

INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

(51) International Patent Classification ⁶ : A24B 3/04, F26B 17/10	A1	(11) International Publication Number: WO 98/43501 (43) International Publication Date: 8 October 1998 (08.10.98)
(21) International Application Number: PCT/GB97/02050 (22) International Filing Date: 31 July 1997 (31.07.97) (30) Priority Data: 9706412.5 27 March 1997 (27.03.97) GB (71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): BRITISH AMERICAN TOBACCO (INVESTMENTS) LIMITED [GB/GB]; Millbank, Knowle Green, Staines, Middlesex TW18 1DY (GB). (72) Inventors; and (75) Inventors/Applicants (for US only): TATHAM, Ian, Ernest [GB/GB]; 108 Downscourt Road, Purley, Surrey CR8 1BD (GB). STONE, William, John [GB/GB]; Calamere, Loperwood, Southampton, Hampshire SO40 2RT (GB). HIRSCH, Werner [DE/DE]; Dörenackersweg 10, D-22523 Hamburg (DE). WEISS, Arno, Eugen, Wilfried [DE/DE]; Scharpenmoor 94, D-22848 Norderstedt (DE). (74) Agents: MACLEAN, Kenneth, John, Hamson et al.; British-American Tobacco Company Limited, R & D Centre, Regents Park Road, Southampton SO15 8TL (GB).		(81) Designated States: AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BY, CA, CH, CN, CU, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, GB, GE, GH, HU, IL, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, NO, NZ, PL, PT, RO, RU, SD, SE, SG, SI, SK, SL, TJ, TM, TR, TT, UA, UG, US, VZ, VN, YU, ZW, ARIPO patent (GH, KE, LS, MW, SD, SZ, UG, ZW), Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT, BE, CH, DE, DK, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG). Published With international search report.

(54) Title: TOBACCO DRYERS

(57) Abstract

A pneumatic conveyance tobacco dryer comprises a conveyance duct (1) having a first portion (3), a second, upwardly extending portion (4) and a third, curved portion intercommunicating the first and second portions. A tobacco feed chute (2) extends downwardly and opens into the second portion of the duct. The geometry of the dryer at and in the region of the feed chute is such as to effect the object of reducing the contact of tobacco particles with the inner surfaces (13, 19) of the conveyance duct.

