CLAIMS

1. A method of producing a heatable tobacco product, comprising the steps of:

- providing a filter material;
- forming an elongate filter body with the filter material, the elongate filter body having a first surface at a first end; and
- making a recess on the first surface, the recess formed according to a pre-determined shape;

wherein the elongate filter body is arranged adjoining a tobacco unit at the first surface to form the heatable tobacco product, and

wherein the recess is shaped and dimensioned to accommodate a protruding portion of a heating element when the heating element is inserted through the tobacco unit, such that a gap is formed between the protruding portion of the heating element and the filter material.

2. The method according to claim 1, wherein the step of making the recess on the first surface includes the steps of forming a cutout part on the first surface of the first end according to the pre-determined shape; and removing the cutout part from the filter body.

3. The method according to claim 2, wherein the step of making the recess includes the step of making a first and a second incision on the first surface to form the cutout part.

4. The method according to claim 1, wherein the step of making the recess includes the step of applying heat to melt a portion of the first surface to form the recess.

5. The method according to claim 1, wherein the step of making the recess includes applying mechanical force on the first surface to form a depression on a part or whole of the recess.

6. The method according to claim 1, wherein the step of making the recess includes integrally molding the recess on the first surface while forming the elongate filter body

or extruding the filter material through a die to form the elongated filter body with the recess.

7. The method according to claim 1, wherein the step of making the recess includes grinding out the recess on the first surface with a grinder shaping the recess according to how it rotates.

8. The method according to any one of claims 1 to 6, wherein the pre-determined shape is one of the following: a V-shaped notch, a rectangular prism, a triangular prism, a pyramid, a cylinder, a cone, and/or any other curved or angular shapes or combinations of shapes.

9. The method according to any one of claims 1 to 7, wherein the step of forming the elongate filter body comprises:

- feeding the one or more filter materials to a forming machine;
- stretching the one or more filter materials into a elongate filter strand by applying a mechanical force and/or heat; and
- compressing a plurality of elongate filter strands into the elongate filter body with a desired length.

10. The method according to claim 9, wherein the one or more filter materials comprises one or more net materials.

11. The method according to any one of claims 1 to 10, further comprising a step of circumscribing at least part of the elongate filter body with one or more wrapping materials.

12. The method according to any one of claims 1 to 11, further comprising a step of providing a heat-insulating layer on at least a part of the filter element.

13. The method according to any one or claims 1 to 12, wherein the one or more filter materials comprises any one of the following materials: - at least one natural or

synthetic fibrous material; at least one polymeric material; at least one resin material; and any combinations thereof.

14. The method according to any one of claims 1 to 13, wherein the one or more filter materials comprise one or more of the following materials: - natural plant fibers; natural animal fibers; carbonized plant fibers, carbonized animal fibers; synthetic polymer fibers; natural resin material; synthetic polymer resin; any combinations or derivatives thereof.

15. The method according to any one of claims 1 to 14, wherein the one or more filter materials comprises one or more of the following materials: - natural plant fiber, cotton; jute; hemp; bamboo fibers; bamboo charcoal fibers; natural animal fibers such as wool; silk; nylon; carbonized plant fiber, carbonized animal fiber, polyester fibers; polyimide fibers; polyethylene (PE); polyethylene terephthalate (PET); polyethylene ether ketones (PEEK); polypropylene (PP); polytetrafluoroethylene (PTFE); polyvinylchloride (PVC), cellulose acetate (CA), starch based polymers, liquid crystal polymer material (LCP); polyacrylonitrile (PAN); polysiloxanes such as Silicone in the form of silicone oil, silicone grease, silicone rubber, silicone resin or silicone caulk, silicone as coating, laminate or mixed with any of the materials in this list natural or synthetic rubber; paper; cork; carbon; graphene; any combinations or derivatives thereof.

16. A method for modifying a heatable tobacco product having at least one filter body formed from a filter material and at least one tobacco unit including the steps of: -

(a.) separating the at least one filter body from the at least one tobacco unit; and

(b.) making a recess on a first surface of the filter body, the recess formed according to a pre-determined shape;

wherein the filter body is arranged adjoining a tobacco unit at the first surface to form the heatable tobacco product, and the recess is shaped and dimensioned to accommodate a protruding portion of a heating element when the heating element is inserted through the tobacco unit, such that a gap is formed between the protruding portion of the heating element and the filter material.

17. A method of using a heatable tobacco product having a filter body formed from a filter material, the filter body has a recess on a first surface at a first end formed according to a pre-determined shape, and a tobacco unit adjoining the filter body at the first surface, wherein the method comprises the step of inserting a heating element through the tobacco unit such that a protruding portion of the heating element is accommodated by the recess, and a gap is formed between the protruding portion of the heating element and the filter material.

18. A filter element of a heatable tobacco product formed from one or more filter materials, wherein the filter element comprises an elongate filter body having a first surface and a recess formed on the first surface in a pre-determined shape; the recess on the first surface is shaped and dimensioned to accommodate a protruding portion of a heating element when the heating element is inserted through the tobacco unit for heating the tobacco unit, such that a gap is formed between the protruding portion of the heating element and the one or more filter materials. .