

22 februari 2021

## **ENGEL. provides safe bamboo products**

ENGEL. is dismayed at the lack of clarity that has been created surrounding the safety of bamboo products following an investigation by the Netherlands Food and Consumer Product Safety Authority (in Dutch: NVWA).

The recent NVWA [study](#) on melamine-bamboo tableware showed that some of the cups, bowls and mugs that were examined released too much formaldehyde, more than the standard set by the EU.

ENGEL. applauds this kind of investigation and standard, particularly if it reduces and detects health and safety risks. We test our own bamboo products for food safety and harmful substances, and can conclude that they are well below the permissible standard for potentially hazardous substances.

There is therefore no cause for concern regarding the risks described by the NVWA, as our products are well below the EU standard. It is not known whether ENGEL. products were included in the NVWA investigation, but if any of our products had been unsafe (high-risk) products, we would have been informed about this in writing.

The NVWA has now issued national rules banning the sale and purchase of bamboo products. To us it is inconceivable that such a generalisation has been made about these products, with no distinction between safe and unsafe products. The Netherlands Nutrition Centre Foundation (in Dutch: Voedingscentrum) has also confirmed there is no evidence showing that this type of tableware has implications for long-term health.

Since there is no question of any acute danger to public health, the NVWA is not issuing an obligatory product recall.

ENGEL offers products that contribute towards a kinder and better world. Our bamboo products are as sustainable as they possibly can be, and are intended to serve as a replacement for the use of plastics and all disposable tableware. We are as transparent as possible about the choices we make in this regard. Please see the [product information](#) about our bamboo tableware.