

CLAIMS

1. An aerosol generating system, comprising an aerosol generating device in cooperation with a cartridge, the system for heating an aerosol-forming substrate and comprising:
 - 5 a vaporizer for heating the aerosol-forming substrate to form an aerosol;
at least one air inlet;
at least one air outlet, the air inlet and the air outlet being arranged to define an air flow route between the air inlet and the air outlet; and
flow control means for adjusting the size of the at least one air inlet, so as to control the
10 air flow speed in the air flow route,
wherein the flow control means comprises: a first member and a second member, the first and second members cooperating to define the at least one air inlet, wherein the first and second members are arranged to move relative to one another so as to vary the size of the at least one air inlet, and wherein the cartridge includes the first member and the aerosol
15 generating device includes the second member.
2. An aerosol generating system according to claim 1, wherein the first member comprises at least one first aperture and the second member comprises at least one second aperture, the first and second apertures together forming the at least one air inlet, and wherein the first and
20 second members are arranged to move relative to one another so as to vary the extent of overlap of the first aperture and the second aperture so as to vary the size of the at least one air inlet.
3. An aerosol generating system according to claim 1 or claim 2, wherein the first member
25 and the second member are rotatably moveable relative to one another.
4. An aerosol generating system according to any preceding claim, wherein the first member and the second member are linearly moveable relative to one another.
- 30 5. An aerosol generating system according to any preceding claim wherein the aerosol-forming substrate is a liquid aerosol-forming substrate.
6. An aerosol generating system according to claim 5, wherein the vaporizer of the aerosol generating system comprises a capillary wick for conveying the aerosol-forming substrate by
35 capillary action.

7. An aerosol generating system according to any preceding claim, wherein the aerosol generating system is electrically operated and the vaporizer of the aerosol generating system comprises an electric heater for heating the aerosol-forming substrate.

5 ~~8. A cartridge comprising:~~
~~a storage portion for storing an aerosol-forming substrate;~~
~~a vaporizer for heating the aerosol-forming substrate;~~
~~connection means allowing the cartridge to connect with an aerosol generating device;~~
~~at least one air inlet, in use the air inlet being defined between the cartridge and the~~
10 ~~aerosol generating device;~~
~~at least one air outlet, the air inlet and the air outlet being arranged to define an air flow~~
~~route between the air inlet and the air outlet; and~~
~~wherein the cartridge comprises flow control means for adjusting the size of the at least~~
~~one air inlet, so as to control the air flow speed in the air flow route.~~

15 ~~9. An aerosol generating device for heating an aerosol-forming substrate comprising:~~
~~connection means allowing the device to connect to a cartridge comprising a storage~~
~~portion for storing an aerosol-forming substrate and a vaporizer for heating the aerosol-forming~~
~~substrate;~~
20 ~~at least one air inlet in use the air inlet being defined between the cartridge and the~~
~~aerosol generating device;~~
~~at least one air outlet, the air inlet and the air outlet being arranged to define an air flow~~
~~route between the air inlet and the air outlet; and~~
~~wherein the device comprises flow control means for adjusting the size of the at least~~
25 ~~one air inlet, so as to control the air flow speed in the air flow route.~~

~~10. A cartridge according to claim 8 or a device according to claim 9, wherein the flow~~
~~control means comprises: a first member of the cartridge and a second member of the aerosol~~
~~generating device, the first and second members cooperating to define the at least one air inlet,~~
30 ~~wherein the first and second members are arranged to move relative to one another so as to~~
~~vary the size of the at least one air inlet.~~

~~11. A cartridge according to claim 10 or a device according to claim 10, wherein the first~~
~~member comprises at least one first aperture and the second member comprises at least one~~
35 ~~second aperture, the first and second apertures together forming the at least one air inlet, and~~
~~wherein the first and second members are arranged to move relative to one another so as to~~

~~vary the extent of overlap of the first aperture and the second aperture so as to vary the size of the at least one air inlet~~

~~12. — A cartridge according to claim 8 or claim 10 or a device according to claim 9 or claim 10, wherein the vaporizer comprises a capillary wick for conveying the aerosol-forming substrate by capillary action.~~

~~13. — A cartridge according to any of claims 8, 10 and 12 or a device according to any of claims 9 to 12, wherein the vaporizer comprises an electric heater for heating the liquid aerosol-forming substrate, the electric heater being connectable to an electric power supply.~~

8.14. A method for varying air flow speed in an aerosol generating system comprising an aerosol generating device in cooperation with a cartridge, the aerosol generating system comprising a vaporizer for heating an aerosol-forming substrate to form an aerosol, at least one air inlet defined between the cartridge and the aerosol generating device, and at least one air outlet, the air inlet and the air outlet being arranged to define an air flow route between the air inlet and the air outlet, the method comprising:

moving a first member of the cartridge relative to a second member of the aerosol generating device to adjust the size of the at least one air inlet, so as to vary the air flow speed in the air flow route.

9.15. A method according to claim 8.14, wherein the first member comprises at least one first aperture and the second member comprises at least one second aperture, the first and second apertures together forming the at least one air inlet, and wherein the first and second members are arranged to move relative to one another so as to vary the extent of overlap of the first aperture and the second aperture so as to vary the size of the at least one air inlet.