Forward-thinking agencies are equipping law enforcement with portable analysis tools to provide timely intelligence & reduce the burden on forensic laboratories.

**Mission space**

- The group of entities including major criminology schools, federal and state law enforcement agencies, criminal justice and public safety agencies, and international criminal justice organizations.

**Department of Defense**

- **Identification and validation of materials**
- **Support of operational and law enforcement operations**
- **Establishment of Return on Investment (ROI) criteria**
- **Training and operator certification**

**Department of Homeland Security**

- **Collection of latent fingerprints**
- **Support of operational and law enforcement operations**
- **Establishment of Return on Investment (ROI) criteria**
- **Training and operator certification**

**Department of Justice (United States, Domestic)**

- **Collection of latent fingerprints**
- **Support of operational and law enforcement operations**
- **Establishment of Return on Investment (ROI) criteria**
- **Training and operator certification**

**Laboratory provides operator training and backup support**

- **Reducing training and operational delays**
- **Improving proficiency in identifying latent fingerprints**
- **Reducing evidence storage and release**
- **Reducing time on simple possession cases**

**Laboratory identifies appropriate field-portable tools**

- **Field Investigation Drug Officer (FIDO) program**
- **SAGE (System for Automated Geocoding and Evaluation)**
- **Thermo Scientific FirstDefender®**
- **Cross Match® Technologies Secure Electronic Enrollment Kit (SEEKI)**

**Benefits**

- **Reducing evidence storage and release**
- **Reducing time on simple possession cases**
- **Improving proficiency in identifying latent fingerprints**
- **Reducing evidence handling and processing delays**
- **Reducing evidence storage and release**

**References**

- National Institute of Standards and Technology. 2012 spike in cases due to increase in synthetic drug cases (e.g., “spice” and “bath salts”).

**Abstract**

This paper presents the challenges of implementing a field-testing program in a large federal laboratory, the tools that are available to support this initiative, and the benefits that can be realized.

**Forward-thinking agencies are equipping law enforcement with portable analysis tools to provide timely intelligence & reduce the burden on forensic laboratories.**

**Pioneers can perform simple tests while maintaining the integrity of the evidence for follow-up analysis as needed.**