BAHRAINI TECHNICAL REGULATION
Electronic Nicotine Products (Equivalents of Traditional Tobacco Products)

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National Foreword

Ministry of Industry, Commerce and Tourism has adopted the National Technical Regulation No. ( ), and titled (Electronic Nicotine Products (Equivalents of Traditional Tobacco Products)).

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Electronic Nicotine Products
(Equivalents of Traditional Tobacco Products)

1. Scope
This Bahraini Technical Regulation is concerned with the requirements of electronic nicotine products which are designed in the form of traditional tobacco products such as (cigarettes, cigar, pipe, cigarillo or hookah), which includes the following products:
- Electronic vape products which do not contain tobacco (and may or may not contain nicotine) and their refill packages, e.g. e-liquid containers.
- Heated tobacco products that contain tobacco (processed or unprocessed) which is heated by an electronic device (without combustion).
It also specifies the requirements for importing, manufacturing, packing, displaying and trading, and weights and descriptive data on their labels but does not include any products that are consumed through lighting and smoking with combustion or any products that contain nicotine such as nicotine patches and tobacco products which are consumed orally.

2. Supplementary References
2.2 GSO IEC 60335-1: Household and Electrical appliances – Safety – Part One: General Requirements.
2.4 IEC 62133-1: Secondary cells and batteries containing alkaline electrolytes or other Non-acidic electrolytes - Safety requirements for enclosed, portable secondary cells and batteries made of them, for use in portable applications - Part 1: Nickel systems.
2.5 IEC 62133-2: Secondary cells and batteries containing alkalis or other non-acidic electrolytes - Safety requirements for enclosed secondary cell lithium cells, and batteries made of them, for use in portable applications - Part 2: Lithium systems.
2.6 GSO IEC 60086-4: Primary dry batteries - Part 4: Safety of lithium batteries.
2.7 GSO IEC 60335-2-29: Household electrical appliances and similar safety - Part 29 -2: Special requirements for battery chargers.
2.8 GSO 2500: Additives permitted to be used in food.
2.9 GSO 707: Flavorings permitted to be used in food products.
2.10 GSO 9: Labeling of Prepackaged Food Stuffs.
2.11 European Pharmacopoeia for Non-Sterile Inhalation Products.
2.12 European Pharmacopoeia – Study (Monograph) of Nicotine.
2.13 European Pharmacopoeia – Study (Monograph) of Purified Water.
2.14 European Pharmacopoeia – Study (Monograph) of Propylene Glycol.
2.15 European Pharmacopoeia – Study (Monograph) of Glycerol.
2.16 GSO IEC 61558-1: Safety of power transformers, power supplies, reactors and similar products - Part 1: General requirements and tests.
3. Definitions

3.1 Tobacco:
Leaves and other natural processed or unprocessed parts of tobacco plants, including expanded and reconstituted tobacco.

3.2 Nicotine:
Nicotinic alkaloids.

3.3 Ingredient:
Tobacco, any additive, as well as any other substance or element present in a finished tobacco product or related product, including paper, filter, ink, capsules and adhesives.

3.4 Flavoring:
Additive to add smell and/or taste.

3.5 Characterizing Flavors:
Means a clearly noticeable smell or taste other than one of tobacco, resulting from an additive or a combination of additives, including, but not limited to, fruit, spice, herbs, alcohol, candy, menthol or vanilla, which is noticeable before or during the consumption of the tobacco product.

3.6 Electronic Vape Products:
Electronic devices and its accessories which operate through batteries and can be used to heat the e-liquid to be vaporized, inhaled and exhaled by mouth as a smoke simulation, and they are free of tobacco.
A typical electronic cigarette consists of: the battery that is used to heat the solution tank containing the so-called "electronic liquid" that may be in a disposable cartridge or a tank that can be refilled from external cartridges.

3.7 Electronic Liquid:
A liquid formula (or gel) in the Electronic Vape Products or in a replaceable cartridge (which may or may not contain nicotine) and some other additives such as distilled water, solvents, vegetable glycerin and propylene glycol.

3.8 External Cartridges (Single Container):
Any package used for refilling electronic nicotine products, whether in the form of rolls, tanks, small containers, capsules containing granules or other forms, and whether disposable or can be used for refilling each time.

3.9 Heated Tobacco electronic device:
An electronic device used to heat tobacco products that is activated by electronic heating or by other means to be used in the consumption of heated tobacco products through the mouth.

3.10 Heated tobacco products:
A product consisting of tobacco and non-tobacco materials exclusively intended for use with or without a nicotine-containing aerosol without the combustion of tobacco.
3.11 Toxicity:
The harmful effects that the product may have on the human organism, including the effects that occur over time, whether through consumption or repeated or continuous exposure to the effects of the product.

3.12 Package (pack):
The unit package of the product (with its accessories) sold to the consumer as a complete product unit, including the carton (the container of the unit package).

3.13 Label:
Any label, tag, mark, picture, or any other descriptive data written, printed, stamped, affixed, engraved or embossed on the package in a non-removable manner.

3.14 Descriptive Data:
Any writing, pictures or graphics on the label related to the product's characteristics, properties, nature or consumption, or one of its ingredients or any other properties.

3.15 Main Display Area:
The front and back panels of the package. If this is not easily identifiable, the largest area is considered the front panel and the second largest area is considered the back panel.

3.16 Health Warning:
The warning about the harmful effects of the product on human health or other undesirable consequences of its consumption, including written warnings, attached health warnings, general warnings and information messages.

3.17 External Packaging:
Any container in which the products or related products containing a unit package, or a set of unit packages are placed.
Transparent wrapping is not considered part of the outer packaging.

3.18 Production code (Batch Number):
A code for a quantity of the product that was produced under the same conditions during a specific period of time, usually for a specific product line and production unit.

4. Requirements

4.1 General requirements
4.1.1 The manufacturing facilities must meet the requirements of the standard mentioned in item (2.1).
4.1.2 The devices (electronic and electrical) must meet the requirements of the standard mentioned in item (2.2) (or the equivalent) that is relevant to the safety of electrical equipment and devices, including the falling test, contact temperature and the electromagnetic compatibility (EMC) test.
4.1.3 Batteries, accumulators, secondary cells and chargers must meet the requirements of the applicable standards mentioned in items (2.4), (2.5), (2.6) and (2.7).
4.1.4 The product and/or cartridges must meet the requirements of child protection set forth in item (2.3), so that they do not pose any potential health risks to children. It is necessary to ensure that these products are protected and resistant to harm caused by children, including the affixation of
marks for protection from children and protection by appropriate mechanisms for opening and closing the packages.

4.1.5 The product and cartridges must remain conformant to the requirements of this standard throughout the shelf life.

4.1.6 No modification or change in the ingredients or characteristics of the product and cartridges may be made unless the official approval from the responsible entity is obtained.

4.1.7 It is not allowed to import, manufacture or launch the product and cartridges in the market unless the official approval from the responsible entity is obtained and the following documents are submitted:

4.1.7.1 Reports of the tests of safety of electronic components / falling test / leakage test / contact temperatures / electromagnetic efficiency, from scientific entities or laboratories accepted by the responsible entity.

4.1.7.2 A list of all ingredients and their quantities used in the product in descending order according to the weight of each ingredient, indicating the trade name, type and relevant quantities, accompanied by a statement specifying the reasons for including these ingredients in the products concerned, as well as level of emissions arising from the use and any other emissions.

4.1.7.3 The results of necessary toxicological studies for the product ingredients before and after use and its emissions, including when heated, issued by scientific entities or laboratories accepted by the responsible entity.

4.1.7.4 Data on nicotine doses and absorption when consumed in normal or reasonably expected conditions.

4.1.7.5 Acknowledgment that the manufacturer and importer assume full responsibility for the quality and safety of the product when placed in the market and used in normal or expected conditions.

4.1.7.6 Description for using the product ingredients and cartridges, including, where appropriate, the product opening and re-filling mechanism.

4.1.7.7 Description of the production process, including the sequence of production processes, and ensuring that the production process conforms to the requirements of this standard.

4.1.7.8 Stability studies supporting the product's shelf life as indicated on the product label, where applicable.

4.1.7.9 Laboratory reports from entities accepted from the responsible entity, including information on nicotine concentration in the product and cartridges, the quality and safety of the product, post-marketing and post-consumption analyses, and electrical safety and any other similar information upon request.

4.1.8 Risk assessment studies of the consumable part of the products.

4.1.9 Products and cartridges must meet the safety and quality requirements so that liquids do not break or leak during use and refilling.

4.1.10 The following materials must not be added in product, cartridges and e-liquids:

- Vitamins or other additives that give the impression that the product has a health benefit or reduces health risks.

- Caffeine, taurine or other additives and stimulants associated with stimulating performance and vitality.

- Colored additives with emission-coloring properties.

- Carcinogens or agents of genetic mutations or producing toxins before and after use of the products.
- Substances classified as legally-prohibited substances, such as narcotics, hallucinogens, tranquilizers, etc.
- Ethylene glycol and diethylene glycol, formaldehyde, acetaldehyde, acrolein, Crotone aldehyde, acetone, acetylpropionyl and diacetyl, pentane-3,2-dione and related ketones, and long chain preservatives of paraben.
- Acrylonitrile, benzene, 3,1-potadiene, isoprene, toluene.
- 4 amino-diphenyl, 1-amino-naphthalene, 2-amino-naphthalene.
- Ammonia.
- Cinnamic compounds.
- Respiratory allergens.
- Residues of heavy metals such as lead, cadmium, mercury, chromium, nickel, iron, arsenic and tin.
- Multipolar hydrocarbons, carbon monoxide, and nitrosamines of tobacco (e.g. NNK and NNN).
- Mineral oils, vegetable oils and fats such as (olive oil).

4.1.11 It is allowed to use the materials necessary for the manufacture of products and cartridges, such as sugar to replace the sugar lost during the treatment process, provided that these substances do not result in increase of addiction or toxicity.

4.1.12 Other product components such as filters, paper, parcels, capsules or any other related components shall not contain flavors that modify the smell or taste of the products or the emissions' intensity, nor shall they contain tobacco, tobacco extracts or nicotine.

4.1.13 The packages or their outer packaging shall not contain printed vouchers, discount offers or a reference to free distribution, two-for-one offers or any other similar offers that may suggest economic advantages to consumers and thus induce them to purchase the products.

4.2 Requirements for the Electronic Liquid:

4.2.1 The electronic liquid shall be manufactured according to the requirements of the standard mentioned in item (2.1).

4.2.2 The components of electronic liquid such as nicotine and solvents shall be of high purity and in line with pharmaceutical grade specification and must meet the requirements of the European Pharmacopoeia mentioned in items (2.11 – 2.15).

4.2.3 The microbiological limits of the nicotine used in electronic liquid shall not exceed what is specified in the European Pharmacopoeia for Non-Sterile Inhalation Products mentioned in item (2.11).

4.2.4 The content of nicotine in the electronic liquid shall be less than or equal to 20 milligrams per milliliter.

4.2.5 The capacity of the integrated electronic liquid tank shall not exceed 10 ml.

4.2.6 The capacity of the electronic liquid's refill packages shall not exceed 50 ml per package.

4.2.7 The electronic liquid packages shall not be easily breakable, damageable or destroyable.

4.2.8 Electronic liquid packages shall function in such a manner as to ensure that the electronic liquid does not leak to the mouth during inhalation.

4.2.9 The ingredients used in electronic liquids shall not pose a health hazard (except for nicotine and other types of tobacco extracts if used), whether in product use conditions or as-is, at the concentration used and under the conditions of use for which they are intended.

4.2.10 Materials prohibited under item (4.1.10) shall not be added to the electronic liquid.
4.2.11 It is allowed to add the following moisturizing substances:
glycerol (of food grade and non-petroleum products), 1-2 propylene glycol, 1-3 butylene glycol,
triethylene glycol (with a minimum purity of 99.5%) and they shall be suitable for human
consumption and in line with pharmaceutical grade specification in conformity with the
requirements of the European Pharmacopoeia.

4.2.12 The additives used in the product shall be of the food grade and authorized in accordance with
the standard mentioned in item (2.8).

4.2.13 The substances with the flavored characteristics shall be permitted in accordance with the
standard mentioned in Item (2.9).

4.2.14 If hypersensitivity constituents are used, this should be indicated on the label of the product in
accordance with the standard mentioned in item (2.10).

5. Descriptive Data:

5.1 General requirements:

5.1.1 It is prohibited to use any names, symbols, marks, images or phrases that violate public order.

5.1.2 The product and its accessories shall not be described or presented with labels, descriptive data,
names, shapes or symbols that may lead to an erroneous, misleading or promotional impression,
inside or outside the package, about their characteristics, or that may mislead consumers, and in
a false or deceptive manner, or that may lead to erroneous impression about their characteristics
in any way, suggest that they are less harmful than any other type of products, or indicate a
reduced risk of smoking-related diseases, including, but not limited to: Low or no tar and/or
nicotine; light, very light, mild, moderate, natural, organic; no additives; no (or very little) flavors;
or claims about economic advantages compared to traditional cigarettes, or suggestion
of therapeutic benefits in terms of weight loss, sex appeal, social status, social life, or qualities such
as femininity, masculinity or elegance, or improved biological performance, or the size and
appearance of the products in terms of their resemblance to food or cosmetics.

5.1.3 The information shall be clear and easily legible, and the colors used for writing shall be distinctly
different from the background colors and not close thereto or overlapping therewith.

5.1.4 The descriptive data (in Arabic or English for items 5.2.1 to 5.2.7) shall be placed directly on the
package and may be placed on a non-removable sticker.

5.1.5 No words, names, images, marks, symbols or data may be written on the outer cellophane
wrapper.

5.1.6 The health warning on the package directly and any outer cover of the package, and shall be fully
visible in front of the consumer on the main display interface, indelible and irremovable, this
includes that it must not be partially or totally hidden or permanently covered by tax stamps, price
marks, security features and wrappers, etc.

5.2 The following descriptive data shall be written on the label of the unit package of the
product and the label of the cartridges:

5.2.1 Product name and trade name.

5.2.2 Number of units per package.

5.2.3 Validity or packing dates for month and year (according to validity studies).

5.2.4 Production code (batch number)

5.2.5 Product ingredients (the name or type of flavor used shall be placed near the product name).

5.2.6 Country of origin, manufacture or packaging

5.2.7 The phrase (For sale in the Kingdom of Bahrain)

(للبيع في مملكة البحرين)
5.2.8 For products which contain nicotine, the following health warning should be written in both Arabic and English on packages (literally):

(Contains nicotine which causes severe addiction, increased heart rate and high blood pressure. Nicotine is harmful to the health of pregnant and nursing women, and people suffering from chronic pulmonary diseases such as asthma and pulmonary embolism.)

5.2.9 The health warning shall be in conformity with the following requirements:

5.2.9.1 The producing companies may increase or decrease and fix a health warning (Provided in clause 5.2.8) to suit the different sizes of product packaging, provided it covers more than 50% (excluding the frame) of the main display area (in English on the lower front) and (in Arabic on the lower back) on the outside of the package.

5.2.9.2 The health warning and its location, form and measurements shall be in accordance with the appendix 1 attached to this Standard, and it may not be changed, modified or rephrased in any way.

5.2.10 Add the following sentence in both Arabic and English on packages, in addition to (18+) symbol which should not be less than 1 cm x 1 cm:

(It is prohibited to sell and consume this product by individuals under the age of 18, and it is not recommended for non-smokers)

5.2.11 For products which contain electronic liquid the following sentence shall be added on packages in both Arabic and English:

(Cannot this product may pose a health hazard when inhaled, swallowed or gets in contact with the skin)

5.2.12 The health warning requirements shall be applied in accordance with appendix 1 and shall be changed in accordance with the requirements of the public interest.

5.3 Each package (full system) of the product shall contain a printed leaflet containing the following data printed in Arabic or English:

5.3.1 Instructions for using and storing the product, including indicating that the product is not recommended for use by young people and non-smokers.

5.3.2 Circumstances where the product must not be used and warnings mentioned in Section 5.2 and any special warnings for certain groups of consumers.

5.3.3 Instructions for product use and storage.

5.3.4 Addiction and toxicity.

5.3.5 Potential adverse effects.
Annex -1 : Health Warnings

Health Warning: Contains nicotine which causes severe addiction, increased heart rate and high blood pressure. Nicotine is harmful to the health of pregnant and nursing women, and people suffering from chronic pulmonary diseases such as asthma and pulmonary embolism.

It is prohibited to sell and consume this product by individuals under the age of 18, and it is not recommended for non-smokers.

This product may pose a health hazard when inhaled, swallowed, or gets in contact with the skin.
References:

- UAE regulation for Electronic Nicotine Products (UAE.S 5030: Electronic Nicotine Products – Equivalents of Traditional Tobacco Products)