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(54) **Title:** METHOD OF MAKING A ROD FOR USE AS AN AEROSOL-FORMING SUBSTRATE HAVING CONTROLLED POROSITY DISTRIBUTION

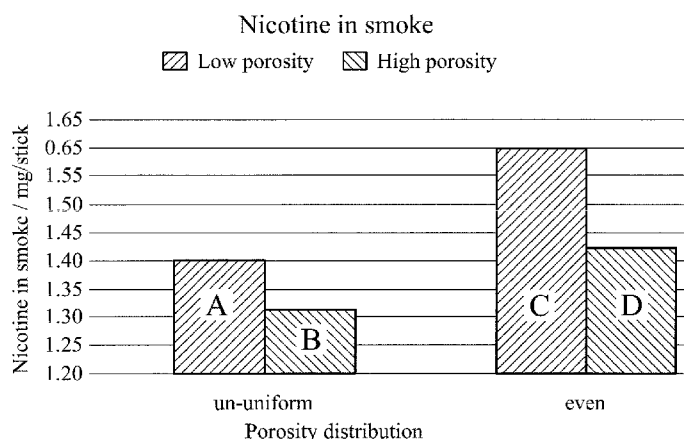


Figure 19

(57) **Abstract:** A method of making rods (2020) having predetermined values of cross-sectional porosity, and cross-sectional porosity distribution value for use as an aerosol-forming substrate in a heated aerosol-generating article (2000, 2001, 2002), comprises the steps of: providing a continuous sheet of aerosol-forming material (2) having a specified width and a specified thickness, gathering the continuous sheet of aerosol-forming material transversely relative to the longitudinal axis thereof, circumscribing the gathered continuous sheet of aerosol-forming material with a wrapper to form a continuous rod, severing the continuous rod into a plurality of discrete rods, determining values of cross-sectional porosity and cross-sectional porosity distribution for at least one of the discrete rods, and controlling one or more manufacturing parameters to ensure that the cross-sectional porosity and cross-sectional porosity distribution values of subsequent rods are within the predetermined values. The predetermined value of cross-sectional porosity is preferably within the range 0.15 and 0.45 and the predetermined cross-sectional porosity distribution value is preferably within the range 0.04 and 0.22. The predetermined values can be selected to optimise aerosol deliverables for different types of heated aerosol generating articles. In preferred embodiments the continuous sheet may be crimped prior to being gathered.