

SWG**TREAD**

NIJ Pattern Evidence Symposium

August 2010

Clearwater, Florida

Lesley Hammer
SWG**TREAD** Chair

Mission of SWGTREAD

Scientific Working Group on Shoe and Tire Tread Evidence

Provide a professional forum where forensic shoeprint and tire tread examiners can share knowledge, evaluate practices, develop standards, identify research needs and disseminate information.

Current Members

Ramses Alvarez – FBI Laboratory
William Bodziak – Bodziak Forensics
Kerrie Cathcart – Huntington Police and Marshall University
Eric Gilkerson – FBI Laboratory
Mike Gorn – Sarasota County Sheriff's Office
Lesley Hammer (Chair) – Hammer Forensics
Gary Hauptmann – Baltimore County Police Department
Cindy Homer – Maine State Police Crime Laboratory
Matt Johnson – Orange County Sheriff's Department
Alan Kainuma – Honolulu Police Department
Brian McVicker (Co-chair) – FBI Laboratory
Mike Smith – FBI Laboratory
Brian Yamashita – Royal Canadian Mounted Police

Invited Guests and Speakers

SWGTTREAD History

Formation was initiated by the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) to standardize and advance the forensic analysis of shoeprint and tire tread evidence.

The first meeting took place in Quantico, VA in September 2004.

Bi-annual meetings continue – March and September

Currently SWGGTTREAD is managed by the FBI Laboratory and funded by the National Institute of Justice (NIJ).

Major Accomplishments

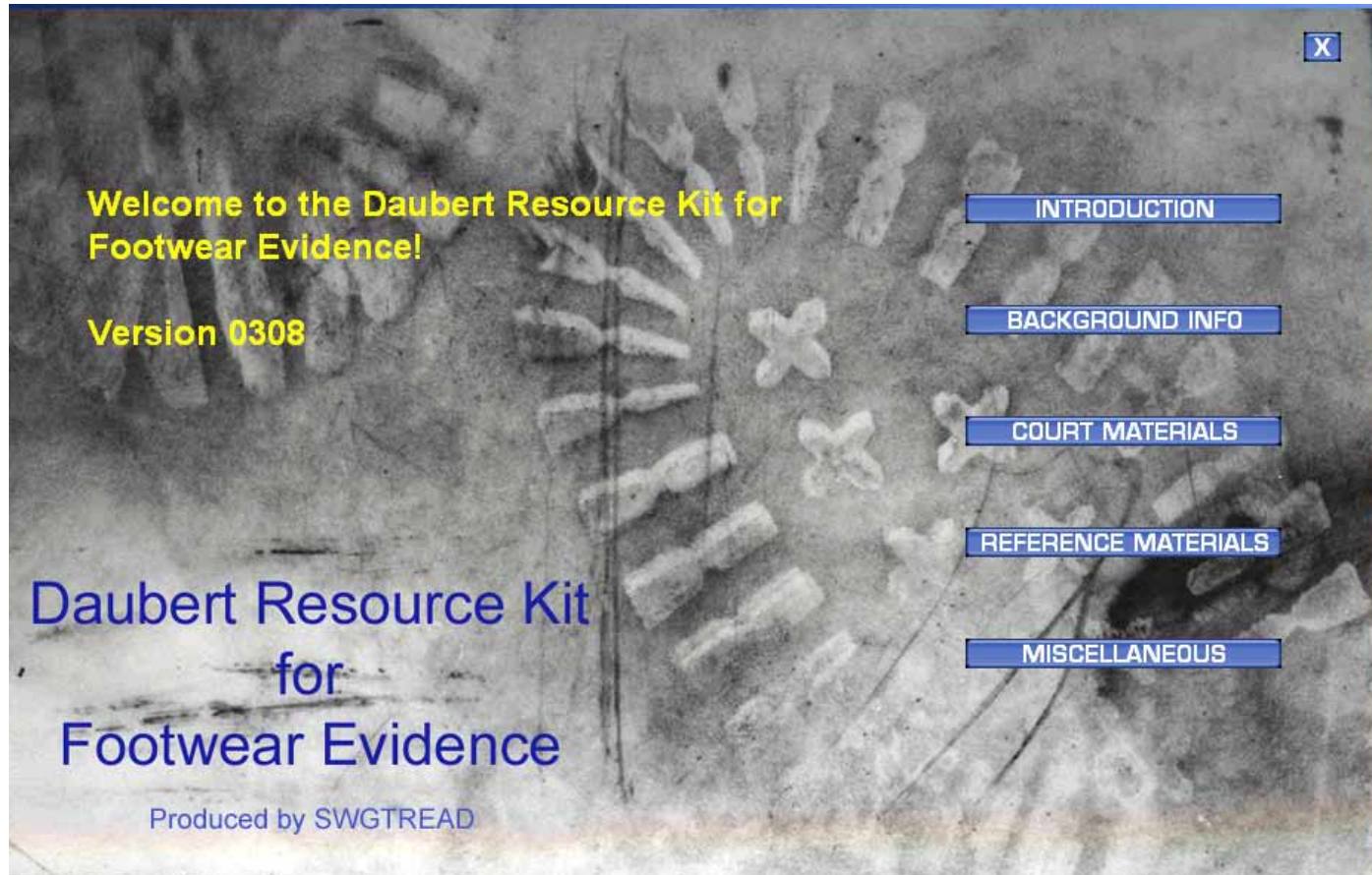
- 15 Guides for Footwear/Tire
- Daubert Resource Kit
- NAS response
- website: www.swgtread.org

Published Guides

- Scope of Work Related to Forensic Footwear and Tire Tread Evidence
- Preparation of Test Impressions
- Detection of Impressions in the Field
- Detection of Impressions in the Lab
- Collection of Impressions in the Field
- Collection of Impressions in the Lab
- Documentation and Photography
- Examination Guide
- Minimum Qualifications and Training
- Terminology Guide
- Standard Terminology for Conclusions
- Guide for Lifting
- Guide for Casting
- Guide for Chemical Enhancement
- Guide for Casework Documentation

All can be found at:
www.SWGTREAD.org

Daubert Resource Kit 2008



Contact Mike Smith at: michael.smith3@ic.fbi.gov or 703-632-7314

Daubert Resource Kit Outline

- INTRODUCTION
 - Purpose of Kit
- BACKGROUND INFO
 - Daubert History
 - Frye v. United States (1923)
 - Federal Rules of Evidence (FRE 702) (1975)
 - Daubert v. Merrell Dow Pharmaceuticals (1993)
 - General Electric v. Joiner (1997)
 - Kumho Tire Co. v. Carmichael (1999)
- COURT MATERIALS
 - Federal Sites
 - State Sites
 - Motions
 - Amicus Briefs
 - Testimony Transcript
 - United States v. Mahone Case ("A to Z")
 - General Court Cases/Summaries
- REFERENCE MATERIALS
 - Articles
 - Journals
 - Books
 - Power Point Presentations
 - Peer Review Forums
 - Certification/Accreditation Programs
- MISCELLANEOUS
 - Utilities
 - Adobe Reader
 - Power Point Viewer
 - Contact Information

NAS Response

- Current Status of the Forensic Footwear and Tire Tread Examination Discipline
- Identification and Clarification of Inaccuracies in the NAS Report
- Suggestions for the Advancement of the Discipline of Forensic Footwear and Tire Tread Evidence
- SWGTREAD 2007 Input to the National Academy of Science

Website

The screenshot shows a web browser window with the address bar displaying "http://swgtread.org/". The browser's address bar includes navigation buttons (back, forward, refresh, home) and a search engine (Google). The website's header features the SWGTREAD logo, which consists of the text "SWGTREAD" in a bold, sans-serif font, followed by a circular icon with radiating lines. To the right of the logo is the text "Scientific Working Group for Shoeprint and Tire Tread Evidence". Below the header is a dark navigation bar with several menu items: "Home" (with a house icon), "About Us" (with "Get the Download" below it), "Guidelines" (with "Best Practices" below it), "Research" (with "Projects/Funding" below it), "News" (with "Read All About It" below it), "Forum" (with "Discussion Board" below it), and "Contact Us" (with "Questions/Feedback" below it). The main content area is divided into several sections. On the left, there are three vertical boxes: "RESOURCES" containing "Daubert Resource Kit" and "ENFSI Wanted Page"; "LINKS" containing "Footwear Certification", "Organizations", "Publications", "Search Tools", "Journals", and "Other Publications"; and "INTERESTING ARTICLE OR WEBSITE?" containing a paragraph about submitting articles and URLs to Gary Hauptmann. In the center, there are two article listings. The first is titled "Counterfeit Nike Sneakers" and includes a date "Tuesday, June 29, 2010", a citation "Wisbey D. Counterfeit Nike Sneakers. J. Forensic Ident. 2010; 60 (3): 337-351.", and an abstract paragraph. The second is titled "If the Shoe Fits: An Illustration of the Relevance of Footwear Impression Evidence and Comparisons" and includes a date "Tuesday, June 29, 2010" and the author "LeMay, J. If the Shoe Fits: An Illustration of the Relevance of Footwear Impression Evidence and". On the right, there is a red box titled "IMPORTANT DATES" containing three entries: "IAI Annual Conference" (July 11-17, 2010, Spokane, WA), "Impression and Pattern Evidence Symposium" (August 2-6, 2010, Clearwater, FL), and "The 33rd Canadian Identification Society Annual Education Conference" (September 20-23, 2010, Orillia, Ontario). The browser's status bar at the bottom left shows "Done".

SWGTREAD Scientific Working Group for Shoeprint and Tire Tread Evidence

Home SWGTREAD.org About Us Get the Download Guidelines Best Practices Research Projects/Funding News Read All About It Forum Discussion Board Contact Us Questions/Feedback

INTERESTING ARTICLE OR WEBSITE?

Please submit **articles** (from journals or online) and **URLs** with information pertinent to footwear and tire tread impression evidence including **best practices**, **research**, **products** and **legal decisions**. We will post this information so it can be shared with the community. Direct these submissions to **Gary Hauptmann** (ghauptmann@baltimorecountymd.gov).

RESOURCES

- Daubert Resource Kit
- ENFSI Wanted Page

LINKS

- Footwear Certification
- Organizations
- Publications
 - Search Tools
 - Journals
 - Other Publications

Counterfeit Nike Sneakers

Tuesday, June 29, 2010

Wisbey D. **Counterfeit Nike Sneakers**. J. Forensic Ident. 2010; 60 (3): 337-351.

Abstract

The popularity of Nike Air Force One sneakers has resulted in the sneaker being a common brand submitted for footwear examination. In the course of the examination process, footwear examiners have contacted the Nike Corporation for manufacturing details. In some cases, Nike was unable to provide information because of the sneaker being counterfeit. This paper will highlight some methods to assist the footwear examiner in assessing the likelihood that the submitted sneaker may be counterfeit.

If the Shoe Fits: An Illustration of the Relevance of Footwear Impression Evidence and Comparisons

Tuesday, June 29, 2010

LeMay, J. **If the Shoe Fits: An Illustration of the Relevance of Footwear Impression Evidence and**

IMPORTANT DATES

- IAI Annual Conference**
July 11-17, 2010
Spokane, WA
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September 20-23, 2010
Orillia, Ontario

Goals and Projects

Resource Committee

Cindy Homer (Chair)

- Website: continue to update
- Promote and encourage forum interaction
- Library of shoe/tire forensic articles
- Create a 'frequently asked questions'
- Incorporate CAST website information
- Feasibility of impression searching/posting site
- Ideas for ways to discuss products/techniques

Goals and Projects

Research and Science Committee

Gary Hauptmann (Chair)

- Develop list of current research needs
- Continue assessing 3-D imaging options
- Conduct research project in shoe design frequency
- Conduct research on examiner conclusions
- Develop and maintain list of current relevant publications (articles)

Goals and Projects

Guidelines and Best Practices Committee

Matt Johnson (Chair)

- Guideline development and review
- update training guide with recommended 20 hours annual continuing education
- finish conclusions guide (including scale)
- amend the report writing guide
- begin chemical enhancement (of non-blood impressions)

Goals and Projects

- By-laws
- SWG chair meetings
- Keep posted on the future of SWG's

Current/Upcoming Issues

- Assisting researchers to conduct viable and applicable studies
- Evolving guidelines into standards
- Standardization of discipline
 - Discipline has many part-time examiners
- Inclusion of barefoot evidence
- Concerns resulting from the NAS report
- How to disseminate information beyond forensic community (Judges, attorneys, academics)
- How to respond to the question of error rate?

SWGTTREAD Contact

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- Brian McVicker
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