

NIBIN NEWSLETTER

Editor: Karen Molina

Ben Wilson's Presentation-Users Congress Meeting-New Orleans 2009

Non-Viewed Correlations

- Slows system down
- Mark as "previously viewed"; after 30 days configured to delete correlation results
- Keep a few "hits" for demonstration purposes
If excessive amount; FT help desk can assist
- FRIM issue may require you retain correlation results as not having to import so many images

Request for Partition Change

- Request thru Regional Coordinator – explain via email the details of your request
- Request forward to NIBIN Program for evaluation
- NIBIN notifies User via email or telephone on feasibility of request
- If approved, request for change must come from laboratory manager either via email or mail

Request for International Searches

- User Request through Regional Coordinators via email from laboratory manager.
- NIBIN program evaluates request.
- Show stoppers" are:
-Foreign system not on same version software
- FT must be involved for image transfer at NIBIN request

Request for On-Site Support

- Request for support
-Data entry
-Correlation review
- Request through Regional Coordinator (RC) Via email.
- RC will request User to fill out Site Planning form and return to NIBIN
- NIBIN will forward to Lab services for evaluation.
- Laboratory Services evaluation process:
-Staff availability
-Funding availability
-Firearm Examiner on-site
-Do they have active accounts
-Data entry avg. for past 6

Months and cases not reviewed.

Request for Remote Support

- Remote support Priorities
-ATF firearms
-NIBIN equipment remove
From site-case by case
- What is remote support?
-Data entry and review
-ATF Labs will not perform Microscopic examinations
- Lab services evaluation process:
-Staff Availability
-If accepted Lab will outline Case submission criterion
-Types of firearms and caliber accepted for entry
- Transmittal letter
-Name and address
-Case number
-Exhibit number
-Date taken into law enforcement custody
-Contact Person
-Date of test fire (2 exemplars)
-Firearms Description

Training Requirements for Users

- Trained on Heritage Systems - BrassTRAX systems; must have passed competency test
-No additional training– will receive computer-based tutorial for familiarization
-Protocols remain the same.
BrassTRAX system deployed to site
-New users will attend Largo Training
BrassTRAX purchased by agency
-Users trained on site by FT
-Users must take Competency Test and Pass-Administered Remotely by ATF Lab

Acceptance Testing

- Hardware
BrassTRAX-accepted by ATF
BulletTRAX-acceptance pending

- Software
-IBIS 3.4.6
-DART
-BrassTRAX 2.2
- Step by Step test plan
-Security - ATF Security Administrator, minimum Security requirements
-Software - ATF Database Administrator, Patches; oracle Database, IP addresses
-Functionality– ATF Laboratory Staff
Acquisition
Correlation and Review
- Tested on Test rig in Montreal
-Test database duplicated from Operational database
-Wide-area network to include Correlation servers
- New Hardware or software can't be tested on an operational database
- Additional purchased equipment previously accepted by ATF is tested for functionality only
- If hardware and software meets requirement of the test plan, ATF accepts the product.

Ben Wilson
ATF Contractor

Users Congress Meeting Presentation—New Orleans



Theodore Vorburger, Ph. D. NIST,
Group Leader,
Surface & Microform Metrology

ATF's NIBIN and the New Orleans PD uncover a criminal organization called "Cutt Boyz"

In September 2001, ATF along with the New Orleans Police Department began investigating the NIBIN hits and uncovered a criminal organization called "Cutt Boyz". Members of this organization conspired and had been conspiring to distribute heroin, crack cocaine and marijuana as far back as 1992. These individuals operated within a ten-block area inside the B.W. Cooper Housing Development and maintained their operation through violence and intimidation. These individuals were suspected in over twenty (20) homicides and numerous attempted homicides and had taken complete control of the narcotics distribution in their area.

In cooperation with the United States Attorney's Office, Eastern District of Louisiana a Grand Jury investigation was started and over the following 20 months more than sixty (60) witnesses testified resulting in the indictment of eleven (11) members of the "Cutt Boyz" organization on twenty-two (22) counts including conspiracy to

Distribute over 50 grams of crack as well as four homicides, and an armed kidnapping all in relation to the narcotics conspiracy. Six of the eleven defendants are eligible for the Federal Death Penalty.

Following the indictment ATF and NOPD arrested nine (9) of the eleven defendants and executed six federal search warrants uncovering valuable uncovering invaluable evidence of the conspiracy and recovering a firearm in possession of one of the defendants at the time of his arrest. Two (2) defendants were fugitives but eventually captured.

All but two (2) defendants had pled guilty prior to the June 10, 2008 trial date. In one case the defendant was a fugitive from 2003 and was apprehended three (3) weeks before trial in College Station, Texas.

The case was based almost entirely on witness testimony and the impact of Hurricane Katrina in forcing relocations of almost every witness in the case made the preparation for the trial extremely difficult. Most witnesses had relocated outside the state of Louisiana many to Houston, Texas and other cities in Texas but also some as far as Oakland, California.

ATF was Able to locate and contact every witness necessary for trial which resulted in a guilty plea and life sentence for one defendant and a conviction on all counts at trial for the other defendants.

As of July 3, 2008 ten (10) defendants have pled guilty to being involved in an Enterprise Engaged in Racketeering (18 USC, 1959) and have been sentenced. This includes two (2) defendants who pled guilty to multiple murders and received life without the possibility of parole; three (3) defendants who pled guilty to participating in murder and attempted murder and received 25 years imprisonment. The other defendants pled guilty to charges of Racketeering, narcotics conspiracy and firearms violations. The lone trial defendant was found guilty of all counts to include murder and attempted murder. This defendant is due to be sentenced in October 2008 and is facing life without the possibility of parole.

The impact of this case in the community most affected by the violent acts of the conspirators is evident in violent crime statistics from that area. In 2001, there were twenty-seven (27) homicides/attempted homicides in the ten (10) block area controlled by the "Cutt Boyz". In 2002 that number fell to five (5) and in

2003 remained very low at nine (9). There was a slight increase in 2004 and no homicides reported in 2005 up to the evacuation of this area due to Hurricane Katrina.

Corey Hill
Special Agent NIBIN

NIBIN News

NIBIN Representation: From December 2008– March 2009, ATF agents attended and represented NIBIN at the Rhode Island Police Chiefs Association meeting in Lincoln (RI), at the Montana State Narcotics Officers Association in Bozeman (MT) and the Sahuarita (AZ) PD. They also attended 13 critical tasks workshops in Pittsburg and Cleveland. In addition, a 300 hit plaque was presented to the Wisconsin DOJ Crime Lab.

Regional Coordinator Assignments: On November 9, 2008, SA Philip Awe, NIBIN Regional Coordinator – North Central Region, began a 120-day detail to ATF's Office of Field Operations as the Acting Chief of the Alcohol and Tobacco Enforcement Branch. In his absence, SA James Allison, will coordinate NIBIN Operations for the North Central Region until May 31, 2009. Should you need to contact him, his phone number is 630-742-9386.

NIBIN Partner IBIS Operators/NIBIN Technicians: IBIS Operators or NIBIN Technicians do NOT have to be Firearms Examiners in order to attend the IBIS Data Acquisitions Course at FT's Largo Training Facility. ATF will certify students to use IBIS once they have successfully completed and met all training standards.

Karen Molina
Program Analyst
NIBIN

Correlation Evaluation Training

On December 15-17, 2008, the Stockton Police Department's NIBIN Lab sponsored IBIS Correlation Evaluation Training. The training was coordinated to meet the needs of The Stockton Lab, The Sacramento County DA's Lab, and the Kern County DA's Lab. Forensic Technology provided training for 6 students (2 from Stockton, 3 from Sacramento, and one from Kern County). Each agency shared a from Kern County.) Each agency shared a portion of the cost of the training.

The IBIS Data Analysis and Advanced Acquisition Techniques course was facilitate by FTI Trainer Peter Zenvich.

During the three days, Peter shared information needed to perform cartridge case and bullet image analysis and correlations using IBIS. In addition, the workshop included a review of acquisition techniques, as well as the study of advanced

acquisitions and analysis for the images captured. The main objective of the Stockton Police IBIS unit was the understanding of the analysis and correlation side to NIBIN. The agency met their objective, they learned how to print and interpret correlation results, use the Multi-Viewer and the Side-by Side Comparison Window. In addition, they learned how to describe a high confidence and a hit in IBIS, ID the different types of hits, explain closing the look and record the hit. The Stockton IBIS unit found the training to be invaluable.

Sid Henderson
Stockton PD, Lab
Supervisor