



VIDEO AVAILABLE: Herbalife Or Herbal-lead, asks Fraud Discovery Institute

FDA-registered, independent lab results reveal regulation-breaking lead levels in Herbalife's (NYSE:HLF) best-selling products

For Immediate Release

SAN DIEGO/EWORLDWIRE/May 19, 2008 --- Levels of lead that are in excess of what the law allows under California's Safe Drinking and Toxic Environment Act of 1994, more commonly known as Prop. 65 are contained in the Herbalife (NYSE:HLF) products that were analyzed, says lawyer and dietary supplement and Prop. 65 expert Christopher Grell in a letter to the Fraud Discovery Institute (FDI) now posted on the FDI Web site ("<http://www.frauddiscovery.net>").

Grell later adds:

"Since Herbalife's products are often times sold as a weight-loss Program containing many of the dietary supplements that were analyzed, a warning should be placed on all Herbalife Weight Management Program packages containing these products on the grounds that the cumulative exposure to lead from the daily use of Herbalife's Weight Management Program supplements exceed the Maximum Acceptable Levels (MADLs) and the No Significant Risk Levels (NSRLs) (see Title 22 Section 12705 California Code of Regulations)."

On April 25, 2008, FDI announced in a press release that it would begin testing certain Herbalife products. The results of these tests reveal that, among other products, the company's best-selling Healthy Meal Nutritional Shake and Shapeworks Protein Drink Mix, when taken as recommended by Herbalife, contain 8.5 times and 12 times the maximum daily exposure to lead levels. "This is especially troubling," stated Barry Minkow, co-founder of FDI, "because Herbalife, a California-based company, faces the toughest scrutiny in the country under the California-based Proposition 65.

According to FDI, also noted in the newly released information is the fact that this is not the first time Herbalife products have come under such scrutiny. After the release of the two separate studies done in two different countries now available on the FDI Web site ("<http://www.frauddiscovery.net>") titled, "Herbal does not mean innocuous: Ten cases of severe hepatotoxicity associated with dietary supplements from Herbalife products" (Journal of Hepatology 47 (2007 521-526)), and, "Association Between Consumption of Herbalife Nutritional Supplements and Acute Hepatotoxicity" (Journal of Hepatology (2007 Oct 47(4) 514-520)) , Herbalife asked the public to believe the company's explanations and excuses over the results of the studies regarding the safety of its products. "They cannot do that anymore," said Minkow. "We simply looked at Table 3 of the Switzerland study and selected the top six Herbalife products that appeared to be linked to the most damage and tested these products at an independent, FDA-registered lab, and they all contained level-breaking lead amounts."

The Fraud Discovery Institute then promptly wrote a letter that included the lab test results and a Nutraceutical expert's legal opinion and sent it to Congressman Henry A. Waxman. Congressman Waxman had warned the FDA in April of 2007 of the dangers of lead in various nutritional products.

Believes Minkow, the saddest part of these results, after this third alarm regarding Herbalife product danger, is that this is a clear pattern which is now firmly established. "Herbalife supervisors and distributors are both encouraged and instructed by the company to diligently consume these dangerous lead levels daily and in mass amounts," said Minkow. "This might explain why our legal expert concluded his analysis of the test results by stating: 'Ironically, it is a health and nutrition company that appears to be selling a product that amounts to nothing more than a lead cocktail'."

To view the complete documents, visit the Fraud Discovery Institute at '<http://www.frauddiscovery.net>'.

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