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Firm recalls Boost Tea due to possible salmonella contamination

Awareness Corp. of Mesa, Ariz., is voluntarily recalling its 7.4 ounce container of Boost Tea because it may be contaminated with *Salmonella*.

No illnesses have been reported in connection with this recall; however the recalled Boost Tea was distributed nationwide by distributors from Awareness. The product's white plastic container is marked with Lot #022615 on the bottom panel of the container and with an expiration date of 10/17 stamped on the container. It was first sold to distributors on or about December 15, 2015.

The possibility of *Salmonella* contamination was noted after routine testing by a third party customer of FutureCeuticals, a large manufacturer and supplier of organic ingredients in North America. The company was informed that organic spinach powder produced by FutureCeuticals tested positive for *Salmonella* in another company's product, not in Boost Tea. Boost Tea also contains this organic spinach powder ingredient obtained from supplier FutureCeuticals.

Salmonella is an organism that can cause serious and sometimes fatal infections in young children, frail or elderly people, and others with weakened immune systems. Healthy persons infected with *Salmonella* often experience fever, diarrhea, nausea, vomiting and abdominal pain. In rare circumstances, infection with *Salmonella* can result in the organism getting into the bloodstream area and producing more severe illnesses such as arterial infections, endocarditis and arthritis.

Upon notification by the FDA of FutureCeuticals Spinach powder issues, Awareness conducted its own investigation and had independent lab analysis performed by two separate analytical laboratories which confirmed a complete absence of *Salmonella* in its Boost Tea product. Based on Awareness' concern about product safety, it is conducting this voluntary recall as a preventative measure. To prevent a recurrence of this concern, Awareness has removed organic Spinach powder from Boost Tea and expects new Boost Tea to be available in the next few weeks.

Consumers who have purchased Boost Tea can return it to the place of purchase for a full refund. Consumers with questions may contact the company at (480) 615-3530 X556.

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