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|  | IMP-PM 4.0 Electrostatic Dust Lifter | |
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| | Document Manager: Cheryl Lozen | Approved By: Ryan Larrison |

4.0 Electrostatic Dust Lifter

4.1 Introduction

Electrostatic dust lifters allow for dust impressions to be lifted from various surfaces and preserved for examination. The electrostatic dust lifter can be used at the crime scene as well as in the laboratory.

4.2 Preparations

The unit should be adequately charged before each use and a good supply of lifting film should be stocked.

4.3 Instrumentation

There are several versions of electrostatic dust lifters manufactured by different companies. Most of the units are equipped with a convenient carrying case, capable of storing an adequate supply of lifting film, a roller, flashlight, and a measuring device, for your convenience. Some units are smaller hand-held units and are just as effective.

4.4 Minimum Standards and Controls

The electrostatic units should be sufficiently charged prior to use or plugged in while in use. The lifting film must be free of dust and other contaminants prior to use. The lifting film should not be reused.

4.5 Procedure or Analysis

Also see “4.3 Electrostatic Lifter” portion of: [ANSI/ASB 049 - Best Practice Recommendation for Lifting of Footwear and Tire Impressions, 1st Edition, 2020](#)

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4.5.1

Locate the impression to be lifted or the area to be searched for impressions.

4.5.2

Place the lifting film over the impression or area to be searched, black side down against the surface and the metalized side will face up and ensure that the unit is properly grounded per the instructions of your particular unit.

4.5.3

Place the probe on the lifting film and charge the lifting film and using a roller, smooth the lifting film allowing the film to come in contact with the impression.

4.5.4

Turn off the unit and wait several seconds for the film to discharge. Remove the film from the evidence by lifting one end and rising to the other end, do not slide.

4.5.5

Photograph the impressions that are present on the lifting film to preserve the impression. Caution must be exercised when handling and packaging the lifting film to avoid destroying the dust impression.

4.6 Interpretation of Results

If the impressions are faint, photography can enhance and preserve the impression using various photographic techniques.

4.7 References

[ANSI/ASB 049 - Best Practice Recommendation for Lifting of Footwear and Tire Impressions, 1st Edition, 2020](#)

Bodziak, W.J. Forensic Footwear Evidence. 3rd ed.; CRC Press: Boca Raton, FL, 2017