



nfstc

National Forensic Science Technology Center

SCIENCE SERVING JUSTICE

The 8th Harsh-Environment Mass Spectrometry Workshop

Traditional Tools in Non-Traditional Environments:
Forensic Science in the Field

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National Forensic Science Technology Center

September 20, 2011



Goals for the Presentation

- Discuss NFSTC
- Discuss the GAP in field provided analytical information
- Describe the current platform and equipment used for deployable forensic analysis
- Outline the training used for trace chemistry analysis
- Discuss the FIDO program for Law Enforcement

Mission-driven

VISION:

- The forensic science community and its users to have complete confidence in the quality of the science provided to the justice community as it strives to ensure the public safety.

MISSION:

- We are dedicated to supporting the justice community in ensuring the public safety by assisting the forensic sciences in the achievement of the highest level of quality services.

Uniquely Qualified Team



Kevin Lothridge
Chief Executive Officer



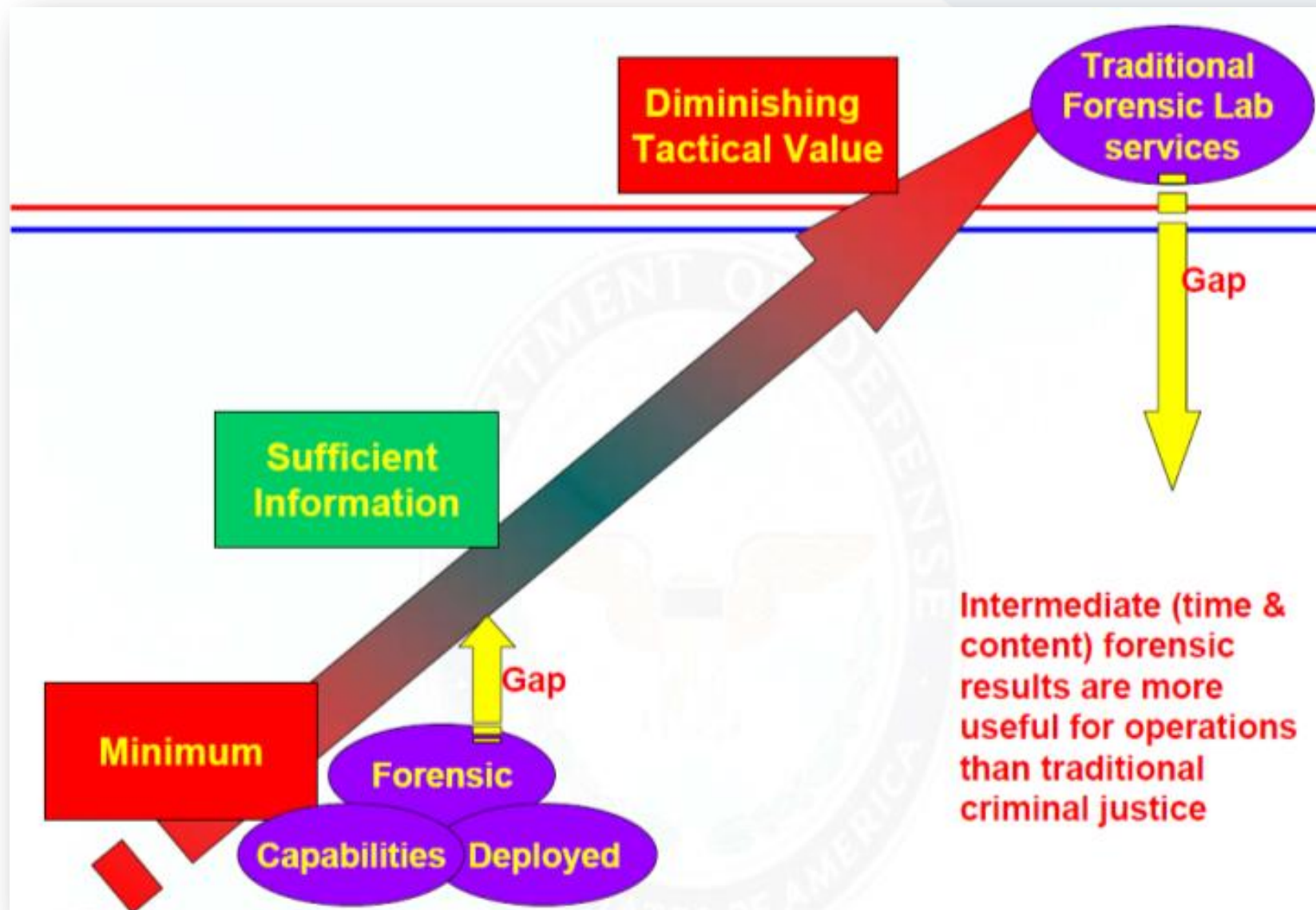
David Epstein
Chief Operating Officer



Dave Sylvester
Chief Projects Officer

- 60 full time staff and more than 180 contractors throughout the country
- 125+ years of forensic testing experience and laboratory management experience

Forensic Services Gap



Expandable, Customizable



Technology Support: Mobile Forensic Laboratories

- Intelligence gathering
- Case backlog
- Emergency Support
- Temporary Facilities



Set-up

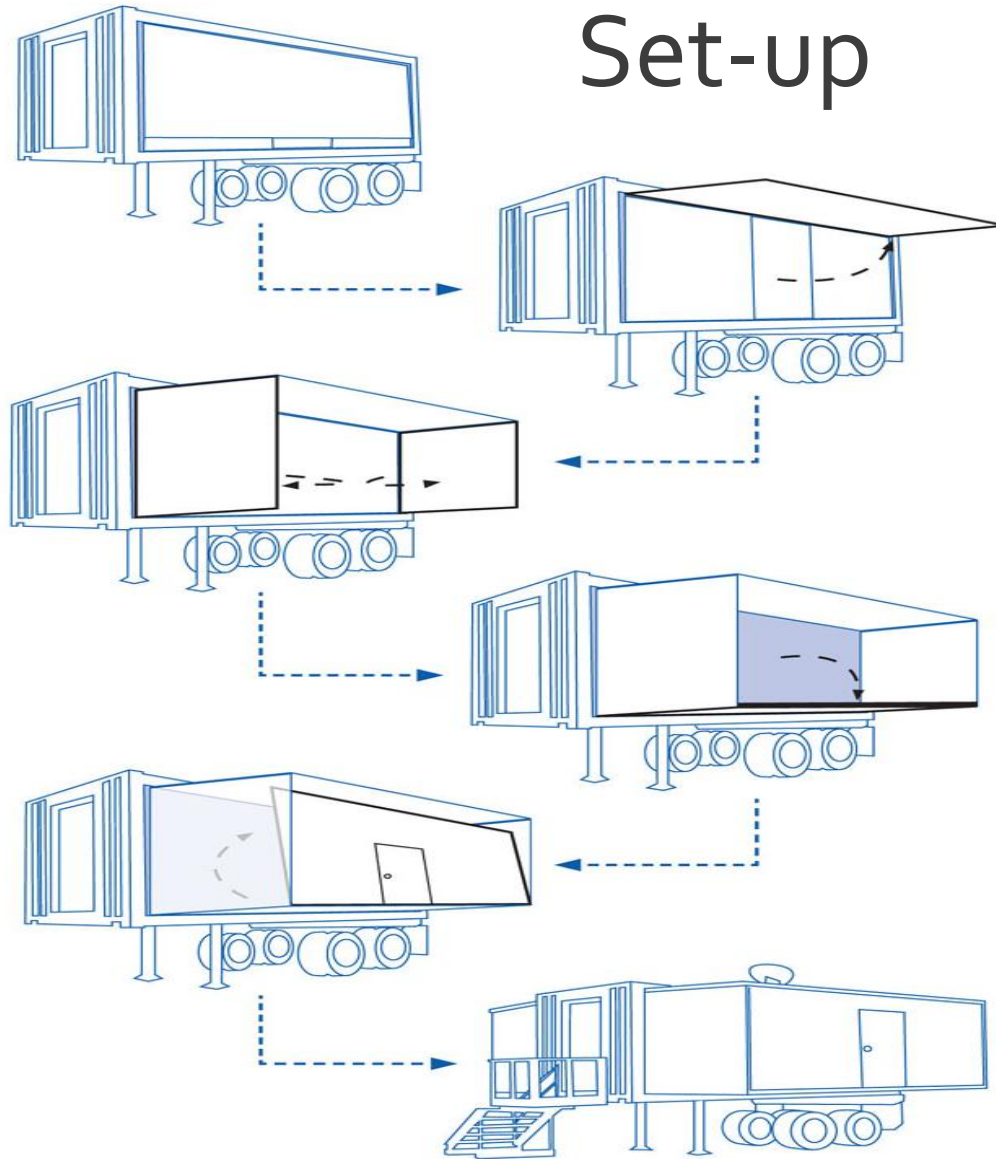


Image Source: NIJ Journal 264, Nov 2009;

From Battlefield to Homefront: Mobile Laboratories Are Changing the Way We Respond to Crisis.







Trace Chemistry Equipment

- Ahura First Defender



- Sabre 4000



- HazMat ID Kit



- Griffin 450 Mass Spectrometer



Program of Instruction

- ***GC/MS: Theory***
 - Overview - Instrument purpose and functionality
 - Basic Theory
 - Strengths and limitations
- **GC/MS: Physical Introduction**
 - Gas Generator
 - Griffin 450
 - Autosampler
 - Injection Port
 - Column
 - Detector
- **Level One (Decision Tree) Software Introduction**
 - Autotune (QA/QC)
 - Running a blank (QA/QC)
 - Running a sample
 - Checking for maintenance due
 - **Extractions/Dilutions – Sample Preparation for Confirmatory GC-MS testing on the Griffin 450**
- **General Laboratory and Equipment Safety for Extraction**
 - PPE
 - Engineering controls
 - Waste disposal

Program of Instruction

- ***GC/MS – Day Two: Team Assembly of Griffin 450 + H₂ Generator***
- ***Practical Exercise One: Assembly, Start-up and Troubleshooting***
 - *Injector maintenance*
 - *H₂ generator set up and safety precautions*
 - *Leak detection*
 - *Powering up troubleshooting*
 - *Autotune Troubleshooting*
 - *Autotune*
- ***GC/MS Routine and Non-routine Maintenance***
 - *Injector maintenance*
 - *Autosampler alignment*
 - *Hydrogen generator maintenance*
 - *Filament assembly*
 - *Guard column replacement*
 - *Column replacement*

Training for Expeditionary Equipment



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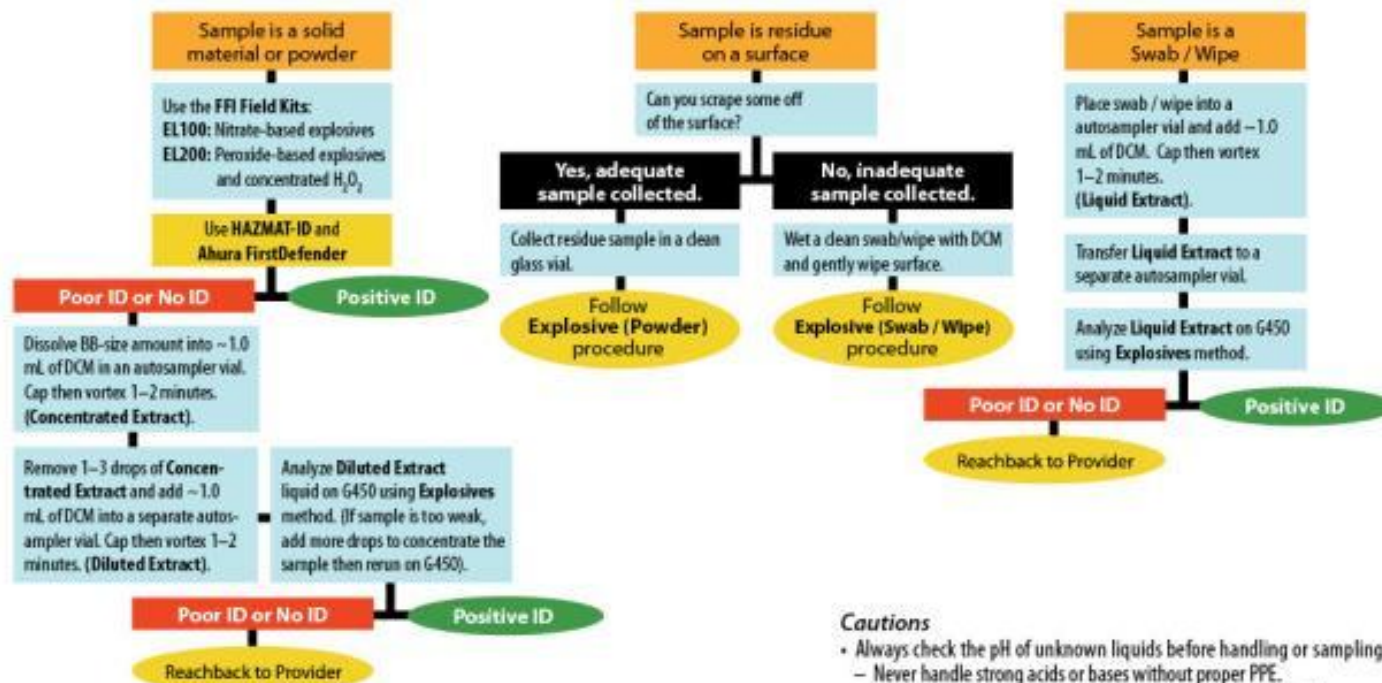


Training for Expeditionary Equipment



Expeditionary Job Aids

SOP Field Analysis: Explosives



Cautions

- Always check the pH of unknown liquids before handling or sampling.
 - Never handle strong acids or bases without proper PPE.
 - Never touch instrumentation to strong acids or bases directly.
 - Never inject strong acids or bases into the Griffin 450 (GC-MS).
- Never inject water into the Griffin 450 (GC-MS).

MeOH = Methanol

DCM = Dichloromethane (Methylene Chloride)

Field Investigation Drug Officer (FIDO)

- Streamlining Straightforward Drug Possession
- Comprehensive Training
- Flexibility
- Immediate Investigative Information
- Standards
- Online at www.nfstc.org



Q&A