

# BPA in Thermal receipt papers

There is a growing concern over the potential human health effect of exposure to bisphenol A (BPA) in a wide variety of products including thermal receipt papers. Appleton does not use BPA to produce any of their products. Appleton voluntarily removed BPA from their product formulas in 2006. **Superior Paper Products** has chosen to use Appleton thermal paper exclusively. Below is information to help you decide if the presence of BPA in thermal receipt paper is important to you and your customers.

## What is BPA?

- BPA is a mass-produced industrial chemical used primarily to make polycarbonate plastics and epoxy resins.
- In Jan. 2010, the US FDA announced that recent studies provide **reason for concern** about the potential adverse health effects of BPA on infants and children, especially for applications with direct food.
- Bans are in place in Japan, Canada, and a growing number of US states.
- In March 2010, the EPA released a plan of action to investigate BPA and added the compound as a **chemical of concern** because of its possible harmful effects on the environment.



## Why is BPA used in receipt paper?

- The coatings on direct thermal products contain a small amount of phenol-based coreactants, either BPA or diphenyl sulfones, that react with heat to produce the in image on paper.

### EPA's - BPA Action Plan Summary

March 29, 2010

"One of these activities, to be initiated in April 2010, will address thermal and carbonless paper coatings used in such applications as cash register receipts, a use where preferable alternatives to BPA may be readily available"

Source: EPA.gov



## What should I do next?

- Learn more about the concern over BPA
- Opt out of the controversy by specifying Appleton's brand POS products
  - Alpha™ 400
  - Alpha™ 820

### Where can I go for more information?

For more information on what federal agencies are doing related to BPA, visit the following web sites and search for "BPA."

**U.S. Department of Health and Human Services:**  
<http://www.hhs.gov>

**U.S. Food and Drug Administration:**  
<http://www.fda.gov/>

**Centers for Disease Control and Prevention:**  
<http://www.cdc.gov/>

**U.S. Environmental Protection Agency:**  
<http://www.epa.gov/>

**Consumer Product Safety Commission:**  
<http://www.cpsc.gov/>

**National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences:**  
<http://www.niehs.nih.gov>

**National Toxicology Program:**  
<http://ntp.niehs.nih.gov>

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