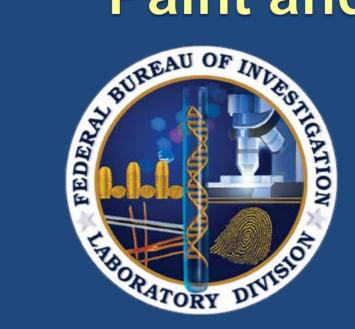
Chemistry Unit FBI The Application of Forensic Databases to Paint and Tape Analyses



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Chemistry Unit FBI Polymer Databases

National Automotive Paint File

National Forensic Tape File

National Automotive Paint File

- A *physical* collection of OEM automotive color standards and full system factory panels
- Arranged by color using the Munsell system
- Used for side-by-side color comparisons as well as to develop color codes for unknown automotive paint evidence
- Over 12,300 panels in NAPF representing color codes from the ~ 1975 present

National Automotive Paint File

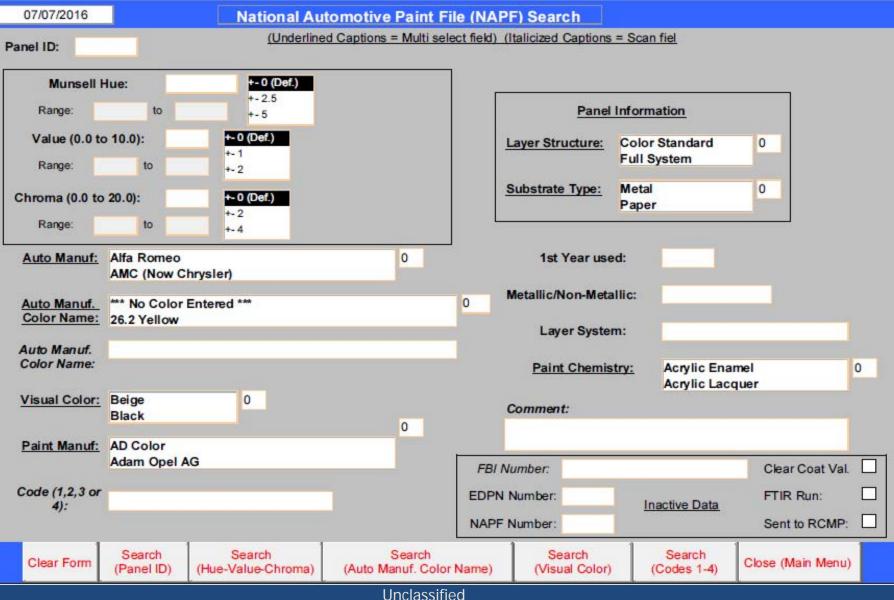




How NAPF differs from PDQ

- Color codes correlate to specific manufacturers
 - Color codes used across multiple plants that make a specific vehicle
- Physical collection
 - Not able to be easily shared across labs

Screenshot of NAPF search



001	/2016			NAPF Database Searc		Visual	
Panel ID	Hue	Value	Chrom	Auto Manuf.	Auto Manuf. Color Name	Color	Met/Nor
2	1.1YR	3.6	8.5	Mercedes Benz	ENGLISH RED	Orange	Non-Me
33	1.9BG	8.7	0.3	General Motors	White	White	Non-Me
34	5.4PB	2.0	1.2	Ford	*** No Color Entered ***	Gray	Metallic
35	2.9GY	9.0	0.5	Ford	White	White	Non-Me
36	2.8P	1.4	0.2	General Motors	DARK OTTER METALLIC	Gray	Metallic
37	6.9Y	7.7	0.6	General Motors	EURO WHITE	White	Metallic
39	1.6G	9.0	0.4	General Motors	CLASSIC WHITE	White	Non-Me
40	6.7Y	8.8	0.8	General Motors	White	White	Non-Me
41	0.2GY	8.8	0.7	General Motors	COTILLION WHITE	White	Non-Me
42	6.8Y	8.8	0.9	General Motors	White	White	Non-Me
13	7.6Y	8.9	0.7	General Motors	COTILLION WHITE	White	Non-Me
44	4.1R	0.5	1.7	Ford	Dark CABERNET	Maroon	Metallio
19	7.4Y	8.8	0.8	General Motors	White	White	Non-M
50	7.4Y	8.9	0.7	General Motors	COTILLION WHITE	White	Non-M
55	3.4GY	8.7	0.5	General Motors	COTILLION WHITE	White	Non-M
56	1.3BG	8.2	0.5	General Motors	White	White	Non-M
57	6.5Y	8.9	0.8	General Motors	COTILLION WHITE	White	Non-M
59	6.8Y	8.9	0.7	General Motors	White	White	Non-M
62	4.2PB	0.1	0.2	General Motors	SABLE BLACK	Black	Non-Me
70	4.0PB	0.2	0.3	General Motors	BLACK	Black	Non-M
72	6.5PB	0.1	0.2	General Motors	BLACK	Black	Non-M
75	0.8P	0.1	0.1	General Motors	SABLE BLACK	Black	Non-M
76	5.3PB	0.1	0.2	General Motors	SABLE BLACK	Black	Non-Me
77	8.2PB	0.2	0.0	General Motors	BLACK	Black	Non-M
81	9.9YR	6.7	1.2	General Motors	LIGHT SAND GRAY	Beige	Non-M
32	9.7YR	6.7	1.0	General Motors	LIGHT SAND GRAY	Gray	Non-M
34	9.2G	6.7	0.3	General Motors	SLATE GRAY	Gray	Non-M
36	8.3GY	6.0	0.2	General Motors	Platinum	Silver	Metallio
37	1.2G	6.3	0.0	General Motors	Silver	Silver	Metallio
92	7.5PB	4.3	0.7	General Motors	SHEFFIELD GRAY	Gray	Metallio
93	6.4Y	6.1	1.0	General Motors	Gray	Grav	Non-M

Comparing NAPF panels to casework









PID 8803

87/WA852J Orange Met

scale = mm

dmw;2/11/15; 50x

case paint chip

69/WA381E Copper Met

case paint chip

Case sample

10

scale = mm

to trans

Paint panel

Automotive Paint Cases

- NAPF is best used to complement PDQ
- Automotive Color info books also useful
 - Axalta, BASF, PPG, Sherwin-Williams, etc.
 - Paper-based color plates provide color codes
 - Some also provide models where used

Series of consecutive model year (MY) books provide MY range for both PDQ and NAPF use

National Forensic Tape File

- A *physical and spectral* collection of duct tape and electrical tapes supplied by North American manufacturers or purchased by FBI personnel.
 - Spectral data is collected within a platform known as SLICE (Spectral Library Identification and Classification Explorer)
- With sufficient features available, duct tapes can be sourced using this collection

Limitations of the NFTF • Plant to consumer involves more steps/routes than with vehicles • Not able to be *easily* shared across labs Cooperative work with FDLE and MSHP • Currently, labs must have access to the SLICE platform to share the data

Duct Tape Case

- Cases involving duct tape evidence without a roll for comparison
- Request: Attempt to determine the manufacturer of the tape



Analytical Scheme

XRD

FTIR

Visual and Stereomicroscopic Examinations

> Elemental Profiles of Adhesives and Backings

SEM/EDS

SLICE Searches

Duct Tape Collection

- 600+ tapes
- Most marketed as generalpurpose or economy-grade
- Variety of manufacturers
- Collection updated as needed from manufacturer sources or through caseworking efforts



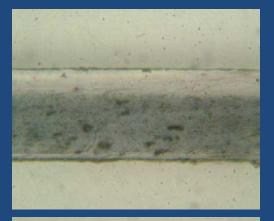
SLICE database

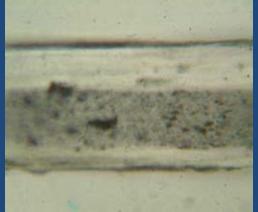
- Archival program for storing EDS data and text-based information
- Conventional format modified to allow for specific (physical) tape characteristics
- Populated initially via collaboration between FBI, FDLE, and MSHP

Duct Tape Features

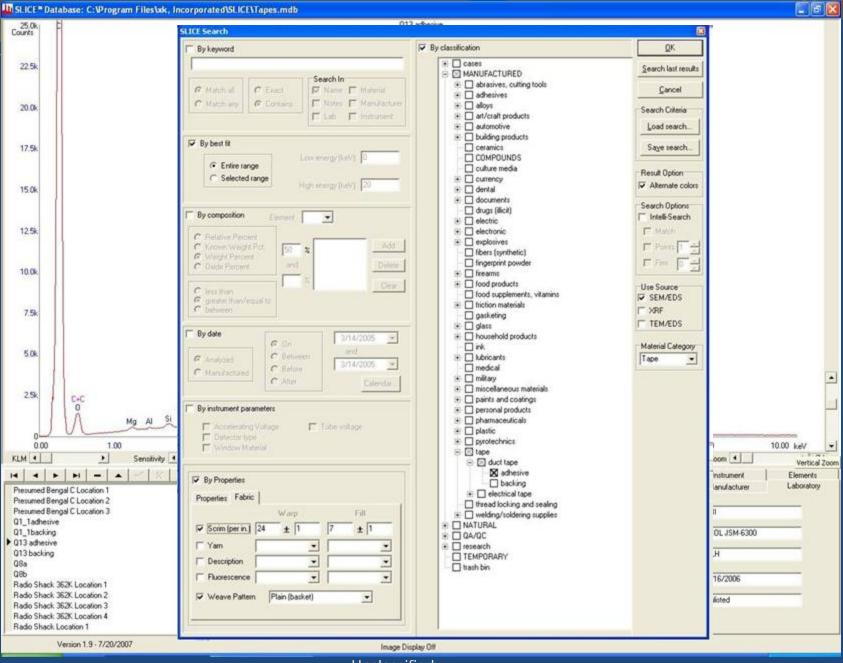




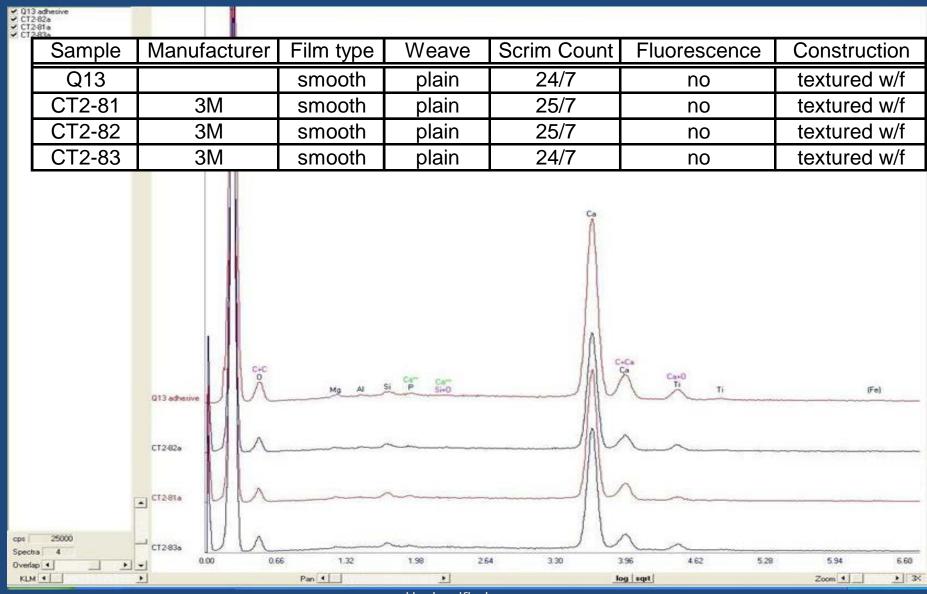




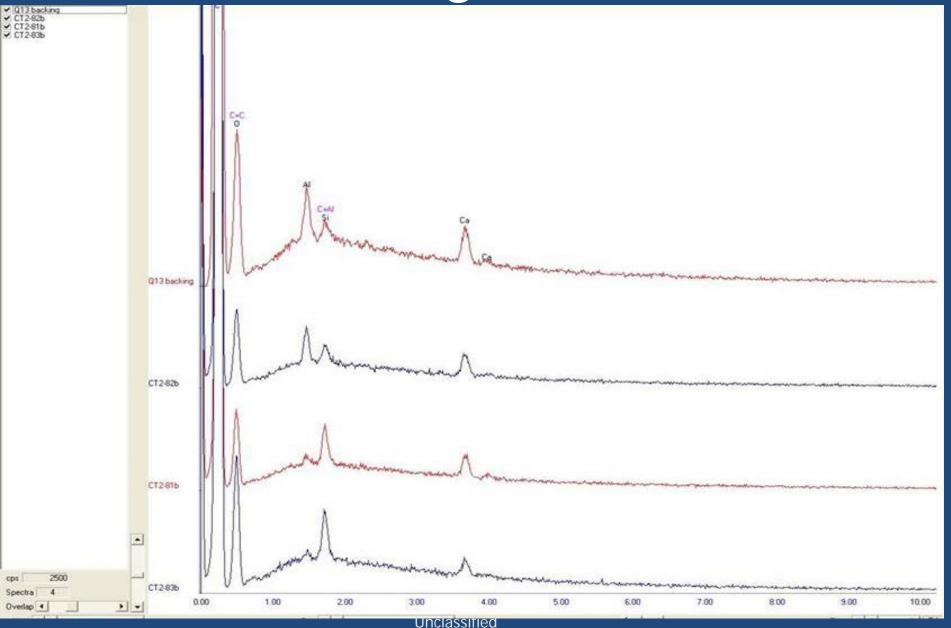




Adhesive search results



Backing search results



Duct Tape Case Results

- 3M Scotch[®] Home and Shop
- Also known as 3MTM duct tape 3900



- General purpose tape manufactured by 3M in London, Ontario, Canada
- Unable to determine the distributor of the tape specimen
- Multiple retail outlets carry this product

Sharing FBI databases

- Need for and utility of the information still exists in FBI casework
- Dissemination to law enforcement agencies could be possible
- Partnering with other labs to populate these databases would be preferable
- NAPF and NFTF are population databases
 - Both rely heavily on physical features
 - *Might be* indicative of changing trends
 - More likely dictated by the realities of supply and demand



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