

increased levels of tobacco material. The non-uniform density of rods comprising shreds of tobacco material can undesirably affect the resistance to draw (RTD) of the rods. In addition, the non-uniform density of rods comprising shreds of tobacco material can lead to loose ends when a void is located at the end of the rod.

Loose ends, high weight standard deviations and non-uniform densities as exhibited by rods comprising shreds of tobacco material are particularly problematic and undesirable in rods of short rod length. Rods of short rod length are sometimes referred to as plugs.

There are many types of tobacco and many ways in which two tobacco types may differ. For example, different types of tobacco may derive from different tobacco plant varieties, or from different portions of a tobacco plant. Tobaccos may differ if they have been processed in different ways in order to vary certain characteristics. Tobaccos may differ if they comprise different additives, or different proportions of additives.

Aerosol-generating articles, such as traditional lit-end cigarettes, typically comprise blended tobacco. Blended tobacco typically comprises shreds and strips of many different types of tobacco leaf and homogenised tobacco. Properties of the cigarette such as flavour or perceived harshness may be controlled by blending many different types of tobacco.

EP-A1-2 062 484 discloses a process for forming smokeless tobacco articles for oral consumption. A sheet of reconstituted tobacco is gathered into a rod, wrapped, and cut into pieces suitable for oral consumption.

It would be desirable to provide rods comprising tobacco material for use in aerosol-generating articles.

According to one aspect, there is provided a A rod comprising a first sheet of a first tobacco material and a second sheet formed of a second tobacco material gathered together with the first sheet of the first tobacco material and circumscribed by a wrapper, in which both the first tobacco material and the second tobacco material are homogenised tobacco material, the second tobacco material being chemically different to the first tobacco material.

According to another aspect, there is provided a method of forming a rod comprising the steps of: providing a first continuous sheet of a first tobacco material; providing a further continuous sheet of a second tobacco material; simultaneously gathering together the first continuous sheet and the further continuous sheet; circumscribing the gathered first and second tobacco materials with a wrapper to form a continuous rod; and severing the continuous rod into a plurality of discrete rods, in which both the first tobacco material and the second tobacco material are homogenised tobacco material, the first tobacco material being chemically different to the second tobacco material.

A rod may be provided comprising a first sheet of tobacco material and at least one continuous element of tobacco material gathered together with the first sheet of tobacco

material and circumscribed by a wrapper, the rod including a first sheet of a first tobacco material and a continuous element of a second tobacco material, the second tobacco material being chemically different to the first tobacco material. The continuous element may comprise a different blend of tobacco or a different type of tobacco compared to the first sheet. The continuous element may comprise a different aerosol-former compared to the first sheet. The continuous element may comprise a different proportion of aerosol-former compared to the first sheet. A continuous element of tobacco material may be in the form of a ribbon, strip, yarn, tape, filament, thread, or other elongate element. The continuous element of tobacco material may be a second sheet of tobacco material.

A rod may be provided comprising at least two sheets of tobacco material gathered together and circumscribed by a wrapper, the rod including a first sheet of a first tobacco material and a second sheet of a second tobacco material, the second sheet of the second tobacco material being physically or chemically different to the first sheet of the first tobacco material.