

Information Bulletin for Shoepprint/Toolmark Examiners



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INDEX

INDEX	3
FOREWORD	4
PROCEEDINGS OF THE SPTM MEETING 2001 IN BERLIN	6
SPTM 2001 MEETING - CLOSING REMARKS ON THE SESSION "RANGE OF CONCLUSIONS"	7
INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR IDENTIFICATION - THE 86TH EDUCATIONAL CONFERENCE, MIAMI	10
ABSTRACTS	10
<i>Using Mold Characteristics in Footwear Examinations</i>	10
<i>Daubert Considerations in Footwear Examinations</i>	11
<i>Unique Applications for Alternate Lights and Lasers</i>	12
<i>The Use of Forensic Podiatry</i>	12
<i>Scientific Working Group on Imaging Technologies (SWGIT) Update</i>	14
<i>"Digital Vs. Film, Which Imaging Technology Should I Be Using?"</i>	16
<i>How to Express Probability in Footwear Comparison</i>	16
<i>Photographic Identification of Clothing from Wear and Tear and Manufactured Characteristics - The Band-Aid Bandit Case</i>	17
WORKSHOPS	20
<i>Swipes, Wipes, and Other Transfer Impressions</i>	20
<i>Introduction to Bloodstain Pattern Recognition</i>	20
<i>Mapping Techniques for Documenting Bloodstain Evidence</i>	20
<i>Casting Techniques for Multiple Purposes Using Mikrosil® Casting Material</i>	20
<i>Footwear Workshop</i>	20
<i>Examination of Bloodstained Clothing</i>	20
<i>Advanced Bloodstain Documentation Techniques</i>	20
<i>Bloodstain Pattern Reconstruction</i>	20
<i>Techniques using Electrostatic Lifting Devices</i>	20
<i>The Use of Luminol for the Discovery & Recovery of Possible Blood Stains.</i>	20
<i>Tire Tracks as Evidence and Identification Workshop</i>	20
<i>Ultraviolet Light (Poor Man's Alternate Light Source)</i>	20
<i>Advanced Techniques for Photographing Shoeprints and Latent Fingerprints with Projected Light</i>	20
AFTE TRAINING SEMINAR 2001	21
CASTING TRACK EVIDENCE IN SNOW	22
MATERIALS	23
PROCEDURE	23
TIPS FOR CASTING IN SNOW	25
SOURCES	26
ANNOUNCEMENTS	27
THE PRESENT LIST OF THE MEMBERS OF THE STEERING GROUP/BOARD OF THE ENFSI MARKS WORKING GROUP	27
NOMINATION OF OFFICIAL REPRESENTATIVE	28
FORM FOR CONFIRMATION OF DETAILS	29
BAREFOOT EXAMINATIONS	29
FOOTWEAR DATABASES	29

FOREWORD

Dear colleagues,

In this issue of the IBSTE you will find short reports from the AFTE Meeting in Newport Beach, CA and from the IAI Meeting in Miami, FL. I have also picked up some abstracts of presentations and topics of the workshops of the IAI Meeting which might have interest for the readers.

Nowadays you will find at least one article on "Bayesian approach" in every issue of any forensic science journal. Mark examiners have been discussing this subject for some time now and probably will continue to do so in the near future. Whatever the outcome of these many debates will be, they can only improve our knowledge and understanding of the individualisation process. In this IBSTE issue you can read "The closing remarks" of the session "Range of conclusions" given by Dr. Horst Katterwe in the 4th SPTM Meeting in Berlin.

In this connection I would also like to remind those of the readers who gave a presentation in the 4th SPTM Meeting in Berlin to send your papers for the proceedings to the given email address on page 7 in this Bulletin before the end of November.

The e-mail discussion list for the SPTM community has been in use for a couple of months. Our thanks go to Gerrit Volckeryck who was the initiator of the list. We have had several discussions on some topics up to now, but we all could be more active in sending comments and questions to the list. Using it is easy! When you send a message to the group's e-mail address:

ENFSI-Marks_working_group@yahoo.com, it will automatically be forwarded to all the members. Any reply by one of the members of the list will be distributed in the same way. Don't forget this is a closed group: only "Marks"-professionals can join. You can subscribe on-line while visiting the e-mail group's home page at

http://groups.yahoo.com/group/ENFSI-Marks_working_group

or simply by sending an e-mail to *Gerrit.volckeryck@village.uunet.be*

"Casting track evidence in snow" in this November-issue of the Bulletin will remind the readers living in the northern countries about the coming winter. Now it is good time to start preparations to be ready to cast shoe impressions or tire impressions in snow. This winter you will make the best snow impression casts you ever made by using the tips and hints of our colleagues in Alaska.

I would like to thank Lesley Hammer, Horst Katterwe, John Birkett and Gerrit who have contributed to this IBSTE issue.

Sincerely,

Anja Ytti

PROCEEDINGS OF THE SPTM MEETING 2001 IN BERLIN

The SPTM 2001 Meeting took place in Berlin some months ago. The Organising Committee has been very pleased about the interesting and very good presentations. We are planning to join all of them together in the proceedings of the meeting. The BKA Wiesbaden in co-operation with the PTU Berlin will make this publication. We do not intend to edit the submitted papers before the printing process like it has been usual for the proceedings of the last meetings. Instead of this our idea is to get all presentations of the meeting in a paper form and to include them in the submitted format in a new layout of the proceedings. This way we will have much more information about the meeting and all authors will have the opportunity to submit a paper. The papers shall be sent to the following e-mail address not later than Nov. 30th 2001:

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Best wishes,

Torsten Ahlhorn, PTU Berlin and Horst Katterwe, BKA Wiesbaden

SPTM 2001 MEETING - CLOSING REMARKS ON THE SESSION "RANGE OF CONCLUSIONS"

Horst Katterwe



I would like to thank you all for this day here in Berlin. Today was an 'Opinion Research Session'. Sometimes it was like a kaleidoscope of conclusion scales (ranges). We have discussed many kaleidoscopic opinions, sometimes like a colourful mixture of conclusion scales. We have got a lot of information about the Bayesian Approach, about Probability Theory and about Conclusions: scientific conclusions and also categorical conclusions.

I think, that for the evaluation of evidence in forensic science there are two main approaches: the "*Classical approach*" and the "*Bayesian approach*".

The "*Classical approach*" is divided into two steps: first "significance testing of the crime-scene related sample versus the suspect related one; and second after having established coincidence of the two sample patterns, the frequency of the coincident pattern in the population has to be explored. To solve this problem it is helpful to consider two propositions: "the mark has been made by the known tool"; and the alternative proposition "the mark has been made by an unknown tool".

If you are a member of the "*Bayesian-Approach-Society*" then it's preferable to use the odds form of Bayes' Rule, where on the right side of the equation the first term in brackets is known as the prior odds, and the second term in brackets is known as the likelihood ratio (LR). The left side of the equation is known as the

posterior odds, the odds we ultimately wish to know. But it seems to me - after all the Bayesian papers - that this value is very often extremely difficult to estimate.

I will summarise: we have got a lot of information. So, I think the Scale Committee of the Marks Working Group will have a lot to do. The scale committee must make a valuation of the information, received today and try to throw away the irrelevant information and to retain the important information.

In doing so, I will mention some nice words by the German poet Johann Wolfgang Goethe about relevant and irrelevant information:

"Dear sister, today I will write a long letter to you, because I have no time at the moment to write a shorter one".

These words are compatible with Shannon's information theory in relation to entropy and redundancy in cases of communication. Shannon said that most written and spoken languages are roughly half-redundant. If 50 percent of the words of an article were taken away at random, there would still remain an intelligible - although somewhat peculiar - essay.

But let us come back to our problem about the "Harmonisation of Conclusions Scale". In my opinion, the observations of marks examiners reaching different conclusions in identical cases is definitely an absurdity, serious enough to justify discussions about a harmonisation of conclusion scales and about the amount of "characteristics" or "features", necessary to end up with a certain level of conclusion. To be able to define standards or mappings it is first necessary to have an uniform scale of conclusions.

I mean, it will take many years until all mark examiners of the European and also of the American forensic community will start using Bayesian-approach-thinking.

I would be happy to see our Scale Committee and the "Marks Community" reach a consensus about a common scale, even using the "old language", while waiting for a European agreement with all Working Groups and ENFSI Institutes about a Bayesian formulation.

Even if not Bayesian and with the risk that the "Bayesian Society" will say "this is not scientific and not logical". In my opinion, *science* is concerned with all kinds of knowledge, based on examination and testing, and on facts that can be proved. And in my opinion, something is *logical*, when it is based on a series of facts, reasons, and ideas that are connected in a correct and intelligent way.

And finally I will mention two judgements of the German Federal Supreme Court:

1) BGH Urteil, 30.07.1999 (StV 9/99): The basis of a scientific report is logical duplication (to succeed in repeating the opinions / ideas) and the transparency of the ideas.

2) BGH Urteil, 28.3.1989 (NJW 1989, 3161): If the conclusion / "assessment of evidence" (Beweiswürdigung) is logical and transparent there is no need to control this result by probability calculations with the aid of the Bayes' theorem.

Therefore, a common European marks scale - *and this will be a real scientific and a real logical scale, because the scale of the "Committee on Harmonisation of Conclusion Scales of the ENFSI Marks Working Group" will be based on facts that can be proved and that are connected in a correct and intelligent way* - would be a big step forward for all the marks examiners.

INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR IDENTIFICATION - THE 86TH EDUCATIONAL CONFERENCE, MIAMI

Anja Ytti

The 86th international educational conference of the International Association for Identification was held in July 22-28, 2001 in the famous city of Miami, Florida. The program of the conference consisted of general sessions, lectures and over 60 hands-on workshops of different forensic disciplines. There was also a large exhibition area with over 60 vendors demonstrating their products. The total amount of attendees of this conference was approximately 1200.

Please find following an introduction to the abstracts of the presentations and workshops of interest to the members of the Marks Working Group. The abstracts are mainly picked up from Footwear & Tire Track session.

ABSTRACTS

USING MOLD CHARACTERISTICS IN FOOTWEAR EXAMINATIONS

Dwane Hilderbrand

The conclusions of many footwear examinations have resulted in the use of wear characteristics and tread design, however, mold characteristics, which are often overlooked, can become a vital part of the examination process. Although a positive identification cannot be made using mold characteristics, they may assist the examiner in further reducing the number of other shoes that could have made the unknown impression.

Mold characteristics, as they relate to the outsole design of a shoe, are caused during the manufacturing process of the outsole. The use of these mold characteristics or "defects" can provide additional information about the known and unknown shoes. In many cases, mold characteristics can be utilized to

eliminate known shoes as having made a particular unknown impression. By contacting the manufacturing company and dealing directly with them, pertinent information can be obtained as to the known and unknown shoes that could have made or originated from the same mold. Particular attention is given to the use of mold numbers and how they are related to the manufacturing process. How and why a footwear examiner should utilize a manufacturing company and surrounding shoe stores in retrieving pertinent information related to the mold of a particular outsole. A case study will show that mold characteristics or "defects" assisted in the examination of footwear impressions.

DAUBERT CONSIDERATIONS IN FOOTWEAR EXAMINATIONS

Alexander Mankevich

This presentation takes on the *Daubert* challenge to footwear impression examination. The following *Daubert* parameters will be discussed as they relate to this discipline:

- testing of scientific theory
- know & potential error rate
- peer review and publications
- existence & maintenance of performance standards
- general acceptance in the scientific community

Each parameter is presented so that an examiner may address a *Daubert* challenge utilizing the basic factors, theory, methodology, historical perspective and calculations applicable to this discipline.

Survey results and factual numbers are presented to demonstrate the amount of professional activity being performed in the areas of scientific literature, widespread use of footwear examinations, global acceptance, error rate and professional development.

UNIQUE APPLICATIONS FOR ALTERNATE LIGHTS AND LASERS

Scott R. Spjut

Lasers and alternate light sources have been used in forensic investigations since 1976. Laboratory lasers were the primary instrument used in the laboratory to excite the fluorescence of particles and fingerprint residues. These lasers were powerful applications of coherent light, and allowed for precise analysis. The only drawback was the permanent mounting of the instrument, which could only be used in the laboratory. In the 1980's an alternative to the laser was created in order to allow for adjustments in colors of light and portability for analysis of evidence outside of the laboratory. The alternate light source (ALS) allowed for portability and adjustments to be made for a wider range of colors than the conventional laboratory lasers.

This presentation will examine the conventional uses of alternate lights and lasers. In addition, the presentation will approach useful applications including analysis of questioned documents, serological evidence, drug detection, arson investigation and ballistic reconstructions.

THE USE OF FORENSIC PODIATRY

John A. DiMaggio

In the last chapter of the Sir Arthur Conan Doyle's Sherlock Holmes classic, *A Study in Scarlet*, Holmes recounts just how he solved the crime to Watson. Holmes states, "There is no branch of detective science or which is so important and so much neglected is the art of tracing footsteps." This story was first published in Beeton's Christmas annual, London, 1887.

The observations of Sherlock Holmes concerning the nature of the footwear evidence are applicable today. Just as with fingerprints, footwear evidence needs to be discovered and collected from the scene of the crime by the investigator.

There are many effective techniques to do this, but the generalized lack of knowledge of the usefulness of such evidence is still prevalent. Such evidence can provide the investigator with valuable information about suspected individuals. Footwear examinations are often confined to the analysis and comparison of outsole impressions found at the scene of criminal activity with a suspect's shoe but many of these cases also involve the inclusion of barefoot evidence.

The human foot is a complex structure that supports, stabilizes, and propels the human body. Because it is unique in structure and function, each footprint and its corresponding impression on the insole of the shoe will be unique. Footwear covers and protects the foot, and therefore mirrors the particular structure and function of the foot it houses. The foot can leave its marks on the upper and outsole, in addition to the foot bed, all-important indicators of the individual who wore them.

Forensic podiatry deals with the evaluation of barefoot evidence to identify or exclude an individual from specific footwear. The function of the forensic podiatrist is to work as part of the investigatory team. Depending on the experience of the individual, he or she may be asked to assist at a crime scene or in the laboratory as part of the preliminary evaluation of evidence. If corroborative evaluation is needed or the examiner can neither make an identification nor an exclusion of the evidence, the forensic podiatrist's services may be required.

Known standards consisting in part of barefoot inked prints, foot model casts, radiographs, photographs and reference footwear and, can be used for comparison to the suspect impressions and suspect footwear. A biomechanical examination of

the suspect, including a gait analysis and morphological evaluation, may be performed. New technology is being utilized with force plate systems that produce qualitative and quantitative results of the foot in both static and dynamic modes.

The bare footprint or barefoot impression is important and can tell us many things. Specifically, we're interested in the image formed on the foot bed of the shoe. Evaluation of this can give us in varying degrees of accuracy foot length/width, height approximation, digital pattern which can be indicative of pathologic problems, pressure zones, morphology, shoe size, and the sex of the individual. Bloody foot prints when good ridge detail is present can be as accurate as fingerprints.

After the appropriate comparisons and evaluations of the evidence have been performed, a conclusion can be made. As in any of the forensic disciplines, scientific methods are utilized in forensic podiatry to come to an acceptable conclusion. Podiatry is also a medical art, and as such will foster an inherent component in the conclusion that is based on knowledge of the foot gained through years of clinical experience. Although others may be able to evaluate barefoot evidence, only a podiatrist would be expected to evaluate the discriminatory potential match points and render a meaningful interpretation.

SCIENTIFIC WORKING GROUP ON IMAGING TECHNOLOGIES (SWGIT) UPDATE

Richard W. Vorder Bruegge

The Scientific Working Group on Imaging Technologies (SWGIT) is composed of photographers, scientists, instructors, and managers from more than two dozen agencies in law enforcement and academia. They are working to develop consensus guidelines in the proper utilization of imaging technologies throughout the criminal justice system. Previous draft documents developed by the SWGIT

have provided general definitions and guidelines relating to such activities as the acquisition and preservation of imaging evidence.

Recommendations for the use of different technologies and recording media in a variety of field applications have also been provided. The formal release of these documents in final format is now being pursued. In addition to these previously released documents, the SWGIT has now developed additional documents relating to training and image processing issues as they affect individuals and organizations within the criminal justice system.

In the area of training, agencies should recognize the need for different types of training for personnel engaged in different imaging-related activities. Photographers and laboratory personnel engaged in the full-time, day-to-day usage of imaging equipment must be capable in not only operating the equipment they use, but also in explaining how it works to a jury. Managers and supervisors responsible for purchasing equipment must be cognizant of the capabilities and limitations of different imaging systems and technologies as they relate to their mission-specific applications. Lawyers and other court personnel should have a grasp of the legal aspects related to imaging evidence, as well as a fundamental grasp of the technologies involved. Furthermore, continuing education, while always a desirable goal, is especially important in the field of imaging, where technology advances so rapidly. Draft recommendations for training various types of personnel will be discussed.

In the area of image processing, SWGIT reiterates the importance of maintaining a log or other means of recreating the steps taken in the processing of images. Among the activities for which SWGIT has now developed draft guidelines

includes image enhancement, image restoration, image compression, and quantitative image analysis.

"DIGITAL VS. FILM, WHICH IMAGING TECHNOLOGY SHOULD I BE USING?"

Michael J. Brooks

This lecture will explore the current changes in photographic imaging as they pertain to investigation documentation. The world of photographic imaging is changing on an almost daily basis, leading us to ask two important questions: "Should I continue to use film?" or "Should I convert to a digital imaging system?"

Topics to be covered in this lecture are as followed. The applications that imaging technology is applied to in the Law Enforcement community. In covering the differing applications, the drawbacks and advantages of digital and film will be explored. Also, the technical aspects of digital and film technologies as well as image quality. Specific topics will include;, pixelization, film structure, image quality, examination quality, light theory, image preservation, including other related sub-topics.

HOW TO EXPRESS PROBABILITY IN FOOTWEAR COMPARISON

Robert B. Kennedy

Statement of Hypothesis:

It is possible to express a degree of certainty when examining footwear, and other forms of physical evidence.

Brief Synopsis of content:

A footwear comparison, unlike a fingerprint comparison, lends itself to degrees of probability during the comparison process. While mathematical and statistical

probability can only be done with class characteristics, levels of certainty can be expressed by using individualizing characteristics and is dependant on the experience and training of the specialist. We cannot give mathematical or statistical probability with individualizing characteristics (accidental characteristics) because possibility of that characteristic reoccurring cannot be expressed mathematically.

I will discuss the value of one simple mark on the outsole of a shoe, the value of different wear patterns and the subjective role they play in forming an opinion. This evaluation of degrees of probability can also apply to other forms of physical comparisons and allow us to give our true opinion when describing our conclusions.

I believe that probability should have a limited number of levels - Could Have Made, Likely Made, Positively Made, Likely Did Not Make and Did Not Make. This conclusion will depend on the training and experience of the examiner.

I will also introduce the Bayesian theorem and discuss its influence on the footwear identification process. Although not currently used in North America, this approach is being discussed at length in the European forensic community.

PHOTOGRAPHIC IDENTIFICATION OF CLOTHING FROM WEAR AND TEAR AND MANUFACTURED CHARACTERISTICS - THE BAND-AID BANDIT CASE

Richard W. Vorder Bruegge

Examiners in the FBI Laboratory's Forensic Audio, Video, and Image Analysis Unit (FAVIAU) conduct examinations of questioned image evidence. The images may include, film negatives, photographic prints, video tapes, digital still images, and digital video files. Among the examinations conducted by this group, include photographic comparisons involving the side-by-side comparison of clothing depicted in questioned images with clothing recovered from known suspects. In

some cases, it is possible to individualize ("identify") or eliminate clothing based on these comparisons. This paper will document the photographic identification of a T-shirt and hard hat recovered from a suspect based on unique characteristics created on these items through wear-and-tear. This paper will also document the photographic identification of a pair of camouflage trousers in this same case based on unique characteristics created through the manufacturing process.

Principle of Individualization: The principle behind such comparisons is the same one behind the comparison of fingerprints, footwear impressions, bullets or any kind of physical evidence - the principle of individualization. This principle holds that an impression or other piece of physical evidence may be individualized to a single source if the source and the impression share a significant set of characteristics with no unexplainable differences. The two types of characteristics that are considered in any side-by-side comparison are "Class Characteristics" and "Individual Identifying Characteristics." Class characteristics are those characteristics common to a group or "class" of items, while individual identifying characteristics are characteristics unique to a single item or to a small set of items. Individual identifying characteristics are analogous to points of minutiae used in a fingerprint or ballistics comparison. In the case of manufactured items such as clothing, the make, model, and style of a garment are class characteristics, whereas random defects such as rips, tears, stains, holes, patches, bleach marks, missing buttons, wrinkles and burns may serve as individual identifying characteristics. In the case of patterned clothing (such as plaids or camouflage items), random patterns generated along the seams in the manufacturing process can also serve as individual identifying characteristics.

Band-Aid Bandit Case: The "Band-Aid Bandit" case represents one of the most prominent bank robbery cases in the Mid-Atlantic region in recent years. A

series of bank robberies were committed by an individual who frequently was seen wearing a bandage on his cheek. This led investigators and the media to dub the suspect the "Band-Aid Bandit." A suspect was ultimately identified and items similar to those worn in two robberies were recovered from the suspect. In one robbery, a T-shirt and hard hat bearing stains, scrapes, and other marks were recovered. In the second robbery, a pair of camouflage trousers were recovered. This paper will document the side-by-side comparison of these items with the surveillance images and their positive identification as the items worn by the "Band-Aid Bandit" in the robberies.

WORKSHOPS

SWIPES, WIPES, AND OTHER TRANSFER IMPRESSIONS

Jeffrey B. Gurvis and Michelle L. Smith

INTRODUCTION TO BLOODSTAIN PATTERN RECOGNITION

Michael van Stratton

MAPPING TECHNIQUES FOR DOCUMENTING BLOODSTAIN EVIDENCE

Patrick Taylor and Carl Agner

CASTING TECHNIQUES FOR MULTIPLE PURPOSES USING MIKROSIL® CASTING MATERIAL

Kjell Carlsson

FOOTWEAR WORKSHOP

William J. Bodziak

EXAMINATION OF BLOODSTAINED CLOTHING

Michael van Stratton

ADVANCED BLOODSTAIN DOCUMENTATION TECHNIQUES

Patrick Taylor and Carl Agner

BLOODSTAIN PATTERN RECONSTRUCTION

Jeffrey b. Gurvis and Thomas Griffin

TECHNIQUES USING ELECTROSTATIC LIFTING DEVICES

Michael J. Sandling

THE USE OF LUMINOL FOR THE DISCOVERY & RECOVERY OF POSSIBLE BLOOD STAINS.

King C. Brown and M. Dawn Watkins

TIRE TRACKS AS EVIDENCE AND IDENTIFICATION WORKSHOP

Ernest D. Hamm

ULTRAVIOLET LIGHT (POOR MAN'S ALTERNATE LIGHT SOURCE)

John H. Olenik

ADVANCED TECHNIQUES FOR PHOTOGRAPHING SHOEPRINTS AND LATENT FINGERPRINTS WITH PROJECTED LIGHT

Ulf Lorenzi and Kjell Carlsson

AFTE TRAINING SEMINAR 2001

Horst Katterwe

The 32. Annual AFTE Training Seminar (AFTE = Association of Firearms and Toolmarks Examiners) took place from July 08 through July 13 in Newport Beach, CA, USA. There were more than 300 participants, most from the USA including FBI and ATF (ATF = Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms in San Francisco, Atlanta, Rockville); but also from England, France, Belgium, Greece and Germany.

There were papers, workshops and exhibitions. Very interesting was an "internal US-panel session" about "Toolmark Criteria for Identification"; one speaker was Bruce Moran who attended the Berlin meeting. One result was, that the AFTE conclusion approach is very accepted in court even after the Daubert case, and the words probable or very probable are very well accepted.

Bruce Moran gave in addition to the panel session a paper about "Report on the status of European toolmark examiners criteria for identification and conclusion giving. My paper "European Marks Scale Committee and the Range of Conclusions: Bayesian or Non-Bayesian View" produced hot discussions even during the coffee breaks. In this paper a summary of the results of the meetings in Cracow, Brussels and Berlin was given. My "conclusion scale paper" was awarded as best presentation from abroad.

There were many other interesting contributions, like a workshop "Serial Number Restoration", statistical evaluation of the individuality of guns; class characteristics of cartridge cases; 3-D measurements on plastic bags (Jan de Kinder); establishment of measurement traceability for NIST standard bullets and casing; NIBIN (IBIS) program session; the sound of bullets; ASCLD/LAB Accreditation; etc, etc.

CASTING TRACK EVIDENCE IN SNOW

Lesley Hammer

Jim Wolfe

Criminalistics Section Alaska DPS Crime Lab



Casting a snow impression in Barrow Alaska at 30 below zero

MATERIALS

Casting Material: Vel Mix Dental Stone

Ziplocks

Wide mouth jar for water

Potassium Sulfate

Grey paint primer

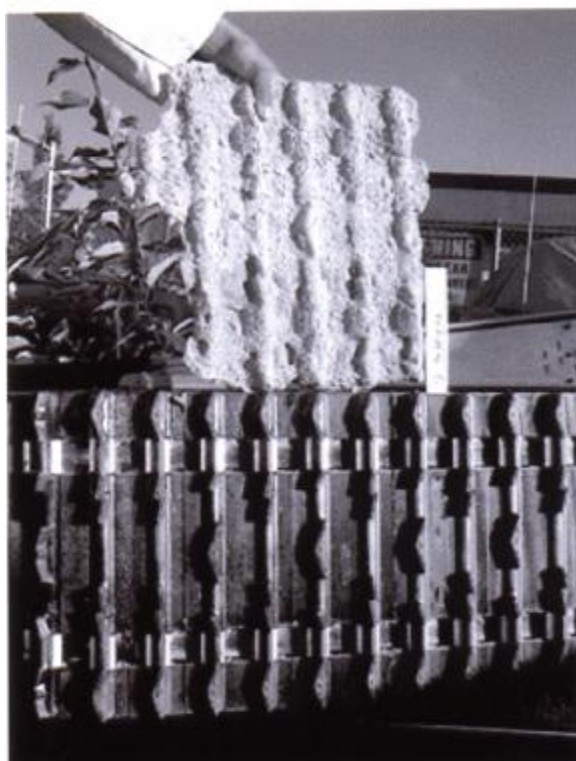
Snow print wax

PROCEDURE

1. Place approximately 2 cups of dental stone in a ziplock bag. Add a tablespoon of potassium sulfate to the dental stone to accelerate the curing process.
2. Place the bag with dental stone in the snow to cool down to snow temperature.
3. Photograph the impression with direct and oblique light.
4. Coat the impression with spray gray paint primer and re-photograph the impression.
5. Cool the mixing water by adding snow until a slight amount of slush is present.
6. Add the cold water to the dental stone until a consistency of pancake batter achieved.
7. Pour casting material into impression, taking care the initial drop of material does not damage the impression. Wiggle the surface of the wet casting material to aid distribution.
8. Pull up cast when hardened, let the cast thaw and cure at room temperature for 24 hours.



Alaska State Trooper photographing and highlighting shoe impressions in a class



Cast of a snow machine track held next to the suspect tread

TIPS FOR CASTING IN SNOW

* When adding potassium sulfate to the dental stone, shake the mixture until the components are evenly distributed. Single impression amounts of the dental stone/potassium sulfate mixture may be stored in individual ziplocks.

* Darkening the impression with gray primer or Snow Print Wax may cause melting of the impression if it is exposed to the sun. To protect the impression after spraying, cover the impression with a cardboard box or other shielding material while waiting for the casting stage.

*Snow Print Wax may work better for slushy snow than the gray primer.

*Gray primer is readily available in most locations if a last minute purchase is needed. Also it may not freeze or gum up at the nozzle as easily as wax at very cold temperatures.

*If casting material is too thin it will seep between the snow crystals and create a rough texture on the impression surface of the cast.

*Snow impressions may be easily damaged by the initial drop of casting material. Use a small piece of cardboard to deflect the leading edge of the flow, pour very close to the impression, or start from the outside of the impression and carefully direct flowing material into the impression.

*Warming of the casting material as it cures, followed by cooling down of the cast, may leave the cast frozen to the ground in shallow snow. Heating the cast with a blowtorch will help separate the cast from the frozen ground. The cast

may have to be pried up, and may even break. Often the pieces are still of comparative value.

Example of a crime scene snow impression from Valdez PD, Alaska



SOURCES

Wolfe, J.R. and Behiem, C.W., Dental Stone Casting of Snow Impressions. Paper presented at FBI Symposium, Quantico, VA, 1994.

Bodziak, W.J., Footwear Impression Evidence. Second Edition. CRC Press, 2000.

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NOMINATION OF OFFICIAL REPRESENTATIVE

We will shortly be sending out letters to the various ENFSI Institutes asking for each one to nominate their official representative. This is to fit in with our statute, which states that if there is a vote on any issue each ENFSI institute will have one vote. The nominated person will be the one to cast this vote, but a deputy could be nominated in their absence.

FORM FOR CONFIRMATION OF DETAILS

Enclosed with this edition of IBSTE is a form for confirming the information that we currently hold about people associated with the ENFSI Marks Working Group. We wish to make sure that our list is as up-to-date as possible.

If you did not complete a form for checking addresses at the SPTM conference in Berlin in May this year, can you please complete the enclosed form and return it to Anja Ytti at the NBI in Finland by the end of December, 2001. If you are currently on the list, but no longer wish to receive the Bulletin or other information about the working group, can you also complete a form saying that you no longer wish to be on the mailing list. The list will be updated in January and if we have not received your form by then your name will be removed from the list.

BAREFOOT EXAMINATIONS

I will be circulating a questionnaire to everyone who attended the Footprint Examination Course at Tampere, Finland in November 1999 to find out what casework and training has taken place in their organisations since then.

John Birkett

FOOTWEAR DATABASES

Sorry for the delay, but I am putting together a questionnaire about footwear/footwear mark databases held by members of the Marks Working Group. This will allow us to have up-to-date information and to see if we need to suggest any quality assurance measures in line with recommendations from the Quality Assurance Working Group.

John Birkett

Physical Match safety procedures



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