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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:
**Tests Conducted by the National Sanitation Foundation Indicate No Difference In Safety
Between Wood and Plastic Cutting Boards.**

Announced by George A. Kupfer, Chief Operating Officer, NSF® International

August 20, 1993, Ann Arbor, MI — NSF International (NSF®) has completed a series of tests to determine the difference in bacterial viability potential between wood and plastic cutting boards and the effects of these on a common bacteria that may cause food poisoning or food borne illness. Earlier this year, the University of Wisconsin reported on a study that concluded that wooden cutting boards kill bacteria that survive well on plastic boards. The results of the NSF study directly contradicts the Wisconsin report. There was no difference between the two materials evident from the study performed by NSF.

NSF compared the viability of *E. Coli* on wood and plastic surfaces, and also tested the effects of wood dust and wood and plastic chips on cultures of *E. Coli*. No difference in growth support potential of either surface was demonstrated for the *E. Coli*. NSF cooperated and shared its data with the U.S. Food and Drug Administration's Office of Special Research Skills, which was concurrently carrying out its own research.

NSF International is widely known as the premier, nonprofit, third-party certifier of products relating to the public health and environmental quality. It routinely tests cutting boards and certifies those which comply with NSF Criteria C-2.

NSF was chartered in Michigan in 1944. Today, its consensus standards product certification services extend through the U.S.A. and 37 international countries. In addition, it registers manufacturers and suppliers quality systems for with conformant with the ISO-9000.

Bally Block Company

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