



STEP INSIDE

Explore our R&D labs

INTRODUCTION

Presenter

We all know smoking is a cause of serious diseases, including lung cancer, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease and cardiovascular disease. But, despite knowing the risks, millions of people still continue to choose to smoke.

I've come to visit British American Tobacco's Research and Development teams to see what they're doing to try to improve their existing products and develop less risky alternatives. Also to dispel some of the myths about what really goes on behind the scenes in the tobacco industry.

And I'm going to take you with me.

Presenter

As with anything, to determine a solution we must first identify the problem.

What many people don't realise is that it's not nicotine that is the cause of smoking-related diseases – it's the smoke itself.

Tobacco is a plant and burning it produces smoke which contains six to seven thousand chemicals of which over a hundred are known to be harmful.

They're illustrated here on this 'Toxicants Wheel'. It's inhaling these toxicants that is the cause of smoking-related diseases. Identifying the toxicants, or characterising them, is an important starting point for not only assessing the health risks associated with the existing products but also to help set the direction when developing new ones.

For more information please visit
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