

Project LESS

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Objective

To develop a product with lowest reasonable sidestream without sacrificing mainstream smoke quality.

Status

Panel tasting of two products targeted at 200 Special Filter (ST) using 2000 rated conditions has been carried out. Both products were made with blends containing 400 2000 and Filtrona 2000 filters. Two different papers (10, SCUSTA 2000) were used to give 95 and 65% reduction in sidestream TARS. When smoked against an 800 manufactured RUSF control, no statistically significant differences were found between the cigarettes on the parameters tested. However, expert smoking Leaf Departments (oking and Millbank, Product Development) found slight differences in irritation, flavour pitch, compared to RUSF. Leaf Department has assigned a number of blends to match RUSF (ST) and 200 Ultra 1000 (Fogosa) - target products - and these will be manufactured on 21 October 1999. These have been destined to give a closer match for costs than the original blend.

SCUSTA and 200 have visited 800 to discuss the availability and specifications of papers required for this project. SCUSTA indicated that many of the previous samples of papers were difficult to manufacture and are not commercially viable. They will produce a slower burn version of their current commercial Magnesium Oxide (MgO) low visibility paper to help reduce the gas phase sidestream. 800 have been asked to manufacture a series of papers containing mixtures of Calcium Carbonate and Calcium Sulphate to give a slow burn paper. They will also produce a series using ultra fine Calcium Carbonate which they claim will act in a similar fashion to MgO papers.

A review meeting with paper suppliers is planned for the end of the year.

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