

Surveillance Update - April/May 2021

Trinkets & Trash is a surveillance project and archive that monitors tobacco industry marketing in magazines, direct mail, e-mail, websites, and other channels. Visit us online at <u>trinketsandtrash.org</u>. If you have examples you'd like to share, e-mail us at <u>trinketsandtrash@sph.rutgers.edu</u>. To join our mailing list, click <u>here</u>!

Tobacco Updates

Menthol madness: Despite the FDA's recent announcement regarding their intention to issue a product standard banning menthol, several brands have been promoting new menthol capsule cigarettes, similar in function to *Camel's Crush*. The consumer can squeeze the filter to release menthol flavor in nonmenthol cigarettes or an extra menthol burst in already mentholated cigarettes. *Newport* has released a product called *Boost*, while *Lucky Strike* has a product called *Activate*.



Both brands have advertised primarily on their websites for now, but shelves for *Boost* have already been spotted here in New Jersey stores. *Newport* is even running a Boost Your Menthol sweepstakes, where visitors to the website can click for a chance to win. However, *Newport* also wants to remind customers they have a non-menthol product, as seen in a recent <u>magazine ad</u>, perhaps in preparation for a menthol cigarette ban.

New in nicotine pouches: Zyn celebrated the nationwide launch of their new flavors Chill and Menthol by email and



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on social media this month. Interestingly, the *Chill* flavor is labeled on their website as "flavor-ban approved" and described in an email as "unflavored," despite the icy cool mint feeling that the name implies. Also, we've spotted a new product called $FR\bar{E}$ (seen on frepouch.com) that offers pouches in 9mg and 12mg nicotine options and flavors from wintergreen to mocha. Additionally, there's been some interesting cross promotion of *Velo* pouches on emails from *Camel*.

Art appreciation: Limited pack releases aren't just for *Camel* anymore — *Newport* has released several limited art packs as a collaboration with streetwear designers, with more to come in the future. The packs feature elements of cloth texture and embroidery embellishments, with a hip urban flavor. *Camel* is still promoting local artists, however, with their next round of artAffect grant applications highlighted in an <u>email</u>. Past gallery builds are still available to explore on their website, with the brand's emphasis on the communities that are uplifted by this art.

Keep in Touch with Trinkets and Trash!

Tell us about any tobacco marketing we've missed Contact us at trinketsandtrash@sph.rutgers.edu and stay in touch! We're also active on Twitter! Follow us at: <u>@trinketsantrash</u>