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## NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release  
December 21, 2017

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### **NPA Seeks New Process for Validation of Nutritional Supplements *First Ever Request of Its Kind Submitted On Behalf of Bergstrom Nutrition***

**WASHINGTON, D.C.**— A request made on behalf of Bergstrom Nutrition by the Natural Products Association (NPA) to the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) could lead to lower costs for consumers and the federal government and increase the overall quality of nutritional supplements. This is the first time a manufacturer has submitted a Citizen Petition requesting a reduction in identity testing while showing no diminution in product quality, based upon their historical record of demonstrating high quality. Bergstrom Nutrition has manufactured OptiMSM<sup>®</sup>, a nutritional supplement containing methylsulfonylmethane (MSM), for nearly 20 years and is currently its only product. “Bergstrom Nutrition’s long-standing commitment to providing consistent high quality methylsulfonylmethane from our dedicated facility makes us a perfect fit for a petition of this nature.” Said Rodney Benjamin, Bergstrom’s Director of R&D and Technical Support.” “Our goal is to increase efficiencies for our customers thereby saving them time and money,” added Tim Hammond, Vice-president of Sales and Marketing for Bergstrom.

NPA’s and Bergstrom’s letter to FDA regarding the Citizen’s Petition can be viewed here [http://www.npainfo.org/App\\_Themes/NPA/docs/press/Documents/Cover%20letter%20FDA%20citizen%20petition.pdf](http://www.npainfo.org/App_Themes/NPA/docs/press/Documents/Cover%20letter%20FDA%20citizen%20petition.pdf)

“This request is consistent with the Trump Administration’s commitment to streamlining regulations and making the government more efficient for consumers and businesses,” said Daniel Fabricant, Ph.D., President and CEO of NPA. “Bergstrom ranks among the most reputable companies in the industry and allowing them to streamline their approval process for products with strong science and statistical evidence will save the government and consumers money and increase the quality of nutritional supplements. This is the first time anything like this has been done and we expect this could have big implications across the industry once approved. We look forward to working with the agency to answer any further questions they may have in the course of evaluating this Citizen Petition.”

#### **Natural Products Association**

The **Natural Products Association (NPA)** is *the* trade association representing the entire natural products industry. We advocate for our members who supply, manufacture and sell natural ingredients or products for consumers. The Natural Products Association promotes good manufacturing practices as part of the growth and success of the industry. Founded in 1936, NPA



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represents approximately 1,000 members accounting for more than 10,000 locations of retailers, manufacturers, wholesalers and distributors of natural products, including foods, dietary supplements and health/beauty aids. Visit [www.NPAinfo.org](http://www.NPAinfo.org).  
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