

## SMOKING AND HEALTH AND THE REGULATORY ENVIRONMENT

### Background

The Smoking Research Group (SRG) has Group responsibilities for monitoring, developing and implementing scientific activities relating to smoking and health. The programme of work is co-ordinated by BATCo and reviewed and directed by the SRG, a body comprising representatives of B&W, ITL, BATCF, Souza Cruz and BATCo.

In addition to the specific smoking and health responsibilities, BATCo has retained additional responsibility for biological and scientific aspects of regulatory issues that relate to product and process. This programme is co-funded by BATCo, B&W, ITL, Souza Cruz and BATCF.

To-date these Work Areas have been operated as separate but related activities. In the future it is proposed that these activities are integrated into one functional area and reviewed by the SRG.

### Group Strategic Objectives

1. To monitor and review the status of scientific research in respect of Smoking and Health issues and provide a resource for evaluating and responding to the published findings.
2. To develop and support an independent research programme required to clarify the scientific basis of the Smoking and Health issue. The primary focus of this fundamental research will be aimed at understanding the basis of disease and disease mechanisms.
3. To establish a network of independent scientific experts in relevant fields of science to provide opinion and where required to provide direction for, and evaluation and review of, the independent research programme.
4. To maintain a detailed awareness of, and an ability to respond to, scientifically related regulatory issues that impact on cigarette use.
5. To provide an in-house resource capable of advising on the biological and toxicological aspects of additive and agrochemical use, future cigarette design and product innovations.
6. At the direction of the TSG, to liaise with Legal Department to ensure that the Company continues to discharge its scientific responsibilities and obligations in respect of the product. To provide scientific information and interpretation for Public Affairs relevant to issues management and the Smoking and Health debate.

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