

NIBIN NEWSLETTER

Editor: Karen Molina

Call for Articles

We would like to have our users provide an article for the next Newsletter. This is a good way for you to bring attention to your lab or department and highlight your successes or a topic that might be of interest to others. Please contact Karen Molina at the NIBIN Branch or Nanette Rudolph at the Florida Department of Law Enforcement if you would like to provide an article. Email your suggestions or articles to: Karen.Molina@atf.gov or nanetterudolph@fdle.state.fl.us

NIBIN Welcomes the "BIG Apple"

In December of 2006, the New York City Police Department joined the NIBIN network as its own Region— Region 4 (a).

**Access will be coming soon

What you've all been waiting for: The Status of the IBIS Version 3.4.6 Upgrade

- On Monday, February 5th, the national upgrade began in Region 6 for IBIS Version 3.4.6.
- Once Region 6 is completed, the upgrade will progress through the following regions in this order 4; 4 (a); 3; 5; 9; 3 (a); 7; 10; 1 (a); 1 (b); 2; and 8.
- The target date for completion is the end of June 2007.
- Among the many new features in 3.4.6. are:
- Simplified Hit management in which the process of creating, modifying, deleting, and viewing hits has been simplified. The Hits window has been completely redesigned.
 - A new button has been added in the Side-by-Side

window to create hits from this window.

- The site that creates the link between the cases and the exhibit and confirms the hit is the site that can claim ownership of the hit.

- Hits that have been confirmed now have the confirmation date added in the Hit Date column.

- A new DART (Data Access Reporting Tool) providing greater flexibility in generating user reports.

- Demographics visualization in the Multi-Viewer to better evaluate reference and test exhibits, and identify hits more readily.

- Enhanced filters to more precisely carry out searches for specific types of cases or exhibits.

- Enhanced security.

- For a complete description of all of the new features in IBIS Version 3.4.6. please go to the visual release notes on Forensic Technology's web site at: <http://www.forensictechnologyinc.com/DOWNLOADS/Tutorials/346VRN/index.html>

Peter Gagliardi
Vice President of
Marketing & Communications
Forensic Technology, Inc.

Announcements:

After 23 years with ATF, SA Mark Rusin is retiring in March 2007; Dave Kriegbaum will now cover the Central and the Western Regions.

Kent County and the use of IBIS

During the first part of 2006, Kent County, Michigan was dealing with a rash of random shootings in a local neighborhood. While most of the shootings occurred at unoccupied businesses, churches, and cars parked in the neighborhood, eventually the shootings began to include occupied vehicles. At most scenes, bullets were found lodged in doorframes and vehicles but at one location, four fired 9mm Luger caliber cartridge cases were discovered. Detective Dave Schmuker of the Kent County Sheriff's Department in Grand Rapids brought the evidence to the Michigan State Police Crime

Laboratory and Lt. Jeff determined that all the shootings were linked to one 9mm Luger caliber firearm.

A short time later in neighboring Ottawa County, detectives were called to the scene of a shooting and attempted arson. The family of the residence was away at the time. When the detectives spoke to the family, they were able to come up with a suspect, the daughter's ex-boyfriend. When confronted, the suspect admitted to the arson and shooting of the home. He then provided detectives with a 9mm Luger caliber Taurus, model PT

111 Millennium, semiautomatic pistol.

When the evidence from the Ottawa County crime was submitted to the laboratory, the IBIS Technician found that the firearm *hit* to the bullets and the fired cartridge cases from the nine shootings in Kent County. Without the utilization of IBIS, detectives in either county would have never suspected that all ten cases could be linked.

Ashleigh Vogel
IBIS Technician
Michigan State Police