

# **U.S. Pharmacopeia Dissolution Technique for the Determination of Nicotine and Flavor Release from Smokeless Tobacco Products**

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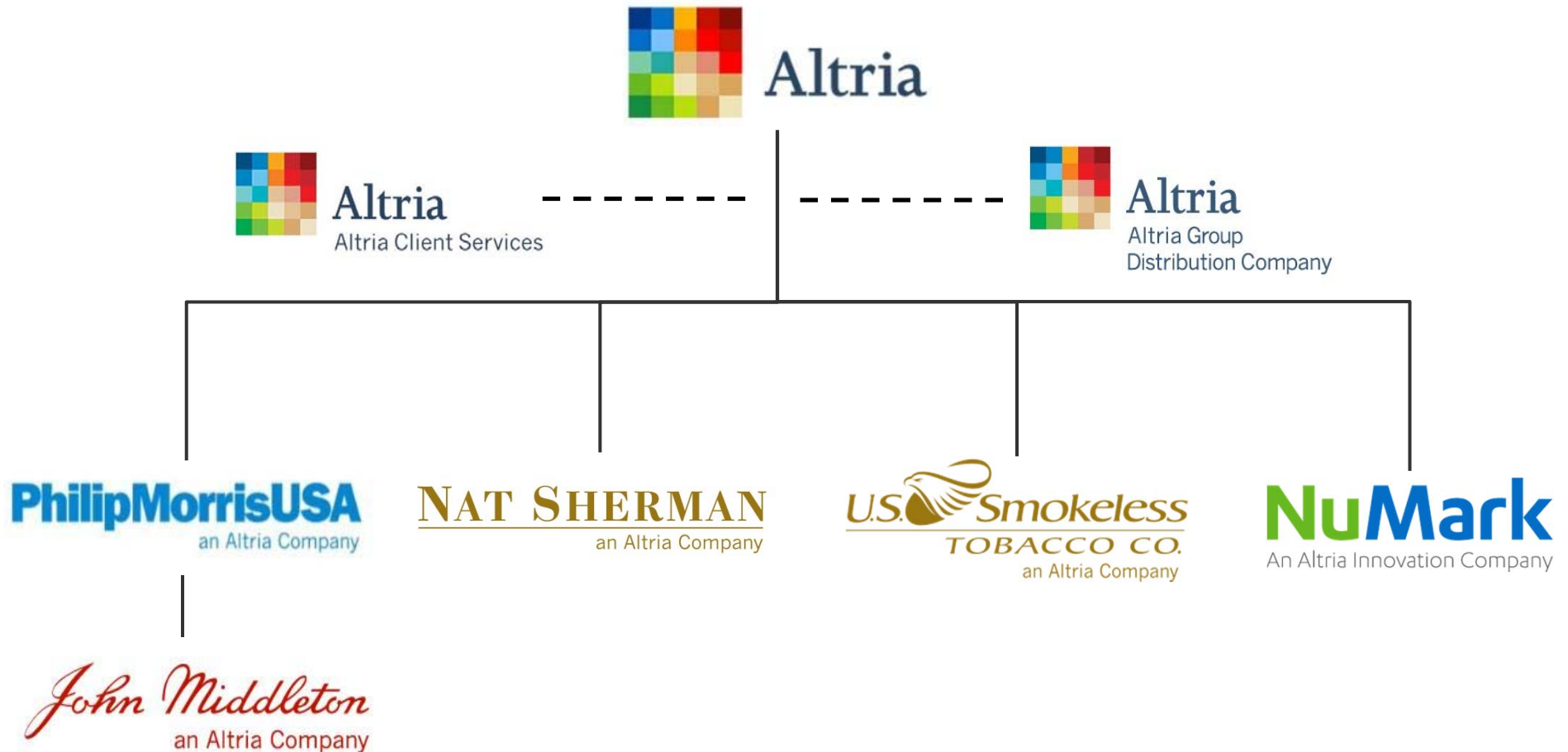
Altria Client Services, 601 East Jackson Street,  
Richmond, VA 23219



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# Altria Operating Structure



# Altria Center for Research & Technology (CRT)



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Altria Client Services | Helen Miller| Scientist I | Sotax Seminar 2018

# CRT

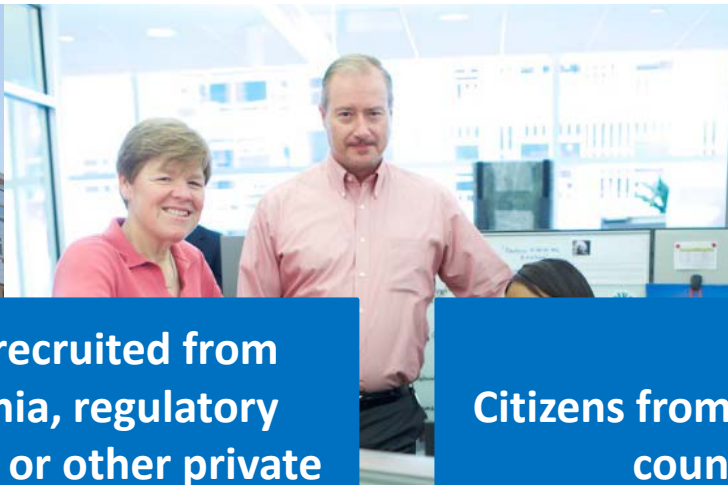
- **Purpose:** Promote collaboration and creativity to develop technologies that improve Altria's companies' current product portfolio and lead to innovative new products.
- **Facility:** 450,000 square-foot facility in the Virginia Biotechnology Research Park opened in 2007
  - Office and meeting space
  - Consumer Opinion Center
  - ~13,006 square meters of laboratory space







**Talent recruited from  
academia, regulatory  
agencies, or other private  
sector firms**



**Citizens from 16 different  
countries**



**400+ employees, including  
scientists and engineers**



**110 employees have PhDs**



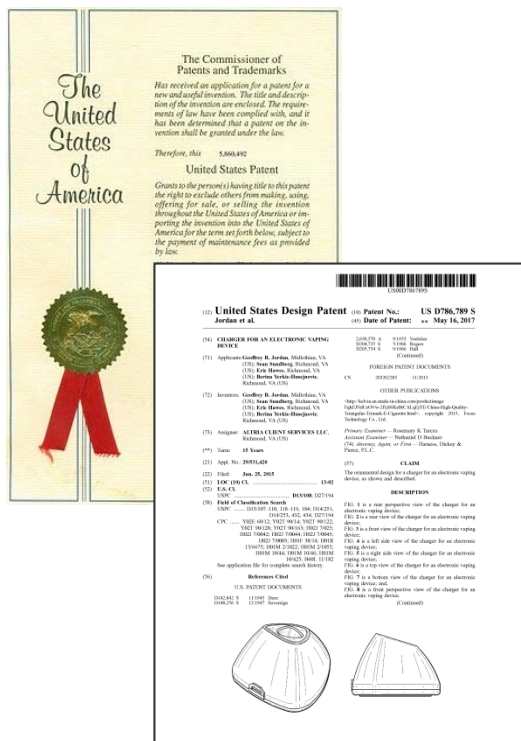
**32 different languages  
spoken**



# CRT Research

Since opening...

600+ Patents



200+ Publications



200+ Presentations





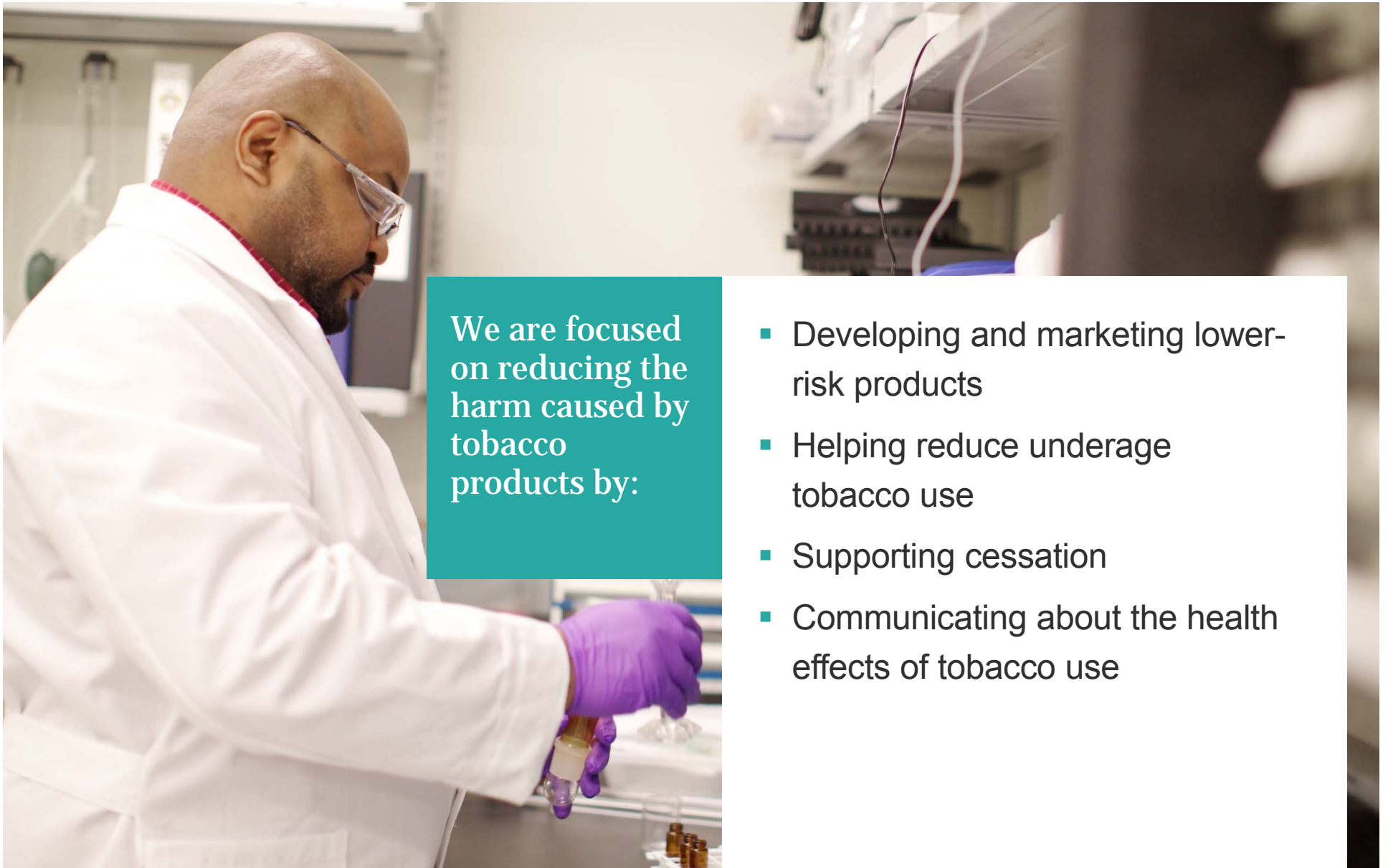
## Our Aspiration Statement

Altria aspires to  
be the U.S. leader  
in authorized,  
non-combustible,  
reduced-risk  
products.



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We are focused on reducing the harm caused by tobacco products by:

- Developing and marketing lower-risk products
- Helping reduce underage tobacco use
- Supporting cessation
- Communicating about the health effects of tobacco use

<http://www.altria.com/Responsibility/Tobacco-Harm-Reduction/Pages/default.aspx?src=topnav> 3/22/16



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# FDA Recognizes Continuum of Risk

*“We must recognize the potential for innovation to lead to less harmful products, which, under FDA’s oversight, could be part of a solution. While there’s still much research to be done on these products and the risks that they may pose, they may also present benefits that we must consider.”*

Dr. Scott Gottlieb  
FDA Commissioner

## Continuum of Risk

**Combusted Tobacco Products**

M O S T  
H A R M F U L

**Non-combusted Tobacco Products**

L E A S T  
H A R M F U L

July 28, 2017: Protecting American Families: Comprehensive Approach to Nicotine and Tobacco  
<https://www.fda.gov/NewsEvents/Speeches/ucm569024.htm>



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# Product Landscape



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# **U.S. Pharmacopeia Dissolution Technique for the Determination of Nicotine and Flavor Release from Smokeless Tobacco Products**



# Introduction

## **Smokeless Tobacco Analysis:**

- Typical analysis of smokeless tobacco products is based on forced extraction of constituents from tobacco but this does not provide information for constituent release over time.
- There are currently no standardized methods to make comparisons of constituent release for smokeless tobacco products.



# Objective

- Evaluate USP4\* dissolution apparatus as a potential technique to evaluate nicotine and flavor release from moist smokeless tobacco (MST) products (loose and pouch) and snus products under consistent conditions
  - Allows for a way to compare multiple products
  - Not meant to replicate human exposure

**Loose**



**Pouch**



**Snus**



# Method

## USP4 Dissolution Apparatus - SOTAX CE7 Smart USP4

**Cell Holder**

**Pump**

**Fraction Collector**



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# Method

- USP4 Dissolution Cell Setup

1 mm beads on bottom  
3 mm beads on top



Direction of Flow



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# Method

## Artificial Saliva (pH 6.8)

Ingredient	Per 1000 mL
Magnesium Chloride Hexahydrate ( $\text{MgCl} \cdot 6\text{H}_2\text{O}$ )	0.17 g
Potassium Hydrogen Phosphate anhydrous ( $\text{K}_2\text{HPO}_4 \cdot \text{H}_2\text{O}$ )	0.68 g
Sodium Chloride ( $\text{NaCl}$ )	0.33 g
Potassium Chloride ( $\text{KCl}$ )	0.75 g
Calcium chloride dihydrate ( $\text{CaCl} \cdot 2\text{H}_2\text{O}$ )	0.15 g
Potassium Carbonate ( $\text{K}_2\text{CO}_3$ )	0.53 g
Type I Water (De-ionized)	1000 mL
Hydrochloric acid	To pH $6.8 \pm 0.1$

German Institute for Standardization (DIN) Recipe is based upon German standard DIN v53160-1, "Determination of the Colour Release of Articles of Daily Use, Part1: Resistance to Artificial Saliva", section 4.2, October 2002.

# Method - SOTAX CE7 Smart USP4

- USP4 parameters
  - Flow rate 4.0 mL/min
  - Temperature 37°C
  - 1 mm glass beads on bottom
  - 3 mm glass beads on top
  - 1.0 gram of tobacco or 1 pouch

Table 1: Sotax Collection

Fraction Number	Fraction Collection Time (min)	Fraction Collection Duration (min)	Volume Collected (mL)
1	4	4	16
2	8	4	16
3	12	4	16
4	16	4	16
5	20	4	16
6	30	10	40
7	40	10	40
8	50	10	40
9	60	10	40



# Method and GC/MS parameters

## Sample Preparation

1. Transfer 1 mL of each fraction into an extraction vial and add 250 µL of 2N NaOH.
2. Add 1 mL of methylene chloride extraction solution containing Internal Std.
3. Vortex for 45 minutes
4. Transfer methylene chloride to an autosampler vial for analysis by GC/MS.

## Gas Chromatograph

Column	DBWax-ETR, 30m x 0.25mm x 0.25µm d <sub>f</sub>
Injection Volume	1 µL
Inlet Temp	250°C
Inlet Mode	Split (5:1)
Analysis Time	8.0 min

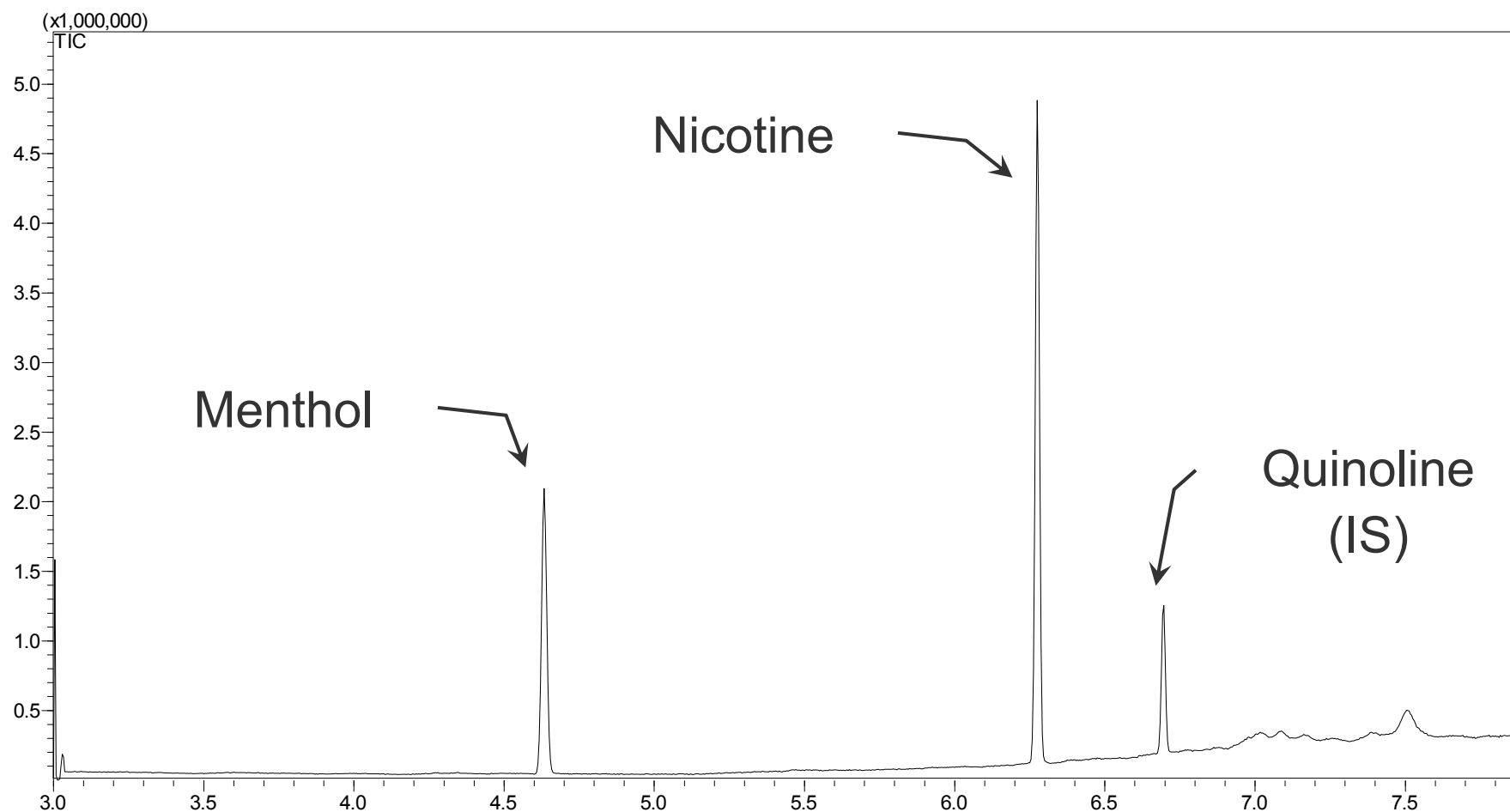
## Mass Spectrometer – Selected Ion Monitoring

Menthol (m/z)	71 (quant), 81, 95
Quinoline - ISTD (m/z)	129 (quant), 102
Nicotine (m/z)	84 (quant), 133

## Calibration

Menthol	2.50 – 75.0 µg/mL	Linear no Weighting
Nicotine	5.00 – 250 µg/mL	Linear no Weighting

# GC/MS Chromatogram (TIC) - Example



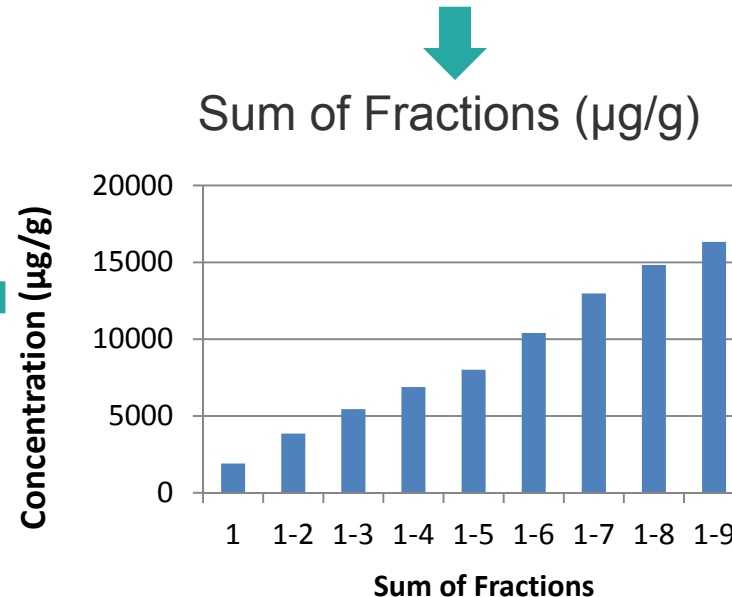
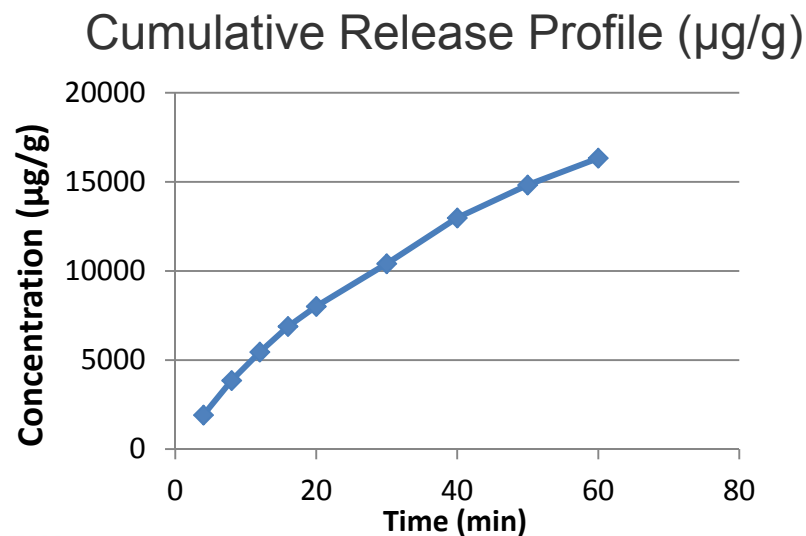
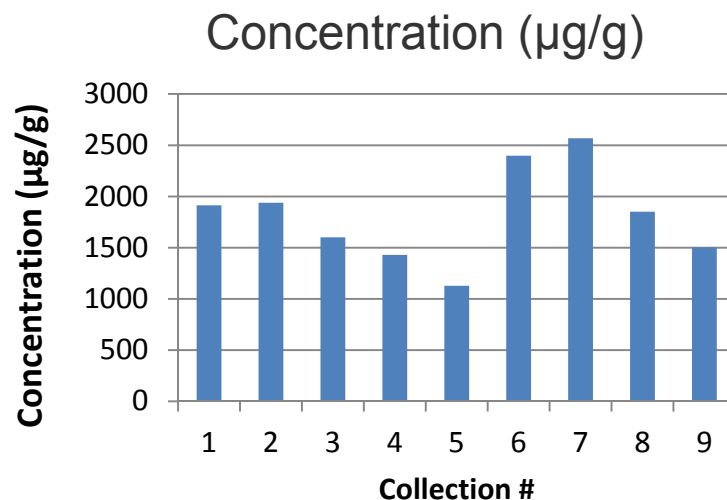
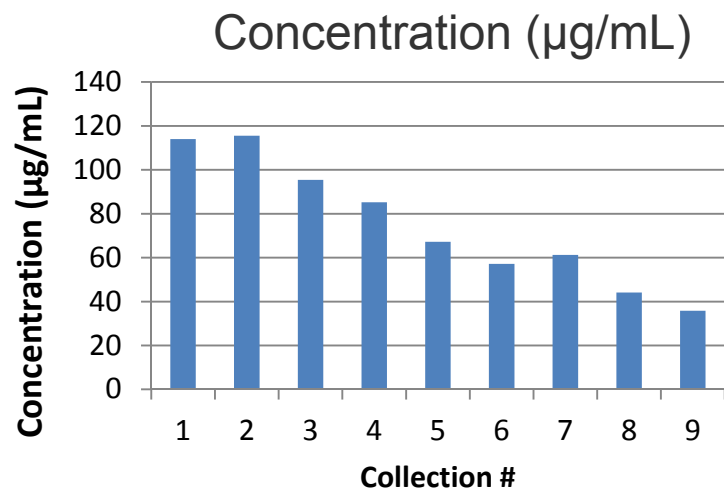
# Method Validation

- Calibration
  - $R^2 > 0.997$  on all days
  - % RCR < 9.2%
- Accuracy - evaluated at 3 levels for each product type
  - Menthol: between 97.0% and 113%
  - Nicotine: between 85.2% and 112%
- Precision – < 3.0%
- Specificity – No interferences were observed at the retention time or m/z of any of the analytes
- LOQ – Menthol 0.176 µg/mL, Nicotine 0.442 µg/mL
- LOD – Menthol 0.053 µg/mL, Nicotine 0.133 µg/mL
- Stability – Dissolution samples and final extracts were stable for up to 4 days at 0-4 °C (refrigerated)

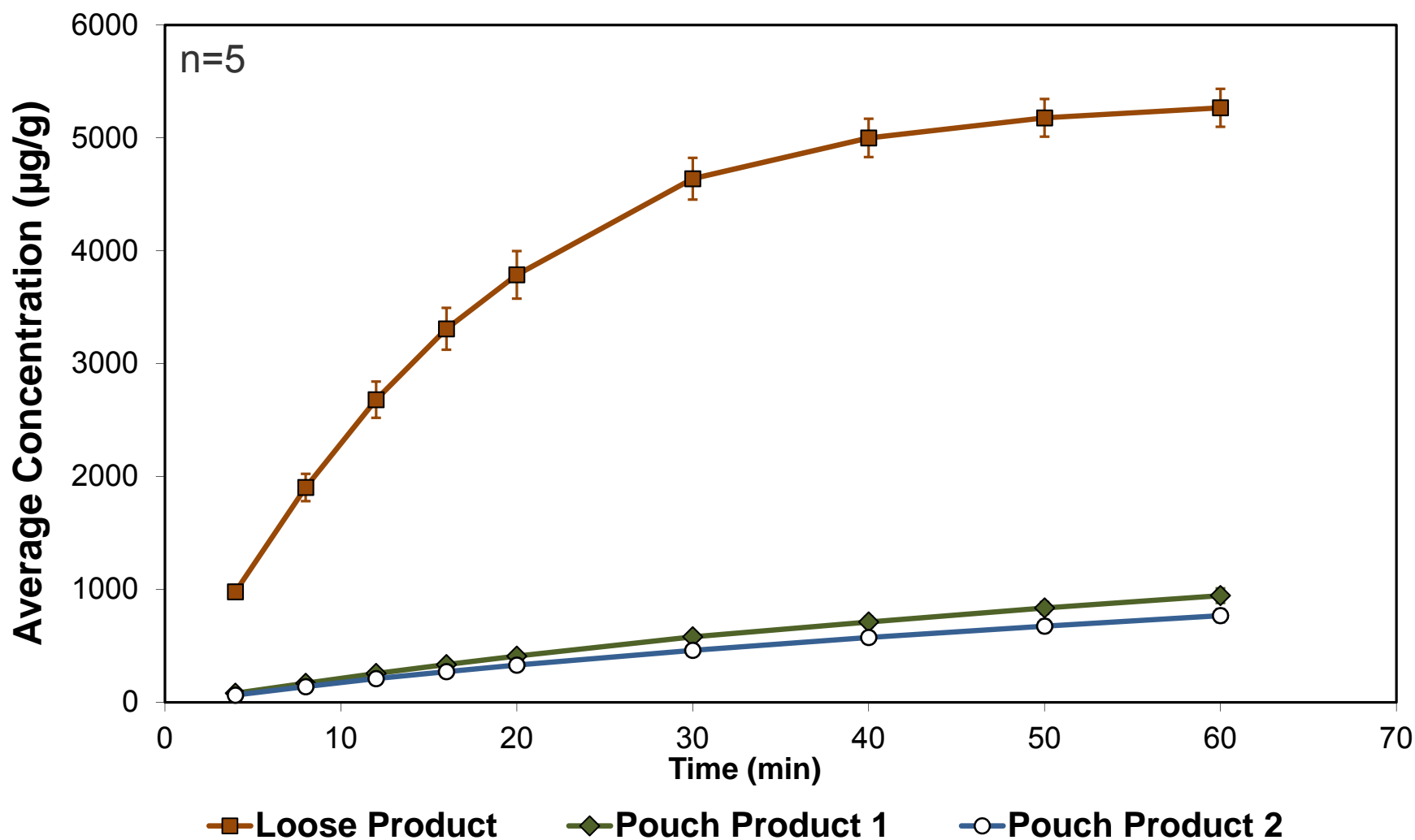




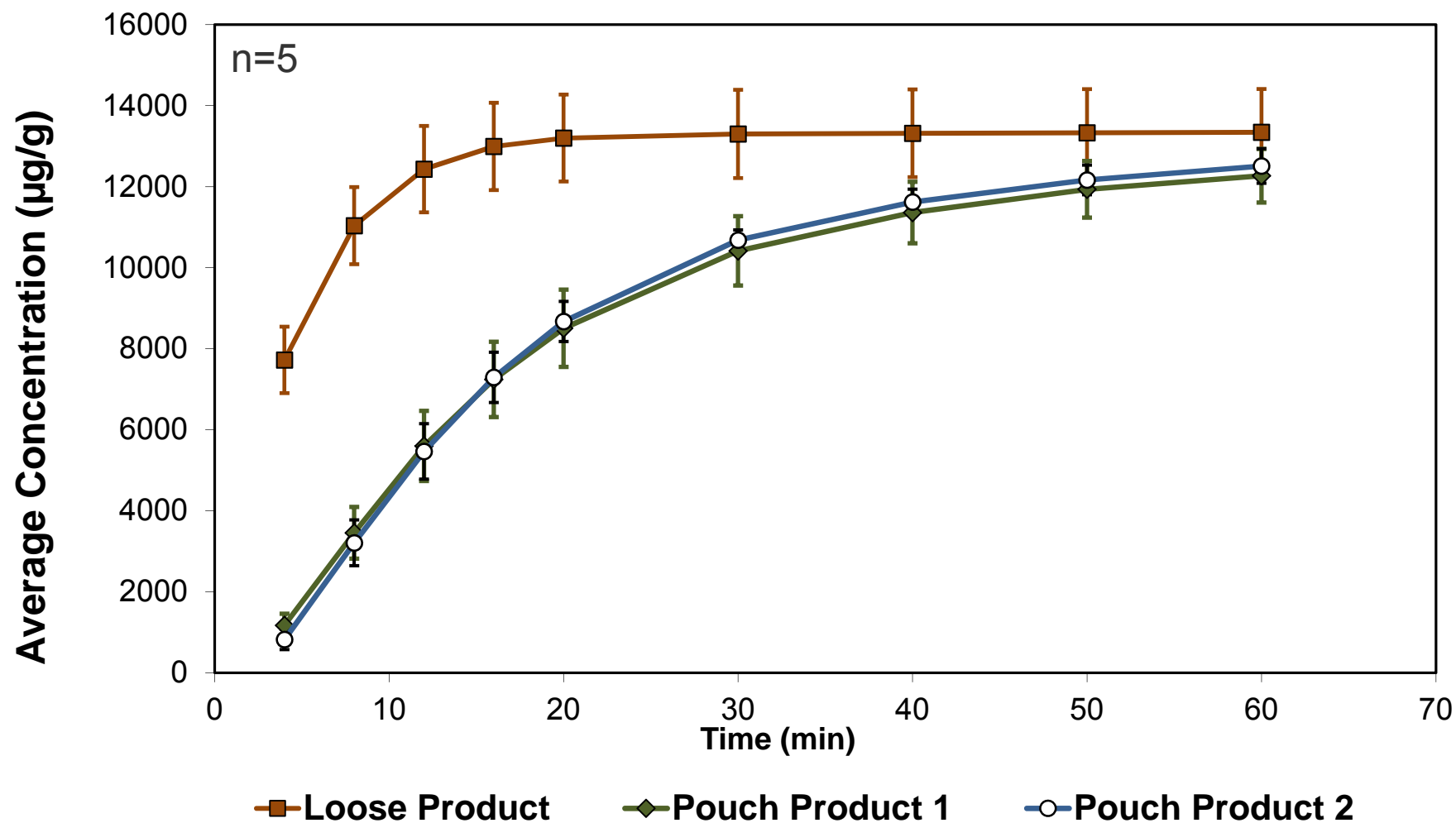
# Results – Calculations for Cumulative Release Profile



## Results –Flavor Release (Menthol in Mint Products)



## Results – Nicotine Release ( $\mu\text{g/g}$ )



# Summary

- USP4 – Allows for cumulative release profiles to be generated for both loose and pouch smokeless tobacco products under consistent conditions
- Analysis of fractions was performed by GC/MS for nicotine and menthol
- Analytical method was fully validated for analysis of nicotine and menthol in artificial saliva
- This technique demonstrates excellent reproducibility and can be applied to measure a variety of constituents that are released from smokeless tobacco for comparative and regulatory reporting purposes

This presentation may be accessed @  
[www.altria.com/ALCS-Science](http://www.altria.com/ALCS-Science)

