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CA 2174440 C 2004/06/08

(11)(21) **2 174 440**

(12) **BREVET CANADIEN
CANADIAN PATENT**

(13) **C**

(86) Date de dépôt PCT/PCT Filing Date: 1994/10/13	(51) Cl.Int. ⁶ /Int.Cl. ⁶ A24D 1/04, A24D 3/04
(87) Date publication PCT/PCT Publication Date: 1995/04/27	(72) Inventeur/Inventor: WHITE, PETER REX, GB
(45) Date de délivrance/Issue Date: 2004/06/08	(73) Propriétaire/Owner: BROWN & WILLIAMSON TOBACCO CORPORATION, US
(85) Entrée phase nationale/National Entry: 1996/04/17	(74) Agent: FETHERSTONHAUGH & CO.
(86) N° demande PCT/PCT Application No.: GB 1994/002245	
(87) N° publication PCT/PCT Publication No.: 1995/010951	
(30) Priorité/Priority: 1993/10/19 (9321536.6) GB	

(54) Titre : ARTICLES DESTINES A ETRE FUMES
(54) Title: SMOKING ARTICLES

(57) **Abrégé/Abstract:**

Smoking articles, cigarettes for example, having a tar delivery of not more than 6 mg, a filter ventilation of at least 50 % and a ventilation zone located not less than 75 % of the length of the filter from the mouth end thereof exhibit enhanced mainstream smoke water-to-tar ratios.



PCT

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INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

(51) International Patent Classification ⁶ : A24D 1/00, 3/04	A1	(11) International Publication Number: WO 95/10951 (43) International Publication Date: 27 April 1995 (27.04.95)
(21) International Application Number: PCT/GB94/02245 (22) International Filing Date: 13 October 1994 (13.10.94) (30) Priority Data: 9321536.6 19 October 1993 (19.10.93) GB (71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): BROWN & WILLAMSON TOBACCO CORPORATION [US/US]; 1500 Brown & Williamson Tower, Louisville Galleria, Louisville, KY 40202 (US). (72) Inventor; and (75) Inventor/Applicant (for US only): WHITE, Peter, Rex [GB/GB]; 20 Duttons Road, Romsey, Hampshire SO51 8DR (GB). (74) Agent: BARKER, BRETTELL & BOUTLAND; Prudential Buildings, Room 24, 97-101 Above Bar Street, Southamp- ton, Hampshire SO14 7JW (GB).		(81) Designated States: CA, CN, JP, RU, US. 2174440 Published <i>With international search report.</i>
(54) Title: SMOKING ARTICLES (57) Abstract Smoking articles, cigarettes for example, having a tar delivery of not more than 6 mg, a filter ventilation of at least 50 % and a ventilation zone located not less than 75 % of the length of the filter from the mouth end thereof exhibit enhanced mainstream smoke water-to-tar ratios.		

SMOKING ARTICLES

The subject invention relates to smoking articles.

- 5 Smokers of low tar delivery cigarettes have reported that the mainstream smoke therefrom is of a dry character.

It is an object of the subject invention to provide low tar delivery cigarettes which exhibit an enhanced mainstream smoke water-to-tar ratio.

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- According to the present invention, a smoking article comprises a smoking material rod and a filter, the NFDPM (Nicotine Free Dry Particulate Matter) delivery of the article being not more than about 6mg under standard machine smoking conditions, the filter being ventilated to at least a 50% ventilation value, characterised in that the ventilation zone of the filter is located not less than about 75% of the length of the filter from the mouth end thereof, and that said article exhibits an enhanced mainstream smoke water-to-tar ratio (X100) of at least 6.

- 20 The EP-A-0474940 discloses a smoking article having the non-characterising features of the preceding paragraph.

- Preferably, the ventilation level of the inventive smoking article is at least 60%. It is also preferable that the ventilation zone is located not less than about 80% of the length of the filter from the mouth end thereof. Advantageously, the ventilation zone is located at least 20mm from the mouth end of the filter and it may be located 24mm or more from the mouth end.

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Advantageously, the filter is a mono-filter and is of, substantially at least, homogenous internal constitution throughout its length. It may comprise as filtration material fibrous cellulose acetate tow.

- 5 When cigarettes are smoked at standard (ISO) machine smoking conditions, the smoking machine takes a 35cc puff of 2 seconds duration in each minute. The degree of ventilation is taken to be the percentage of the 35cc puff volume which is constituted by ventilation air.
- 10 As used herein the term "tar" means total Nicotine Free Dry Particulate Matter of the mainstream smoke, (NFDPM). It is measured according to a standard procedure at standard machine smoking conditions and with the use of a Cambridge filter pad. Preferably, the NFDPM delivery of smoking articles according to the subject invention is not more than about 5.5mg. It
- 15 may be as low as 2 to 3mg.

The ventilation of cigarettes according to the subject invention may be provided by mechanical, laser or electrostatic means and may take the form of a single row of holes extending circumferentially of the filter or of a

20 wider zone of perforation openings. If such zone is of significant width, i.e. that dimension extending lengthwise of the filter, the air flow rate will be higher towards the side of the zone nearer the mouth end of the filter and lower towards the other end. In such cases the distance of the zone from the mouth end of the filter is taken to be the distance taken from the

25 mouth end to the effective ventilation mid-point, this latter being the

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location in the ventilation zone whereof the total ventilation air flow per unit time upstream of the location is equivalent to the total ventilation air flow per unit time downstream of the location.

EXAMPLE

Control cigarettes and cigarettes according to the subject invention had the following features in common.

Tobacco:	Virginia Tobacco
Tobacco rod lengths:	67mm
Filter type:	Cellulose Acetate Mono-Filter
Filter length:	27mm
Ventilation type:	On-Machine Laser : Single line
Ventilation (%):	60%

For the control cigarettes the ventilation line was located at 12mm from the mouth end of the filter, whereas for the cigarettes according to the subject invention the ventilation line was located at 25mm from the mouth end of the filter.

The tar deliveries of the control and inventive cigarettes were 5.30 and 5.80 (mg/cigarette) respectively. The water deliveries were 0.25 and 0.43 (mg/cigarette) respectively. Thus, whereas the water-to-tar ratio (X100) of the control cigarettes was 4.70, that for the inventive cigarettes was 7.40.

Smokers reported that the quality of the mainstream smoke of the inventive cigarettes was superior to that of the control cigarettes.

CLAIMS

1. A smoking article comprising a smoking material rod and a filter,
the NFDPM (Nicotine Free Dry Particulate Matter) delivery of the article
5 being not more than about 6mg under standard machine smoking
conditions, the filter being ventilated to at least a 50% ventilation value,
characterised in that the ventilation zone of the filter is located not less
than about 75% of the length of the filter from the mouth end thereof, and
that said article exhibits an enhanced mainstream smoke water-to-tar ratio
10 (x100) of at least 6.
2. An article according to Claim 1, wherein the NFDPM delivery
thereof is not more than about 5.5mg.
- 15 3. An article according to Claim 2, wherein the NFDPM delivery
thereof is not more than about 3mg.
4. An article according to Claim 1, 2 or 3, wherein said filter is
ventilated to at least a 60% ventilation level.
- 20 5. An article according to any one of Claims 1 to 4, wherein said
ventilation zone is located not less than about 80% of the length of the
filter from the mouth end thereof.
- 25 6. A smoking article according to any one of the preceding claims, said
smoking article being a cigarette.

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