Using the Manufacturer’s Information of the Nike Air Force I to assist in the Examination Process

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Brief history of the Nike Air Force I

- First introduced in 1982
- Named after the aircraft used by the United States President (Air Force I)
- Has been produced in over 1500 different color combinations
- Nike has sold over 30 million pairs of Air Force I shoes
Over 1000 different molds are used to manufacture the Air Force I shoe
Areas of comparison for multiple pairs of Air Force I shoes
Comparison with multiple pairs of Air Force I shoes

- Examine the physical size of each shoe with the impression
- Examine the area where the concentric circles and the perimeter bars meet
- Examine the stippling pattern (star design)
- Examine the acid etching
Areas of comparison from 3 different molds
Stippling

- Hand applied to the mold
- Pre-molded strips added to the mold
Hand applied stippling
Star design in mold
Pre-molded star design
Air Force I mold

- Middle plate
- Bottom plate
Stippling

- Hand applied to the mold - different from mold to mold

- Pre-molded strips added to the mold - may find the same stippling pattern from different molds of the same size
Case Example
Case Background

- Bank Robbery occurred 3/16/2006
- Footwear impression collected from crime scene
- 5 suspects involved
- Of the 5 suspects, 4 are wearing NIKE Air Force I shoes (different sizes)
Shoes from suspects
Comparison
Comparison using label information
Comparison
Conclusion

Footwear impression corresponds in physical size and design with the right K 22 shoe. However, the manufacturer’s information inside the right shoe indicates that the right shoe was not manufactured until 2007. Therefore, the K22 right shoe was eliminated as a source of the impression.
Label Information

New Shoe Label
Adopted September 2005

- Style No. & Color Code
- Size
- PO Date
- UPC No.
- Patent Nos.
- Country of Manufacture
- Factory
- Print Date
- Bar Code No.
New Nike tongue label as 4/10
Contact Information

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