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CONFIDENTIAL - ATTORNEYS'
WORK PRODUCT

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Washington, D.C. -- The nation's leading cigarette manufacturers, acting in compliance with the Federal Cigarette Labeling and Advertising Act of 1984, today provided the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) with a list of ingredients added to tobacco in the production of cigarettes.

The ingredients contained in the list are primarily flavoring materials, such as menthol, used to refine taste and enhance smoking quality to meet consumer desires. Others serve such functions as enhancing aroma or serving as moisturizers to help maintain product quality. The principal ingredients have been used in cigarettes for decades.

Most of the ingredients are used in very small quantities. A few ingredients -- such as sugars, _____ and _____ -- account for about _____ percent of total ingredient usage in the industry. In total, added ingredients generally comprise no more than one percent of the tobacco weight of an individual cigarette, and any individual cigarette brand would contain only some of the ingredients on the HHS list.

Most of the ingredients on the list are commonly used in foods and other consumer products. These ingredients have been reviewed by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and are included in the lists of substances Generally Recognized as Safe (GRAS) maintained by FDA and the Flavor and Extract Manufacturers Association (FEMA).

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Many of the ingredients on the list have also been approved for use in tobacco products by governmental bodies in other countries such as Great Britain and West Germany. For example, a British list, commonly referred to as the Hunter list, was developed by a medical and scientific committee appointed by the British government.

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The cigarette manufacturers are not aware of any evidence demonstrating that the ingredients used in American cigarettes pose a hazard to human health.

Today's action by cigarette manufacturers marks the second time in recent years the U.S. tobacco industry has provided an ingredients list to the HHS. In 1982, representatives of the Office of Smoking and Health reviewed a list of the most commonly used ingredients. This list was voluntarily provided by the industry under an agreement with Dr. Edward N. Brandt, Jr., then Assistant Secretary for Health at HHS.

The industry has stated that it stands ready to assist HHS scientists in their review of the new list submitted under the 1984 Act.

The ingredients added to cigarettes are considered extremely important trade secrets by the tobacco industry in the same way the beverage industry considers the formulas for some soft drinks highly proprietary. Therefore, the Federal Cigarette Labeling and Advertising Act provides that HHS must give the list provided today confidential treatment.

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