



Epoxy Resin Can Coatings Fact Sheet

- Manufacturers have used epoxy-based can coatings for decades as a barrier between the metal and the products in the can.
- Nearly all aluminum and steel beverage and food cans made today use epoxy-based resin coatings. These coatings extend shelf life, protect the food contents from the metal packaging and protect the packaging from the contents. They also reduce the potential for serious illness by enabling high temperature sterilization, which virtually eliminates the dangers of food poisoning from microbial contaminants.
- The epoxy resin that gives these coatings their durability may include trace amounts of the chemical bisphenol A (BPA).

Regulatory and Legislative Findings

- Regulatory agencies from around the world, including the U.S. Food & Drug Administration and the European Food Safety Authority, have conducted extensive research on epoxy-based can coatings containing BPA and have consistently found them to be safe.
- The FDA, which has conducted wide-ranging research on epoxy-based can coatings containing BPA and reviewed hundreds of other scientific studies, continually reaffirms that the trace amounts of BPA which may be found in food and beverage packaging is safe.

What is Ball Doing?

- While alternative coatings are in various stages of development, challenges still remain with respect to matching the current performance capabilities of epoxy-based can coatings, regulatory approvals, supply capacity and distribution issues.
- Ball has converted some customers' food products to cans with an FDA-approved, non-epoxy-based coating.
- Ball is committed to responding to customer needs and we realize that certain customers and consumers are interested in alternatives to epoxy-based coatings. We will continue to work proactively with our coatings suppliers and customers to evaluate next generation coatings that are commercially available and meet the technical requirements needed to protect all products.
- We also continue to monitor scientific research, as well as regulatory and legislative activity, regarding epoxy-based resin coatings.

Additional Resources

- [U.S. Food & Drug Administration's March 2013 Update on BPA for Use in Food Contact Applications](#)
- [North American Metal Packaging Alliance: Safety of Metal Packaging](#)