Covestro Position on the Safety of Bisphenol A

Covestro, formerly Bayer MaterialScience, is a new name for a company that has been driven for over 150 years by science and innovation. Our history is steeped in research, and in the long-standing commitment toward discoveries that address unmet customer, market and societal needs. In all of our business segments, science and quality drive our efforts to continually make quality products that are safe and effective.

That same commitment drives Covestro’s Polycarbonates business. As a global leader in the manufacture of polycarbonate, we have a proven record of delivering safe products with superior physical properties. For over five decades, our polycarbonate has been safely used in products ranging from sports and eye protection to food containers and medical devices.

Bisphenol A, or BPA, is indispensable to the production of polycarbonate. It is BPA that helps give polycarbonate the physical properties to be able to perform in extreme and precise conditions. There is no equivalent, well-studied and technically feasible alternative for BPA. Polycarbonate made without BPA would not have the same superior physical properties.

In the past, Bisphenol A has been the subject of intense discussion and public debate. Fortunately, emerging science and the positive opinions of regulatory bodies around the world have helped to correct misperceptions about this important building block and quell concerns about health effects. On January 21, 2015, the European Food Safety Authority (EFSA) released its final report on BPA safety titled “Scientific opinion on the risks to public health related to the presence of Bisphenol A (BPA) in foodstuffs.” Based on a comprehensive re-evaluation of BPA exposure and toxicity, EFSA’s scientific experts concluded in the final report that “there is no health concern for any age group from dietary exposure.” In addition, in 2015, the US Food and Drug Administration reaffirmed its position on BPA stating that “the available information continues to support the safety of BPA for the currently approved uses in food containers and packaging. People may be exposed to low levels of BPA because, like many packaging components, very small amounts of BPA may migrate from the food packaging into foods or beverages. Studies pursued by FDA’s National Center for Toxicological Research (NCTR) have shown no effects of BPA from low-dose exposure.”

Covestro remains confident that the overwhelming weight of scientific evidence supports the use of BPA in our manufacturing process and in our products. We take all concerns about our products seriously. A team of Covestro experts continuously evaluates new information including health studies and we are committed to reacting appropriately should any scientific proof of a health risk related to any of our products develop. We are convinced that there is currently no scientific basis for health or safety concerns regarding BPA when it is used as intended. That’s why we stand behind our polycarbonate products.

Covestro recognizes that, although the weight of the scientific evidence supports BPA safety, some people may still have questions. We are therefore seeking dialogue with all interested parties and would be happy to provide more detailed information and answer any questions. Please feel free to reach out to your sales representative at any time, and as always, thank you for your trust in Covestro.

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