

8

Additives

A central data-base is now established at Southampton showing the current status of some 730 additives, in terms of acceptance for use in tobacco products as shown in external published lists e.g. Independent Science Commission, German Food Law. Criteria for the acceptance or rejection of individual additives for use within BAT are being drafted. A limited number of additives of uncertain status will be referred to the Scientific Research Group for further consideration. Those accepted will be added to the common list which so far contains approximately 600 materials.

However, the use of specific additives by individual BAT Group companies may be conditioned by additional criteria dependent on local considerations and including specific legal constraints in the markets in which the products are to be sold.

In addition all BAT Group companies have agreed to submit lists of flavours and additives used on a brand by brand basis to form a "usage" data base in Southampton. This should be available from August 1990.

The above agreements are a necessary first stage in resolving some of the existing problems relating to additive usage in the Group, e.g. in Finland where sourcing of brands from various Group companies (with differing criteria) is a potential difficult in relation to disclosures being requested by the Finnish Medical Board, and may need approval by senior management to resolve the problem by changes in flavour formulation etc. Criteria for the assessment of agrochemicals were also agreed and thereafter these compounds would be treated on a similar scheme to the one detailed above for tobacco additives.

RET/ALH/SC
3rd May, 1990

502579416