

The 2013 *Daily Hound*



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News of Interest for law-enforcement professionals • Spring 2013

By now, surely you've heard the buzz...

Zipr-Weld Evidence Tape is the only tape made that is certified with a patented hidden code **that tells you** if your tape is within expiration or not.

We realize that people don't talk about it. But all pressure sensitive tapes have a shelf life. If they sit around long enough...in varying temperature and humidity extremes...and differing degrees of UV exposure...they start to lose freshness and tack.

And it isn't just in your place...it goes for the environments at the place that made your tape as well.

(Our environment by the way is highly unique...the tapes and labels that we make are made in a completely temperature and humidity controlled environment. Our printing operation is always a bit chilly...year-round...which is a good thing for the freshness of the products you buy.)

Before you apply your seal to your evidence package, if you shine a UV light on the tape, you'll see the certified code that signifies approximately when

your tape was made. Under daylight, the mark is invisible. (The code shows up best if printed within the white stripe that we usually print to allow for writing the date and your initials.)



We recommend that you use (or apply) the tape within two years of the date code.

Repeat: we recommend that you use the tape within two years of this date to insure maximum freshness...because plain and simple... **fresher tape sticks better.**

Keep reading for an article about "James W." that talks about the "what if's" of possibly using old, possibly expired rolls. See page 3.

But the "apply-by" date is just a shelf life issue. Don't worry though, because there is also a functional life.

Assuming that you get your seal in place before the expiration date...if stored properly, you should get 5, 10, 20 years or more in **functional life** out of your Zipr-Weld seals.

James W. has a lot to say...but doesn't want to go on record.

Understandably, this property control supervisor wants to remain anonymous. He works in a large department somewhere in the South.

The conversation and his pain are very real. His true name has been hidden for obvious legal and other reasons. Possibly you can relate...



Says James W. "We, like every other police department have been sealing our evidence packages with "evidence tape" for years.

He went on to say, "As I was doing our annual inventory check, we were noticing many evidence packages with seals that were popping off. It seemed like the adhesive had just dried up." *(A common occurrence with all tapes or labels when they have been applied past their recommended shelf life.)*

"There didn't seem to be any rhyme or reason as to which seals were failing, and we had no way to identify which seals are which," he added. "Seals from relatively recent cases were popping loose, and cases that were older were still in tact. Plastic bags or kraft paper bags didn't seem to matter."

Could it be the age of the evidence tape?

Needless to say, James had a problem

on his hands from a chain of custody standpoint...as well as a manpower issue of finding the evidence that has seals that were coming loose and replacing or backing up the seal.

"We haven't completely resolved the issue," he lamented, "but at least now we have an option put up by the Lynn Peavey Company that will be a big help going forward into the future. Putting a "manufactured on" date on every strip of tape will be a big help to us here in the property room."

"It can help us lot code one batch of tape from another if we ever need it, and it should help our field techs out there from putting old tape on evidence packages...I believe it now when I hear 'fresher tape sticks better.'"

He went on to say, "I would think it was smart of them (the Lynn Peavey Company) to make the certified code in an invisible ink. The last thing we want is to confuse the original purpose of the tape, or make a big deal about it in the courtroom." He added, "Our little black lights show the date code easily with just a glance."



James ends the conversation with, "I only wish I'd heard about shelf life and adhesive tape sooner...could have saved us a lot of time and hassles. But again, I think that at least we now have the solution for the future."

Come on...I've been working this job for over 20 years! I don't need instructions!

In all the years that we have been making the QuickCheck presumptive narcotics identification tests, we occasionally receive a concern or two that our tests do not work.

Whenever we do get a complaint from the field, we go into an "all hands on deck" policy.

We verify exactly what the complaint is, insure that all instructions were followed, triple check the reagents used from that lot number and ask for the customer to send us samples to thoroughly re-validate. It is all part of outstanding customer service and follow up.

Usually, from the field the issue is that "some of our officers are complaining that your tests don't work," where other officers in the same department say they are fine.

Now we know one thing that most officers have seen our free certification video, and that most officers follow the instructions to a T. (All you have to do is ask if you need a free training CD.)



We also know that there are some officers out there who take a few shortcuts to save time. They sometimes will break more than one ampoule at a time, skip a couple of steps, pulverize the glass shards or shake the tests upside down. Most cases they get

lucky...and the tests for one reason or another work.

But sometimes...the tests don't work as designed. More often than not, it is not the tests fault.



We don't like instructions either.

There is nothing more frustrating when we buy something at Home Depot (complete with an "instruction booklet") and the box says all you need is a screwdriver to assemble... but in the end also needed a hammer, a pipe wrench, some duct tape and a small saw...and an entire Saturday to assemble.

But in developing the QuickCheck line, we had to rely on experienced drug chemists and field guys to carefully take into account all purities and other factors that you might encounter...and then write detailed, simple to follow instructions for each drug. A painstakingly laborious process. We didn't write them...they did...and we have to trust them with good reason.

If you follow the instructions exactly... (our experts tell us) you should get consistent results. You may have to wait an extra 20 to 60 seconds here and there...and you might need to flick your finger instead of intuitively shaking it upside down. Follow the instructions and we guarantee...it'll always pay off.

Training the way you want it.

Provide us with a recommendation on a crime scene topic that we can put to video and then post it on our CSIBasics website and we'll do it!

We have signed on a future shining star in Sgt. Mike McCutcheon of the Londonderry, NH Police Department. Mike has been around the block a bit, serving as a patrol officer as well as a detective and police sergeant in Londonderry for about 13 years. He also is a distinguished educator in several local colleges teaching students a few tricks of the trade with crime scene investigation.

he has done for us so far, check out the CSI Basics web page.

And don't forget the other shining stars in our arsenal. We offer training



We were taken in by his extremely outgoing personality and his ties to a student-run video and production facility that in our opinion does excellent work...and at the same time offers them the opportunity to build their skills and experience.

Mike has offered to "in his spare time" add this to his list of things to do.

So...get your requests in soon... Mike's schedule will soon be getting awfully busy, and first come first served. To view a few samples of what

programs from the best and most personable names in the business... just a few names are... Dick Warrington... Todd Thorne... Keith Rosenthal... and our newest addition, Drew Carson, retired US Army Criminal Investigation Division (CID) Special Agent and Forensic Science Officer (FSO).

Each of these guys will do a bang-up job for you and are flexible in terms of time needed and cost. Their resumes and course offerings are listed on our website under "Training".



Have you ever used White WetPrint?

It's nearly unanimous. Our Black WetPrint is clearly the best, most concentrated small-particle reagent for fingerprinting that you can buy.

But have you ever tried our new White WetPrint? It is just as amazing!

Backing up a bit, explaining WetPrint is like a liquid fingerprint powder. It is best used for processing wet items in the rain, vehicles or those items found submerged in some sort of body of water. It comes pre-mixed and ready to go straight from the bottle.

Instead of taking the time consuming task of allowing the item to air dry first, take out your spray bottle of WetPrint, shake it up then start spraying and processing...right then and there. No brush or powder needed.

The technique is to attempt to spray above the area of interest...then allow the WetPrint to trickle down. As it runs off the surface, trillions of tiny miniscule particles attach themselves to any latent print residues.

You typically wait for a few seconds to allow the premixed solution to fully work its magic...often times rinsing with a water spray (again above the area of interest) in between. The sequence may be repeated over and over until the prints develop to your liking. (Usually 3 or 4 times.) The whole process should take just 30 to 45 seconds.

Again, this technique is ideal for wet items...but in theory, you could use it

for any dry item as well. Just spray the dry item with water first, then spray with WetPrint.

To lift the prints, be sure to photograph, rinse the item with water and apply your tape as usual. Squeegee the tape off (with a credit card or another flat surface) to remove the residual water and lift. There is no need to air dry first to get a good lift.

White or black...it all depends on the contrast you want. We strongly recommend you use white on a black or dark colored vehicle. To view video demos on the process, check out our website.



#05680 Black WetPrint Starter Kit...\$29.95

#09719 White WetPrint Starter Kit...\$29.95

*Each includes 16oz. of WetPrint and two 16oz bottles with spray nozzles.

Come on guys...try something new...

We know that if something has been working for you, why change it?

And we also know that when you were young and your parents tried to get you to try some cough syrup or cooked spinach...they were lying... **it really was that bad.**



But trust us. This isn't like trying to get you to try creamed Brussels sprouts or chunky prune juice. It's spray-on fingerprint powder. We call it Powder Puff.

Be honest. How many of you have actually ordered any to try or experiment with it?

Most people who have seen the Powder Puff in action are astounded at the results. You can almost sense their anxiety when they first realize how much more efficient it will make them...and the quality of the developed latents are unmatched!

If it makes you feel any better, it won't replace the need to follow up with a good fingerprint brush. (So you can

eliminate the flashbacks of giving up the blankie or the teddy bear issues.)

With over 250 bursts per can, you will get the same coverage as **nearly five** 2 ounce jars of regular powder... and develop the clearest most defined prints ever.

So please don't make us sound out airplanes flying or motorboats buzzing around the room. Try it out, and if it doesn't impress you to order more, call us to refund your money. It's that simple!

And to make it even easier, for people who have never ordered Powder Puff from us in the past...your price is just \$10 a can. (Limit 5.) (Regular price \$21.95)



#35495 Black Powder Puff...\$21.95

 *off the*
CUFF by **DOUG PEAVEY**
President of the **LYNN PEAVEY COMPANY** • e-mail: doug@lynnpeavey.com

Am I crazy?

I'm always looking for ways to bond with my kids...including my youngest, Meghan.

Opportunity knocked. She came to me one recent Saturday and said, "Dad, could we take a little trip to the country today? I need some time behind the wheel for my learner's driving permit." Naturally I said yes.

"Where are we going?" I asked. She replied, "Puppy shopping...but before you start yelling...we are **just looking**...not buying...will you still go with me... please?" I replied yes, but only under those conditions. (We already have 2 dogs at home.)

She drove me to this gas station in a little country town about 30 minutes away. We sat and waited. She had already arranged to meet this guy in an old blue farm pickup at 4:00. It was now 4:10.

"Do you want to tell me exactly what kind of puppy we are waiting to see?" She replied, "Just wait...you'll see." I just settled in and was enjoying the bonding time.

Truck after truck came in and out, but no old blue pick up. It was now about 4:25. Then, this rickety blue pickup truck arrived. This weathered farmer got out, leaving his probably 6 year old daughter in the truck. We got out and we made a bit of small talk while he made his apologies for being late.



"Only got one left...I sold him once for a Christmas present and the guy backed out because of money problems." He went on to say, "at 4-months old he's eating me out of house and home, and his father is 220 pounds, so I'd be real flexible on price..."

Peering through the frosty window of this old guy's pickup was this 50 pound Mastiff puppy asleep on this little girls lap. It took him a full 5 minutes to fully wake up and stumble out of the truck.

One glance at Meghan who was beaming from ear to ear...and I knew I had been had. One look into this pup's eyes and hearing the "I promise to walk him, train him, bathe him and clean up after him..." we ended up taking "Dexter" home with us.

At least for that moment, I think we were truly bonding. And no, I didn't believe that old "promises" game. It just felt good to still bond with my daughter while I still can.

We'll beat anyone's advertised price! It's that simple. Give us a chance – and we will absolutely convince you!



The Daily Hound

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This newsletter is published by the Lynn Peavey Company as a service for law-enforcement professionals.

If you have an idea that would be of interest to those who read The Daily Hound, fax it to us at 913-495-6787.

Or e-mail it: doug@lynnpeavey.com



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"New Product Special" ***Electric Powder.***

40% off! A relatively new product, this fingerprint powder has a visual sparkle that adds to the depth and contrast with any surface. Just make sure you aren't standing in a puddle of water when you are using...you'll be jolted at the results you get when using our shocking electric powder!



*Available colors: Red, Gold, Copper and Silver powder. Sizes: 2, 8 and 16 ounce. Limit 10 per department. You must mention this issue of the Daily Hound and offer may expire at any time.

ATTN: CRIME-SCENE INVESTIGATION/NARCOTICS