

## ***Normal tobacco sales***

Brønnøysund Avis Nett, 11 March 2010

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“I think it will take more than just to hide the tobacco. I have more faith in efforts to change attitude”, said the retailer at Rema 1000, Sigleif Mork.

The store has not noticed any change in sales. The same goes for Statoil.

“No noticeable change compared to the turnover in 2009”, said the General Manager of Statoil in Brønnøysund, Heidi Holm. “Tobacco is not an impulse item. They know what they want and know that they’ll get it, even if it is placed behind plastic, she said”.

## **Sues Norway**

The tobacco giant Philip Morris has filed a lawsuit against the state to overturn the ban. Communications Director Anne Edwards from Philip Morris International said to Dagens Næringsliv that there is no scientific evidence that the ban provides any health effects. “Such a ban has already been introduced in Iceland in 2001, and there is nothing to suggest that this has encouraged more people to quit smoking”, she said.

Senior adviser Siri Næsheim in the Health Directorate told DN that the legal perspective has been taken into consideration, and that the legality towards the EU and the EEA were assessed before the law was introduced.