

6. Is this statement correct: "The positive identification of an individual by his fingerprints is a precise science".
- Are you kidding?
 - Would you believe "almost".
 - "%\$#&!" if I know.
 - Sometimes.
7. The use of a twisted reticule to determine a forked ridge in a central pocket loop is discouraged because:
- The examiner will break fingers one, two, and four while trying to make a ridge count.
 - This technique would be used only in a reverse tented arch which was supplemented by indications of stranded trifurcations.
 - The examiner may become permanently cross-eyed.
8. For future study, which one of the following subjects would you be most interested in:
- "The accidental loop whorl as seen through the eyes of a central pocket loop whorl".
 - "Bifurcated reticules for the cross-eyed examiner".
 - "The need for an environmental impact report when tented arches are discovered".
 - "The emerging importance of sub dermal trauma to sweat pores".

USE OF BIO-FOAM IN FOOTWEAR COMPARISONS

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On many occasions, you may receive several types of evidence in a shoe print case. You may receive photographs, both of the suspect print and the suspect's shoes, stone or plaster casts, and the suspect's shoes for comparison. In most cases, when I am doing a comparison, I prefer that both the known and the questioned print be in the same medium. That is, I like to compare photograph with photograph, cast with cast, or lift with overlay. You don't always get what you want, so I will often take the evidence I received and put it into the medium I prefer.

A new product on the market which is inexpensive, locally available, and easy to use is Bio-Foam or similar type foam. Bio-Foam is

manufactured by Smither Bio-Medical Systems, PO Box 118, Kent Ohio 44242.

To obtain a known cast to compare with the questioned impression, make an impression in the bio-foam with the known or suspect shoe. Then prepare your dental stone mixture of two pounds of dental stone with 12 ounces of water. Spray the impression with snow print wax so the cast is easier to clean. Pour the mixture into the impression and allow it to harden. After removing the cast from the foam, allow it to dry for at least twenty four hours before cleaning with warm, soapy water. When the cast is cleaned, you will note that even the slightest accidental cuts in the sole of the shoe will appear in the cast. You can now do cast to cast comparison.