

NSRA'S BACKGROUNDER ON THE CANADIAN TOBACCO INDUSTRY AND ITS MARKET

Rothmans Inc.



IMPERIAL TOBACCO
CANADA



JTI-Macdonald Corp.

Edition 2003

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PURPOSE

This backgrounder is a first attempt by the Non-Smokers' Rights Association to assemble the most current and sought-after information on the Canadian tobacco industry and its market in a user-friendly format. Indeed, instead of relying mostly on text, this document contains graphs, tables and pictures to make it easier for users to locate the appropriate information. This document is not meant to be a scientific review of all the available information on this subject. It is mostly designed as a practical reference tool. The information comes however from reliable sources such as **Health Canada**, **Statistics Canada** or the **National Clearinghouse on Tobacco or Health**. Information on the tobacco companies comes mostly from their own annual shareholder reports or websites.

The document is divided into three main sections. The first section gives a general idea of the evolution of the Canadian tobacco market for the past decade, mostly in terms of cigarettes sold and smoking prevalence. The second section offers a description of the main tobacco companies in Canada and the brands they sell. The third section offers examples of front groups that the tobacco industry has set up over the years to influence public policy.

We recognize that some valuable pieces of information might be missing. However, we intend to publish an updated version of the backgrounder every year. Therefore, we will have the opportunity, with the help of our colleagues from the health community, to come up with the most complete and practical backgrounder every year.

QUICK OVERVIEW

Although this document has been designed to be as user-friendly as possible, for example without extensive analysis of each graph, some might wonder why the Canadian tobacco market has fluctuated as it did over the last decade. For this reason, this section offers a brief overview of the main events that have occurred over the last ten years which have contributed, in our opinion, to cause these fluctuations.

The last ten years have been marked mostly by the major tobacco smuggling crisis which was instigated by the tobacco industry in the beginning of the nineties in response to federal and provincial governments higher tobacco tax policies. Indeed, domestic sales of cigarettes dropped dramatically while at the same time Canadian tobacco exports to the United States skyrocketed from 1990 to 1993. During that period, many smokers favored the lower taxed fine-cut tobacco products, but sales did however follow the same trend as cigarettes. Evidence shows that tobacco exports were shipped to duty-free warehouses in the US for the purpose of supplying smugglers.

The 1994 decision to drastically cut tobacco taxes by the federal and five provincial governments led to a complete reversal of tobacco shipments to the domestic and export markets. Domestic shipments rose while exports dropped sharply. Ontario and Quebec, with more than 60% of the

Canadian population, were the two provinces hardest hit by the tax rollback with prices slashed by half.

The smuggling market and the subsequent tax reduction led to an important decrease in federal and provincial government revenues. Gains made by lowering smoking prevalence for the adult population during the 1980s grinded to a halt while teenage smoking increased alarmingly, which was a major concern since the greatest majority of smokers start while they are teenagers. The situation was even exacerbated when the Supreme Court of Canada struck down in 1995 key provisions of the Tobacco Products Control Act, the previous federal tobacco legislation which banned tobacco advertising.

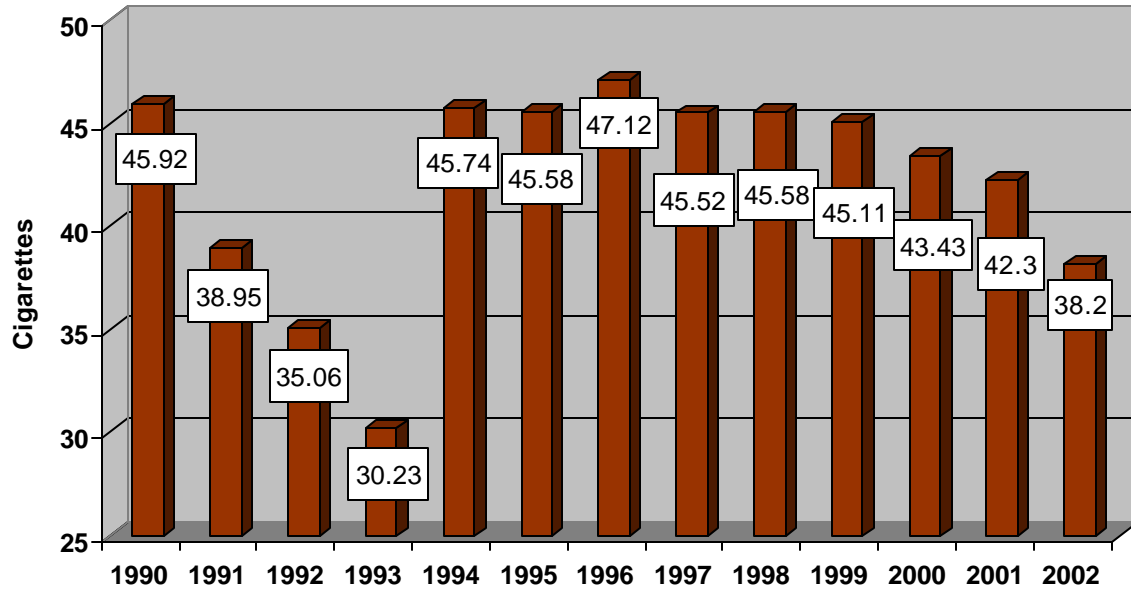
Since then, the health community fought for the passage of the Tobacco Act (1997), which restricts tobacco advertising and bans sponsorship as of 2003. New regulations (2000) were also introduced that forced the tobacco companies to print a new health warning system on their packages. Provincial and municipal governments have also introduced more effective smoking restrictions. Tobacco taxes were also gradually increased over the past few years, with governments being far more aggressive lately. More substantial funding has also been dedicated lately to tobacco control, although it remains to be seen if the money will be spent effectively. Furthermore, cessation aids are covered by the Quebec drug insurance program since October 2000 with tremendous success. Other jurisdictions are considering similar coverage.

In our opinion, the combined effect of all these new measures have contributed lately to bring back down smoking prevalence amongst the adult and teenage populations. Domestic cigarette sales have also followed the same trend since 1996.

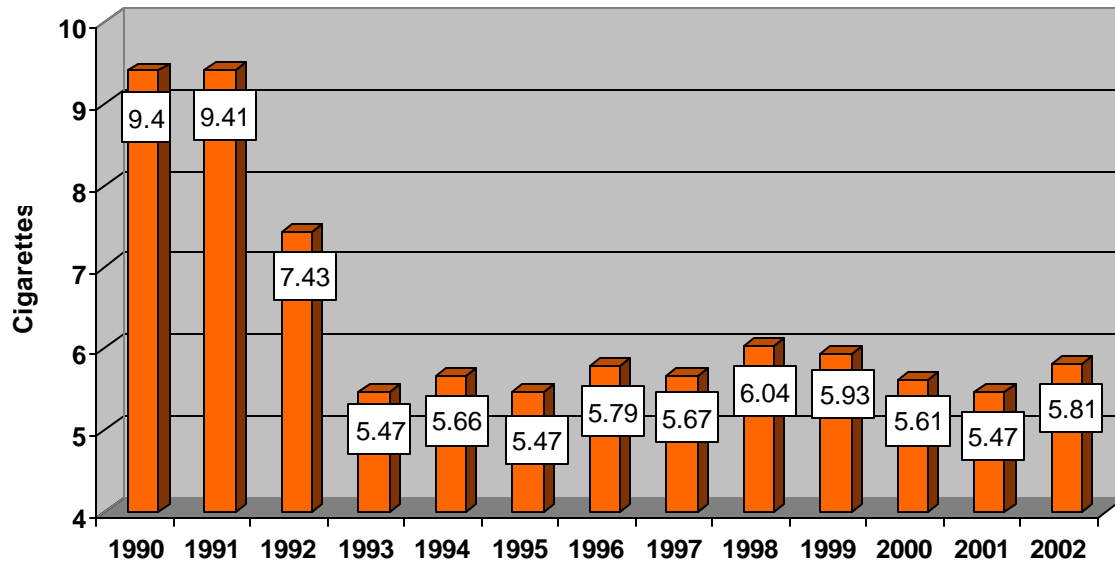
However, it is disturbing to notice that, although smoking prevalence has been going through different phases in the last decade, the tobacco companies have always managed to regularly generate record breaking profits (see sections on the companies). Not surprisingly, the tobacco companies have always maintained or increased their own share of tobacco prices during all this time (see Ontario and Quebec tax graphs). Many of these increases also occurred when governments increased taxes so that consumers would not be aware of the industry's strategy. By doing so, the tobacco companies knew that they could generate more profits even though their market continues to shrink.

TOBACCO MARKET

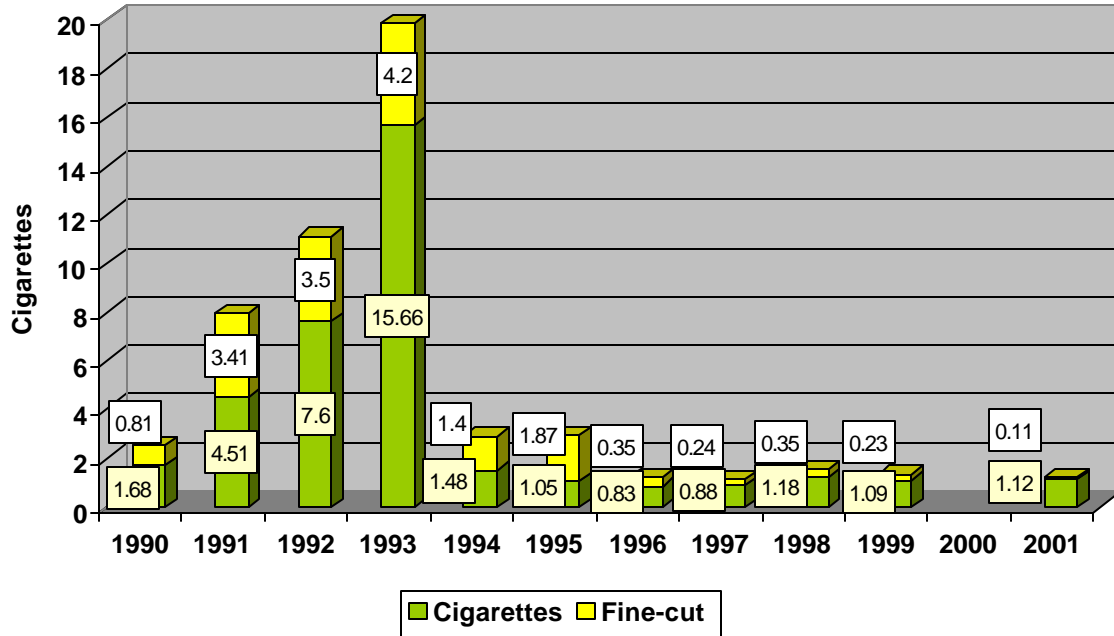
Domestic cigarette sales (in billions of cigarettes)



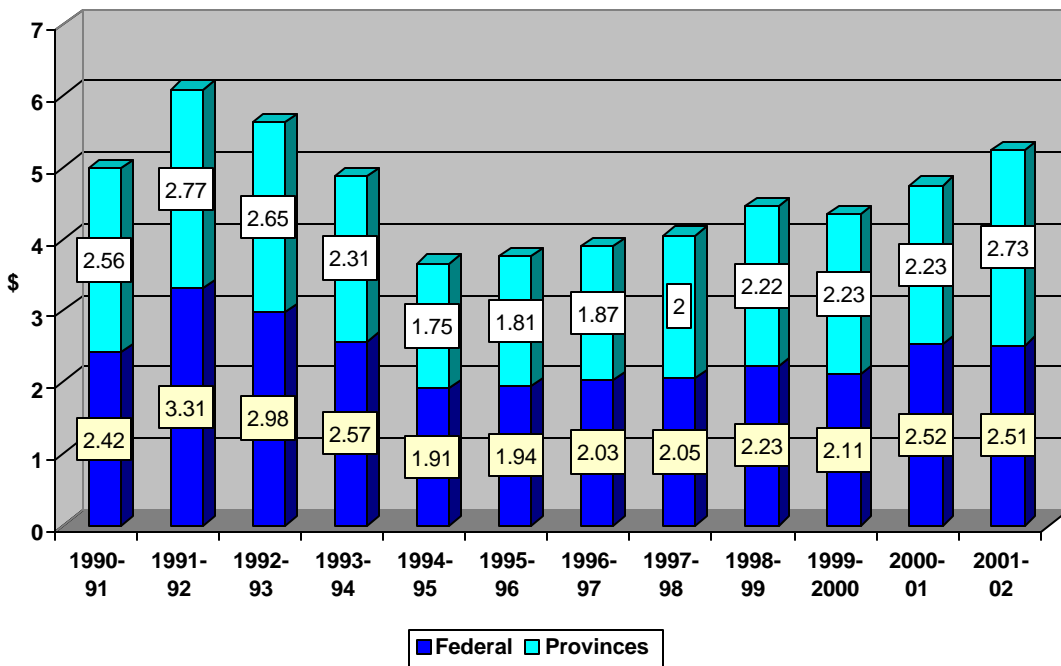
Domestic fine-cut sales
(in billions of cigarette equivalents: 0.7 gr = 1 cigarette)



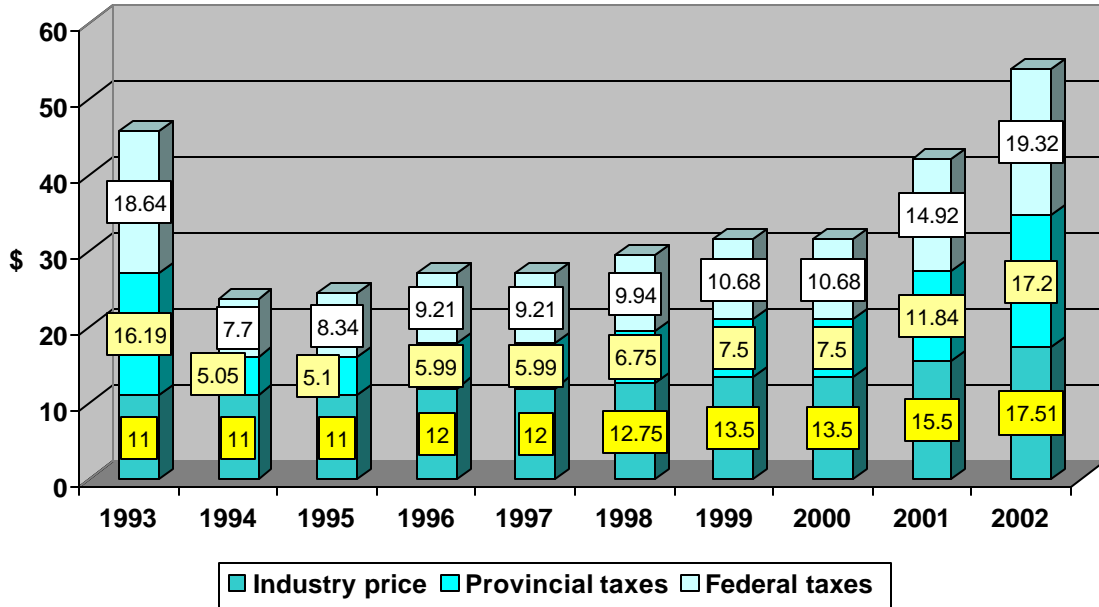
Cigarette and fine-cut exports (in billions of cigarettes: 0.7 gr. = 1 cigarette)



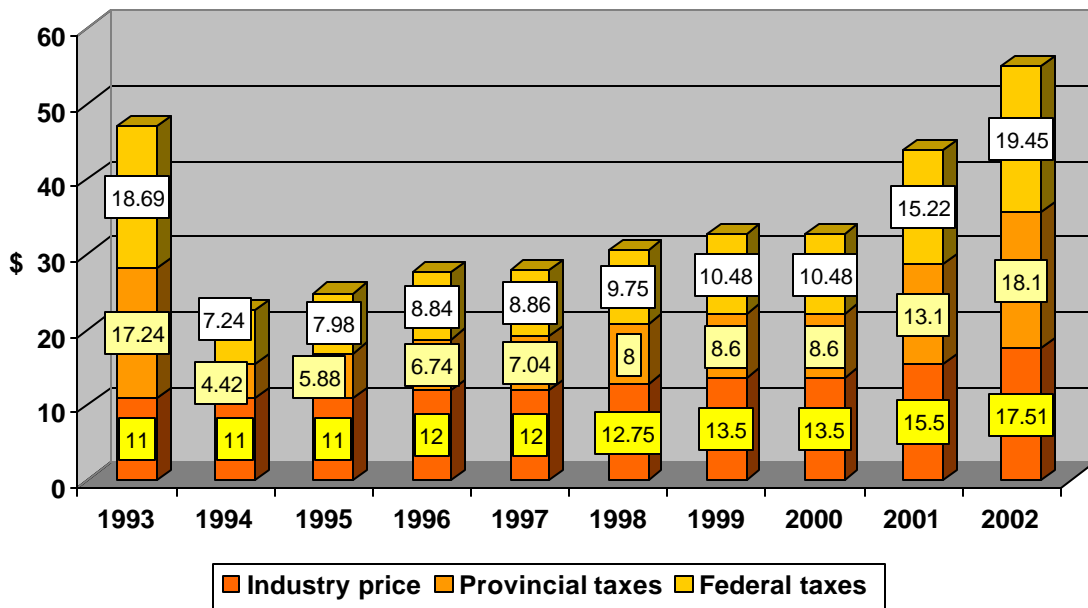
**Federal and provincial tax revenues (in billions of dollars)
(This graph does not include GST and provincial sales taxes)**



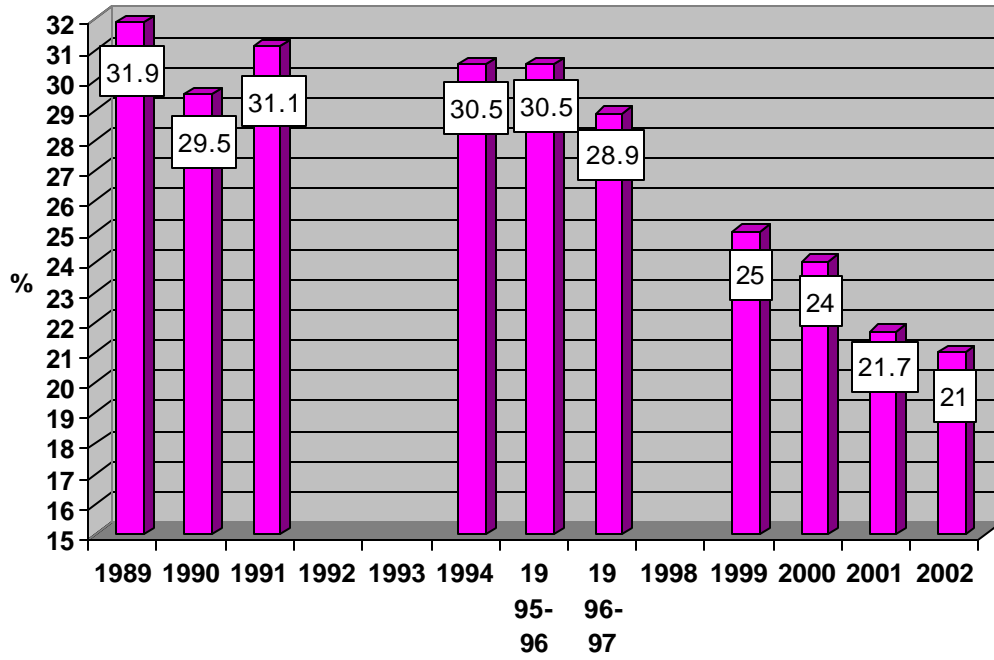
Taxes per carton of 200 cigarettes in Ontario (includes provincial sales tax and GST)



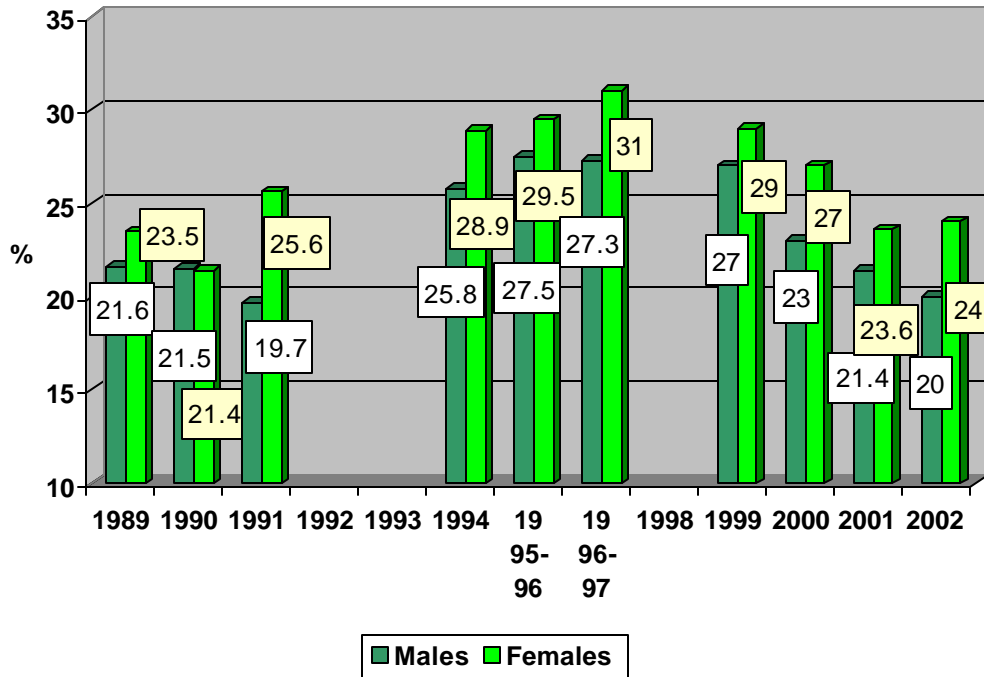
Taxes for a carton of 200 cigarettes in Quebec (includes provincial sales tax and GST)



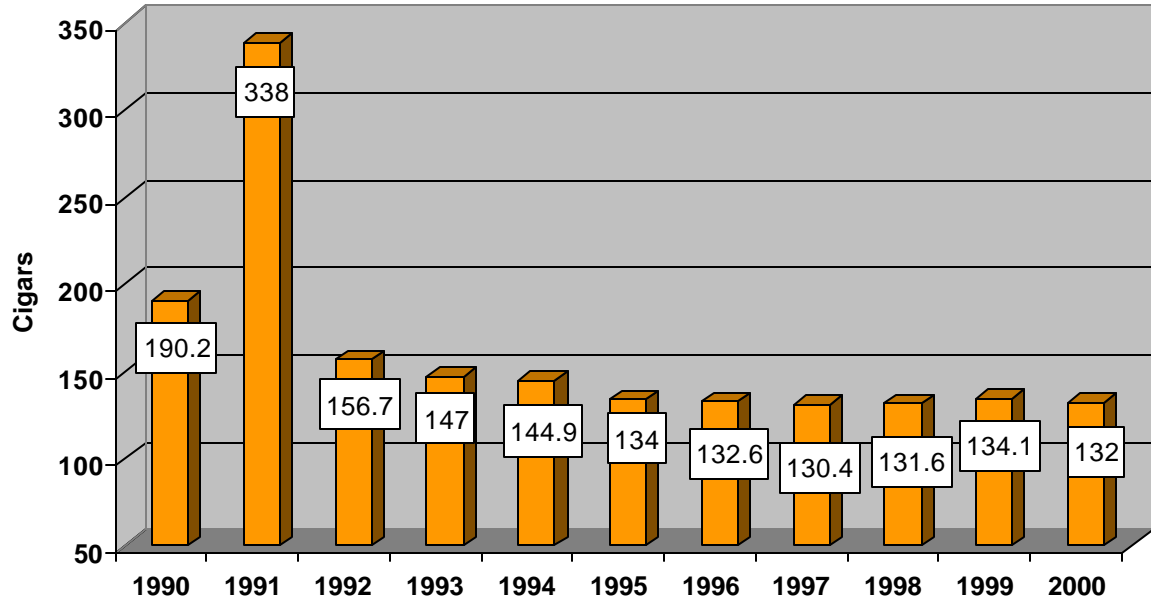
Smoking prevalence in Canada (15 years and +)



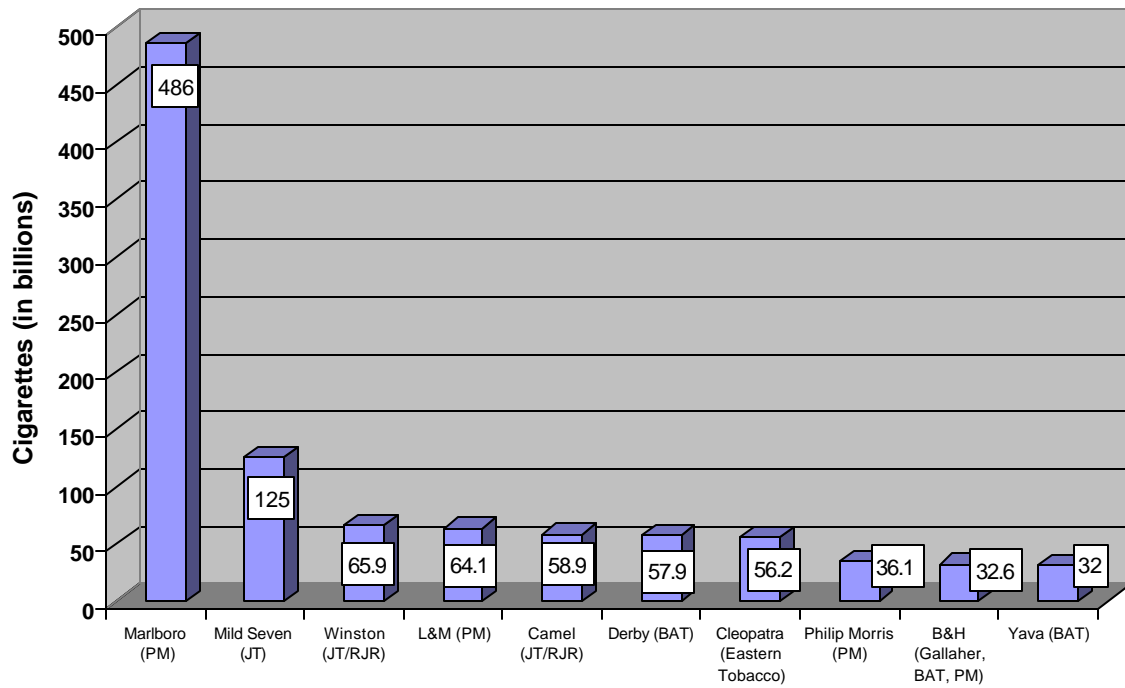
Smoking prevalence in Canada (15 to 19 years old)



Domestic cigar sales (in millions of cigars)



Top 10 cigarette brands worldwide (2002)





Imperial Tobacco Canada is the largest Canadian tobacco company. It was founded in June 1908 following the acquisition of the American Tobacco Company of Canada. Two of the American Tobacco Company's holdings, D. Ritchie & Co. and the American Cigarette Co., became the basis of operation for Imperial Tobacco Canada. Imperial's most popular cigarette brands on the market are du Maurier, Player's and Matinée.

LOCATION

Head office address

3711 St-Antoine
Montreal, Quebec
H4C 3P6
Telephone: (514) 932-6161
Fax: (514) 932-2695
Website: www.imperialtobaccocanada.com



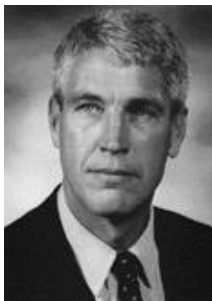
Manufacturing plants

Montreal, Quebec
Aylmer, Ontario
Guelph, Ontario

Sales offices

Laval, Quebec
Richmond Hill, Ontario
Calgary, Alberta

OFFICERS



Robert L. Bexon
President and CEO



Yvon Lessard
Executive Vice President,
Operations



Luc Jobin
Executive Vice President and
Chief Financial Officer

Pierre W. Fortier, Vice president, Corporate Affairs
Donald McCarthy, Vice President, Law, and General Counsel and Secretary
Jeff Guiler, Vice President, Marketing
Anne Boswall, Vice President, Human Ressources
Sunil Panray, Vice president and Treasurer
Christian Trépanier, Division Head and Controller
Harry Steinbrenner, Assistant-Treasurer
Caroline Ferland, Corporate Counsel, Marketing

MAJOR BRANDS



<p>Cigarettes Avanti Cameo du Maurier Marlboro Matinée Medaillon Peter Jackson Player's Sweet Caporal</p>	<p>Fine cut Caméo Matinée Player's</p>	<p>Tubes Embassy Matinée Player's</p>	<p>Cigarette paper Hi-Dro Player's Vogue Zig Zag</p>
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MARKET POSITIONING

The release of confidential marketing documents through litigation and the testimony of tobacco industry executives have, over the past decade, offered a rare view into the marketing practices of the tobacco industry. Excerpts from these valuable sources of material appear below to give us a general idea of what seems to be the key market for the company and how it positions its most popular cigarette brands.

General market

"I.T.L. has always focused its efforts on new smokers believing that early perceptions tend to stay with them throughout their lives. I.T.L. clearly dominates the young adult market today and stands to prosper as these smokers age and as it maintains its highly favorable youthful preference." (Imperial Tobacco, 1989)

"Marketing activities have historically been and continue to be targeted at younger smokers due to their greater propensity to change brands." (Imperial Tobacco, 1995)

"When we talk about a switcher we are talking about someone who has been smoking his usual brand for less than 12 months. This definition includes starters (did not smoke before)."
(Imperial Tobacco, 1991)

Player's

"Freedom and independence are at the core of Player's positioning. Self-reliance is indicated by consumers as an added dimension that provides a logical extension of freedom or independence and makes the two more relevant." (Imperial Tobacco, 1985)

"As seen in the 1993 Sponsorship Image research as the best overall fit with the target group, and as the highest form of racing in North America, Indy is best positioned to carry the Player's Ltd. attributes of masculinity, youthfulness, freedom and independence." (Imperial Tobacco, 1994)

du Maurier

"... that it is a modern brand, that it is a very high quality, that it is for both men and women and that du Maurier's quality is defined as essentially, again, desirable, attainable, aspirational quality." (Ed Ricard, Director, Market Strategy and Development Group, Imperial Tobacco, 2002)

Matinée

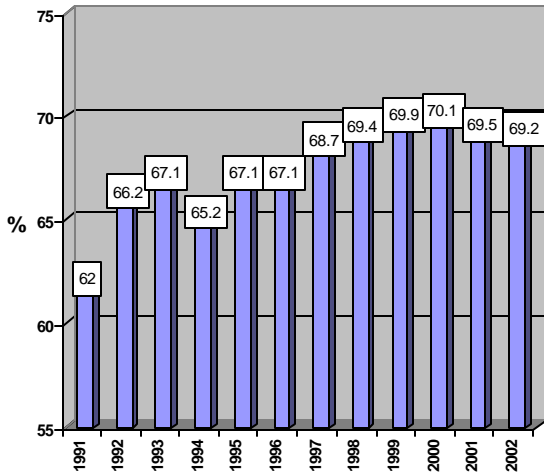
"So, in the case of Matinee where we talk about a trademark as youthful, popular and offering the mild brands for women, with Matinee we knew that we had the positioning of being mild and being for women. Consumers told us that that's what Matinee is, they're mild cigarettes and they're for women." (Ed Ricard, Director, Market Strategy and Development Group, Imperial Tobacco, 2002)

Medaillon

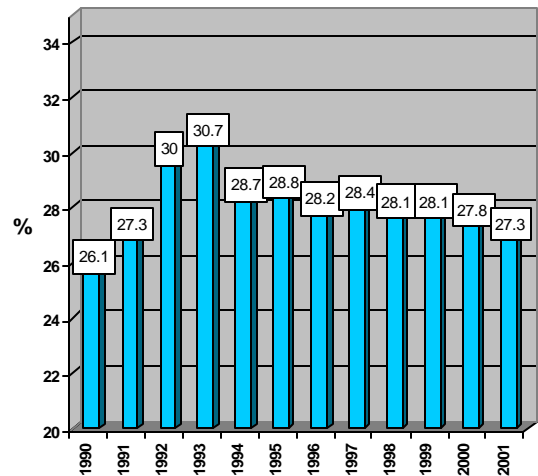
"The other group is one which wants to quit but cannot, and feels guilty about this. It chooses the lowest tar option because it is the least bad for it (in line with the Medaillon strategy)." (Imperial Tobacco, 1988)

MARKET SHARE

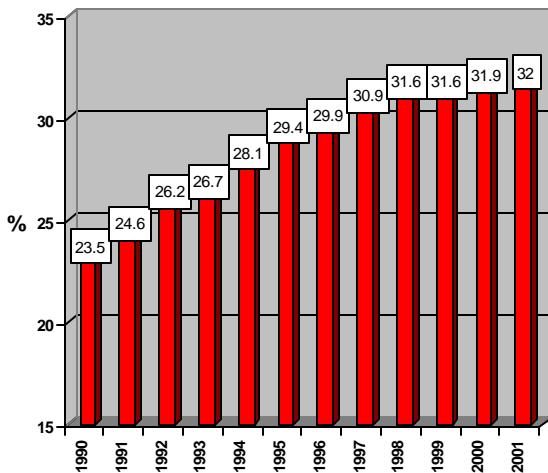
Total market share



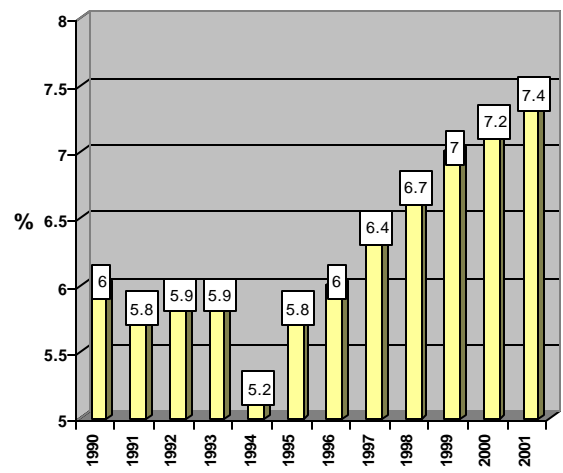
Player's market share



du Maurier market share

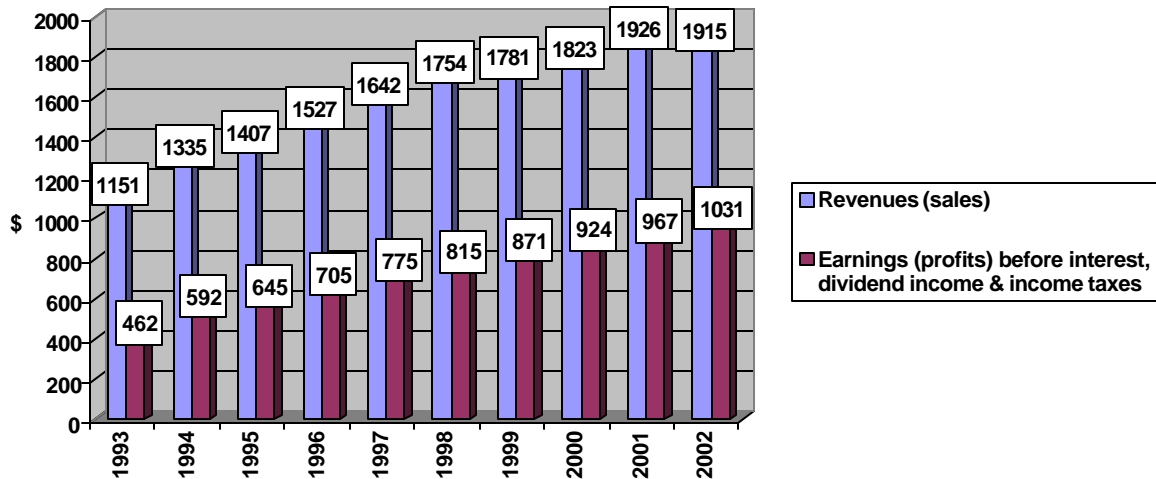


Matinée market share



REVENUES AND EARNINGS

In millions of dollars (fiscal year ends December 31)



EMPLOYMENT



Imperial Tobacco employs approximately 2000 workers in Canada.

OWNERSHIP

On February 1st, 2000, British American Tobacco, the maker of Lucky Strike, 555 and Kent cigarettes, became the sole owner of Imperial Tobacco. The company acquired from the previous owner, Imasco (a former Montreal based conglomerate), all the outstanding common shares that it did not already own.



KENT



Rothmans Inc.

Rothmans Inc. controls the second largest Canadian tobacco company, Rothmans, Benson & Hedges. The company exists for over 100 years. One of its predecessor, the Rock City Tobacco Co., started doing business in 1899 in Quebec City. Its most popular cigarette brands are Craven A, Rothmans, Benson & Hedges and Belvedere .

LOCATION

Head office address

1500 Don Mills Road
Toronto, Ontario
M3B 3L1
Tel: (416) 449-5525
Fax: (416) 449-9601
Website: www.rothmansinc.ca



Manufacturing plants

Quebec City, Quebec
Brampton, Ontario

Sales offices

Vancouver, British Columbia
Calgary and Edmonton, Alberta
Saskatoon, Saskatchewan
Winnipeg, Manitoba
Toronto and London, Ontario
Montreal and Sainte-Foy, Quebec
Dartmouth, Nova Scotia
St. John's, Newfoundland

OFFICERS



John R. Barnett
President and Chief
Executive Officer
Rothmans Inc. and
subsidiary Rothmans,
Benson & Hedges Inc.



Joe Hefferman
Chairman



Robert J. Carew
Executive Vice
President



Paul Jewer
Vice President
Finance and Chief
Financial Officer

BOARD OF DIRECTORS



Joe Hefferman
Chairman
Rothmans Inc.



John R. Barnett
President and
Chief Executive
Officer
Rothmans Inc.
and subsidiary
Rothmans,
Benson &
Hedges Inc.



**Douglas G.
Bassett O.C.,
O.Ont.**
Chairman
Windward
Investments



Dean J. Blain
Partner
Gowing Lafleur
Henderson LLP
Barristers and
Solicitors



Robert J. Carew
Executive Vice
President
Rothmans Inc.,
Executive Vice
President
Corporate and
Legal Affairs,
Rothmans,
Benson &
Hedges



**Pierre des
Marais II O.C.**
President
Gestion PDM
Inc.



**The Hon. Paule
Gauthier P.C.
O.C. O.Q. Q.C.**
Partner
Desjardins
Ducharme Stein
Monast,
Barristers and
Solicitors



**Pierre Gravelle
Q.C.**
Consultant
Pierre Gravelle
and Associates



Alan M. Hodge
Corporate
Director



**Richard H.
McCoy**
Vice Chairman
TD Securities
Inc.

ROTHMANS, BENSON & HEDGES INC. MANAGEMENT TEAM

John R. Barnett, President and Chief Executive Officer

Robert J. Carew, Executive Vice President Corporate and Legal Affairs

Warren H. Finlay, Vice President Operations, Leaf and Research and Development

Ronald F. Funk, Vice President Sales

Faryl Hausman, Vice President Corporate Affairs

Paul Jewer, Vice President Finance and Administration

Jean-Pierre Suys, Vice President Human Resources

Franco A. Salituro, Vice President Marketing

Robert Verrall, General Manager Tobacco Products Division

Rhonda Yarin, Vice President General Counsel

MAJOR BRANDS



Cigarettes
Accord
Belmont
Belvedere
Benson & Hedges
Black Cat
Canadian Classics
Craven A
Dunhill
Mark Ten
Number 7
Oxford
Peter Stuyvesant
Rothmans
Sportsman
Viscount



Fine cut
Fine cut products represents approximately 32% of RBH's sales and are sold using the company's cigarette brand names.



Other tobacco products
RBH sells imported pipe tobacco, such as Captain Black, and small cigars which represents less than 1% of its total sales.

MARKET POSITIONING

The release of confidential marketing documents through litigation and the testimony of tobacco industry executives have, over the past decade, offered a rare view into the marketing practices of the tobacco industry. Excerpts from these valuable sources of material appear below to give us a general idea of what seems to be the key market for each company and how it positions its most popular cigarette brands.

General market

"A strong regular length business is key to attracting younger users and ensuring a healthy future franchise." (Rothmans, Benson & Hedges, 1993)

"Although the key 15-19 age group is a must for RBH there are other bigger volume groups that we cannot ignore." (Rothmans, Benson & Hedges, 1997)

"In the cigarette category brand image is everything. The brand of cigarettes a person smokes is their identity. Cigarettes tell others who they are as a person. There is a strong emotional connection to the brand, the image it projects about the smoker, not only to themselves but to others." (Rothmans, Benson & Hedges, 1996)

Craven A

"Craven's conservative, unpretentious heritage appeals to consumers who seek substance, quality and a truer reflection of today's basic, core values." (Rothmans, Benson & Hedges, 1995)

Rothmans

"Rothmans is the premium quality, full-flavoured King Size specialist with a unique international image. Rothmans' aspirational image stems from a sense of heritage balanced with a modern, dynamic outlook." (Rothmans, Benson & Hedges, 1996)

Benson & Hedges

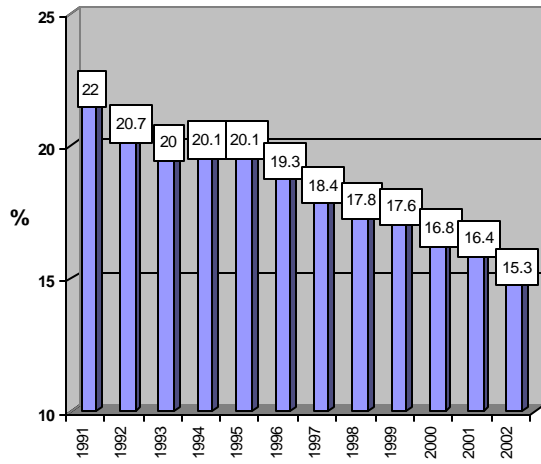
"Benson & Hedges is a high quality, both in product and image, classy but attainable brand. It is a smooth, rich flavour cigarette." (Rothmans, Benson & Hedges, 1995)

Belvedere

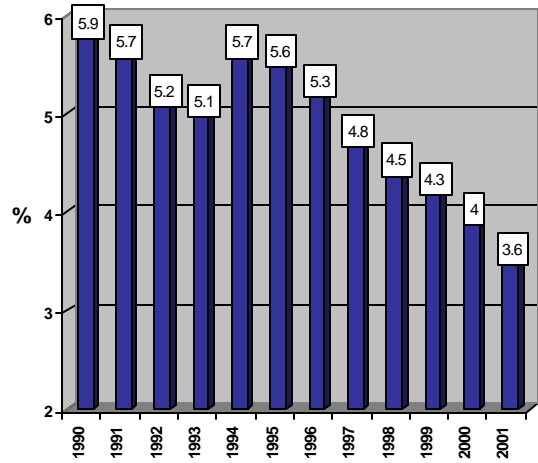
"Belvedere is the young, fun and sociable brand that offers smooth, full flavoured smoking satisfaction to contemporary young men and women.... I am active, energetic and enjoy socializing with others but I am not a leader. Unpretentious and down to earth, I follow the trends but don't want to be labelled. Part of the young crowd, I'm not rebellious but resist being told what I am and what I want." (Rothmans, Benson & Hedges, 1995-96)

MARKET SHARE

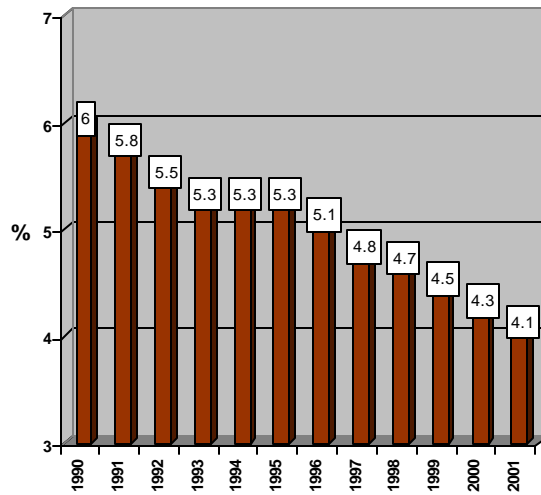
Total market share



Rothmans cigarettes market share

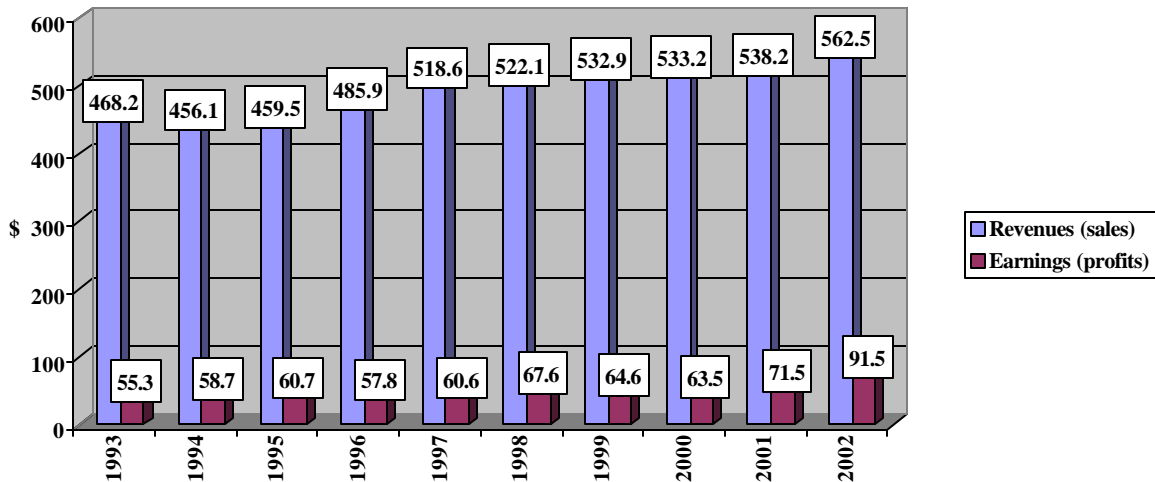


Craven A cigarettes market share



REVENUES AND EARNINGS

In millions of dollars (fiscal year ends March 31)



EMPLOYMENT

Approximately 780 employees work for Rothmans Inc. and Rothmans, Benson & Hedges.



OWNERSHIP

Rothmans Inc. is a Canadian holding company which owns 60% of Rothmans, Benson & Hedges, the cigarette manufacturing company. The remaining 40% belongs to FTR Holding SA of Switzerland, which is owned by Philip Morris International, which in turn is owned by Altria. Philip Morris is the world leading manufacturer of cigarettes. The company's main brands include Marlboro, Virginia Slims, L & M, etc... Altria also owns many other subsidiaries such as Kraft foods.





JTI-Macdonald Corp.

JTI-Macdonald Corporation is the third largest Canadian tobacco company. The founder, Sir William Macdonald, started in the tobacco business with his brother in 1858 under the name of "McDonald Brothers and Co." In 1974, the company was purchased by RJ Reynolds Industries. The US based company then sold its international operations, including RJR-Macdonald, to Japan Tobacco Incorporated in 1999. The company's most popular cigarette brand on the market is Export A.

LOCATION

Head office address

1 First Canadian Place, suite 6000
P.O. Box 111
Toronto, Ontario
M5X 1A4
Telephone: (416) 601-7000
Fax: (416) 601-7001
Website: www.jti.co.jp



Manufacturing plant

Montreal, Quebec

Sales offices

Canada's major cities

OFFICERS



Michel A. Poirier
President and Chief
Executive Officer

Jensen Povl van Deurs, Chairman

Bradley Price, Senior Director, Finance

Andrew J. Shannon, Vice President, Marketing and
Sales

Bruno Duguay, Vice President, General Counsel and
Secretary

Anne Duncan, Senior Director, Human Resources

Nelson Medeiros, Chief Information Officer

MAJOR BRANDS



Cigarettes
Camel
Export A
Macdonald
Macdonald Select
More
Select
Vantage
Winston

Fine cut
British Consols
Daily Mail
Export A
Zig Zag

Cigars
El Producto
Tueros

MARKET POSITIONING

The release of confidential marketing documents through litigation and the testimony of tobacco industry executives have, over the past decade, offered a rare view into the marketing practices of the tobacco industry. Excerpts from these valuable sources of material appear below to give us a general idea of what seems to be the key market for the company and how it positions its most popular cigarette brands.

General market

"The younger segment represents the most critical source of business to maintain volume and grow share in a declining market. They're recent smokers and show a greater propensity to switch than the older segment. Export has shown an ability to attract this younger group since 1987 to present." (RJR Macdonald, 1989)

"In order to make further inroads into the younger segment, we must continue to project an image that is consistent with the needs and values of today's younger smokers." (RJR Macdonald, 1989)

Export A

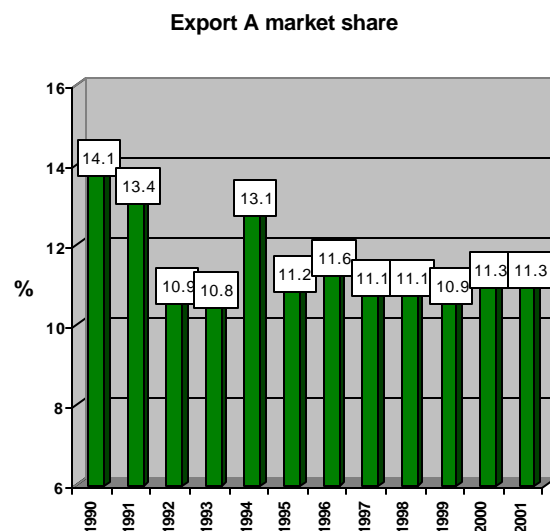
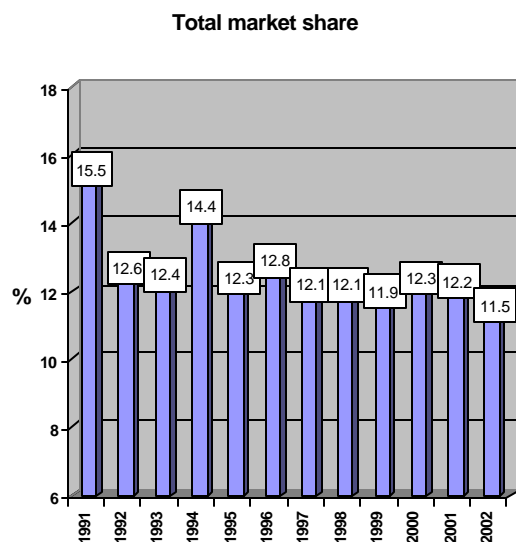
"The Export imagery will dimensionalize the breed of men who are masculine, independent, adventurous and possess the qualities of natural leadership... Women are attracted to these men because of their youthful virility, independence and spirit of adventure." (RJR Macdonald, 1982)

"Export 'A' allows Quebecois smokers who fit our prospect profile to express their difference as a unique people. The objective is to link the brand to Quebecers' strong feelings of being 'different' from their English speaking neighbours."

Vantage

"A market segmentation study conducted in 1990 indicated that Vantage was heavily overdeveloped in the Potential Quitter segment (index 200) and hence the brand of choice for smokers who were considering exiting the market." (RJR Macdonald, 1996)

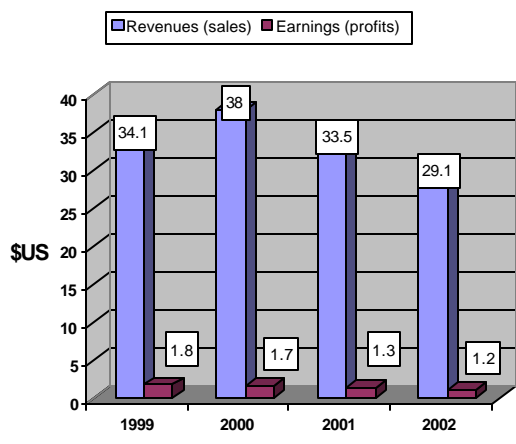
MARKET SHARE



REVENUES AND EARNINGS

JTI-Macdonald Corporation is not a publicly traded company. Information is therefore not available on its financial performance. Instead, the opposite graph offers the parent company's (Japan Tobacco International) tobacco sales and profits for the last four years.

In billions of US dollars (fiscal year ends march 31st)



EMPLOYMENT

There are approximately 345 people working at JTI-Macdonald Corporation's Montreal manufacturing plant.



OWNERSHIP

In May 1999, Japan Tobacco International purchased from the U.S. tobacco manufacturer RJ Reynolds its international subsidiary RJ Reynolds International, which included Canada's RJR-Macdonald. The acquisition obviously prompted the company's name change to JTI-Macdonald. Already the owner of Mild Seven, one of the most popular international cigarette brand, Japan Tobacco gained control over the international sales of Camel, Winston and Salem brands of cigarettes. Japan Tobacco also owns food and pharmaceutical companies.



OTHER CANADIAN CIGARETTE MANUFACTURERS

The Canadian cigarette market is mostly dominated by the previous three major manufacturers: Imperial Tobacco of Canada, Rothmans, Benson & Hedges and JTI-Macdonald. In 2001, their sales accounted for 98% of the Canadian market. The remaining 2% is divided among smaller manufacturers which are listed below. Unfortunately, information on these smaller companies is not as abundant as for the three others.



LOCATION

Head office address

1665 Nishk street
Pointe-bleue, Quebec
G0W 2H0
Telephone: (418) 275-6161
1-800-265-8855
Fax: (418) 275-6188
1-800-275-6188
Website: www.adltobacco.com

Sales office

93 Bastien Blvd.
Wendake, Quebec
G0A 4V0
Telephone: (418) 843-5000
1-877-753-7070
Fax: (418) 843-5559
1-888-367-5559

OFFICERS

Alain Paul, President
Donald Paul, Vice-President
Martin Audet, Operations Manager
Norman Moar, Administration Manager

MAJOR BRANDS





LOCATION

Head office address

R. R. #4

Montague, Prince Edward Island

COA 1R0

Telephone: (902) 838-2456

Fax: (902) 838-2363

Website: www.choicetobacco.com

OFFICER

Joseph Spriet, President

MAJOR BRAND



OTHER COMPANIES

Bastos du Canada Limited

371 Saint-Marc Street, Box 68

Louiseville, Quebec

J5V 2L9

Telephone: (819) 228-5531

Fax: (819) 228-2437

Grand River Enterprises

2176 Chiefswood Road

Ohsweken, Ontario

N0A 1M0

Telephone: (905) 765-8595

Fax: (905) 765-8598

Les Tabacs Tabec Inc.

175 Sutton Street

Delson, Quebec

J0L 1G0

Telephone: (450) 638-2475

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Les Entreprises Steve Lépine

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TOBACCO INDUSTRY FRONT GROUPS

It is now well documented that the tobacco industry uses front groups as a strategy to defeat or weaken any effective tobacco control measure. The industry has understood for many years that it has a serious credibility problem and cannot effectively engage in public debates to oppose these measures.

To overcome this major obstacle, the industry has frequently relied on its allies to convey its position. For example, during the debates for the new health warning system, the industry called upon the printing industry to pressure the federal government not to adopt the world-precedent setting regulation.

In the absence of such allies or when their help is just not enough, the tobacco industry goes a step further and sets up bogus organizations often called front groups which seem to defend the interests of a specific group of stakeholders. Often, links with the tobacco industry are not apparent and therefore deceive the public into believing that these organizations are credible. Obviously, the tobacco industry benefits from the gains made by these front groups.

This section offers several examples of front groups linked or suspected to be linked with the tobacco industry.

OPERATION ID

Operation ID is a program with the alleged purpose of helping retailers not to sell tobacco to minors. The program is run by the Canadian Coalition for Responsible Tobacco Retailing, an organization set up by the tobacco industry. The program was originally conceived in the United States by the now defunct Tobacco Institute and was called "It's the law". It has since changed its name to "We card" and it's being promoted by the Coalition for Responsible Tobacco Retailing (the same name as in Canada).

Two Philip Morris memos from 1991 and 1995 clearly indicate what are the true purposes of this program. The first memo says:

"1- A reduction in legislation introduced and passed restricting or banning sales and marketing activities;



- 2- Passage of legislation favorable to the industry;
- 3- Greater support from business, parent and teacher groups."

The second memo offers even more direct evidence:

"...we believe that the first building block to a successful, fully integrated program is an "It's the law" Program. This is fundamental to our long term strategy for stopping the proliferation of anti-tobacco legislation."

Unfortunately, over 250 businesses, organizations and even politicians from across the country have endorsed the program.

Operation ID is located in Ottawa at the following address:

Operation I.D.
800 - 45 O'Connor Street
Ottawa, Ontario
K1P 1A4
Telephone: 1-800-305-9880
Fax: 1-800-528-9176

WISE DECISIONS

Wise decisions is another tobacco industry funded program presently being developed by a consultant firm called Cunningham Gregory and Company. In our opinion, the program is yet another public relations attempt, similar to Operation ID, to show that the tobacco industry is proactive to prevent kids from starting to smoke.

The program targets schoolchildren from grades 6 to 8. The initial version of the program was recently tested as part of a pilot project in schools in several provinces.

The program seems to reinforce the usual industry position that children start smoking because of peer and family pressure and that it finally boils down to a personal decision. According to the Ontario Medical Association, the curriculum focuses "on young people's personal attitudes toward

smoking, the factors that influence these attitudes, the influence of family and friends upon their decisions, the decision-making process and health lifestyles."

The program contains almost no information on the devastating health consequences of tobacco use nor on the tobacco industry's past and present behavior. It also doesn't address what could be considered as an effective tobacco control measure.

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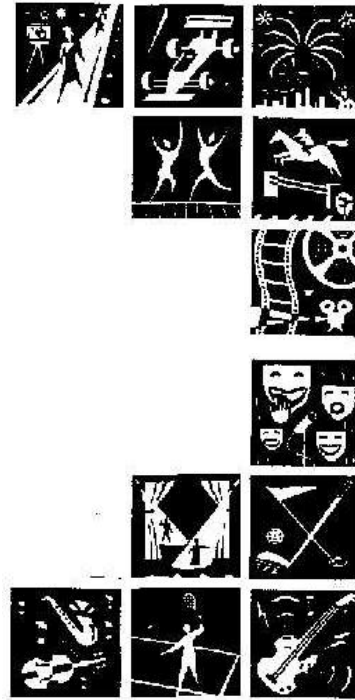
ALLIANCE FOR SPONSORSHIP FREEDOM

Because of a loophole in the Tobacco Products Control Act (TPCA), which banned advertising as of 1988, sponsorships became the ideal vehicle for the tobacco industry to profusely promote its products.

The problem became so serious that a total sponsorship ban was included in Bill C-71, the Tobacco Act, the TPCA's successor following the Supreme Court ruling in 1995.

To oppose this ban, a new organisation called the Alliance for Sponsorship Freedom was launched in 1996. The Alliance was composed of 250 arts, sports, fashion and entertainment events receiving tobacco sponsorship. The health community soon learned that the Alliance was actually set up by Edelman Public Relations Worldwide, a PR firm that worked with tobacco companies including Imperial Tobacco.

Unfortunately, because of the Alliance, the federal government adopted Bill C-42, which amended the Tobacco Act, by introducing a five year transition period before the implementation of a complete tobacco sponsorship ban. The Alliance no longer exists.



REGULATORY TOXICOLOGY AND PHARMACOLOGY

Funding research to refute independent scientific evidence which leads to effective public policies is another key tobacco industry strategy. The infamous Black Dog Pub study published in "Regulatory Toxicology and Pharmacology" is a good example of this strategy.

The study, which claims that a ventilation system can effectively protect patrons in bars and restaurants from exposure to second-hand smoke, is being widely promoted by the hospitality industry to oppose smoke-free policies.

However, the objectivity of both the study and the journal is questionable. Indeed, the study's author, Dr. Roger Jenkins, and his employer have both received funding from the tobacco industry. As for the journal, several editors, such as Gio Gori, are well known tobacco industry collaborators.



Furthermore, Regulatory Toxicology and Pharmacology is the official journal of the International Society of Regulatory Toxicology and Pharmacology which has RJReynolds as one of its main sponsor.

Website: www.academicpress.com/rtp

PUBCO

PUBCO was launched as a response by Ottawa pub and bar owners to oppose the recently passed municipal by-law which introduced the most complete smoking ban in Canada.

According to Physicians for a Smoke-Free Canada, PUBCO represents less than 10% of bars and restaurants in Ottawa, yet was quite active in the campaign to oppose the by-law. A possible link with the tobacco industry was suggested following the publication of a newspaper ad which included a phone number referring supporters to the Canadian Tobacco Manufacturers Council.

PUBCO has since expanded its activities to other Ontario municipalities to oppose similar by-laws. It also manages a website which promotes familiar tobacco industry rhetoric (www.pubcoalition.com).



Pub and Bar Coalition of Canada
17 Grenfell Crescent, Suite 210B
Ottawa, Ontario
K2G 0G3
Telephone: 613-321-0603
Fax: 613-321-9681

COURTESY OF CHOICE

Courtesy of Choice is a tobacco industry program set up to oppose effective smoking by-laws. The program advocates that it is possible to accommodate patrons in restaurants and hotels by offering smoking and non-smoking sections without any physical separation. It also promotes ventilation as a solution to protect non-smokers from second hand smoke.

Confidential documents show that the Canadian Tobacco Manufacturers Council has funded hotel associations in Canada to promote the program as a reasonable alternative to effective smoking by-laws.



Information on the program is available on the International Hotel and Restaurant Association's website (www.ih-ira.com/courtesy/). The Hotel Association of Canada is a member of the International Association and also has a link on its website to access the program (www.hotels.ca/programs/index.html).

QUEBEC COALITION FOR FAIR TOBACCO TAXATION AND MATRAC

The tobacco tax cut in 1994 was one of the most devastating public health loss in recent history. The Quebec Coalition for Fair Tobacco Taxation (QCFTT) and the Movement for the Abolition of Taxes

Reserved for Cigarettes (MATRAC), an acronym which refers to a policeman's baton in French, led the charge in Quebec that resulted with the tax rollback.

The tobacco industry was part of the QCFTT with growers, wholesalers, unions and retailers. The industry helped the Coalition to conduct a large scale petition campaign and lobby both the federal and provincial governments. The MATRAC regrouped several hundred Quebec convenience stores and made headlines by staging daily illegal sales of contraband cigarettes in different political ridings.

Michel Gadbois, the head of the Quebec Food Retailers Association (QFRA) (Association des détaillants en alimentation du Québec) was the spokesperson for the Coalition. He previously worked in public relations for Rothmans, Benson & Hedges and Imasco (former owner of Imperial Tobacco). The three main Canadian tobacco companies are also members of the Association and have funded many of its activities.

According to a journalistic investigation, the QFRA also played a key role in helping the MATRAC launch its campaign. The schedule for the daily illegal sales of contraband cigarettes was planned in the Association's Montreal office. The Association also paid for transmitting the MATRAC's press releases. A meeting was also held in the Association's offices between the Canadian Tobacco Manufacturers Council and representatives of the MATRAC.

Association des détaillants en alimentation du Québec

300 Léo-Pariseau Street, suite 1100
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ASSOCIATION FOR THE RESPECT OF SMOKERS' RIGHTS

The Association for the Respect of Smokers' Rights (ARSR) was the latest incarnation of an association claiming to represent the rights of smokers. The ARSR was launched in April 2000 as a response to the proposed Tobacco Products Information Regulations which introduced the new health warning system with pictures.

The ARSR had planned to go on a cross-country tour to unite smokers and businesses to defend their rights. The ARSR never admitted receiving tobacco industry funding but made it clear in its press material that it would ask manufacturers for support. The Association was active in the media for several months but hasn't been heard of for quite some time. Its website no longer exists (www.smokersrights.org).



The previous incarnation of a smokers' Association was called the Smokers Freedom Society which was headed at one point in time by Luc Dumoulong who is the present President of the National Convenience Stores Distributors Association, a well-known industry supporter. The Society was created in 1986 during the debate for the Non-Smokers' Health Act. It received \$ 100 000.00 from the tobacco industry.