Massena Operations has the risk of a molten metal explosion due to beverage containers (POTENTIAL BOMBS) being found in scrap boxes and other areas in/near Molten Metal areas. With this continued risk the decision has been made to institute a Gate to Gate policy that defines what is permitted/not permitted in areas of our plant. (manufacturing areas, offices and all contractor controlled spaces).

Q. Why is there a concern with cans & bottles in the Plant?
A: Liquid submerged into molten metal will explode due to rapid expansion of the liquid. We continue to have an issue with cans and bottles placed in our aluminum scrap boxes. Improper disposal of these containers creates an unacceptable safety hazard when charged into a Casthouse furnace or a smelter pot. The potential exists for a violent steam and molten metal explosion! Under the “correct” conditions, if the container was submerged under molten aluminum, it will expand 1700 times beyond its original volume causing an extremely violent explosion. Entrapped water (liquids) and molten metal do not mix. Every Massena Alcoa and contractor visiting our plant needs to be aware of this danger to their co-workers in the Plant.

Q: Are there any exceptions to this rule?
A: No, see plant policy on this topic.

Q: Can I transport my disposable beverage container in my lunchbox?
A: Yes–disposable beverage containers listed below which are PERMITTED can be carried into approved areas of consumption. (ie. breakrooms, lunchrooms, offices)

Q: What containers will be allowed?
A: See examples in this document

Q: Who do I contact to find out if a container is acceptable?
A: The Safety department
Beverage Containers **NOT PERMITTED** inside the gate of the Plant:

Beverage Containers **PERMITTED** inside the gate of the Plant: