


**BRITISH-AMERICAN TOBACCO COMPANY LIMITED**


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**TO:** Mr B.D. Bramley

**CC:** G.A. Read  
G.P. Burgess

**FROM:** Dr R.E. Thornton

**DATE:** 17th May 1993

**SUBJECT:** Scientific Research Group: Advisers

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This report is given for consideration at the May 19th meeting of the TSG.

The following persons are consultants to BATCo and in this capacity advise on the scientific merit of grant applications received by the Scientific Research Group.

Dr F.J.C. Roe (U.K., London) Cancer & Toxicology  
 Professor J. Parry (U.K., Wales) Molecular Biology  
 Dr S. Wonnacott (U.K., Bath) Pharmacology  
 Professor A.R. Feinstein (U.S.A., Yale) Epidemiology

Dr Roe is a consultant of long standing, Dr Wonnacott was appointed in 1989, Professor Parry in January 1992, Professor Feinstein in April 1993.

We have also invited Professor U. Mohr (Germany, Hannover) to act as adviser in relation to inhalation toxicology. We are also considering appointing a sixth consultant to advise on genetic predisposition to disease. There are three possible advisers, one in Switzerland, one in Germany, and one in Canada.

All of the above advisers (existing or projected) have strong international reputations, have published widely, and are independent in the sense that there are no constraints on the advice that they can give. With six advisers, there would be a fair international balance. Currently the SRG is funding studies in Canada, Denmark, Finland, U.K. and the U.S.A.

This list is also considered appropriate to the level of grant applications received annually (10 - 15) and to the areas of research which applications usually address. However, should we receive applications in the area of smoking behaviour, we may seek advice from Professor Michael Russell (U.K., London). None of the advisers are in receipt of BAT funding for projects.

The role of SRG advisers is explained further in this note which sets out the working procedures of the SRG, agreed within the BAT Group as "best operating practice".

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Terms of Reference of SRG

1. From a scientific view point smoking issues are defined as the effects of smoking, if any, on the smoker, particularly claims as to the association between smoking, and individual smoke components, with specific diseases and/or normal health.
2. The SRG will identify available research relevant to smoking issues.
3. The SRG will evaluate the results, quality and implications of such work.
4. The SRG, in accordance with the procedures for grant awarding set out below, will consider additional meritorious research contributions to smoking issues including, wherever possible, the identification of research centres where such work could be carried out.

Members of SRG as of 1.4.1993

Chairman	Dr R.E. Thornton	BATCo
Secretary	Dr L.J. Rudge	BATCo
	Mr G.A. Read	BATCo
	Mr T.G. Mitchell	BATCo
	Dr D. Pangritz	BATCF
	Dr S. Appleton	B&W
	Dr C.J.P. de Siqueira	Souza Cruz
	Dr S.R. Massey	IT Canada
	Dr P. Madsen	House of Prince, Denmark

Members of the SRG are Senior Scientists in the BAT Group with relevant scientific and business knowledge. Mr G.A. Read attends as Head of BATCo R&D.

Reporting Procedures of SRG

1. Until 1990, annual report by Chairman of SRG (Dr R.E. Thornton) to Research Policy Group, RPG, then to Tobacco Strategy Review Team. Subsequently to Tobacco Strategy Group.
2. SRG Newsletter reviewing new scientific research circulated within BAT Group and some BATCo Companies on a monthly or bi-monthly basis. Prepared by Dr Linda Rudge, who acts as secretary to SRG
3. Within BAT Group Companies individual members of the SRG communicate directly to senior management.

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Grant-awarding Procedures of SRG

1. Grant applications are received by BATCo, or other Group Companies. They may also be solicited by the Chairman of the SRG where specific areas of research have been identified (see Terms of Reference of SRG item 4 above).
2. The Chairman of the SRG will be primarily responsible for selecting individual projects consistent with priority areas agreed by the SRG and the terms of reference of the SRG. The Chairman may solicit advice from experts in the relevant field, whether from within BAT or outside, to assist in his assessment of the project. A proposal for funding will be considered at one of the formal meetings of the SRG. These meetings occur twice a year. Existing and prospective grant holders may be invited to such meetings for discussions on progress or for clarification of grant applications. If a favourable opinion for funding of a project is given by the SRG, the Chairman will seek the views of independent consultants with relevant expertise on the scientific merits of the proposal. The Chairman would then proceed to fund applications which had the approval of both the SRG and the independent consultants.
3. In consideration of the relevance of studies due consideration is given by the Chairman and secretary of the SRG to the state of similar scientific research either in general or funded by the Tobacco Industry, for example in the U.S.A., (Council of Tobacco Research), Germany (Verband der Cigarettenindustrie and Forschungsrat), Australia (Australian Tobacco Research Foundation) and Switzerland (Communaute de l'industrie Suisse de la Cigarette).
45. As noted, the SRG meets twice a year to consider new areas for possible research, to consider new grant applications and to review the progress in existing projects. In view of the world-wide spread of members of the SRG, consultants and grant holders the meetings are held in appropriate locations. For 1993 the proposed venues are:

1st Meeting	Denmark (to review Danish and Finnish studies)
2nd Meeting	USA (to review USA and Canadian studies, and for meeting with Professor Feinstein)

Formal minutes are prepared after all SRG meetings by the Secretary.

Dr R.E. Thornton

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