CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A method for aerosolizing a consumable by an aerosol producing device, the method comprising:

    a) preheating a susceptor surrounded by the consumable to a moderate temperature that is above room temperature, but below an aerosolizing temperature; and

    b) heating the susceptor with a heating element from the moderate temperature to the aerosolizing temperature, whereby the consumable is aerosolized.

2. The method of claim 1, wherein after heating the susceptor to the aerosolizing temperature, bringing the susceptor back down to the moderate temperature.

3. The method of claim 1, wherein after heating the susceptor to the aerosolizing temperature, bringing the susceptor back down to an intermediate temperature that is lower than the aerosolizing temperature, but higher than the moderate temperature.

4. The method of claim 1, wherein preheating the susceptor occurs upon insertion of a consumable-containing package into the aerosol producing device.

5. The method of claim 4, wherein heating the susceptor to the aerosolizing temperature occurs when a pressure sensor detects a pressure drop inside the aerosol producing device.

6. The method of claim 1, wherein preheating the susceptor occurs upon actuation of an actuator.

7. The method of claim 1, wherein the moderate temperature is from about 100 degrees C to about 250 degrees C.

8. The method of claim 7, wherein the aerosolizing temperature is 400 degrees C or greater.

9. The method of claim 8, further comprising the step of calculating a power required to

achieve the aerosolizing temperature based on a time after a first puff.

10. The method of claim 8, further comprising the step of monitoring a temperature drop of the susceptor after a first puff, and calculating an amount of power required to achieve the aerosolizing temperature based on a current temperature of the susceptor after the temperature drop.

11. The method of claim 1, further comprising controlling the heating element with a system controller receiving information from a recognition system.

12. The method of claim 11, wherein the recognition system comprises an optical sensor.

13. The method of claim 12, wherein the optical sensor comprises a light sensor to detect light reflected off of a sign on a consumable-containing package containing the consumable and the susceptor.

14. The method of claim 13, wherein the optical sensor further comprises a light source configured to emit a spectrum of light towards the sign.

15. The method of claim 14, further comprising executing an administration protocol specific to the consumable associated with the sign.

16. The method of claim 1, further comprising:

a) reading a sign on a consumable-containing package containing the consumable with an optical sensor;

b) identifying an administration protocol for the consumable associated with the sign with a system controller; and

c) executing the administration protocol, whereby the consumable is aerosolized.

17. The method of claim 16, further comprising detecting a pattern on the sign.

18. The method of claim 16, further comprising detecting a wavelength of light reflected from

the sign.

19. The method of claim 18, further comprising emitting a spectrum of light towards the sign.

20. The method of claim 19 further comprising the system controller executing a disabling response to render the consumable unusable.