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## Smelling a smoke-free opportunity

Posted by [Richard Tyler](#) on 02 Jul 2007 at 11:23

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The smoking ban is going to cost business millions. No, not simply from the fall in pub sales seen as bans were introduced in the rest of the United Kingdom. The hidden financial burden is making all those places once loved by smokers and non-smokers alike inhabitable.



**Smoke smells have gone but is the air any fresher?**

Bands playing at the Carling Academy in Glasgow complain that it absolutely

### On this page

- [Smelling a smoke-free opportunity](#)

### Blog Archive

- [June 2007](#)

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reeks of body odour since the smoking ban hit Scotland last Spring.

Smells that were previously disguised by cigarette smoke have now become all too apparent. One rocker tells me he actually gagged on the sweat as he performed – some have even resorted to smoking to get them through the show (they can argue that smoking is part of their ‘performance’).

Apparently some of Glasgow’s most popular pubs are little better – remove the smell of smoke and however hard the plug-in air freshner fizzes, it is never going to win the battle against the medley of other unpleasant smells that emerge from the upholstery.

Of course, it hasn’t taken long for private enterprise to respond to this challenge. An email pings into my inbox from Aziz Tejpar, an entrepreneur from Essex and owner of [Environmental Biotech](#) which boasts the ‘Vaporise’.

The release states: “The user simply places the fogger on the floor of the room containing tobacco odour, presses a button and exits for ten minutes. Upon returning, the odour is neutralised and the room is left smelling mountain fresh.”

Apparently it’s not like normal air freshners as it has “active ingredients” that smother the smoke particles rather than simply disguising the smell. I’ve no idea whether this really works, but Mr Tejpar is offering large corporate customers a free trial. The management at the Carling Academy might want to give him a call.

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### Smoking ban stink

Bob

02 Jul 2007 16:08

The State of New Jersey implemented a smoking ban last year, similar to the ban that just went into effect this week in England. The air in pubs and bars IS a lot fresher without the smoke, and body odor has NOT been a problem. Nor have I heard reports of it being a problem in any of the other 15 states that have banned public indoor smoking. Perhaps the body odor in the Glasgow pubs is indicative of another problem? A little soap and deodorant would work wonders, as they do on this side of the Atlantic.

### It has been a problem here as well, but a restaurant and bar manager's problem, not clients

Walt O'Brien

02 Jul 2007 21:24

There is a very large new industry in tobacco smoke deodorizing bars and restaurants which has grown out of this situation in the USA, too, but it is something the managers of these places long anticipated, and have dealt with appropriately. Please see <http://www.noodor.biz/> for the tiny sample of the range of specialist odour removal products for restaurants and bars.

Generally speaking, residual smells in large public places are the result of years of deposition of smoke, grease and ambient human scent elements in the main ventilation headers, especially if they are of the recirculating type to conserve

energy. You would be stunned, no doubt, to know that most large ventilation headers of the sort you routinely see in cop and spy movies crawling through are actually coated internally with about a 1/2" of goop-impregnated, smelly fuzzy lint, even if the facility has always been non-smoking, such as hospitals and church air moving ducts for larger HVAC systems. Filters do not catch 3% of the normal airborne contaminants: inoic purifiers exacerbate the problem, as then the particles of dust and film are ionically charged and thus stick to the first surface they hit.

This has been a problem long before the smoking ban. Sounds like the air moving ductwork just needs a solid scrubdown, which most office buildings worldwide routinely figure into their maintenance budget.

Insofar as the inappropriate and inaccurate remark respecting European personal hygiene, I can tell you as an American that unless they've been exposed to an ofshore culture. I can walk into any London chemist and ask for sanitary moist wipes, and they'll know what I am talking about, and won't direct me to the baby diaper section, either. There's literally no market in the USA for adult sanitary moist wipes, whereas there are dozens of brands in Europe.

And may I say also, it is hell to be on an all-American 12-hour flight to anywhere, if you are sensitive to smells. People can guess your nationality by their nose, even in Canada, where such adult moist wipes are available. It's one of the main reasons American males have a tough time getting a date in Europe, that and their feet, which even American women complain about, to no avail.

## Smelly old trains

[Michael Gorman](#)

02 Jul 2007 22:45

In the 1970s and 80s I used to use the smoking sections of commuter trains, which had 30 or more years of accumulated odour; and I do not have a sensitive nose. There seems to be no problem yet with the trains introduced in the last 10 years.

It annoys me that the anti-smokers whinged like fury over the smell of cigarette smoke and residues, but ignored these other smells; I think we deserve an apology for their lack of thought.

## Smells at Concerts

[Thomas Pelham](#)

03 Jul 2007 00:55

This has been predicted for a while - even at open air concerts such as the new Wembley, which I attended a fortnight ago, the smell at ground level (on the pitch) was horrible, a layer of sweat and BO which, in most older concerts, was disguised by the smell of tobacco.

## we stink

[mini](#)

03 Jul 2007 09:07

If we aren't sweating we are passing wind, that just makes us human, but it is better to be sweaty than to use aerosol deoderant, roll on is ok though.

## funny

[Tejvan](#)

I think that's funny, but it says more about the hygienic standards of the Scottish than being an argument against banning smoking.

Banning smoking is great. But, people should wash as well, it's not the 16th Century after all

### **At What Cost the BAN**

Alan Hammond

03 Jul 2007 13:57

Now we have the smoking BAN and the sales of cigarettes will go down how is this Government going to make up the lost revenue

I KNOW, with taxes on other goods SO

We all will be paying MORE on something.

Brown said he will make changes and that will be MORE Taxes

TAX TAX TAX TAX that is all he KNOWS

You wait and see

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