

**To: SuperNutrition Customers
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From: The Mooney Family, SuperNutrition

SuperNutrition Safety Is Our Highest Priority

SuperNutrition has been a family owned and operated business for thirty years. We take our own vitamins. We have always prided ourselves on our superb purity and quality control. We have never had a problem with contaminants or impurities in any of our formulas in all of this time, and do everything that we can to ensure safety. We do not use any artificial fillers or binders, and strive to ensure that every ingredient in our products is safe and natural to the human body.

We have strong, consistent relationships with our manufacturing sources, and constantly work to ensure that our facilities are up to the same level of safety and integrity as we demand for our customers.

To make up for any possible lack of information on regulation in vitamin sourcing, we further ensure purity and safety by belonging to several industry quality control organizations, including TruLabel, that perform random testing and safety checks on our facilities and products. We also perform random, periodic assays on the individual ingredients in our formulas to test for contaminants as well as to ensure ingredient accuracy.

We are very confident in our quality and safety. We hope that this answers some of your concerns.

Re: The Purity of Vitamins from China and Other Countries of Origin

It is true that the federal government does not have enough inspectors to examine all of the foods, vitamins and other materials that come into the United States, nor even to examine manufacturing plants in the U.S. itself.

It never has. In fact, because of recent cutbacks in the number of government inspectors, it is estimated that some manufacturing plants in the U.S. will get seen only once in ten years.

This is not new. Even though the U.S. Government has rules and regulation about goods coming in from other countries, it has never had enough inspectors to check every shipment.

Dietary Supplement Industry Inspects Imported Ingredients Beyond Federal Inspections

The dietary supplement industry is aware of the need for more oversight, and is far more sensitive to this concern than the food industry. Dietary supplements are scrutinized more rigorously than foods. The dietary supplement industry is also aware that, regardless of regulations and federal inspections, the safety of consumers is the responsibility of the dietary supplement industry.

For this reason, the dietary supplement industry has been far more rigorous than any other similar industry. Importers of dietary supplement ingredients (vitamins, minerals, amino acids, etc.) have standard purity inspection procedures for each shipment they receive. The distributors they

sell these basic ingredients to also have their own inspection procedures for purity. The distributors at

the next level of distributorship again have inspections for purity. They do this because they know if they allow impurities that cause human harm, they will be out of business.

Industry Inspections Ensure a Greater Purity in U.S. Vitamins than in Foods

The vitamins and minerals taken in the United States are the safest substances we consume. There are over two hundred times fewer reports of adverse effects from impurities in dietary supplements than there are from food poisonings. In fact, of the approximately 1 billion doses of vitamins taken every year, the National Centers for Disease Control and Prevention has received only 7,000 reports of adverse effects. This amounts to only one (generally minor) adverse effect for every 285,000 doses. People are far more likely to experience significant problems from tainted foods or to be at risk of toxicity from over-the-counter (OTC) drugs or prescription drugs. While the first ten-year report of the Centers For Poison Control showed no deaths from vitamins, there were 2584 deaths from OTC drugs like aspirin and over one million deaths from doctor-prescribed drugs. (This amounted to one death from prescription drugs every five minutes). Importers of dietary supplements and their distributor's on-site inspections have proven to be effective.

This is partly because almost all vitamins and minerals have no significant toxicity at the doses contained in dietary supplements, and because of the dietary supplement importers and distributors doing such a good job of inspecting raw materials of vitamins, minerals and other dietary supplement ingredients for impurities.

While some impurities were recently found in pet food ingredients, we have no information that pet food importers do the same testing and self-policing as the dietary supplement ingredient importers. In over fifty years, the supplement industry has had only one incident of an impurity getting into a dietary supplement. This occurred in the case of the amino acid tryptophan over ten years ago. No impurities or toxicities were reported before or after that.

Dietary Supplement Ingredient Importers and Distributors Inspect All Imports Regardless of Country of Origin

While it is true that China does manufacture most of the world's Vitamin C and B-vitamins, this didn't happen yesterday. As China's manufacturing share of the dietary supplement industry ingredients has grown over the years, the dietary supplement industry has done its job of ensuring that vitamins and minerals sold and used in the United States of America are free of impurities. As the U.S., for economic reasons, has become more dependent on international imports for products in every industry and has lost much of its domestic manufacturing capability, some raw materials have become unavailable from sources in the United States.

We are a different industry than the pet food industry. We do police ourselves, and our safety record is the best in the world. There is no question that the federal government will have to do something significantly more to protect the food chain. We hope they extend the concern to the dietary supplement ingredients imports as well, but the dietary supplement industry is not waiting. We already watch our imports scrupulously and we will continue. Consume safety is our first concern.

Please feel free to call us if you have additional questions.

Patrick Mooney, President and CEO, Kathy Mooney, COO and Michael Mooney, VP
Education

1925 Brush St. • Oakland, CA 94612 • (510) 446-7980 • FAX (510) 625-1880 •
www.supernutritionusa.com