

CLAIMS

1. A smoking article comprising:
an aerosol generating substrate;
a mouthpiece in axial alignment with the aerosol generating substrate, the mouthpiece comprising one or more segments, at least one segment incorporating a particulate flavourant material;
a substantially transparent wrapper circumscribing the mouthpiece along at least a part of the length of the mouthpiece; and
an outer wrapper circumscribing the mouthpiece, wherein the outer wrapper overlies the substantially transparent wrapper and comprises at least one cut-out portion extending around less than the full circumference of the smoking article and exposing an area of the substantially transparent wrapper, through which an underlying portion of the segment of the mouthpiece incorporating the particulate flavourant material is visible.
2. A smoking article according to claim 1 wherein the aerosol generating substrate comprises a tobacco rod and wherein the mouthpiece comprises a filter having one or more filter segments.
3. A smoking article according to claim 1 or 2 wherein the outer wrapper is a tipping paper that joins the aerosol generating substrate and the mouthpiece.
4. A smoking article according to claim 1, 2 or 3 wherein the mouthpiece comprises a multi-segment filter including a filter segment comprising filtration material and the particulate flavourant material dispersed through the filtration material, wherein a portion of the said filter segment is visible through the at least one cut-out window in the outer wrapper.
5. A smoking article according to any preceding claim wherein the mouthpiece comprises a multi-segment filter including a hollow cavity at least partially filled with the particulate flavourant material, wherein a portion of the at least partially filled cavity is visible through the at least one cut-out window in the outer wrapper.
6. A smoking article according to any preceding claim wherein the mouthpiece further comprises one or more segments incorporating at least one sorbent selected from the group consisting of activated carbon, activated alumina, zeolites, molecular sieves and silica gel.

7. A smoking article according to any preceding claim wherein the particulate flavourant material comprises cellulosic material.
8. A smoking article according to claim 7 wherein the particulate flavourant material comprises plant material.
9. A smoking article according to any preceding claim wherein the at least one cut-out portion in the outer wrapper is provided at least 10 mm from the mouth end of the smoking article.
10. A smoking article according to any preceding claim wherein the smoking article comprises at least one circumferential row of perforations extending through the substantially transparent wrapper and the outer wrapper and located upstream of the cut-out portion in the outer wrapper.
11. A smoking article according to any preceding claim wherein the cut-out portion extends between 5 mm and 15 mm circumferentially around the mouthpiece.
12. A smoking article according to any preceding claim wherein the mouthpiece comprises a filter including at least one filter segment circumscribed by a substantially transparent plug wrap and wherein the substantially transparent plug wrap underlies the substantially transparent wrapper.
13. A method of producing a smoking article according to any preceding claim comprising:
 - providing a plurality of discrete, wrapped filters wrapped with a substantially transparent sheet material, the filters comprising one or more filter segments, at least one filter segment incorporating a particulate flavourant material;
 - providing a plurality of rods of wrapped tobacco;
 - providing a sheet of outer wrapper having a succession of cut-out portions therein;
 - disposing one of the wrapped filters adjacent to and in axial alignment with one of the rods of wrapped tobacco; and
 - wrapping the sheet of outer wrapper around at least a portion of the wrapped filter and at least a portion of the adjacent rod of wrapped tobacco such that the sheet of outer wrapper attaches the wrapped filter to the tobacco rod and the cut-out portions overlie the substantially transparent sheet material.

14. A method according to claim 13 wherein the cut-out portions in the sheet of tipping material are formed using a die-cutting method.

15. Use of an outer wrapper on a smoking article comprising an aerosol generating substrate and a mouthpiece, wherein the outer wrapper comprises at least one cut-out portion ~~extending around less than the full circumference of the mouthpiece.~~

CLAIMS

1. A smoking article comprising:
 - an aerosol generating substrate;
 - a mouthpiece in axial alignment with the aerosol generating substrate, the mouthpiece comprising one or more segments, wherein at least one segment is a filter segment incorporating a particulate flavourant material;
 - a substantially transparent wrapper circumscribing the mouthpiece along at least a part of the length of the mouthpiece; and
 - an outer wrapper circumscribing the mouthpiece, wherein the outer wrapper overlies the substantially transparent wrapper and comprises at least one cut-out portion extending around less than the full circumference of the smoking article and exposing an area of the substantially transparent wrapper, through which an underlying portion of the filter segment of the mouthpiece incorporating the particulate flavourant material is visible.
2. A smoking article according to claim 1 wherein the aerosol generating substrate comprises a tobacco rod and wherein the mouthpiece comprises a filter having one or more filter segments.
3. A smoking article according to claim 1 or 2 wherein the outer wrapper is a tipping paper that joins the aerosol generating substrate and the mouthpiece.
4. A smoking article according to claim 1, 2 or 3 wherein the mouthpiece comprises a multi-segment filter, wherein the at least one filter segment comprises filtration material and the particulate flavourant material is dispersed through the filtration material, wherein a portion of the said filter segment is visible through the at least one cut-out window in the outer wrapper.
5. A smoking article according to any preceding claim wherein the mouthpiece comprises a multi-segment filter including a hollow cavity at least partially filled with the particulate flavourant material, wherein a portion of the at least partially filled cavity is visible through the at least one cut-out window in the outer wrapper.
6. A smoking article according to any preceding claim wherein the mouthpiece further comprises one or more segments incorporating at least one sorbent selected from the group consisting of activated carbon, activated alumina, zeolites, molecular sieves and silica gel.

7. A smoking article according to any preceding claim wherein the particulate flavourant material comprises cellulosic material.
8. A smoking article according to claim 7 wherein the particulate flavourant material comprises plant material.
9. A smoking article according to any preceding claim wherein the at least one cut-out portion in the outer wrapper is provided at least 10 mm from the mouth end of the smoking article.
10. A smoking article according to any preceding claim wherein the smoking article comprises at least one circumferential row of perforations extending through the substantially transparent wrapper and the outer wrapper and located upstream of the cut-out portion in the outer wrapper.
11. A smoking article according to any preceding claim wherein the cut-out portion extends between 5 mm and 15 mm circumferentially around the mouthpiece.
12. A smoking article according to any preceding claim wherein the mouthpiece comprises a filter including at least one filter segment circumscribed by a substantially transparent plug wrap and wherein the substantially transparent plug wrap underlies the substantially transparent wrapper.
13. A smoking article according to any preceding claim wherein the particulate flavourant material is coloured with a dye or pigment.
14. A method of producing a smoking article according to any preceding claim comprising:
 - providing a plurality of discrete, wrapped filters wrapped with a substantially transparent sheet material, the filters comprising one or more filter segments, at least one filter segment incorporating a particulate flavourant material;
 - providing a plurality of rods of wrapped tobacco;
 - providing a sheet of outer wrapper having a succession of cut-out portions therein;
 - disposing one of the wrapped filters adjacent to and in axial alignment with one of the rods of wrapped tobacco; and
 - wrapping the sheet of outer wrapper around at least a portion of the wrapped filter and at least a portion of the adjacent rod of wrapped tobacco such that the sheet of outer wrapper

attaches the wrapped filter to the tobacco rod and the cut-out portions overlie the substantially transparent sheet material.

15. A method according to claim 14 wherein the cut-out portions in the sheet of tipping material are formed using a die-cutting method.

16. Use of an outer wrapper on a smoking article comprising an aerosol generating substrate and a mouthpiece, wherein the outer wrapper comprises at least one cut-out portion extending around less than the full circumference of the mouthpiece.