

For Immediate Release

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Triclosan Safe for Consumers says Government of Canada

OTTAWA, March 30, 2012 – A draft assessment report, released today by the federal Ministers of Health and Environment as part of Canada's Chemicals Management Program, confirms the safety of triclosan as an ingredient in products that are beneficial to Canadians.

"The draft report clearly shows products made by our members that contain triclosan are safe for Canadians," says Shannon Coombs, President of CCSPA. "Consumers can be confident the products made by our members are safe to use because the products, and their ingredients, are regulated by the Canadian government and have undergone rigorous testing by the manufacturers."

The draft assessment was conducted under the *Canadian Environmental Protection Act (CEPA), 1999* and the *Pest Controls Products Act*. The report concluded triclosan is safe for consumers to use but raised some environmental concerns, which will be examined more closely.

"Our industry is an active participant in Canada's world-leading Chemicals Management Program," says Ms. Coombs, "and we will be providing the federal government with relevant studies and data during the public comment period to ensure the final assessment is based on the most rigorous and modern science."

What is triclosan? Triclosan has been used safely and effectively for more than 40 years and has an extensive database of studies and real-world application. It is used as a material preservative and antimicrobial in a wide range of cosmetics and personal care products, including non-prescription drugs. It has been proven to provide health benefits in some products, such as its use in toothpaste to protect against gingivitis. Triclosan is also used as a material preservative in the manufacture of textiles, leather, paper, plastic and rubber to prevent the growth of bacteria, fungus, and mildew, and to prevent odours.

About Canadian Consumer Specialty Products Association (www.ccspa.org): CCSPA is a national trade association that represents 42 member companies across Canada, collectively a \$20 billion industry directly employing 12,000 people in over 120 facilities. Our companies manufacture, process, package and distribute consumer, industrial and institutional specialty products such as soaps and detergents, pest control products, aerosols, hard surface disinfectants, deodorizers and automotive chemicals.

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