

February 14, 2019

**EXEMPT** 

John Middleton Co.
ATTENTION: Rebecca A. Rivas, Senior Director, Regulatory Submissions
Altria Client Services LLC
2325 Bells Road
Richmond, VA 23234

FDA Submission Tracking Number (STN): MULTIPLE STNs, SEE APPENDIX A

Dear Ms. Rivas:

The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) completed review of your Requests for Exemption from Substantial Equivalence (EX REQs), submitted under section 905(j)(3) of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (FD&C Act) for the tobacco products specified in Appendix A.

Based on our review of your EX REQs, we find the new tobacco products specified in Appendix A are exempt from the requirements of section 905(j) of the FD&C Act relating to the demonstration that the tobacco products are substantially equivalent (see section 905(j)(3)(A) of the FD&C Act).

To market the new tobacco products that are the subject of these EX REQs, the following must be met:

- 1. Submit a report under section 905(j)(1) (Abbreviated Report) that includes the information required in sections 905(j)(1)(A)(ii) and 905(j)(1)(B); and
- 2. Ninety days have passed since FDA <u>receipt</u> of your Abbreviated Report.

See Appendix B for FDA's recommended format for the submission of an Abbreviated Report.

In accordance with 40 CFR 1506.6, we will make your environmental assessment publicly available.

Our finding does not mean FDA "approved" the new tobacco products specified in Appendix A; therefore, you may not promote or in any way represent the modified tobacco products specified in Appendix A, or their labeling, as being "approved" by FDA. See Section 301(tt) of the FD&C Act. This order is subject to reconsideration and rescission to the extent authorized by law. See 21 CFR 1107.1(d).

We remind you that all regulated tobacco products, including the new tobacco products specified in Appendix A, are subject to the requirements of Chapter IX of the FD&C Act and its regulations. These requirements currently include, but are not limited to, annual registration, listing of products, listing of ingredients, reporting of harmful and potentially harmful constituents, and payment of user fees. There are also labeling and advertising requirements with which you must comply. It is your responsibility to ensure the tobacco products specified in Appendix A comply with all applicable statutory and regulatory requirements, including those which may be forthcoming. FDA will monitor your compliance with these applicable statutes and regulations.

For more information on your responsibilities under the FD&C Act, we encourage you to visit our website at <a href="http://www.fda.gov/TobaccoProducts">http://www.fda.gov/TobaccoProducts</a>. You may also obtain information by contacting FDA's Center for Tobacco Products at 1-877-CTP-1373, <a href="mailto:AskCTP@fda.hhs.gov">AskCTP@fda.hhs.gov</a>, or <a href="mailto:SmallBiz.Tobacco@fda.hhs.gov">SmallBiz.Tobacco@fda.hhs.gov</a>.

We encourage you to submit all regulatory correspondence electronically via the CTP Portal (<a href="http://www.fda.gov/TobaccoProducts/GuidanceComplianceRegulatoryInformation/Manufacturing/ucm515047.htm">http://www.fda.gov/TobaccoProducts/GuidanceComplianceRegulatoryInformation/Manufacturing/ucm515047.htm</a>) using eSubmitter (<a href="http://www.fda.gov/ForIndustry/FDAeSubmitter">http://www.fda.gov/ForIndustry/FDAeSubmitter</a>). Alternatively, submissions may be mailed to:

Food and Drug Administration Center for Tobacco Products Document Control Center (DCC) Building 71, Room G335 10903 New Hampshire Avenue Silver Spring, MD 20993-0002

The CTP Portal and the FDA Electronic Submission Gateway (ESG) are generally available 24 hours a day, seven days a week; if the upload is successful, submissions are considered received by DCC on the day of upload. Submissions delivered to DCC by courier or physical mail will be considered timely if received during delivery hours on or before the due date (see <a href="http://www.fda.gov/tobaccoproducts/aboutctp/contactus/default.htm">http://www.fda.gov/tobaccoproducts/aboutctp/contactus/default.htm</a>); if the due date falls on a weekend or holiday the delivery must be received on or before the preceding business day. We are unable to accept regulatory submissions by e-mail.

If you have any questions, you may contact Nicholas Hasbrouck, Regulatory Health Project Manager, at (240) 402-5413 or nicholas.hasbrouck@fda.hhs.gov.

Sincerely,

Digitally signed by Matthew R. Holman -S Date: 2019.02.14 11:57:54 -05'00'

Matthew R. Holman, Ph.D. Director Office of Science Center for Tobacco Products

Enclosures – Appendix A: List of New Tobacco Products Subject of This Letter

Appendix B: FDA's Recommended Format of the Submission of an Abbreviated Report

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> The FDA's Electronic Submission Gateway (ESG) is still available as an alternative to the CTP Portal.

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#### Appendix A

List of new tobacco products that FDA has found exempt from the requirements of section 905(j) of the FD&C Act relating to the demonstration that the tobacco products are substantially equivalent

**Common Attributes of Exemption Requests** Date of Submission: December 19, 2018 December 19, 2018 Date of Receipt: **Product Manufacturer:** John Middleton Co. **Product Category:** Cigars **Product Sub-Category:** Unfiltered, Sheet-Wrapped Cigar **New Tobacco Product Specific Attributes Submission Tracking Number** EX0000343 Product Name:<sup>2</sup> Middleton's Cherry Blend Package Type: Box Package Quantity: 5 Cigars **Characterizing Flavor:** Cherry Length: 126.9 mm Diameter: 9.62 mm Tip: Plastic tip **Modifications:** Addition/Deletion of tobacco additives: Deletion of diacetyl from the tobacco filler Addition of water to the tobacco filler • Deletion of potassium sorbate from the cigar wrapper and cigar binder Addition of sodium benzoate to the cigar wrapper and cigar binder **Original Tobacco Product Specific Attributes Product Name:**<sup>2</sup> Middleton's Cherry Blend

Package Type:

Package Quantity:

Characterizing Flavor:

Eligibility Status:

Length:

Box

5 Cigars

Cherry

Grandfathered

126.9 mm

Length:126.9 mmDiameter:9.62 mmTip:Plastic Tip

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Brand/sub-brand or other commercial name used in commercial distribution.

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#### **New Tobacco Product Specific Attributes**

Submission Tracking Number EX0000344

Product Name:<sup>2</sup> Black & Mild® Wine

Package Type:BoxPackage Quantity:5 CigarsCharacterizing Flavor:WineLength:126.9 mmDiameter:9.62 mmTip:Plastic Tip

Modification: Addition/Deletion of tobacco additives:

 Deletion of diacetyl and potassium sorbate from the tobacco filler

• Addition of water to the tobacco filler

Deletion of potassium sorbate from the cigar wrapper and cigar binder

 Addition of sodium benzoate to the cigar wrapper and cigar binder

Increasing/Decreasing the quantity of existing additives:

 Increase of licorice extract (1.0 mg/cigar) in the tobacco filler

### **Original Tobacco Product Specific Attributes**

Product Name:<sup>2</sup> Black & Mild Wine

Package Type:BoxPackage Quantity:5 CigarsCharacterizing Flavor:Wine

Eligibility Status:GrandfatheredLength:126.9 mmDiameter:9.62 mmTip:Plastic Tip

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### **New Tobacco Product Specific Attributes**

Submission Tracking Number EX0000345

Product Name:<sup>2</sup> Black & Mild® Wine

Package Type: Cello (polypropylene plastic wrap)

Package Quantity:1 CigarCharacterizing Flavor:WineLength:126.9 mmDiameter:9.62 mmTip:Plastic tip

Modification: Addition/Deletion of tobacco additives:

Deletion of diacetyl and potassium sorbate from

the tobacco filler

• Addition of water to the tobacco filler

Deletion of potassium sorbate from the cigar wrapper and cigar binder

 Addition of sodium benzoate to the cigar wrapper and cigar binder

Increasing/Decreasing the quantity of existing additives:

 Increase of licorice extract (1.0 mg/cigar) in the tobacco filler

### **Original Tobacco Product Specific Attributes**

Product Name:<sup>2</sup> Black & Mild Wine

Package Type: Polypropylene (clear plastic) wrap

Package Quantity: 1 Cigar Characterizing Flavor: Wine

Eligibility Status:GrandfatheredLength:126.9 mmDiameter:9.62 mmTip:Plastic Tip

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New Tobacco Product Specific Attributes	
Submission Tracking Number	EX0000346
Product Name: <sup>2</sup>	Middleton's Cherry Blend
Package Type:	Cello (polypropylene plastic wrap)
Package Quantity:	1 Cigar
Characterizing Flavor:	Cherry
Length:	126.9 mm
Diameter:	9.62 mm
Tip:	Plastic tip
Modification:	Addition/Deletion of tobacco additives:
	<ul> <li>Deletion of diacetyl from the tobacco filler</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>Addition of water to the tobacco filler</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>Deletion of potassium sorbate from the cigar</li> </ul>
	wrapper and cigar binder
	<ul> <li>Addition of sodium benzoate to the cigar</li> </ul>
	wrapper and cigar binder
Original Tobacco Product Specific Attributes	
Product Name: <sup>2</sup>	Middleton's Cherry Blend
Package Type:	Polypropylene (clear plastic) wrap
Package Quantity:	1 Cigar
Characterizing Flavor:	Cherry
Eligibility Status:	Grandfathered
Length:	126.9 mm
The second secon	Value of Caracteristics (Caracteristics Caracteristics Caracterist

9.62 mm

Plastic Tip

Diameter:

Tip:

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New Tobacco Product Specific Attributes	
Submission Tracking Number	EX0000347
Product Name: <sup>2</sup>	Prince Albert Soft Cherry Vanilla
Package Type:	Box
Package Quantity:	5 Cigars
Characterizing Flavor:	Cherry Vanilla
Length:	126.9 mm
Diameter:	9.62 mm
Tip:	Plastic tip
Modification:	Addition/Deletion of tobacco additives:
	<ul> <li>Deletion of diacetyl from the tobacco filler</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>Addition of water to the tobacco filler</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>Deletion of potassium sorbate from the cigar</li> </ul>
	wrapper and cigar binder
	<ul> <li>Addition of sodium benzoate to the cigar</li> </ul>
	wrapper and cigar binder
Original Tobacco Product Specific Attributes	
Product Name: <sup>2</sup>	Prince Albert Soft Cherry Vanilla
Package Type:	Вох
Package Quantity:	5 Cigars
Characterizing Flavor:	Cherry Vanilla
Eligibility Status:	Grandfathered
1907 1907 1909 1909 1909 1909 1909 1909	4000

126.9 mm

9.62 mm

Plastic Tip

Length:

Tip:

Diameter:

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New Tobacco Product Specific Attributes	
Submission Tracking Number	EX0000348
Product Name: <sup>2</sup>	Prince Albert Soft Cherry Vanilla
Package Type:	Polypropylene (clear plastic) wrap

Package Quantity:1 CigarCharacterizing Flavor:Cherry VanillaLength:126.9 mmDiameter:9.62 mmTip:Plastic tip

Modification: Addition/Deletion of tobacco additives:

Deletion of diacetyl from the tobacco filler
Addition of water to the tobacco filler

Deletion of potassium sorbate from the cigar wrapper and cigar binder

 Addition of sodium benzoate to the cigar wrapper and cigar binder

#### **Original Tobacco Product Specific Attributes**

Product Name:<sup>2</sup> Prince Albert Soft Cherry Vanilla Package Type: Polypropylene (clear plastic) wrap

Package Quantity: 1 Cigar
Characterizing Flavor: Cherry
Elizibility Status: Crande

Eligibility Status:GrandfatheredLength:126.9 mmDiameter:9.62 mmTip:Plastic Tip

# Appendix B FDA's Recommended Format of the Submission of an Abbreviated Report

Mock-up Tobacco Company

April 3, 2015

US Department of Health and Human Services Food and Drug Administration Center for Tobacco Products Document Control Center Building 71, Room G335 10903 New Hampshire Avenue Silver Spring, MD 20993-0002

**RE: Abbreviated Report** 

To Whom It May Concern:

Mock-Up Tobacco Company provides this Abbreviated Report at least 90 days prior to the introduction or delivery for introduction into interstate commerce for commercial distribution of the new product, Cigarette Brand A. We submitted an Exemption Request (EX0000XXX) under section 905(j)(3) for the new product on February 1, 2015, and received a found exempt order from FDA on March 20, 2015.

I, John Doe, on behalf of Mock-Up Tobacco Company, certify that Cigarette Brand A is modified within the meaning of section 905(j)(3), the modifications are to a product that is commercially marketed and in compliance with the requirements of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act, all the modifications are covered by exemptions granted by the Secretary pursuant to section 905(j)(3), and I have taken actions to comply with the requirements under section 907 that are applicable to the product. I certify that this information is true and correct, and that I am authorized to submit this on the company's behalf. I understand that under section 1001 of title 18 of the United States Code, anyone who knowingly and willfully makes a materially false, fictitious, or fraudulent statement to the Government of the United States is subject to criminal penalties.

Sincerely, John Doe Vice President Mock-Up Tobacco Company

# OFFICE OF SCIENCE—HISTORY AND CONCURRENCE PAGE

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□Amendment(s)	
□POC Change	
□Policy	
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☐Transfer of Ownership	
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Position	Name and date of final clearance
RHPM	CONCUR  By Nicholas Hasbrouck at 11:31 am, Feb 14, 2019
RHPM CHIEF	CONCUR By Lana.Rossiter at 11:34 am, Feb 14, 2019

## **END OF HISTORY AND CONCURRENCE PAGE**

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