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# LAW ENFORCEMENT TECHNOLOGY



## PROTECTION *on motor patrol*

Fingerprinting  
the deceased

Using the digital  
SLR



**ENFORCEMENT  
EXPO**

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## Fingerprint capture and livescan systems

**CrossMatch Technologies' L SCAN Guardian**, a 10-print livescan hardware and software system, which sets a new standard for speed, weight, mobility



and functionality, measures 6 inches wide, 6 inches deep, and 4.7 inches high, and weighs 4 pounds. The Guardian is ideal for limited space and time-constrained environments.

Because the Guardian has dual certification from the FBI for capture of both rolled and flat fingerprints, it has applications in both the public safety (criminal) as well as civilian (background check and access control) markets.

**Identix's IBIS system** captures NIST-compliant, forensic-quality fingerprint images and photographs for AFIS searches. This 2 1/2-pound device has the ability to wirelessly search multiple databases. The unit features a 1.2-inch-by-1.2-inch platen and offers 64 MB of RAM, 32 MB of ROM and 128 MB of SD Flash memory. The 400-MHz processor and wireless connectivity enables the system to query a database and return results in minutes. A lithium-ion battery provides up to 5 hours of continuous operation and up to 14 hours of standby operation.

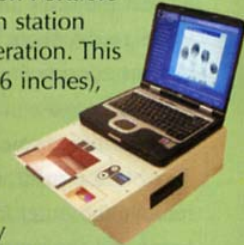


**Identification International Inc.'s digID LE**, an FBI-certified scan device, can complete a set of forensic-quality identification flat fingerprints in less than 30 seconds. The device requires no power

source other than the power provided by a host computer over a USB cable. Lightweight and compact, the digID LE measures 8 inches by 6 1/2 inches by 5 1/2 inches. The 3-inch-by-3.2-inch image area produces 500-dpi images. The digID LE can capture both slap and roll and identification flats.



**Motorola Printrak's LiveScan Station Portable** is an automated biometric acquisition station designed for mobile and intuitive operation. This compact (12 inches by 17 inches by 6 inches), portable and lightweight device (22 pounds) captures rolled fingerprints on a 1 1/2-inch-by-1.2-inch platen and slap prints on a 3.2-inch-by-2.9-inch platen. The system automatically compares rolled and slap fingerprint impressions and ensures they are present and in the correct sequence.



**NEC Solutions (America) Inc.'s** high-resolution fingerprint scanner is the size of a hockey puck, making it portable enough to be used at the crime scene. With this 800-ppi scanner, investigators can scan a victim's fingerprints and save them to a tablet or laptop PC. These images can then be wirelessly transmitted to a latent examiner who can submit the prints to a variety of databases including NCIC, INS and AFIS. (Landscape, portrait, left-side bound, right-side bound, right-side up or upside-down printing.)



the platen, dead bodies, which lack natural oils, leave deteriorated skin behind. "When we used the system, we had to make sure we cleaned it very well," Ruslander recalls, "because it had decomposing remains on it."

CrossMatch officials tried using alcohol pads to scrub the system but found it left streaks behind. They soon discovered packing tape to be a ready solution, says Christensen. The examiner simply applies the tape over the platen, then quickly tears it off. "This pulls the contaminants right off," he says, noting CrossMatch also

maintains cleanliness by putting the system in what he describes as "a giant Ziploc bag" then cutting a slot in the bag where the fingerprint platen is located.

While no one can predict the future, in the case of digitally printing the deceased, one thing is certain — there will be more of it. For those agencies using livescan and fingerprint capture systems in this way, the benefits far outweigh the costs. "It saves time, money and manpower," says Trettel. "We can make IDs on our own, with our own system and our own ID unit."

As for Palm Beach Gardens, the next time officials have an "unidentified body problem," they now know how to solve it. "We get quite a few decomp's down this way," Ruslander says. But with digital fingerprinting, John Doe's identity may no longer be in question. ■

For more information on these companies, use the Reader Service Card and circle the corresponding number

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