

PRESS RELEASE

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Commissioner

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Department of Consumer Protection Takes Action in Nationwide Slim-Fast Drink Recall *Consumers urged to contact company for full refund*

HARTFORD, December 4 – Department of Consumer Protection Food Inspectors are contacting retailers today to enforce a nationwide recall of **all Slim-Fast® ready-to-drink (RTD) products in cans**, agency commissioner Jerry Farrell, Jr. said today.

Unilever United States, Inc., in cooperation with the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) launched the voluntary recall due to the possibility of contamination with *Bacillus cereus*, a micro-organism which may cause diarrhea and possibly nausea and/or vomiting.

The popular canned drink products were sold in stores nationwide, individually or packaged in paperboard cartons containing four, six or twelve 11-ounce cans.

“**All** Slim-Fast drinks in cans, regardless of flavor, lot code or UPC number are recalled,” Farrell said. “This is a huge number of items, and I strongly encourage persons who have Slim Fast in cans to not drink them and contact the company for a refund. By passing the word along to your friends and family members as well, you may help prevent someone from becoming ill.”

Products include all flavors of Slimfast Ready to Drink Classic, Ready to Drink 3-2-1, Ready to Drink Low Calorie, Ready to Drink Low-Carb, Ready to Drink Optima, and Ready to Drink Optima Plus Protein drinks.

Slim-Fast® powdered shakes, meal bars, or snack bars are **not** affected by this recall.

The recall was initiated after the company conducted quality testing on Slim-Fast® products in cans. Out of an abundance of caution, the company is recalling all ready-to drink products in cans that are currently in distribution centers, on-shelf or in back rooms in retail outlets or in consumers’ homes. The company is in the process of identifying and correcting the production issue, and will resume production and shipment when the issue has been addressed and corrected.

Consumers who have purchased Slim-Fast® drink products in cans are urged to contact the company at **1-800-896-9479** for a full refund. The company’s Consumer Services Center is open Monday – Friday, 8:30 AM – 6:00 PM ET. A recorded message is available 24/7.

“While the probability of serious adverse health effects is low, no one wants to be made nauseous or ill from something they’ve consumed,” Farrell said. “Our agents will remain in the field making sure these items are taken off sale.”

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