

**ETPA statement regarding the decision of the European Commission
on bisphenol A in thermal paper**

December 2016

On 13 December 2016, the European Commission announced in the Official Journal that the European Union will restrict the sale on the European market of thermal paper containing bisphenol A in a concentration equal to or greater than 0.02 % by weight after 2 January 2020.

Up to now, the use of the chemical substance in thermal paper has been considered as representing no harm to the human health and its fraction was not limited to a specific threshold, by reason of the results of extensive scientific research conducted in the past. Nevertheless, the European thermal paper industry has offered a considerable range of bisphenol A free thermal papers in the past already, accounting for a significant share of European thermal paper sales.

The members of the ETPA attach utmost importance to product safety and take their responsibility towards humans and the environment very seriously. It goes without saying that the members of the ETPA adhere to the provisions of applicable law and that they operate according to strict ethical principles.

The European Thermal Paper Association (ETPA) is an industry association composed of paper manufacturers active in the European Union. The Union producers hold a leading global position. Thermal printing continues to be a highly competitive technology in a market with significant further growth potential. Thermal printing finds its use with a variety of different applications.

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