

Our Evening With blu

Takeaways From Imperial Brands' E-Cig Event

- Move Over JUUL? We attended Imperial Tobacco's (IMB) next gen product showcase event this evening (3/28) and had the opportunity to try their newest e-vapor offering, myblu, which comes in a sleek, compact pod-format which is very similar to that of JUUL (see Exhibit 1). myblu was launched in the U.S. late last month and early customer/retailer feedback, according to IMB, has been "very encouraging." Importantly, IMB will be rolling out nicotine salt e-liquid technology for their myblu platform in July. As such, we came away with our interest definitely piqued as myblu appears to be positioned as a real contender for JUUL with a sleek, aerodynamic design and wide range of attractive flavors (11 myblu flavors vs 8 JUUL flavors). While we are optimistic, it's difficult to gauge at this early stage whether myblu will have what it takes to reverse softening retail share trends for the overall blu franchise (see Exhibit 6). However, IMB clearly has big ambitions (spending \$300M this year) to further convert smokers with the myblu experience. Given the scalability of their approach, IMB believes it can transform their e-vapor gross margins with a significant step up from 35% to 70% in the next couple of years. Further, IMB is adopting a more omnichannel approach and believes they will get operating leverage with e-vapor and ultimately generate a 40-45% operating margin, similar to combustible cigs. Bottom line - We remain bullish on the overall e-cig/vapor/heat-not-burn categories as technology/user experience continues to improve and the tobacco industry pivots increasingly towards reduced-risk product (RRP) development (especially in light of the FDA's comprehensive nicotine plan). We continue to believe there is plenty of room for multiple players to succeed over the long-term and believe the winners will ultimately have a balanced portfolio of RRPs that appeal to a wide range of adult tobacco/nicotine consumers.
- JUUL's Rapid Ascent Begs for Competition Recent Nielsen 4-wk trends confirm JUUL's growing dominance of the e-cig measured channel with JUUL's retail dollar share shooting up to 49.6% in the 4-wk period ended 2/24/18 vs 13.6% as of 2/25/17. Over the same period, blu's 4-wk dollar share declined to 7.9% vs 15.4% in the yr ago period. A huge part of JUUL's cachet appears to be its pleasing aesthetics, ease of use & nicotine salt e-liquid technology. JUUL devices have the long, lean, lightweight build of a portable charger (i.e., it's discrete), as well as ease of use (i.e., easy to charge) and adventurous flavors like "Cool Cucumber" or "Crème Brulee". By comparison, *my*blu is similar in looks/style/flavor excitement, but half the nicotine content (each JUUL pod is 5% nicotine by weight which equates to 1 pack of combust. cigs or 200 puffs vs *my*blu at 2.4% at highest titration).
- **Imperial Has Optionality** IMB is focusing on e-vapor technology but it does also see opportunities in heat-not-burn tobacco. The company appears to have a nice pipeline of future reduced risk product/technology offerings and is approaching the market with a portfolio strategy. IMB's *my*blu is in 4 markets currently and has converted 0.5M consumers. IMB expects to be in 10 markets (converting 1.5M consumers) in 2018 and more than 20 markets (converting 8M consumers) by 2020.

Please see page 13 for rating definitions, important disclosures and required analyst certifications. All estimates/forecasts are as of 03/28/18 unless otherwise stated. 03/28/18 23:02:26 ET

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JLI Ex. 2032, Page 1 of 15 ER JLI-NJOY-ITC1368-02013571 • Comparing the Offerings, It Is Clear that *myblu* Has JUUL in its Sights – Now It's All Up to the Consumer. By way of background, blu e-cig was acquired by Imperial Tobacco as part of Lorillard's acquisition by Reynolds American in June 2015. Pod-based devices are the fastest growing segment of the e-vapor category in the U.S. and *my*blu represents IMB's first foray into that segment. The flavor assortment for *my*blu pods (11 total) represents the most expansive flavor range yet from blu (vs 8 JUUL). The pods also come in 3 nicotine strengths: 2.4%, 1.2% and a nicotine free option (vs 5.0% JUUL). Additionally, the device boasts of a "click and go" usability, larger battery and a fast 20-min USB recharge for long-lasting use (vs we have heard it can take 45-60min to fully recharge JUUL). Interestingly, the *my*blu device comes with a lifetime warranty (vs 1-year on JUUL). *my*blu Starter Kits retail for \$19.99 (with an intro \$1 trial price) and include the device, 1 liquid pod, USB charger, and a lifetime-limited warranty upon registering the device. *my*blu pods retail at \$9.99 for a 2-pack. JUUL starter kits retail for \$49.99 and include a rechargeable device, USB charger, 4 JUULpods and a 1-yr limited device warranty. JUULpods retail at \$15.99 for a 4-pack.

<u>"An Evening with blu"</u>



Exhibit 1. Imperial Brands' new myblu E-Cig Product vs JUUL

Note: *blu* was acquired by Imperial Tobacco as part of Lorillard's acquisition by Reynolds American in June 2015. <u>myblu</u> <u>pods come in the following **11 flavors**</u>: Classic Tobacco, Carolina Bold, Gold Leaf, Magnificent Menthol, Polar Mint, Cherry Crush, Vivid Vanilla, Blueberry, Blue Ice, Mango Apricot, and Green Apple. <u>JUUL pods come in the following **8 flavors**</u>: Mango, Cool Mint, Virginia Tobacco, Cool Cucumber, Classic Menthol, Fruit Medley, Crème Brulee, and Classic Tobacco. **Source**: Imperial Brands plc and JUUL Labs

Exhibit 2. Other blu E-Cig Offerings

blu PLUS+™ Rechargeable Kit Introductory U.S. Price: \$42.99	blu Pro™ Kit
 Get up to 45 minutes of use before needing a recharge! Rechargeable pack to charge your batteries Room for two batteries and three refill tanks 	Most advanced blu vaping experience Larger battery that lasts all day Easy refilling with blu flavor e-liquids
blu PLUS+™ Xpress Kit	Classic Tobacco Disposable
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Convenience of a disposable with high perform of PLUS+™	HAR SHORE

Note: *blu* was acquired by Imperial Tobacco as part of Lorillard's acquisition by Reynolds American in June 2015. **Source:** Imperial Brands plc.

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Key Takeaways from Recent Nielsen Trends

Exhibit 3. Estimated Size of the Overall U.S. E-Cig/Vapor Market

E-cig category dollar sales were \$156.6MM this period implying about **~\$1,433MM annual retail sales in Nielsen-tracked channels (vs \$860 last year).** Considering we believe Nielsen underestimates the channel by an estimated 20-25%, we expect the category will grow around 25% to \$5.5B in 2018 given strengthening e-cig/vapor innovation ahead of the eventual commercialization of superior technology (read: iQOS). We expect consumers to eventually shift from e-cig/vapor to next generation reduced-risk products (RRPs), such as heat-not-burn platforms led by iQOS.



Source: Nielsen C-Store Database, Wells Fargo Securities, LLC estimates *Other Non-Tracked channels include tobacco-only outlets and other e-cig retail locations.



Source: Nielsen Total US xAOC Including Convenience Database and Wells Fargo Securities, LLC

E-CIGARETTES - All Channel Scanner Data Summary																	
	Retail \$ Sales		Sales ∆ y	-	Avg. Unit Price ∆ y/y D				Dollar Sales ∆ y/y			Dollar Share			Unit Share		
	Last52 wks (SMM)	Period 4-Wk	Ended 02 12-Wk	/24/18 52-Wk	Period 4-Wk	Ended 02 12-Wk	2/24/18 52-Wk	Period 4-Wk	Ended 02/ 12-Wk	24/18 52-Wk		Ended 0 12-Wk			Ended 0 12-Wk		
E-CIG CATEGORY	\$1,433.2	46.5%	43.6%	26.4%	227000220002200222	34.2%	24.6%	95.9%	92.8%	101028-010202-PP721		12-14	JZ-VYK	4- VYK	12-144	JZ-VYK	
JUUL LABS INC	\$454.1	643.0%	683.1%	649.9%	-4.0%	1.0%	9.4%	613.0%	686.6%	696.9%	49.6%	47.8%	29.1%	31.1%	28.7%	15.7%	
BRITISH AMERICAN TOBACCO PLC	\$396.7	-1.3%	-3.2%	-1.8%	20.4%	20.4%	21.8%	18.9%	16.6%	19.3%	21.4%	21.8%	28.7%	27.3%	27.7%	33.0%	
ALTRIA GROUP INC	\$203.5	23.0%	26.3%	38.0%	21.3%	17.9%	12.9%	49.3%	48.9%	56.0%	11.1%	11. 4 %	14.6%	16.9%	17.8%	21.2%	
IMPERIAL TOBACCO (prev. FONTEM)	\$165.9	3.4%	5.3%	9.9%	-2.1%	-2.2%	-6.0%	1.2%	3.0%	3.6%	8.3%	9.0%	12.5%	9.9%	10.6%	12.8%	
LOGIC (ow ned by Japan Tobacco)	\$117.0	22.8%	24.4%	26.3%	-29.6%	-28.5%	-14.7%	-13.5%	-11.1%	7.5%	5.1%	5.3%	8.7%	7.6%	7.8%	8.4%	
NJOY, INC.	\$29.4	73.7%	80.2%	-8.8%	-8.3%	-11.2%	-2.2%	59.2%	60.1%	-10.3%	1.8%	1.7%	2.1%	3.3%	3.3%	3.3%	
CB DISTRIBUTORS INC	\$17.0	-30.1%	-30.9%	-22.1%	-0.1%	0.7%	-2.1%	-30.2%	-30.3%	-23.7%	0.7%	0.7%	1.3%	1.0%	1.1%	1.6%	
BALLANTY NE BRANDS LLC	\$16.3	-27.0%	-28.4%	-25.2%	6.6%	11.6%	13.8%	-22.2%	-20.0%	-14.7%	0.8%	0.8%	1.2%	0.7%	0.7%	1.0%	
ALL OTHERS	\$27.0	380.8%	382.0%	236.6%	-1.3%	-8.3%	-6.9%	-20.4%	-23.5%	-25.1%	1.3%	1.3%	2.0%	2.2%	2.3%	2.9%	

Exhibit 5. E-Cig All Channel Data Summary (52-wk Cat. Retail \$ Sales \$1,433.2MM)

Source: Nielsen Total US xAOC Including Convenience Database and Wells Fargo Securities, LLC

Exhibit 6. All Channel E-Cigarette Dollar Share Trends

With regard to e-cig Dollar Share performance, we note that <u>Nielsen data does not capture the impact of</u> <u>couponing</u> on sales performance, as it technically happens after the point of transaction (i.e., first scanned price). While we are not clear how much this skews our ability to gauge organic brand-level performance, we believe the discrepancy could be rather significant given the magnitude of couponing we understand is occurring presently in the category. For example, we have heard in the past of significant "coupon drops" driving sales of MarkTen XL and similar tactics employed by Logic and VUSE. As such, we caution against placing too much emphasis on Nielsen's reported 4-week data and instead focus on longer-term, directional trends. *We note that NJOY emerged from Chapter 11 bankruptcy in February 2017 after filing for protection on 9/15/16.

Note: We asked Nielsen recently to start breaking out performance for JUUL since we were aware of the brand's impressive growth trajectory.



Source: Nielsen Total US xAOC/Convenience Database & Wells Fargo Securities, LLC



Exhibit 6 (cont). All Channel E-Cigarette Dollar Share Trends

Note: blu was acquired by Imperial Tobacco as part of Lorillard's acquisition by Reynolds American in June 2015. Logic was acquired by Japan Tobacco in July 2015. **Source**: Nielsen Total US xAOC/Convenience Database & Wells Fargo Securities, LLC

Exhibit 7. All Channel E-Cigarette Category Pricing, Volume & Sales Trends





Exhibit 7 (cont). All Channel E-Cigarette Category Pricing, Volume & Sales Trends

Note(*): blu was acquired by Imperial Tobacco as part of Lorillard's acquisition by Reynolds American in June 2015. Logic was acquired by Japan Tobacco in July 2015. **Source**: Nielsen Total US xAOC/Convenience Database & Wells Fargo Securities, LLC

Exhibit 8. E-Cig Refills - All Channel Data Summary (52-wk Category Retail \$ Sales \$1,041.7MM)

			E-	CIG REFI	L - All Ch	annel So	anner Da	ata Summa	ry							
	Retail \$ Sales	ail \$ Sales EQ Unit Sales ∆ y/y Avg. EQ Price ∆ y/y Dollar Sales ∆ y/y						y/y	Do	llar Shai	'e	Unit Share				
	Last52 w ks	Period Ended 02/24/18		/24/18	Period Ended 02/24/18			Period Ended 02/24/18			Period	Ended 0	2/24/18	Period Ended 02/24/18		
	(\$MM)	4-Wk	12-Wk	52-Wk	4-Wk	12-Wk	52-Wk	4-Wk	12-Wk	52-Wk	4-Wk	12-Wk	52-Wk	4-Wk	12-Wk	52-Wk
E-CIGS REFILL CATEGORY	\$1,041.7	57.3%	52.0%	32.6%	33.6%	32.4%	25.7%	110.0%	101.5%	68.4%						
JUUL LABS INC	\$346.0	674.6%	692.4%	655.0%	3.9%	4.7%	12.3%	-55.8%	-45.5%	6.0%	51.2%	48.6%	30.5%	35.5%	32.6%	18.6%
JUUL	\$346.0	674.6%	692.4%	655.0%	3.9%	4.7%	12.3%	705.0%	729.0%	724.8%	51.2%	48.6%	30.5%	35.5%	32.6%	18.6%
BRITISH AMERICAN TOBACCO PLC	\$326.2	-1.5%	-4.0%	-3.2%	22.6%	22.1%	19.9%	20.7%	17.3%	15.8%	23.7%	24.5%	32.6%	30.8%	31.6%	39.5%
VUSE	\$326.2	-1.5%	-4.0%	-3.2%	22.6%	22.1%	19.9%	20.7%	17.3%	15.8%	23.7%	24.5%	32.6%	30.8%	31.6%	39.5%
ALTRIA GROUP INC	\$171.9	31.2%	36.0%	54.9%	21.0%	17.4%	17.2%	58.7%	59.6%	80.8%	12.8%	13.6%	16.9%	18.3%	19.6%	23.2%
MARKTEN XL	\$144.4	14.0%	15.1%	37.8%	22.0%	18.5%	17.8%	39.1%	36.4%	61.2%	9.9%	10.5%	14.4%	14.2%	15.1%	19.8%
MARKTEN XL BOLD	\$20.7	169.4%	238.0%	637.0%	15.9%	11.8%	683.2%	212.2%	277.4%	683.2%	2.4%	2.6%	1.9%	3.4%	3.7%	2.6%
MARKTEN	\$4.7	++	++	350.0%	34.1%	29.8%	7.2%	++	++	421.5%	0.4%	0.5%	0.4%	0.6%	0.7%	0.6%
GREEN SMOKE	\$2.0	-64.4%	-52.5%	-5.1%	23.9%	15.1%	14.7%	-55.8%	-45.5%	6.0%	0.1%	0.1%	0.2%	0.1%	0.1%	0.2%
JAPAN TOBACCO INC.	\$94.8	44.2%	47.7%	46.0%	-33.7%	-33.2%	-20.0%	-4.3%	-1.3%	16.5%	5.9%	6.3%	9.6%	8.7%	9.0%	9.2%
LOGIC	\$94.8	44.2%	47.7%	46.0%	-33.7%	-33.2%	-20.0%	-4.3%	-1.3%	16.5%	5.9%	6.3%	9.6%	8.7%	9.0%	9.2%
IMPERIAL TOBACCO GROUP PLC	\$59.6	-1.8%	-1.7%	3.0%	0.2%	0.7%	3.3%	-1.6%	-1.1%	6.6%	3.9%	4.3%	6.0%	3.0%	3.2%	4.1%
BLU ECIGS	\$53.6	-5.1%	-5.9%	-5.0%	0.2%	0.7%	3.4%	-4.9%	-5.2%	-1.5%	3.4%	3.8%	5.4%	2.7%	2.9%	3.7%
CB DISTRIBUTORS INC	\$13.8	-29.7%	-31.0%	-22.3%	2.8%	3.0%	0.6%	-27.7%	-28.9%	-21.8%	0.7%	0.8%	1.4%	1.2%	1.3%	1.9%
21ST CENTURY SMOKE	\$9.8	-13.9%	-14.2%	-6.6%	3.7%	3.9%	0.6%	-10.7%	-10.8%	-5.9%	0.6%	0.6%	1.0%	0.8%	0.9%	1.2%
VAPIN PLUS	\$4.0	-50.9%	-51.9%	-39.5%	-10.1%	-10.1%	-9.6%	-55.9%	-56.7%	-44.9%	0.2%	0.2%	0.4%	0.3%	0.4%	0.7%
BALLANTYNE BRANDS LLC	\$12.3	-31.3%	-32.6%	-28.1%	3.8%	10.5%	10.5%	-28.7%	-25.4%	-20.6%	0.7%	0.8%	1.2%	0.7%	0.8%	1.1%
HAUS	\$7.2	-34.3%	-35.1%	-29.1%	5.0%	8.9%	13.0%	-31.0%	-29.2%	-19.8%	0.4%	0.5%	0.7%	0.4%	0.5%	0.7%
MISTIC	\$4.5	-30.3%	-33.6%	-30.9%	-2.8%	6.5%	1.7%	-32.2%	-29.0%	-30.1%	0.3%	0.3%	0.5%	0.2%	0.3%	0.4%
ALL OTHER MANUFACTURERS	\$17.1	•7.2%	-10.2%	-41.5%	-19.0%	-22.3%	-1.9%	-24.8%	-30.1%	-42.2%	1.1%	1.1%	1.8%	1.9%	1.9%	2.2%

Source: Nielsen Total US xAOC Including Convenience Database and Wells Fargo Securities, LLC

Exhibit 9. E-Cig Disposables - All Channel Data Summary (52-wk Category Retail \$ Sales \$150.2M)

			E-CiG	DISPOS/	ABLE - All	Channel	Scanner	Data Sumn	nary								
	Retail \$ Sales	Retail \$ Sales EQ Unit Sales ∆ y/y				Avg. EQ Price ∆ y/y			Dollar Sales ∆ y/y				re	Unit Share			
	Last52 wks	Period Ended 02/24/18			Period Ended 02/24/18			Period Ended 02/24/18			Period Ended 02/24/18			Period Ended 02/24/18			
	(\$MM)	4-Wk	12-Wk	52-Wk	4-Wk	12-Wk	52-Wk	4-Wk	12-Wk	52-Wk	4-Wk	12-Wk	52-Wk	4-Wk	12-Wk	52-Wk	
E-CIGS DISPOSABLE CATEGORY	\$150.2	4.0%	7.1%	5.5%	-3.2%	-4,4%	-3.9%	0.7%	2.3%	1.4%							
IMPERIAL TOBACCO GROUP PLC	\$101.9	6.1%	8.0%	13.9%	-0.5%	-0.8%	-6.1%	5.6%	7.2%	7.3%	70.1%	71.2%	67.9%	64.4%	64.4%	64.7%	
BLU ECKGS	\$101.9	6.1%	8.0%	13.9%	-0.5%	-0.8%	-6.1%	5.6%	7.2%	7.3%	70.1%	71.2%	67.9%	64.4%	21.5%	10.0%	
NJOY, INC.	\$23.0	81.5%	100.9%	13.9%	-4.3%	-7.2%	0.0%	73.7%	86.1%	14.7%	20.4%	18.9%	15.3%	22.9%	22.9%	22.3%	
NJOY	\$23.0	81.5%	100.9%	13.9%	-4.3%	-7.2%	0.0%	73.7%	86.1%	14.7%	20.4%	18.9%	15.3%	22.9%	7.6%	3.4%	
JAPAN TOBACCO INC.	\$11.2	-96.7%	-95.6%	-41.9%	-0.2%	-1.3%	-0.7%	-96.7%	-95.7%	-42.1%	0.4%	0.5%	7.3%	0.3%	0.3%	0.3%	
LOGIC	\$11.2	-96.7%	-95.6%	-41.9%	-0.2%	-1.3%	-0.7%	-96.7%	-95.7%	-42.1%	0.4%	0.5%	7.3%	0.3%	0.1%	0.1%	
JAK ECIG	\$11.3	-6.4%	1.8%	16.6%	2.0%	1.2%	1.2%	-4.5%	3.1%	18.1%	7.4%	7.8%	7.6%	10.9%	10.9%	11.2%	
JAK	\$11.3	-6.4%	1.8%	16.6%	2.0%	1.2%	1.2%	-4.5%	3.1%	18.1%	7.4%	7.8%	7.6%	10.9%	10.9%	11.2%	
ALL OTHER MANUFACTURERS	\$2.8	-40.0%	-41.2%	-52.5%	20.4%	24.3%	39.0%	-27.8%	-27.0%	-32.9%	1.7%	1.6%	1.8%	1.5%	1.5%	1.4%	

Source: Nielsen Total US xAOC Including Convenience Database and Wells Fargo Securities, LLC

Exhibit 10. E-Cig Kits - All Channel Data Summary (52-wk Category Retail \$ Sales \$241.3M)

	Retail \$ Sales	EQ Un	iit Sales 🏾	y/y	Avg. I	Q Price	∆y/y	Dollar	r Sales ∆ :	y/y	Do	llar Sha	re	Unit Share			
	Last52 wks	Period Ended 02/24/18			Period Ended 02/24/18			Period Ended 02/24/18			Period Ended 02/24/18			Period Ended 02/24/18			
	(\$MM)	4-Wk	12-Wk	52-Wk	4-Wk	12-Wk	52-Wk	4-Wk	12-Wk	52-Wk	4-₩k	12-Wk	52-Wk	4-Wk	12-Wk	52-Wk	
E-CIGS KITS CATEGORY	\$241.3	33,4%	38.7%	19.4%	61.2%	69.7%	47.5%	115.0%	135.7%	80.2%							
BRITISH AMERICAN TOBACCO PLC	\$70.5	1.1%	3.4%	10.9%	8.5%	9.4%	26.0%	9.7%	13.0%	38.8%	20.0%	19.9%	31.7%	29.5%	29.5%	33.5%	
VUSE	\$70.5	1.1%	3.4%	10.9%	8.5%	9.4%	26.0%	9.7%	13.0%	38.8%	20.0%	19.9%	31.7%	29.5%	29.5%	33.5%	
ALTRIA GROUP INC	\$31.7	-10.8%	-12.0%	-7.5%	15.0%	13.1%	-2.4%	2.6%	-0.9%	-10.7%	7.7%	7.3%	14.6%	25.3%	24.3%	35.8%	
MARKTEN XL	\$29.5	-11.1%	-12.8%	-10.9%	16.4%	14.2%	-1.0%	3.4%	-0.7%	-12.9%	7.2%	6.9%	13.6%	23.4%	22.7%	33.3%	
MARKTEN	\$0.0	-72.1%	-83.2%	-97.2%	-19.1%	-9.1%	-15.0%	-77.4%	-84.9%	-97.7%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	
GREEN SMOKE	\$0.2	-83.9%	-77.8%	-39.2%	29.2%	28.4%	18.3%	-79.3%	-71.5%	-30.8%	0.0%	0.0%	0.1%	0.0%	0.0%	0.1%	
JAPAN TOBACCO INC.	\$11.1	55.4%	57.6%	45.4%	-10.6%	-5.7%	-5.9%	39.0%	48.6%	36.8%	3.4%	3.4%	4.9%	6.7%	6.5%	5,7%	
LOGIC	\$11.1	54.1%	56.5%	44.5%	-9.9%	-5.2%	-5.6%	38.7%	48.4%	36.6%	3.4%	3.4%	4.8%	6.7%	6.4%	5.7%	
ALL OTHER MANUFACTURERS	\$128,1	25.4%	-9,1%	-39.3%	14.6%	6.6%	-5,7%	275.0%	356.9%	223.1%	1.4%	1,1%	1.5%	1,7%	1.3%	1.5%	

Source: Nielsen Total US xAOC Including Convenience Database and Wells Fargo Securities, LLC

Key Takeaways from Q4 "Tobacco Talk" Retailer Survey

Smokeless Tobacco & Vapor/E-Cig/RRP Q4 Trends

- Retailers Expect Smokeless Tobacco Industry Vol to Increase ~3.4% in 2018 in Line With Our +3.5% Est. - We Expect Q4 Volume Picked Up Following A Slow Recall Recovery Post USSTC's Jan Recall
- Retailers Are Growing Increasingly Bullish on the E-Cig/Vapor Category ("Re-Birth") as Product Quality Rises Led By JUUL, VUSE & Optimism About iQOS Hitting Shelves in 2018
- Retailers Are Broadly Optimistic About RRPs With 75% Planning to Carry iQOS in Their Stores When Commercially Available & 33% Planning to Allocate Addt'l Shelf Space To It
- JUUL Outperforming as it Captures Millennial Consumer Interest With "Apple-like Approach" - Vuse Vibe Seen Cannibalizing VUSE Sales – MarkTen Shows Limited Growth
- Retailers Are Most Excited About iQOS/RRP Opportunity Given FDA's New Nicotine Strategy; Most Concerned About Margin Compression & FDA Delaying RRP Approvals

Vapor/E-Cig Trends

Retailers Are Growing Increasingly Bullish on the E-Cig/Vapor Category ("Re-Birth," "Outstanding") as Product Quality Rises Led By JUUL, VUSE & Optimism About iQOS Hitting Shelves in 2018



Source: Wells Fargo Securities, LLC

Retailers Are Broadly Optimistic About RRPs With 75% Planning to Carry iQOS in Their Stores When Commercially Available (We Think in the Next Few Months) & 33% Planning to Allocate Additional Shelf Space To It

Select Retailer Comments

- "I believe this segment will eventually replace cigarettes completely in years to come."
- "PM needs to find a way of simplify the use of the products being developed so they can capture a broader base of folks...and not only the Tech savvy folks."
- "It will take time to educate customers..."



JUUL Outperforming as it Captures Millennial Consumer Interest With "Apple-like Approach" - Vuse Vibe May Be Cannibalizing VUSE Sales – MarkTen Seeing Limited Growth

Select Retailer Comments

- "JUUL just keeps growing."
- "JUUL's growth appears to be due to growth with the **18 to 24 year old** age group. This group has disposable income and finds the product an attractive alternative to combustible cigarettes."
- "...limited movement on Mark Ten."
- "Vuse growth slowed down and Vibe cannibalized much of Vuse sales. We do not carry JUUL but it was the first of its kind with an "Apple" like approach to the category catching fire with millennials."
- "Thinking about eliminating BLU"

How are MarkTen, VUSE and JUUL performing? What do you think accounts for JUUL's strong recent performance
and do you expect that to continue? What other trends are you seeing in this category? "Good"
"Vuse performs well; MarkTen still stagnant; Not carrying JUUL but considering."
"Vuse well. Adding JUUL now. Some lower priced JUUL knock offs may do well. Or a "like" trendy product."
"Customer interest in MarkTen has been little to none. VUSE remains competitive and JUUL growth end is at least outside of Q1."
"JUUL is doing great."
"We do not carry JUUL and Mark Ten was only recently reintroduced in WV I have seen some limited movement on Mark Ten
while VUSE holds to top share spot by a long shot." "These brands are not growing in our stores. We did a Major cut back because of the slow sales we had I this category."
"I think JUUL will be a fad and will end at some point. At this time still gaining traction if they can keep up with distribution
demand."
"JUUL is doing great when we can get it, and it looks like their supply chain issues are easing."
"JUUL is driving e-cig category in our stores! Mark Ten showing small growth. Vuse/Vibe declining sales. Thinking about
eliminating BLUmaybe new BLU (JUUL copycat item) my help them."
"Don't have JUUL in stores yet - rolling out in 2018. MarkTen & Vuse are stagnant."
"Progressing. It's a better fit for most consumers."
"Mark Ten is flat however, seeing some growth in new flavors. Vuse is growing due to new Vibe and expansion of Ciro. JUUL's
growth appears to be due to growth with the 18 to 24 year old age group. This group has disposable income and finds the
product an attractive alternative to combustible cigarettes."
"MarkTen was horrible VUSE not much better but RJR continues to push it. JUUL actually not bad but not in our stores. They seem
very popular in stores that carry them but limited in where located."
"JUUL continues to grow strongbased on increased availability of product. Mark Tensales remain sluggish. Vusedouble sales
of Mark Ten Logicstrong sales, outsells Mark Ten and Vuse CUE,outsells all devices in closed system category.
Njoygreat sales with limited distribution within our stores, planning on additional roll out. Green SmokeGreat sales with no
support from Altria (concerned about this brand fading away, with the strong sales originally as a "test market".
"JUUL strong Vuse flat Mark Ten down."
"MarkTen not a player. VUSE & Blu doing well. Do not carry JUUL."
"We don't carry JUUL but VUSE is doing well with Mark Ten making some noise."
"The items are performing fine, still seeing steady growth. We are just now planning to add JUUL in some locations to measure
guest interest. We are also considering Kian from CB Distributors. This is a new nicotine salts Pod system."
"We have not sold a unit in over two months of either."
"MarkTen and Vuse had solid growth while JUUL exploded with 600% growth. All others were flat to declining. I expect JUUL
growth to be more in line with Vuse in 2018."
"JUUL is the clear winner still."
"JUUL is trending better than the other two. Mainly driven by younger adults. Vuse Ciro is much better than Mark Ten and sales
show it."
"Mark Ten is only doing OK not a big player. Vuse continues to have the majority of the market. We are just getting into JUUL.
Will see if this is the new break through item for us."
"Mark Ten has been consistent performer this year right alongside Blue. Vuse growth slowed down and Vibe cannibalized much of
Vuse sales. We do not carry JUUL but it was the first of its kind with an "Apple" like approach to the category catching fire with
millennials. I see all others copying this and making JUUL less relevant the next two years." "Very poorly on Mark Ten and Vuse."
"JUUL just keeps growing."
"Vuse is our best seller as we have not been able to get distribution of the JUUL products."
vuse is our best serier as we have not been able to get distribution of the JOOE products.

"Not carrying jewel. They have some major production and distribution issues. Mark 10 +56%, Vuse +16%. However, Vuse sales are 3 times higher than Mark 10."

Source: Wells Fargo Securities, LLC

Retailers Are <u>Most Excited About</u> iQOS/RRP Opportunity Especially Given FDA's New Nicotine Strategy; <u>Most Concerned About</u> Margin Compression & FDA Delaying RRP Approvals

What are you most excited about and concerned by for the entire tobacco/reduced-risk industry? Wh predictions?	at are your big
"How will consumers react? Am I exposed to non-turning inventory risk? Viable manufacturers - think impacindustry."	t of Njoy on the
"Once labeled reduced-great growth, Zyn/ON! type of products will be big."	
"Big tobacco companies will continue to fill ranks with marijuana and heat-not-burn experts in order to have a industry shift."	direct fill for the
"None."	
"Excited about the increased margin opportunity vs cigarettes. Concerned about proper merchandising and space manufacturers driving price and margin opportunity down competing for sales."	e availability and
"Less tobacco/cigarette focus and more focus on items that have a higher margin. (non-tobacco)."	
"Most excited about other tobacco offers. Concerns age change to 21. Lost in sales big concerns."	
"I think we may finally see iQOS this year. I'm not sure it is going to live up to the hype."	
"Consumers quitting because they do not like the vapor options - especially gen X & baby boomers."	
"iQOS."	
"FDA regulation and the FDA taking too long to review and approve applications for reduced risk products."	
"Excited about new products. They are the bright light in non-cigarette categories. Predictions - Blu, Vuse, MarkT	en will all decline
in volume. E-cig consumers will move to newer yet to be released products."	
"Closed Systems continue to grow and be strong. Open systems; maintain acceptance, but moderate grov	vth and perhaps
elimination/ consolidation of some manufacturers."	
"Not optimistic."	
"FDA delays roll out of reduced risk."	
"The reduced risk category product line is the most exciting development and trend this year and in the year to stability of the traditional products keeping the category viable. Cigars and Moist continue to be positive."	come. I like the
"Concerned with continued city and communities attacking tobacco, going after age 21 laws, and restricting prog of main concern since the state has banned Loyalty Programs and Business Enhancement Funds. We need to wor this fixed."	
"Total failure in the long run, some experimental growth in the short term."	
"I expect continued solid growth but will need further innovation to sustain the growth long term."	
"Items getting better and cost less."	
"PM will introduce the iQOS system in late 2018 to selected markets. Introduction will be slow but consumers w	ill begin to catch
on."	
"Most excited about the new innovation. The new lines are much different than their predecessors, however innovation comes the death of certain lines which will require more hands on category management getting of	
stores quick and having buttoned up merchandising plans to get these lines into stores as soon as they launch."	
"Financial strength of the wholesale / middle man."	
"Bring on iQOS"	
"It will be interesting to see what impact the govt. may have with their involvement and I think the heat not bu early in the stages to know what impact this may have on the category."	rn product is too
"iQOS"	
Source: Wells Fargo Securities, LLC	
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