

news release



22 June 2010

And now for something completely different...

With all the talk of fiscal calamity and the need for sweeping reform it is interesting to note the contents of Business Note 34 in today's Budget, say MacIntyre Hudson, the Top 20 accountancy and business advisory firm.

This note makes clear that for anti-avoidance purposes in accordance with EU Directive 95/59 'long cigarettes' (defined as those exceeding 8 cm in length excluding any filter) will now count as more than one cigarette for duty purposes. The note goes on to state that each 3 cm (or part thereof) of cigarette will be classified as one further cigarette; so a 12 cm cigarette will be treated as three cigarettes.

As there is no reference to girth of cigarettes, one imagines we shall soon see the market flooded with 8cm long 'fat' cigarettes to get round this new classification. Presumably budget 2011 will include anti-avoidance defining the girth of a cigarette!

Notes to Editors:

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About MacIntyre Hudson LLP

MacIntyre Hudson LLP is a top 20 UK accounting firm, offering a full range of compliance and advisory services to entrepreneurial businesses, groups and multinationals with operations in the UK. The firm has 50 Principals and 400 staff in ten offices in London and the South East, and across East Anglia and the Midlands, servicing the whole country. The firm is the UK member of Morison International, a global association of independent accountancy and business advisory firms worldwide, and is registered to carry on audit work and regulated for a range of business activities by The Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales.

