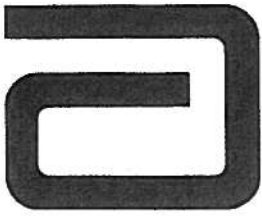


Abbott

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January 31, 2008

The Honorable John D. Dingell, Chairman  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Committee on Energy and Commerce  
2125 Rayburn House Office Bldg.  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Mr. Chairman:

We write in response to the Committee's January 17, 2008 request to Abbott's Ross Products Division for information regarding the use of the chemical bisphenol A (BPA).

As a nutrition and healthcare leader, Abbott takes the quality and safety of our products and packaging very seriously. BPA has been safely used as a part of the coatings in packaging materials for many types of canned foods and other consumer goods for more than 50 years. Like most companies in the food industry, Abbott uses coatings in packaging materials to protect the nutrient content of the product contained inside, to protect the product's flavor and to prevent the product from interacting directly with the metal can.

Please find our written responses below:

1. Does your company use BPA in the lining of metal cans used to hold liquid infant formula? Please provide the specific names of which brands do or do not use BPA in their can lining.

Yes. BPA is used in the lining of all metal cans used to hold liquid infant formula sold by Abbott in the U.S.

BPA is used in the lining of the following brands of concentrated liquid infant formula (*i.e.*, formula that must be mixed with water before serving) sold in 13-ounce metal cans in the U.S.: RCF<sup>®</sup> (Ross Carbohydrate Free), Similac<sup>®</sup> Advance<sup>®</sup>, Similac<sup>®</sup> Isomil<sup>®</sup>, Similac<sup>®</sup> Isomil<sup>®</sup> Advance<sup>®</sup>, Similac<sup>®</sup> Low Iron, Similac<sup>®</sup> With Iron and Similac Sensitive™.

BPA is used in the lining of the following 4 brands of ready-to-feed (*i.e.*, no mixing with water required) liquid infant formula sold in 8-ounce metal cans in the U.S.: Similac<sup>®</sup> Advance<sup>®</sup>, Similac<sup>®</sup> Alimentum<sup>®</sup>, Similac<sup>®</sup> Isomil<sup>®</sup> Advance<sup>®</sup> and Similac<sup>®</sup> Isomil<sup>®</sup> DF.



2. Have you ever tested your infant formula for BPA?

Yes.

3. If you did test your infant formula for BPA, what was the specific methodology used (e.g., gas chromatography - mass spectrometry, liquid chromatography - mass spectrometry, high performance liquid chromatography, or enzyme-linked immunosorbent assay, etc.) and what was the detection limit for the assay used?

Abbott tested its infant formula using gas chromatography - mass spectrometry (GC-MS). The method detection limit (MDL) was 10 micrograms per kilogram (equivalent to 10 parts per billion).

4. If you tested your infant formula for BPA, what were the specific results for each test given the methodology used?

BPA was not detected above the method detection limit in any infant formula sample. Please see the results provided on Appendix A to this letter.

Abbott shares your commitment to the health and well-being of infants, and takes pride in the quality of the products that we manufacture. Please let us know if additional information is needed.

Respectfully,

Hubert L. Allen  
Section Head  
Nutrition Legal Operations

## Appendix A

### BPA Test Results for Liquid Infant Formula Sold in the U.S. in Metal Cans

<u>Year</u>	<u>Brand <sup>(1)</sup></u>	<u>Form</u>	<u>BPA Result <sup>(2)</sup></u>
1998	Alimentum	Ready-to-Feed	None Detected
2002	Alimentum	Ready-to-Feed	None Detected
2002	Alimentum	Ready-to-Feed	None Detected
2003	Alimentum	Ready-to-Feed	None Detected
2003	Alimentum	Ready-to-Feed	None Detected
2004	Alimentum Advance	Ready-to-Feed	None Detected
1998	Isomil	Concentrated Liquid	None Detected
1999	Isomil	Concentrated Liquid	None Detected
2002	Isomil	Concentrated Liquid	None Detected
2003	Isomil	Concentrated Liquid	None Detected
2004	Isomil Advance	Concentrated Liquid	None Detected
2004	Isomil Advance	Ready-to-Feed	None Detected
2004	Isomil Advance	Ready-to-Feed	None Detected
2003	Isomil DF	Ready-to-Feed	None Detected
1999	RCF	Concentrated Liquid	None Detected
1999	RCF	Concentrated Liquid	None Detected
2000	RCF	Concentrated Liquid	None Detected
2000	RCF	Concentrated Liquid	None Detected
2001	RCF	Concentrated Liquid	None Detected
2001	RCF	Concentrated Liquid	None Detected
2002	Similac Advance	Concentrated Liquid	None Detected
2004	Similac Advance	Ready-to-Feed	None Detected
1999	Similac Lactose Free	Concentrated Liquid	None Detected
2003	Similac Lactose Free	Concentrated Liquid	None Detected
1999	Similac Low Iron	Concentrated Liquid	None Detected
2000	Similac Low Iron	Concentrated Liquid	None Detected
2000	Similac Low Iron	Concentrated Liquid	None Detected
1999	Similac With Iron	Concentrated Liquid	None Detected
1999	Similac With Iron	Concentrated Liquid	None Detected
2000	Similac With Iron	Concentrated Liquid	None Detected
2001	Similac With Iron	Concentrated Liquid	None Detected
2001	Similac With Iron	Concentrated Liquid	None Detected
2002	Similac With Iron	Concentrated Liquid	None Detected
2003	Similac With Iron	Concentrated Liquid	None Detected
2004	Similac With Iron	Concentrated Liquid	None Detected

<sup>(1)</sup> Brand name at time of testing

<sup>(2)</sup> Method Detection Limit = 10 micrograms per kilogram (10 ppb)