Embodiments of the~~The~~ present invention relates to an edible, dissolvable smokeless tobacco product made using a "melt spinning" process.

According to a first aspect, there is provided a smokeless tobacco product comprising a flake or particle made by melt spinning at least one soluble material and tobacco, wherein the resulting flake or particle comprises a matrix of the at least one soluble material and the tobacco distributed in the matrix, the matrix being soluble in a user's mouth and resulting in release of nicotine to the user.

According to a second aspect, there is provided a melt spun tobacco composition for oral use in a mammal made by melt spinning comprising tobacco and at least one material which is solid at room temperature and which melts at or below 500°F, carries from 1% to 70% by weight of tobacco when processed through melt spinning, and solidifies again in less than 5 seconds after melt spinning.

According to a third aspect, there is provided a process for delivering tobacco nicotine to the mouth of a mammal, comprising providing the above melt spun tobacco composition in the mouth of a mammal.

According to a fourth aspect, there is provided a method for producing a melt spun tobacco composition for oral use in a mammal, comprising: providing a composition comprising tobacco and at least one material, which is solid at room temperature and which melts at or below 500°F, in a head of a melt spinning machine having apertures on an outer circumferential edge; rotating the head at a sufficient speed to force the composition against an inner side of the outer circumferential edge; melting the at least one material; ejecting the at least one material and from 1 % to 70% of tobacco carried therein; and solidifying the ejected material in less than 5 seconds after being ejected.

Embodiments of the~~The~~ present invention also relates to a melt spun tobacco composition, e.g., in flake or particle form, for oral use in a mammal made by melt spinning comprising tobacco and/or a tobacco extract and at least one material which is solid at room temperature, which melts at or below 500°F, and carries from 1% to 70% of tobacco when processed through melt spinning, and solidifies again in less than 5 seconds after melt spinning.

Embodiments of the~~The~~ present invention also relates to a smokeless tobacco product comprising of flakes, floss and other shapes made by "melt spinning" a composition comprising at least one feedstock and tobacco, the melt-spun flakes, floss or other shapes comprising a matrix compared of at least one feedstock and tobacco amalgamated thereto, the matrix being soluble in a user's mouth and resulting in sustained release of nicotine to the user.

Embodiments of the~~The~~ present invention also relates to a smokeless tobacco product comprising a composition made by "melt spinning" comprising at least one feedstock and tobacco in a form that may be placed in a buccal cavity, sublingually or on a palate of a user and having an average dissolution time of 2 to 120 minutes, preferably 5 to 80.

Embodiments of the~~The~~ present invention also relates to a method for delivering super bioavailable nicotine from a tobacco product to a user, comprising a composition made by "melt spinning" consisting of at least feedstock and tobacco; and placing the flake, floss or other shaped matrix in the buccal cavity of, or on the palate of or sublingually in the user.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS:

Fig. 1 is a graph showing nicotine plasma concentration vs. time curves obtained on consumption of four different snus brands and a 2 mg nicotine chewing gum according to the Gothiatek cited Lunell study.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION:

In one aspect of the present invention, the invention relates to an edible, dissolvable composition made by "melt spinning" comprising at least one feedstock and tobacco.

38. The melt spun tobacco composition according to claim 20, wherein the resulting product is a precursor for further processing.

39. The melt spun tobacco composition according to claim 20, wherein the composition has an average dissolution time in the human mouth from 3 to 120 minutes.

40. The melt spun tobacco composition according to claim 20, wherein the composition has an average dissolution time in the human mouth from 5 to 80 minutes.

41. The melt spun tobacco composition according to claim 20, wherein the composition is pasteurized by heat as it passes through the melt spinning process.

42~~41~~. A process for delivering tobacco nicotine to the mouth of a mammal, comprising providing the melt spun tobacco composition according to claim 20 in the mouth of a mammal.

43. A method for producing a melt spun tobacco composition for oral use in a mammal, comprising:

providing a composition comprising tobacco and at least one material, which is solid at room temperature and which melts at or below 500°F, in a head of a melt spinning machine having apertures on an outer circumferential edge;

rotating the head at a sufficient speed to force the composition against an inner side of the outer circumferential edge;

melting the at least one material;

ejecting the at least one material and from 1 % to 70% of tobacco carried therein; and

solidifying the ejected material in less than 5 seconds after being ejected.

44. The method for producing a melt spun tobacco composition according to claim 43, further comprising selecting a size of the apertures based on viscosity of