

Blum, Alan

From: Blum, Alan **Sent:** Wed 10/12/2005 11:33 PM
To: Blum, Alan
Cc:
Subject: FW: Kent Micronite Filter display
Attachments:

From: Zen and Tonic [mailto:zenandtonic@comcast.net]
Sent: Wed 10/12/2005 10:51 PM
To: Blum, Alan
Subject: RE: Kent Micronite Filter display

Dear Alan,

Thank you for your kind words regarding the Kent Micronite display. And, thank you for sharing some of your incredible recollections about the asbestos Kent Micronite filter; astounding details indeed.

It would be my pleasure to work with you in providing Kent Micronite Filter display items for your exhibit (and within your indicated budget). Along this line, I also have a couple of ideas for showcasing the filter materials in the display, per your approval.

In addition to my eBay hobby endeavors, I construct asbestos material displays for environmental training providers in my area. The display containers are larger than the single-cigarette display, and consequently, hold more materials. These larger acrylic display cases are also completely clear, durable, and sealed. The mounted sample pieces are secured firmly in place and are quite visible; the training providers seem to find them indispensable.

I was thinking of making a display that includes: a nicely presented "intact" Kent Micronite Filter cigarette; a dissected Micronite filter enclosed within a clear petri dish; a "cabinet" size mineral specimen of crocidolite; and a small, sealed vial of separated blue-grey crocidolite fibers; and photos with magnified images of the crocidolite/fibrous filter materials. All items would be appropriately labeled, highlighting each of their respective relevant features.

The cigarette by itself is astonishing in its own right; but I also believe that including a cut apart filter showing the bluish crocidolite asbestos and including an exemplary mineral sample of actual crocidolite along with the display would seem to connect the filter's bewildering "asbestos/tobacco" relationship even more. At the same time, the inclusion of asbestos in the display may have the added benefit of also increasing asbestos-awareness; all in the context of promoting current human health and historical corporate marketing guises.

I look forward to hearing from you regarding this proposal. Although I am obligated to be out-of-town for approximately 2 weeks in New Orleans on a current work assignment, I will be returning around October 28th. I would like to forward a couple of photos showing the larger display case with the crocidolite specimen and other materials for your review at that time. Please contact me at your earliest convenience with your schedule requirements for preparing the display items to coordinate with your exhibition(s).

I am truly delighted with the prospect of an opportunity to help contribute to your very meaningful and exceptional endeavors

Sincerely,
 Anthony G. Rich

-----Original Message-----

From: Blum, Alan [mailto:ablum@cchs.ua.edu]
Sent: Wednesday, October 12, 2005 12:30 AM
To: zenandtonic@comcast.net
Subject: RE: Additional Kent Micronite Filter photos

Dear Anthony,

I can't thank you enough for your thoughtful note. You are truly amazing, creative, and dedicated. The display case strikes me as a great way to showcase this historically significant cigarette, and I would very much like to acquire both one such case as well as a set of the photographs, for possible inclusion in an exhibition I am working on for next year in Washington (or even in a current one I have at the University of Alabama at Birmingham medical library. Would this be possible for under \$100 plus shipping?

I'm fascinated by your work with asbestos. One of my colleagues at Baylor College of Medicine during the 1980s and 1990s was Dr. Don Greenberg, a pathologist who tried to make sense of the risks from the different forms of asbestos. I'll try to remember the details, but I seem to recall that by downplaying certain kinds of asbestos risks depending on fiber size, he was approached by the cigarette companies and/or the asbestos industry to testify in their behalf and turned them down.

I also once met a pulmonary physician who tipped me off to the original case report of asbestos exposure in a worker in a cigarette filter factory (Goff AM, Gaensler EA in Respiration 1972; 29:83-93). The guy made cigarette filters made of Cape Blue asbestos and acetate, and it was clear that this was the KENT Micronite filter.

Let's stay in touch, and I hope I can acquire one of the display cases from you (with attribution in the exhibition, too).

Thanks again for writing.

Sincerely,

Alan

From: Zen and Tonic [mailto:zenandtonic@comcast.net]
Sent: Tue 10/11/2005 11:00 AM
To: Blum, Alan
Subject: re: Additional Kent Micronite Filter photos

Greetings Dr. Blum,

Attached are some additional photos of the "experiment" Kent Micronite Filter cigarette, as mentioned in my earlier eBay-email message. This particular cigarette depicted was the first extracted from the 1955 pack. As indicated in the current Kent Micronite Filter eBay auction description, another Kent Micronite filter was sampled from the same pack and sent to a NVLAP accredited lab for PLM analysis, which reported crocidolite asbestos was present in the filter. These are authentic original Kent Micronite filter cigarettes, circa 1955; within the era Lorillard was reported to have utilized crocidolite asbestos in the Kent filters.

I also have additional photos available that have been collected or can provide new "custom" photos if you are interested. I do plan to sell additional original Kent Micronite filter displays in the future; I could notify you or your other interested parties when these eBay auctions would be listed, as well (your good word would be much appreciated).

And, thank you for your recognition of my effort at providing an informative discourse regarding the description for the Kent Micronite Filter Display auction listing on eBay. Although, that simple commentary instantly pales to your lifelong commitment toward improving the health of society in general. I must express my deepest appreciation for your renowned work advocating anti-smoking and uncovering the "truth in [tobacco] advertising". It would appear that on a certain level, our paths of work seem to cross at junction in time concerned with "yesteryear's naivete". My work typically encompasses dealing with asbestos-related issues and training aspects. With the original Kent Micronite Filter cigarette, asbestos and tobacco meet in a seemingly most improbable (albeit dire) circumstance.



Please contact me if I can be of any assistance in your campaigns.

Respectfully,

Anthony R.

Attachments can contain viruses that may harm your computer. Attachments may not display correctly.

Blum, Alan

From: Zen and Tonic [zenandtonic@twmi.rr.com] **Sent:** Mon 11/21/2005 12:10 AM
To: Blum, Alan
Cc:
Subject: Kent micronite and crocidolite display(s)
Attachments:  kent_crocidolite 001.jpg(4MB)  kent-micro2.jpg(429KB)

Greetings Alan.

I have assembled some of the basic components of the Kent Micronite Filter and Crocidolite/asbestos display in a few digital photos for your review, as previously indicated in an earlier email message. Please note, that the digital photos were taken at a higher resolution and may be larger than normal in file size; consequently, due to their size, I will attach two photo files to this email and attach additional photos in separate email messages in order to reduce the possibility of upload/download problems.

That being said, one of the two photos attached to this email should depict 3 display cases: a "small", "medium", and "large" clear, acrylic case.

The "small" display case is a duplicate of the display case featured in the ebaY Kent Micronite Filter Display auction that you had originally inquired about. The case's dimension is approx.: 2.5"H x 6.25"L x 3"D (including its base). This case is ideal for featuring the single Kent Micronite Filter cigarette.

The "medium" display case's dimension is approx.: 4.75"H x 9"L x 4.5"D. This display case is the standard case that I use for making ACM displays for local environmental trainers and industrial hygiene consultants. This clear, acrylic display case is sturdy, stackable, and has a single seam that facilitates sealability.

The "large" display case shown in the photo is approx.: 5.5"H x 13"L x 5.5"D. This is the display case that I had in mind when describing the earlier proposal for including additional items along with the Kent Micronite Filter Cigarette. This case is similar in design with the "medium" display case, but is upgraded with an attractive "mirror/reflective" finish on the base. The photo also depicts some of the previously proposed additional items along side the Kent Micronite Filter Cigarette, including: a very large crocidolite mineral/ore specimen in matrix, separated crocidolite mineral fibers, various-sized vials, a mounted original Kent Micronite Filter cigarette, and (for effect) my 1953 pack of Kent cigarettes. Absent from the display photo is the covered glass lab dish with the dissected original Kent Micronite filter inside; this item is shown in the second photo.

Also absent are individual description labels for each item within the display case. Although, the small, affixed labels would be similar to the label used in the original Kent Micronite Filter ebaY auction item.

Of further note, the size of the crocidolite mineral/ore specimen intended for the final display would likely be scaled-down and more proportional to the layout of the display. The crocidolite mineral specimen depicted was included in the photo as an example of the quality of crocidolite that is available. I will submit a close-up photo of the crocidolite (and other items) in accompanying email message with attachments.

The "loose" pile of separated crocidolite fiber bundles could be either contained in a vial or kept "loose" within the display. Actually, the "loose" fibers would be permanently arranged and secured in place if chose in this manner of display.

The intended display would be to demonstrate the progression of actual crocidolite ore (as it was mined) and the fibrous nature of blue crocidolite-asbestos, to its inclusion as an ingredient in an actual dissected original Kent Micronite Filter and finally on an intact original Kent Micronite Filter cigarette. The Kent Cigarette pack, as shown, could possibly be included later (if desired) as you had mentioned previously (by using a pack you had acquired). Incorporating the display with vintage Kent Micronite advertisements would seem to strengthen the authenticity of the infamous asbestos-Kent Micronite cigarette and enhance the overall experience of exhibit attendees. The relationship of the asbestos/Kent Micronite display together with the theme of the exhibit may also bring additional awareness of asbestos-related concerns and health effects. Perhaps a small placard containing some basic facts/understandings about asbestos could also be exhibited near the display to inform readers about asbestos (e.g.- "cigarette smoking and asbestos exposure increase cancer risk up to 50x or more", etc.).

How do you envision the Kent Micronite Filter display within the exhibit?

Please review photos and reply with comments at your convenience.

Sincerely,

Anthony G. Rich

<http://mail.cchs.ua.edu/exchange/ablum@cchs.ua.edu/Inbox/Kent%20micronite%20and%20crocidolite...> 11/21/2005

Kent display

found cartoons

Jacobi, Lori

From: Blum, Alan
Sent: Friday, May 19, 2006 4:27 PM
To: Jacobi, Lori
Subject: RE: Kent display

1 cartoon
2 Ad

Just check and see if we have any cartoons related to the filter, low-tar, or some aspect of the cigarette itself. Also we need to include a KENT ad from the 1950s advertising the Micronite filter, plus the sample packs that were given out in those plastic cases at medical meetings. It's just a marvelous historical moment. The modern angle is that no filter, with or without asbestos, confers any health benefit, and that's the ultimate point. We should say that today nearly all cigarettes are filtered brands, in spite of the fact that the filter does not make smoking in any way, shape, or form safer. In fact, by having to suck harder to get the smoke, this increases the risk for emphysema and heart disease by increasing the exposure to poison gases like carbon monoxide, cyanide, and ammonia. I could see the overall headline: "The Filter as Fraud." They'd never let that get used, so perhaps we should simply say "The Filter: Not Safer." The filter is made of cellulose acetate rolled like a little roll of toilet paper. There are holes in the filter to ventilate the smoke, but since our lips cover these holes, they only serve to fool the machines that measure, at the tip, the levels of poisons in each cigarette. Why not order another display from Anthony? AB

4/8/06

From: Jacobi, Lori
Sent: Fri 5/19/2006 4:11 PM
To: Blum, Alan
Subject: Kent display

3

I unpacked the Kent display and it is SO COOL!! I put everything back as it was to protect it. Now I just need to compose some text. I can ship it to DC next week with the Califano foam core cartoons.

Lori

*4 5/20/06 Slides
Time Out
Hepa*

5/22/2006

Jacobi, Lori

From: Zen and Tonic [zenandtonic@wmi.rr.com]
Sent: Monday, May 22, 2006 11:12 PM
To: Jacobi, Lori
Subject: RE: Kent filter display

Lori,

I could possibly duplicate the display materials that were sent in your last package, but it would require dissecting an extra Micronite Filter cigarette this next time.

In a brief mention in earlier correspondence with Dr. Blum, I had indicated the suggestion that I could include the "dissected" Kent Micronite Filter cigarette along with the "intact" Kent Micronite Filter display which he was initially interested with on eBay. The "dissected" cigarette materials originally came from an "experiment" for photo-documentation purposes for the original eBay auction description (refer to the eBay auction description documents; see photo depicting tweezers with Crocidolite asbestos bundle from dissected filter textile mat). Thus, the "dissected" cigarette that was sent to you was the "experimental dissection" and was already available. I had suggested it might add an increased level of interest to the overall Kent Micronite Filter display concept and the "extra" material was readily prepared.

My current available supply of intact original Kent Micronite Filter cigarettes are somewhat limited. However, if you believe it is in the best interest of your exhibition/showcase purposes, I can dissect and prepare an extra Kent Micronite Filter cigarette and include it with the other basic Kent Micronite display materials (like the display package sent to you recently).

The "other suggested display components" for the Micronite display series that are available, basically consist of:

--The original 1955 King Size Kent Micronite cigarette package; empty, but in very good condition. In such good condition in fact, that when it was opened, it was carefully opened from the bottom leaving the original cellophane wrapping almost entirely intact. The original 1"-wide, blue, Series #125 DeWitt-Clinton tax stamp is perfectly intact on the top of the package and appears in its sealed/undisturbed condition. The empty package has not been crushed nor pressed, but rather, it appears to maintain its "full" shape. A historical item to display alongside the Kent Micronite cigarette materials.

--Various sizes of display cases. I included the larger clear acrylic display case with the reflective base in your last package, which seemed to adequately accommodate all of the individual pieces. However, there are smaller cases with similar design features (i.e.- reflective base, shape, etc.) that can be customized to suit your specific display configuration if needed.

--Various sizes and grades of Crocidolite mineral samples; larger/smaller, with/without matrix rock, "processed", variable colorations, mounted/unmounted specimens, etc.

--An unopened pack of 1952 Kent Micronite Filter cigarettes (1"-wide, blue DeWitt-Clinton tax stamp) Series # 122; in very good condition. The cellophane is absent from this regular-sized pack, but the package is in great shape. The seal is perfectly intact and undisturbed. 1952 is the first year of production of the Crocidolite-asbestos Kent Micronite Filter Cigarettes. This asbestos/tobacco artifact has been well protected.

--An unopened pack of 1953 Kent Micronite Filter cigarettes (1"-wide, blue DeWitt-Clinton tax stamp) Series #