



Suggested Environmental Considerations for Infant Formula

Use these suggested environmental considerations in your RFP's or RFI's as a way to evaluate supplier responses or guide decisions in the purchasing process.

Supplier Questions	Preferred Answer	Rationale
1. Is this product's packaging free of intentionally added Bisphenol A, BPA derived chemicals (such as polycarbonate plastic and resins), and Bisphenol S (BPS)? (Yes/No) If no, specify the alternative used.	Yes	BPA is an organic compound used to make polycarbonate plastic, epoxy resins and other applications. Polycarbonate plastic is derived from BPA. Resin derived from BPA is used to line metal food containers. If infant formula is in a metal container, it is likely to contain BPA. BPA is also applied to thermal papers. Bisphenol S, another phthalate with a similar structure as BPA, is of potential concern. BPA is an endocrine disruptor and can lead to many human health effects. It is known to leach out of polycarbonate plastics. However, safe alternatives to BPA are not known at this time. Ask for the name of the alternative in case action is needed when alternatives are known.
2. (a) Is this product provided in a glass or plastic container? (Yes/No)	Yes	Metal cans may be lined with BPA or other Bisphenol that has potential endocrine disrupting effects in lab animal testing.
2. (b) If "no" to #2(a), is this product a powdered formula? (Yes/No)	Yes	According to tests by the FDA, liquid formula has detectable levels of BPA while powdered formula, according to their website, had undetectable levels. The Environmental Working Group also recommends powdered formula as having less BPA than liquid formula. See FDA site: http://www.hhs.gov/safety/bpa/ for more information.
3. Is this product provided in a recyclable container? (Yes/No)	Yes	Recyclable, according to the FTC Green Guides , means the product can be collected, separated, or otherwise recovered from the solid waste stream for reuse, or in the manufacture or assembly of another package or product, through an established recycling program. Any claims of recyclability indicates the supplier can demonstrate that at least 60% of the hospitals in the U.S., or in the product distribution area, have access to an established recycling program for this item, or there is an existing take-back program by the vendor of the manufacturer that has been in operation at least one year and covers the indicated percentage of hospitals and will recycle the product.

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