Case Id: 2c117de4-21f4-443c-bc39-3a5365dce526

Date: 29/07/2015 12:23:13

Targeted stakeholder consultation on the implementation of an EU system for traceability and security features pursuant to Articles 15 and 16 of the Tobacco Products Directive 2014/40/EU

Fields marked with * are mandatory.

This is a targeted stakeholder consultation. The purpose of this consultation is to seek comments from stakeholders:

- directly affected by the upcoming implementation of an EU system for traceability and security features pursuant to Articles 15 and 16 of the new Tobacco Products Directive (Directive 2014/40/EU), or
- considering to have special expertise in the relevant areas.

In the Commission's assessment, the following stakeholders, including their respective associations, are expected to be directly affected:

- 1. manufacturers of finished tobacco products,
- 2. wholesalers and distributors of finished tobacco products,
- 3. providers of solutions for operating traceability and security features systems,
- 4. governmental and non-governmental organisations active in the area of tobacco control and fight against illicit trade.

Not directly affected are retailers and upstream suppliers of tobacco manufacturers (except the solution providers mentioned in point 3 above).

The basis for the consultation is the Final Report to the European Commission's Consumers, Health and Food Executive Agency (CHAFEA) in response to tender n° EAHC/2013/Health/11 concerning the provision of an analysis and feasibility assessment regarding EU systems for tracking and tracing of tobacco products and for security features (hereafter the Feasibility Study). The Feasibility Study was published on 7 May 2015 and is available at http://ec.europa.eu/health/tobacco/docs/2015_tpd_tracking_tracing_frep_en.pdf. The interested stakeholders are advised to review the Feasibility Study before responding to this consultation.

The comments received in the course of this consultation will be an input to the further implementation work on a future EU system for traceability and security features. In particular, the comments will be taken into account in a follow-up study.

Stakeholders are invited to submit their comments on this consultation at the following web-address https://ec.europa.eu/eusurvey/runner/trace until 31 July 2015. The web-based survey consists of closed and open questions. For open questions stakeholders will be asked to provide comments up to the limit of characters indicated in the question or to upload (a) separate document(s) in PDF format up to the limit of total number of standard A4 pages (an average of 400 words per page) indicated in the question. Submissions should be - where possible - in English. For a corporate group one single reply should be prepared. For responses from governmental organisations, which are not representing a national position, it should be explained why the responding body is directly affected by the envisaged measures.

The information received will be treated in accordance with Regulation 45/2001 on the protection of individuals with regard to the processing of personal data by the Community (please consult the privacy statement). Participants in the consultation are asked not to upload personal data of individuals.

The replies to the consultation will be published on the Commission's website. In this light no confidential information should be provided. If there is a need to provide certain information on a confidential basis, contact should be made with the Commission at the following email address: SANTE-D4-SOHO-and-TOBACCO-CONTROL@ec.europa.eu with a reference in the email title: "Confidential information concerning targeted stakeholder consultation on the implementation of an EU system for traceability and security features". A meaningful non-confidential version of the confidential information should be submitted at the web-address.

Answers that do not comply with the specifications cannot be considered.

A. Respondent details

- *A.1. Stakeholder's main activity:
 - a) Manufacturer of tobacco products destined for consumers (finished tobacco products)
 - b) Operator involved in the supply chain of finished tobacco products (excluding retail)
 - c) Provider of solutions
 - d) Governmental organisation
 - e) NGO
 - f) Other
- *A.1.c. Please specify:
 - i) Provider of solutions for tracking and tracing systems (or parts thereof)
 - ii) Provider of solutions for security features (or parts thereof)
 - iii) Data Management Providers (or parts thereof)

*A.2. Contact details (organisation's name, address, email, telephone number, if applicable name of the ultimate parent company or organisation) - if possible, please do not include personal data Text of 1 to 800 characters will be accepted

Robert Sykes, Essentra plc, Giltway, Giltbrook, NG16 2GT
Tel +44(0)115 975 9100
robertsykes@essentra.com

- *A.3. Please indicate if your organisation is registered in the Transparency Register of the European Commission (unless 1d):
 - O Yes O No
- *A.4. Extract from the trade or other relevant registry confirming the activity listed under 1 and where necessary an English translation thereof.

63d8663b-1998-4106-854e-77af072e4c1e/56842-Essentra-CorpBro15_EU_Submission_290715_BH.I

B. Options proposed in the Feasibility Study

B.1. Please rate the appropriateness of each option for tracking and tracing system set out in the Feasibility Study in terms of the criteria listed in the tables below

B.1.1. Option 1: an industry-operated solution, with direct marking on the production lines carried out by tobacco manufacturers (for further details on this option, please consult section 8.2 of the Feasibility Study)

| | Appropriate | Somewhat appropriate | Neutral | Somewhat inappropriate | Inappropriate | No opinion |
|--|-------------|----------------------|---------|------------------------|---------------|---------------|
| *Technical feasibility | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | • |
| *Interoperability | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | • |
| *Ease of operation for users | 0 | © | 0 | © | • | • |
| *System integrity (e.g. low risk of manipulation) | 0 | • | • | • | • | • |
| *Potential of reducing illicit trade | 0 | • | 0 | 0 | 0 | • |
| * Administrative/financial burden for economic operators | 0 | © | 0 | © | • | • |
| * Administrative/financial burden for public authorities | 0 | © | 0 | © | • | • |

B.1.2. Option 2: a third party operated solution, with direct marking on the production lines carried out by a solution or service provider (for further details on this option, please consult section 8.3 of the Feasibility Study)

| | Appropriate | Somewhat appropriate | Neutral | Somewhat inappropriate | Inappropriate | No opinion |
|--|-------------|----------------------|---------|------------------------|---------------|---------------|
| *Technical feasibility | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | • |
| *Interoperability | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | • |
| *Ease of operation for users | 0 | © | 0 | © | © | • |
| *System integrity (e.g. low risk of manipulation) | • | • | • | • | • | • |
| *Potential of reducing illicit trade | 0 | © | 0 | © | © | • |
| * Administrative/financial burden for economic operators | 0 | © | 0 | © | © | • |
| * Administrative/financial burden for public authorities | 0 | © | 0 | • | 0 | • |

B.1.3. Option 3: each Member State decides between Option 1 and 2 as to an entity responsible for direct marking (manufacture or third party) (for further details on this option, please consult section 8.4 of the Feasibility Study)

| | Appropriate | Somewhat appropriate | Neutral | Somewhat inappropriate | Inappropriate | No opinion |
|--|-------------|----------------------|---------|------------------------|---------------|---------------|
| *Technical feasibility | 0 | 0 | | 0 | 0 | • |
| *Interoperability | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | • |
| *Ease of operation for users | 0 | • | 0 | • | 0 | • |
| *System integrity (e.g. low risk of manipulation) | 0 | • | • | • | • | • |
| *Potential of reducing illicit trade | 0 | • | 0 | 0 | • | • |
| * Administrative/financial burden for economic operators | • | © | • | • | • | • |
| * Administrative/financial burden for public authorities | 0 | © | 0 | © | • | • |

B.1.4. Option 4: a unique identifier is integrated into the security feature and affixed in the same production process (for further details on this option, please consult section 8.5 of the Feasibility Study)

| | Appropriate | Somewhat appropriate | Neutral | Somewhat inappropriate | Inappropriate | No opinion |
|--|-------------|----------------------|---------|------------------------|---------------|---------------|
| *Technical feasibility | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | • |
| *Interoperability | 0 | • | 0 | 0 | 0 | • |
| *Ease of operation for users | 0 | • | 0 | • | • | • |
| *System integrity (e.g. low risk of manipulation) | • | • | • | • | • | • |
| *Potential of reducing illicit trade | 0 | • | 0 | • | • | • |
| * Administrative/financial burden for economic operators | 0 | • | • | • | • | • |
| * Administrative/financial burden for public authorities | 0 | © | 0 | © | © | • |

- B.1.5. Please upload any additional comments on the options referred to in question B.1 (max. 5 pages)
 - B.2. Please rate the appropriateness of each option for security features set out in the Feasibility Study in terms of the criteria listed in the tables below

B.2.1. Option 1: a security feature using authentication technologies similar to a modern tax stamp (for further details on this option, please consult section 9.2 of the Feasibility Study)

| | Appropriate | Somewhat appropriate | Neutral | Somewhat inappropriate | Inappropriate | No opinion |
|--|-------------|----------------------|-------------------------------|------------------------|---------------|---------------|
| *Technical feasibility | 0 | 0 | 0 | • | 0 | 0 |
| *Interoperability | 0 | • | 0 | • | 0 | 0 |
| *Ease of operation for users | 0 | © | •• | | 0 | 0 |
| *System integrity (e.g. low risk of manipulation) | • | • | | | • | • |
| *Potential of reducing illicit trade | 0 | • | 0 | 0 | • | 0 |
| * Administrative/financial burden for economic operators | 0 | © | 0 | • | • | 0 |
| * Administrative/financial burden for public authorities | 0 | © | 0 | © | • | 0 |

B.2.2. Option 2: reduced semi-covert elements as compared to Option 1 (for further details on this option, please consult section 9.3 of the Feasibility Study)

| | Appropriate | Somewhat appropriate | Neutral | Somewhat inappropriate | Inappropriate | No opinion |
|--|-------------|----------------------|---------|------------------------|---------------|---------------|
| *Technical feasibility | 0 | • | 0 | • | 0 | 0 |
| *Interoperability | © | 0 | 0 | • | 0 | 0 |
| *Ease of operation for users | 0 | • | © © | | 0 | • |
| *System integrity (e.g. low risk of manipulation) | 0 | • | 0 | 0 | • | 0 |
| *Potential of reducing illicit trade | 0 | • | 0 | 0 | • | 0 |
| * Administrative/financial burden for economic operators | 0 | • | 0 | 0 | • | 0 |
| * Administrative/financial burden for public authorities | 0 | • | 0 | © | • | 0 |

B.2.3. Option 3: the fingerprinting technology is used for the semi-covert and covert levels of protection (for further details on this option, please consult section 9.4 of the Feasibility Study)

| | Appropriate | Somewhat appropriate | Neutral | Somewhat inappropriate | Inappropriate | No opinion |
|--|-------------|----------------------|-------------------------------|------------------------|---------------|---------------|
| *Technical feasibility | 0 | 0 | 0 | • | 0 | 0 |
| *Interoperability | 0 | • | 0 | • | 0 | 0 |
| *Ease of operation for users | 0 | © | •• | | 0 | 0 |
| *System integrity (e.g. low risk of manipulation) | • | • | | | • | • |
| *Potential of reducing illicit trade | 0 | • | 0 | 0 | • | 0 |
| * Administrative/financial burden for economic operators | 0 | © | 0 | • | • | 0 |
| * Administrative/financial burden for public authorities | 0 | © | 0 | © | • | 0 |

B.2.4. Option 4: security feature is integrated with unique identifier (see Option 4 for traceability) (for further details on this option, please consult section 9.5 of the Feasibility Study)

| | Appropriate | Somewhat appropriate | Neutral | Somewhat inappropriate | Inappropriate | No opinion |
|--|-------------|----------------------|-------------------------------|------------------------|---------------|---------------|
| *Technical feasibility | 0 | 0 | 0 | • | 0 | 0 |
| *Interoperability | 0 | • | 0 | • | 0 | 0 |
| *Ease of operation for users | 0 | © | •• | | 0 | 0 |
| *System integrity (e.g. low risk of manipulation) | • | • | | | • | • |
| *Potential of reducing illicit trade | 0 | • | 0 | 0 | • | 0 |
| * Administrative/financial burden for economic operators | 0 | © | 0 | • | • | 0 |
| * Administrative/financial burden for public authorities | 0 | © | 0 | © | • | 0 |

B.2.5. Please upload any additional comments on the options referred to in question B.2 (max. 5 pages)

C. Cost-benefit analysis

C.1. Do you agree with?

| | Agree | Somewhat agree | Neither agree nor disagree | Somewhat disagree | Disagree | No opinion |
|---|-------|-------------------|-------------------------------------|----------------------|----------|---------------|
| *The benefit analysis presented in section 11.3.1 of the Feasibility Study | • | © | • | • | • | © |
| *The cost analysis presented in section 11.3.2 of the Feasibility Study | © | © | © | © | • | © |

- *C.1.1. If you selected option "Disagree" or "Somewhat disagree" in the previous question, please upload your main reasons for disagreement (max. 5 pages)
 - 4ba247dc-1b3e-419c-9576-c7564728fc34/Response to Question C1 cost benefit.docx

D. Additional questions

The questions in this section relate to different possible building blocks and modalities of the envisaged system (questions D.1, D.3, D.4, D.6, D.8, D.10, D.12, D.14 and D.16). When replying please take into account the overall appropriateness of individual solutions in terms of the criteria of technical feasibility, interoperability, ease of operation, system integrity, potential of reducing illicit trade, administrative/financial burden for economic stakeholders and administrative/financial burden for public authorities

- D.5. Please upload any additional comments relating to the options for (a) data carrier(s) for a serialized unique identifier referred to in questions D.3 and D.4 above (max. 2 pages)
- *D.6. Regarding the physical placement of a serialized unique identifier, when should it happen (multiple answers possible)?
 - a) Before a pack/tin/pouch/item is folded/assembled and filled with products;
 - b) After a pack/tin/pouch/item is folded/assembled and filled with products;
 - c) No opinion
- D.7. Please upload any additional comments relating to the placement of a serialized unique identifier referred to in question D.6. above (max. 2 pages)

D.8. Which entity should be responsible for?

| | Economic operator involved in the tobacco trade without specific supervision | Economic operator involved in the tobacco trade supervised by the third party auditor | Economic operator involved in the tobacco trade supervised by the authorities | Independent third party | No opinion |
|---|--|---|---|----------------------------|---------------|
| *Generating serialized unique identifiers | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | • |
| *Marking products with serialized unique identifiers on the production line | • | • | • | • | • |
| *Verifying if products are properly marked on the production line | • | • | 0 | • | • |
| *Scanning products upon dispatch from manufacturer's/importer's warehouse | 0 | 0 | 0 | • | • |
| *Scanning products upon receipt at distributor's/wholesaler's premises | © | 0 | © | 0 | • |

| *Scanning products upon dispatch from distributor's/wholesaler's premises | © | © | © | © | • |
|--|---|---|---|---|---|
| *Aggregation of products | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | • |

| considers relevant |
|---|
| Text of 1 to 1200 characters will be accepted |
| |
| |
| |
| |
| |

D.9. In relation to question D.8. above, please specify any other measures that your organisation

- *D.10. Regarding the method of putting the security feature on the pack/tin/pouch/item, which of the following solutions do you consider as appropriate (multiple answers possible)?
 - a) A security feature is affixed;
 - b) A security feature is affixed and integrated with the tax stamps or national identification marks;
 - c) A security feature is printed;
 - d) A security feature is put on the pack/tin/puch/item through a different method;
 - e) No opinion

*D.10.d. Please explain your other method

Text of 1 to 800 characters will be accepted

By its nature an effective security solution needs to be multi-layered to ensure that not just one element is a target for the illicit trade. Advanced digital and security solutions which encode a 'fingerprint' of the physical properties of the packaging into the unique identifier (thus forming an inherent part of the packaging itself and making any paper marker obsolete) have not been considered, despite the fact that it is the only robust evidence that the pack is genuine.

Taggant technology integrated directly onto the pack — either through the tear tape or overwrap — immediately demonstrates if the pack has been tampered with. As integral parts of today's tobacco packaging, solutions such as this can be easily applied using existing infrastructure, and ensures a highly effective

- D.11. Please upload any additional comments relating to the method of putting the security feature on the pack referred to in question D.10 above (max. 2 pages)
 - 900eac41-059d-4046-9a6e-6e82cecb3811/Response to Question D Security Feature.docx

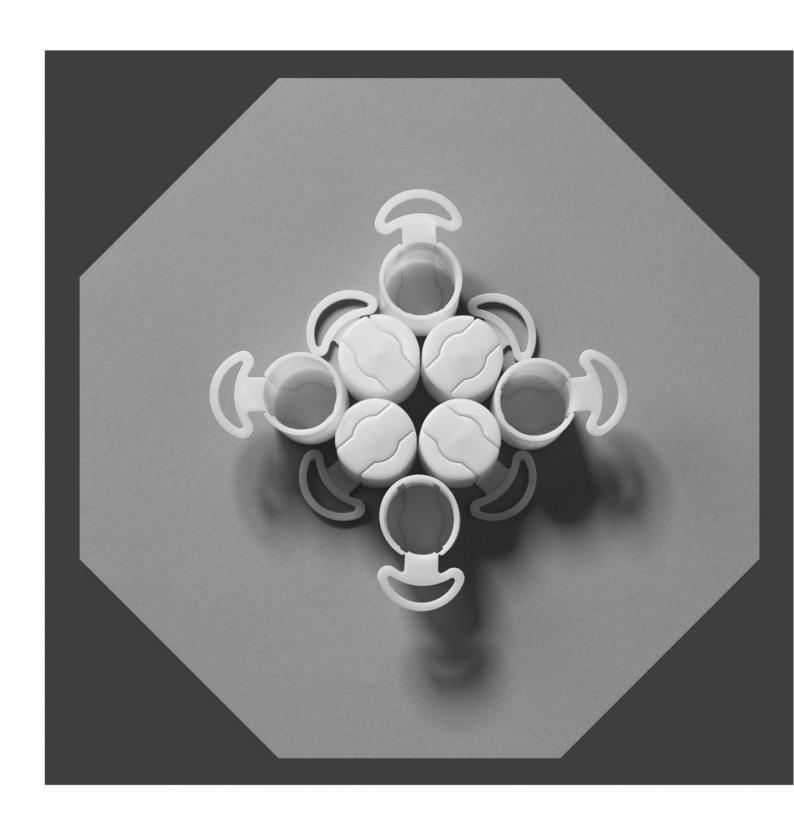
| ntact SANTE-D4-SOHO-and-TOBACCO-CONTROL@ec.europa.eu |
|--|
| D.17. Please upload any additional comments on the subject of this consultation (max. 10 pages) |
| *D.16. Do you consider that the overall integrity of a system for tracking and tracing would be improved if individual consumers were empowered to decode and verify a serialized unique identifier with mobile devices (e.g. smartphones)? a) Yes b) No o) No opinion |
| D.15. Please upload any additional comments relating to the development of reporting and query tools referred to in question D.14. above (max. 2 pages) |
| *D.14. In your opinion which entity(ies) is/are well placed to develop reporting and query tools (multiple answers possible)? □ a) Provider of solutions to collect the data from the manufacturing and distribution chain; □ b) Provider of data storage services; □ c) Another entity □ d) No opinion |
| D.13. Please upload any additional comments relating to the independent data storage referred to in question D.12. above (max. 2 pages) |
| the following solutions do you consider as appropriate (multiple answers possible)? a) A single centralised storage for all operators; b) An accreditation or similar system for multiple interoperable storages (e.g. organised per manufacturer or territory); c) Another solution d) No opinion |





Essentra believes that little things make the world go round. We are proud of what we do and want to show that even our smallest components play a big part.

ESSENTRA: THE ESSENTIAL ENABLERS



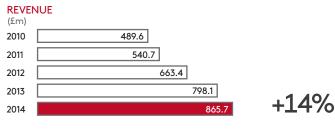
CONTENTS

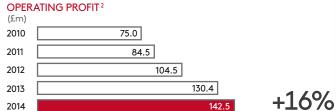
- 01 Key Highlights
- Essentra at a Glance
- Our Vision 04
- **Our Values**
- 06 **Our Business Units**
 - 06 | Distribution
 - 08 | Health & Personal Care Packaging
 - 10 | Filter Products
 - 12 | Specialist Technologies
- **Our Capabilities**
- 16 **Our Categories**
- 20 Our Corporate Responsibility
- Contact Details

KEY HIGHLIGHTS OF 2014*

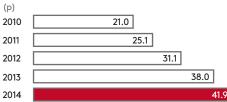
- > Revenue ahead 14% at constant FX (like-for-like¹ +9%) to £866m
- > Accelerating momentum in Q4, with like-for-like revenue growth of 10%
- > Adjusted operating profit² up 16%, with margin expansion of 30bps to 16.5%
- > Adjusted EPS² ahead 19% to 41.9p
- > Net working capital improvement to 11.3% of revenue, better by 10bps3. Tax rate reduced by 250bps to 24.9%
- > Net debt of £62m (FY 2013: £217m), owing to strong cash flow generation and the proceeds from the share placing partially to fund the acquisition of Clondalkin SPD
- > 19% increase in the full-year dividend to 18.3p per share

FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS*





ADJUSTED EARNINGS PER SHARE²



+19%

Cautionary forward-looking statement

This Brochure contains forward-looking statements based on current expectations and assumptions. Various known and unknown risks, uncertainties and other factors may cause actual results to differ from any future results or developments expressed or implied by the forward-looking statement. Each forward-looking statement speaks only as of the date of this Brochure. The Company accepts no obligations to revise or update publicly these forwardlooking statements or adjust them to future events or developments, whether as a result of new information, future events or otherwise, except to the extent legally required. Unless otherwise stated, all financial information contained in this Brochure relates to the year ended 31 December 2014.

- Figures presented in the Key Highlights and growth rates in the Financial Highlights are shown at constant exchange rates
- Excluding the impact of acquisitions and disposals
- ² Excluding the impact of amortisation and exceptional items
- Excluding the impact of acquisitions in December 2014 and 2013



ESSENTRA AT A GLANCE

Every day we produce and distribute millions of small but essential components.

OUR STRATEGIC BUSINESS UNITS

DISTRIBUTION

The Components business is a global market-leading manufacturer and distributor of plastic injection moulded, vinyl dip moulded and metal items. Operating units in 27 countries serve a very broad industrial base of customers with a rapid supply of products for a variety of applications in industries such as equipment manufacturing, automotive, fabrication, electronics and construction.

The Security business has been at the forefront of ID technology for over 30 years, and has access to the widest portfolio of products and services, including printers, software and consumables from leading manufacturers.

The Speciality Tapes business has expertise in coating multiple adhesive systems in numerous technologies. With close to 3,000 adhesive products available for same-day shipping, Essentra's products can meet all high-performance needs, from foam, magnetic, finger lift and acrylic high bond tapes to hook and loop and non-skid foam.

HEALTH & PERSONAL CARE PACKAGING

A leading global provider of packaging and authentication solutions to a diversified blue-chip customer base in the pharmaceutical, health & personal care, consumer and specialist packaging sectors, and to the paper and board industries. The business focuses on delivering value-adding innovation, quality and service through the provision of a wide range of products and solutions, including cartons, tapes, leaflets, foils, labels and authentication technologies.

FILTER PRODUCTS

The only global independent cigarette filter supplier. The nine worldwide locations, including a dedicated Technology Centre supported by three regional development facilities, provide a flexible infrastructure strategically positioned to serve the tobacco industry. The business supplies a wide range of value-adding high-quality innovative filters, packaging solutions to the roll your own segment and analytical laboratory services for ingredient measurement for the industry.

SPECIALIST TECHNOLOGIES

A leading provider of specialised solutions to an international customer base in a diverse range of industries, including oil and gas, construction, point of sale, health & personal care and consumer goods.

Essentra Porous Technologies is a leading developer and manufacturer of innovative custom fluid-handling components used in a variety of end-markets, engineered from a portfolio of technologies that includes bonded and non-woven fibre, polyurethane foam and porous plastics.

The Pipe Protection Technologies business specialises in the manufacture of high-performance innovative products from commodity resins to engineering-grade thermoplastics and polymer alloys for use in a range of industries.

One of Europe's most advanced suppliers of co-extrusion and tri-extrusion to all branches of industry, Essentra Extrusion is a leading custom profile extruder located in the Netherlands, which offers a complete design and production service.

DEPTH AND BREADTH

CONTRIBUTION TO GROUP

| STRATEGIC BUSINESS UNITS | REVENUE (%)1 |
|-------------------------------------|--------------|
| 1. Distribution | 28.5 |
| 2. Health & Personal Care Packaging | 19.2 |
| 3. Filter Products | 33.6 |
| 4. Specialist Technologies | 18.7 |
| GEOGRAPHIC REGIONS | REVENUE (%) |
| 5. Americas | 30.0 |
| 6. Europe | 50.7 |
| 7. Asia Pacific | 19.3 |





Our three geographic regions span 33 countries

We have five strategically located R&D centres

We have 69 principal manufacturing facilities



 $^{^{\}rm 1}\,$ Based on 2014 calculations, adjusted to reflect the impact of eliminations



Response to question C.1

C Cost benefit analysis

C.1. – Disagree

C.1.1

- Cost estimates and calculations presented in the Report are based on inaccurate data, undisclosed assumptions and inappropriate methodology, leading to meaningless results, exaggerated benefits, underestimated costs and providing purely speculative impact on manufacturers, the trade and Member States
- As an example the Benefit Analysis (Section 11.3.1) defines illicit trade as 8.25% with 30% contraband, 50% counterfeit and 20% illicit white. This bears no relation to the specific market situations of Member States (the UK is a good example) and on this basis the cost-benefits assumptions are often flawed from the very start. It cannot be calculated that there is an impact equivalent of 1.32% or 368mn packs.
- No consideration is given to the benefits varying across the 4 security options thereby allowing a true evaluation of the cost/benefit analysis of each one.
- Costs (Section 11.4.3.2.2)
 - No detailed security feature costs are provided
 - It is stated that each option has been costed from feedback in the survey results.
 How many manufacturers responded?
 - How did the responders provide accurate costings without a specification for any
 of the options? For example substrate differences, size specifications, precise ink
 requirements, print cylinders etc
 - Option 2's analysis assumes a 15% increase on option 1. Why? What is this based on?
 - Option 3 where system costs from. Does this take into account existing systems or installation?
 - Where are the costs for ensuring a stamp/label solution can be applied on each manufacturing line?
 - Without accurate specifications and costs for each of the 4 security options how can their costs/benefit be judged?
- The report excludes existing industry technology which has been in place for several years as part of legally-binding agreements between the European Commission, Member States and international tobacco manufacturers, putting at risk investments worth hundreds of millions of Euros.



- This is a key concern and point for Essentra plc As an incumbent supplier of technology that is successfully deployed in certain member states (e.g. UK), this report precludes the consideration of the cost effectiveness of these solutions.
- No consideration is given to the costs in exiting from existing schemes and contracts with a replacement EU TPD solution.
- All costs relate to using a label or modern tax stamp. There are many security solutions available, where no tax stamp is required. If no tax stamp is needed due to the security being added to another element or an intrinsic part of the pack specification (i.e. the carton board, overwrap, tear tape) then this could have significant cost advantages. The report does not consider any of these alternative options.



Response to question D

- By its nature an effective security solution needs to be multi-layered to ensure that not just one element is a target for the illicit trade.
- The report only evaluates security in relation to a paper stamp/marker and in itself is flawed in not reviewing other options that are potentially more secure and cost effective.
- As all four options within the Report are based on paper markers attached to packaging it
 has also disregarded the existence of more advanced and effective authentication
 technologies. The Report therefore fails to provide a balanced and meaningful market
 overview.
- Essentra believes that Article 16 should ensure the security feature particularly the
 invisible covert element is an intrinsic part of the packaging, rather than having to be
 separately applied. In this way, the security device cannot be removed or reused, and the
 feature therefore verifies the authenticity of the pack and not just the security feature
 itself.
- The Report fails to recognise that paper markers only enable the authentication of the marker itself, rather than the pack onto which it is glued.
- Illegal products are regularly found which bear genuine and counterfeit paper markers, especially in low-price markets:
 - In Turkey, 11 consumers died from counterfeited alcohol in 2009 despite so-called advanced security paper stamps are applied on alcoholic and tobacco products.
 - In the Czech Republic, 48 people have been killed since 2012 by illegal alcohol with faked and genuine paper based security features.
- The report has failed to evaluate how users ensure the validity and security of paper markers. A secure solution is needed to ensure the stamps are valid. It is unclear whether this has this been costed or considered within the report and if so where?
- Advanced digital and security solutions which encode a 'fingerprint' of the physical
 properties of the packaging into the unique identifier (thus forming an inherent part of the
 packaging itself and making any paper marker obsolete) have not been considered,
 despite the fact that it is the only robust evidence that the pack is genuine.
- Taggant technology integrated directly onto the pack either through the tear tape or
 overwrap immediately demonstrates if the pack has been tampered with. As integral
 parts of today's tobacco packaging, solutions such as this can be easily applied using
 existing infrastructure, and ensures a highly effective level of authentication and tamper
 evidence that is incorporated into tobacco packs both cost-effectively and securely. It is
 currently used as a means of pack authentication in the tobacco industry and specifically
 has helped the UK as a cost-effective means to identify duty paid, authentic tobacco
 products.



- A stamp/label solution assumes the ability to add a label exists already on each manufacturing line and where this is not so, an applicator and all associated machine and install costs will be required.
- By prescribing stamps/paper markers so specifically the report means that current
 effective methods to apply security to the pack such as tear tape which is used in many
 countries to carry covert, overt and forensic authentication technologies become noncompliant. This would have a dramatic impact on the highly effective schemes that are
 currently in place within a number of EU countries.
- If the security feature becomes an integral part of the existing packaging specification
 then this will reduce the impact and costs significantly in terms of additional
 infrastructure. For example existing tear tape applicators and packaging lines would be
 suitable for use and not require additional costs in applying the feature to the pack.
- If the security feature is printed on the pack this becomes part of the pack costs and does not require the costs of an additional applicator.