact us at 1-800-543-3090.

Sincerely,

  
Erin Spiegel

**Del Monte**  
[www.delmonte.com](http://www.delmonte.com)

## 2008.10.24 Update:

Thank you for your e-mail and for your inquiry regarding Bisphenol-A (BPA) in cans. We're glad you took the time to contact us.

We can assure you that canned food is safe. All of the materials used in our standard protective coatings, some of which contain trace amounts of Bisphenol A, are approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration for use in food contact applications, and for more than 40 years have played an essential part in food preservation.

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[www.fda.gov/oc/opacom/hottopics/bpa.html](http://www.fda.gov/oc/opacom/hottopics/bpa.html)

I appreciate the opportunity to respond and hope this information is helpful.

Niki, Del Monte Foods Consumer Affairs  
[consumeraffairs@delmonte.com](mailto:consumeraffairs@delmonte.com)

## 2009.11.09 Update:

Del Monte Foods' top priority is the quality and safety of our products. We are firmly committed to providing clear and fact-based information about our products to consumers, whether through our advertising, marketing or other communication.

These are the facts around BPA:

All Del Monte Foods products are prepared and packaged using safe, FDA-approved processes and materials. Our products come in a variety of packaging, including plastic cups, paper-based packaging and metal cans. Our plastic and paper-based packaging do not use or contain Bisphenol A (BPA). Like most in the industry, the metal cans we use for our consumer products are produced by a third-party vendor, and they use protective coatings which contain trace amounts of BPA that fall well within current FDA guidelines. These coatings are the best method available on the market today for food preservation.

BPA is approved by the FDA for use in food contact applications, and for more than 40 years has played an essential part in food preservation. The safety of BPA has also been approved by the European Food Safety Authority (EFSA) and the World Health Organization (WHO), the Japanese National Institute of Advanced Industrial Science and Technology, and Health Canada, after rigorous review of scientific data.

Del Monte Foods is committed to providing high quality, nutritious and great tasting products to consumers. The use of BPA is an industry-wide matter that is currently being reviewed by the FDA. We will continue to work closely with leading trade associations such as the Grocery Manufacturers Association and the International Food Information Council, to follow any developments in this area closely.

For more information on Bisphenol A (BPA), visit these Websites:

FDA: [www.fda.gov](http://www.fda.gov).

IFIC:

[http://www.foodinsight.org/Resources/Detail.aspx?topic=Questions\\_and\\_Answers\\_About\\_Bisphenol\\_A\\_BPA\\_](http://www.foodinsight.org/Resources/Detail.aspx?topic=Questions_and_Answers_About_Bisphenol_A_BPA_)

American Plastics Council: [www.bisphenol-a.org](http://www.bisphenol-a.org)

Grocery Manufacturers Association:

[www.gmabrands.com/publications/SciPol\\_Bisphenol.pdf](http://www.gmabrands.com/publications/SciPol_Bisphenol.pdf)

I appreciate the opportunity to respond and hope this information is helpful to your members.

Carla, Del Monte Foods Consumer Affairs  
[consumeraffairs@delmonte.com](mailto:consumeraffairs@delmonte.com)