

Day 1 - Wednesday, Sept. 16

2:00 - 3:00 p.m.	Welcome & Opening <i>Mitch Morrison</i>, Vice President, Retailer Relations + Event Content Director, Informa
3:00 - 3:30 p.m.	Diving into Nicotine Trends and Insights <i>Ajay Yadagiri</i>, Client Relationship Sr. Vice President, Management Science Associates (MSA) <i>Paul Grubbs</i>, Client Relationship Sr. Vice President, Management Science Associates (MSA) MSA's Ajay Yadagiri and Paul Grubbs go deep into how the nicotine category is performing in 2026, plowing into wholesale movement of cigarettes, cigars, MST, and the growing space of vape and modern oral. Drawing from data and a changing regulatory and consumer environment, Yadagiri and Grubbs investigate what the changes could mean for c-store operators for the rest of 2026 and 2027.
3:30 - 4:15 p.m.	Promoting a New Federally-Sanctioned Nicotine Era <i>Guy Bentley</i>, Director of Consumer Freedom, Reason Foundation Tobacco-related taxes based on a segment's risk. The permissible sale of products actively in the PMTA application process. Adapting programs based on impressive successes in youth tobacco reduction. Fostering consistent E-Cig tax policies across the 50 states. Libertarian-leaning think tank Reason Foundation believes all of this is possible and achievable in a marketplace that fosters responsibility and accountability across the maze of age-restricted products and services. Making his CSP debut, Reason's Guy Bentley shares how he and the Reason Foundation are working across the political aisle at both the state and federal levels to facilitate a more vibrant, reduced-harm nicotine future.
4:15 - 4:30 p.m.	Networking Break Presented by sesh⁺
4:30 - 5:15 p.m.	Marijuana & Hemp at the Crossroads: A 2026 Regulatory Update <i>Jonathan Havens</i>, Partner, Saul Ewing The rules governing marijuana and hemp are shifting fast. In April 2026, the DEA moved FDA-approved and state-licensed medical marijuana into Schedule III, but left recreational marijuana in Schedule I. At the same time, a federal ban on intoxicating hemp products is set to take effect this November, closing the "intoxicating hemp loophole" that's fueled a multi-billion-dollar market, even as Congress debates whether to delay or rework it. Legal expert and former FDA regulatory counsel Jonathan Havens cuts through the noise to give retailers the latest picture of where things stand, what's likely to change by year's end, and how to build a compliance posture flexible enough to withstand whatever comes next.
5:15 - 6:15 p.m.	Reception Presented by  Altria Altria Group Distribution Company
6:15 - 7:30 p.m.	Dinner

Day 2 - Thursday, Sept. 17

7:30 - 8:30 a.m.	Breakfast
8:30 - 9:15 a.m.	Retailer Talks <i>Melissa McPherson</i> , Category/Merchandising Manager, Delta Sonic Car Wash Systems Inc. <i>Mary Sonatore</i> , Category Manager Total Nicotine, Refuel Operating Company
9:15 - 9:30 a.m.	Networking Break
9:30 a.m. - Noon	1:1 Meetings
Noon - 1:00 p.m.	Lunch
1:15 - 3:25 p.m.	1:1 Meetings
3:25 - 3:45 p.m.	Networking Break
3:45 - 4:30 p.m.	Thinking & Drinking <i>Mitch Morrison</i> , Vice President, Retailer Relations + Event Content Director, Informa
4:30 - 5:15 p.m.	Reception
5:15 p.m.	Dinner on your own

Day 3 - Friday, Sept. 18

7:30 - 8:30 a.m.	Breakfast
8:30 - 9:00 a.m.	Retailer Panel <i>Kera Gilmer</i> , Senior Category Manager, Top Star Express <i>Beth Barron</i> , Merchandising and Category Manager, Tri Star Energy, LLC <i>Victoria Sheppard</i> , Category Manager, Love's Travel Stops & Country Stores
9:00 - 9:45 a.m.	Looking Ahead: What are the Major Manufacturers Planning for 2027 and Beyond <i>Bonnie Herzog</i> , Managing Director and Senior Consumer Analyst, Goldman Sachs Goldman Sachs Managing Director Bonnie Herzog takes us into the backrooms of key stalwarts like Altria, Philip Morris USA, BAT/R.J. Reynolds and others to help operators plot out their planograms and marketing programs. Herzog delivers her unique insider knowledge and delves into the various segments behind the counter.
9:45 - 10:00 a.m.	Networking Break
10:00 - 10:45 a.m.	Legislative Carousel <i>David Spross</i> , Executive Director, NATO From local to federal, the world of nicotine is facing fresh challenges, from age and flavor bans to (shockingly) positive news on the national front. NATO Executive Director David Spross delivers the very latest on the regulatory front while also offering insights into how results from the mid-term elections could affect policy on vape, modern oral, enforcement, and much more.
10:45 - 11:00 a.m.	Closing Notes