



Ron Smith & Associates, Inc.

www.RonSmithandAssociates.com

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- **THIS DOCUMENT IS FOR TEST DEMONSTRATION PURPOSES ONLY.**
- **THIS DOCUMENT HAS BEEN COMPRESSED FOR EASY WEB DOWNLOAD.**
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RS&A TIRETRACK COMPARISON PROFICIENCY TEST

- We offer Tire Track Comparison Proficiency Tests once per year. Typically distribution is in the late spring.
- Each test cost \$325-\$375, depending on the media type option chosen.
 - RS&A offers deep discounts on multi-year commitment and test quantities of 5 or more. Call us today and get your custom quote pricing.
- Each test contains at least 3 question impressions, rolled known impressions of each section of the known tire, and physical photographs of each section of the known tire.
- Important cycle dates can be found online.

IN THIS DOCUMENT YOU WILL FIND

- Instruction sheet.
- Sample test images.
- Manufacturer report.
- Individual report.
- Advanced summary report.

For additional information, questions, or to order RS&A Proficiency Tests contact:

Lucas Hatcher, Sales and Marketing Director
Phone: 1-866-832-6772 or Email: testing@ronsmithandassociates.com

You can visit us online at:
www.RonSmithandAssociates.com

Headquarters Laboratory

P.O. Box 670
Collinsville, MS 39325
Office: (601) 626-1100
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Ron Smith & Associates, Inc.

Testing Division

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Tire Track Comparison Proficiency Test

Test #XXXXX

Test Code: XXXXXXXXX

Submission Due Date: MM/DD/YYYY

Scenario:

A burglary occurred at a local mechanic's shop. The shop owner called the police upon arriving to work the next morning. Once the police arrived, the owner stated that it appeared as if the suspect may have gained entry to the shop through the garage door. The owner also stated that it appeared as if the suspects backed their vehicle into the garage to load what was stolen, because a used oil canister had been knocked over and there were tire tracks on the garage floor leading out from the spill. The owner said that most of the tools and electronics were taken from inside the garage. Upon investigation, the police recovered video evidence of the burglary from a surveillance camera operating inside the garage. The video showed a dark colored Toyota pickup backing into the garage, and that while the suspects loaded the stolen goods the oil canister was knocked over. Also, as the vehicle departed it appeared as if the front passenger tire rolled through the newly spilled oil on the garage floor. The owner stated that he may know who drove the dark Toyota and gave the name of the individual to the officers. The officers then located the individual and confirmed that the tires on the truck were similar in design to the impressions photographed on the garage floor. The officers impounded the truck to collect known photos and impressions from the tires. The four questioned tire impressions photographed on the garage floor were placed into evidence. Investigators have submitted the following items for tire track examinations:

- Q-1 Questioned impression photographed on a cardboard box located on the garage floor.
- Q-2 Questioned impression photographed on the garage floor.
- Q-3 Questioned impression photographed on the garage floor.
- Q-4 Questioned impression photographed on the garage floor.

- K-1 Known photograph of the front passenger tire from the suspected vehicle - Section "A".
- K-1 Known photograph of the front passenger tire from the suspected vehicle - Section "B".
- K-1 Known photograph of the front passenger tire from the suspected vehicle - Section "C".
- K-1 Known photograph of the front passenger tire from the suspected vehicle - Section "D".
- K-1 Known photograph of the front passenger tire from the suspected vehicle - Section "E".
- K-1 Known photograph of the front passenger tire from the suspected vehicle - Section "F".

*Known impressions of each section of K-1 have been created, marked with their corresponding section, and provided for comparison purposes.



Instructions:

Compare the submitted questioned impressions with the known tire standards from the suspected vehicle. The items in this test should be treated in the same manner as items typically received within your laboratory. A hard copy worksheet has been provided for the examiner's convenience. Once the test has been completed in its entirety, the results should be entered into the web portal for electronic submission.

Note: If you purchased the digital version of this test, please be aware that it may take a few minutes for the images to load due to the large file sizes associated with high resolution images. To expedite this process, we suggest that you copy the digital files to your computer and open them directly from your computer's hard drive rather than from the DVD.

Prior to distribution of this test, all of the expected responses were determined, by internal and external consensus, to be either "Identification" or "Exclusion"; however, we are aware that some agencies allow for a conclusion of "Inconclusive" in their casework. In designing this Proficiency Test, there was no intention to force a participant to render a conclusion which goes beyond their considered opinion. To satisfy this option, participants are allowed to enter "Inconclusive" as a response. Due to the fact that a participant's "Inconclusive" response does not meet the assigned values, it will appear as an inconsistent response in the individual participant report as well as in the summary report and be incorporated as such in the statistical analysis. It will be up to each agency to decide if the participant's "Inconclusive" response qualifies as being acceptable under their policies and procedures. **Please note that leaving the "Conclusion" column blank for any of the Q-#'s will cause the results form to be rejected.**

For each questioned impression that is identified, enter "Identification" in the "Conclusion" column for that Q-#, followed by the appropriate K# for the known tire section being identified. If all of the provided known tire sections are excluded as the source of the questioned impression, enter "Exclusion" in the "Conclusion" column for that Q#.

After all examinations are completed, the results must be submitted via the RS&A Web Portal at <http://www.ronsmithandassociates.com/proficiency/entryportal.html>. Click to select "Tire Track". You will be directed to log in by using the test code provided at the top of this document and the password that has been supplied to your agency. Prior to entering your results, you will be required to answer a few general demographic survey questions. Your responses and test results will be used to generate the summary report at the completion of this testing cycle. The RS&A Web Portal will save your responses as you enter them, allow you to work at your own pace, and if needed, complete your submission at a later time. **Both the Demographic Survey and the Results Entry Form must be completed in their entirety in order for RS&A to accept the test results.** There is an area for comments on the results form which will be published in the summary report. Comments are not required and are not considered as results, but are very much appreciated. If you are unable to submit your results via the RS&A Web Portal, please contact our Testing Division for alternate submission instructions.

In order for your results to be included in the final summary report for this test, responses must be received no later than **MM/DD/YYYY**. For any questions or inquiries concerning this test, please contact the Tire Track Proficiency Testing Coordinator by emailing testing@ronsmithandassociates.com or by calling toll free at 1-866-832-6772.



Tire Track Comparison Proficiency Test #XXXXX
Demographic Survey

1. If your agency is ISO/IEC accredited, to which standard(s) are they accredited?

- 17020 17025 Not Accredited

2. Is the individual assigned to this test civilian or sworn?

- Civilian Sworn

3. Is the individual assigned to this test I.A.I. Certified in Footwear?

- Yes No

4. What is the primary job position of the individual assigned to this test?

- Latent Print Examiner Footwear/Tire Examiner Questioned Document Examiner
 Crime Scene Investigator Firearms/Toolmark Examiner Other (specify): _____

5. Approximately, what percentage of the above referenced individual's time is devoted to the examination and comparison of footwear/tire track evidence?

- Less than 25% 25% to 50% 51% to 75% 76% to 100%

6. Approximately, how many hours of formal footwear/tire track examination training has the above referenced individual completed?

- Less than 40 Hours 40-80 Hours 81-200 Hours
 201-400 Hours 401-1000 Hours 1001+ Hours

7. How long has the above referenced individual been conducting footwear/tire track examinations?

- Less than 1 Year 1-3 Years 4-6 Years
 7-10 Years 11-20 Years 21+ Years

8. What is the highest level of education that the above referenced individual has completed?

- High School Associate's Degree Bachelor's Degree
 Master's Degree PhD

9. Did your agency have the original participant's conclusions reviewed by another examiner(s)?

- Yes No



Consent to Release Results to Accrediting Bodies

Tire Track Comparison Proficiency Test #XXXXX

If your agency is accredited and would like for Ron Smith and Associates, Inc. to submit proficiency test data to your designated accrediting body, complete the form below. Results will not be submitted to an accrediting body unless the completed form is returned to RS&A by the results submission deadline of MM/DD/YYYY.

For this requirement, please submit the following information through the RS&A Web Portal. If for any reason you are unable to utilize the portal, please contact a member of our Testing Division at 1-866-832-6772 for alternate submission instructions.

By completing and submitting the applicable information below, you hereby **authorize** Ron Smith and Associates, Inc. to release the results of the above test to the appropriate accrediting body.

ANAB _____ ASCLD/LAB _____ A2LA _____ OTHER (Define) _____

Certificate Number: _____

Laboratory Name: _____

Location (City/State): _____

Printed Name: _____ Title: _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____

PT RS&A SAMPLE



Example Results Form

Questioned Impressions Q-#	Conclusion Enter "Identification", "Exclusion", or "Inconclusive"	K-1 Known Tire Section
Q-1	Identification	Section A
Q-2	Identification	Section B
Q-3	Exclusion	
Q-4	Inconclusive*	

*If any of the questioned impressions are marked as "Inconclusive", please document the reason for the decision in the "Comments" section of the answer sheet.

RS&A
PT SAMPLE



Tire Track Comparison Proficiency Test #XXXXX
Results Entry Form

Questioned Impressions Q-#	Conclusion Enter "Identification", "Exclusion", or "Inconclusive"	K-1 Known Tire Section
Q-1		
Q-2		
Q-3		
Q-4		

*If any of the questioned impressions are marked as "Inconclusive", please document the reason for the decision in the "Comments" section below.

Comments: _____

Tire Track Comparison Test #

Q-4

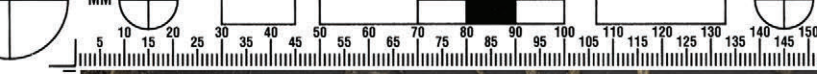


Tire Track in Oil on Concrete Garage Floor



RS&A Tire Track PT images are printed on 10"X17" paper.
8"X11" Sample is for demonstration only.

Tire Track Comparison Test #



K-1 Section "D"
Front Passenger Tire
Direction of Travel →



RS&A Tire Track PT images are printed on 10"X17" paper.
8"X11" Sample is for demonstration only.

SAMPLE

Tire Track Comparison Test #



K-1 Known Impression - Section "A"
Front Passenger Tire
Direction of Travel →



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Test Manufacturer's Information

Tire Track Comparison Proficiency Test #XXXXXX

This test consisted of sectional photographs of known tire(s), known impressions of the tire(s), and four (4) questioned impressions. The assigned values are as follows:

Questioned Impressions Q-#	Conclusion	Known Tire Section #
Q-1	Identification	Section A
Q-2	Exclusion	N/A
Q-3	Identification	Section F
Q-4	Identification	Section E

The assigned values were determined through the ground truth information and verified through unanimous agreement during pre-distribution testing.

Individual reports will be provided to participants on or before early MM/YYYY. The final summary report for this test will be posted on the Ron Smith and Associates website at <http://www.ronsmithandassociates.com/proficiency/tiretrack.html> by mid MM/YYYY.

For questions or further information, contact our Tire Track Print Proficiency Test Coordinator by emailing testing@ronsmithandassociates.com or by calling toll free at 1-866-832-6772.

Authorized by:

Ron Smith
President
MM/DD/YYYY

Issue Date:





Ron Smith & Associates, Inc.
Testing Division

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Email: testing@ronsmithandassociates.com

Individual Participant Report - Test Code: XXXXXXXXX

Tire Track Comparison Proficiency Test #XXXXXX

This test consisted of sectional photographs of known tire(s), known impressions of the tire(s), and four (4) questioned impressions. and was provided in either a hard copy and/or digital copy format. Listed below are the responses submitted from the participant assigned to this test code as well as the assigned values for each of the questioned footwear impressions. The assigned values were generated from our ground truth information and pre-distribution testing.

Questioned Impressions Q-#	Participant's Response	Assigned Value
Q-1	Identification Section A	Identification Section A
Q-2	Exclusion	Exclusion
Q-3	Identification Section F	Identification Section F
Q-4	Identification Section E	Identification Section E

Prior to the distribution of this test, the expected responses were determined to be either "Identification" or "Exclusion"; however, we are aware that some agencies allow for a conclusion of "Inconclusive" in their casework. In designing this proficiency test, there was no intention to force a participant to render a conclusion which goes beyond their considered opinion. To satisfy this option, participants were allowed to enter "Inconclusive" as a response. Due to the fact that a participant's "Inconclusive" response does not meet the assigned values, it will appear as an inconsistent response in the individual report and be incorporated as such in the summary report statistics. It will be up to each agency to decide if the participant's "Inconclusive" response qualifies as being acceptable under their policies and procedures.

Additional information about this test and the statistics obtained from all individuals that participated in this proficiency testing cycle will be provided in the summary report and will be available on our website in mid MM/YYYY.

If your responses are inconsistent with the assigned values, RS&A provides its participants with a process to file an appeal. To initiate an appeal, please submit the required information in writing using the form located at <http://www.ronsmithandassociates.com/proficiency/appealsform.html>.

RS&A maintains the confidentiality of all clients. All results are published using randomly generated test codes and passwords. We will not release the identity of any participant without the written consent of the participant.

For questions or further information, contact our Tire Track Proficiency Test Coordinator by emailing testing@ronsithandassociates.com or by calling toll free at 1-866-832-6772.

Authorized by:



Ron Smith, President
Ron Smith and Associates, Inc.

Date of Issue:

MM/DD/YYYY

Headquarters Laboratory

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Summary Report

Footwear Comparison Proficiency Test #XXXXXX
Issued: MM/DD/YYYY

On MM/DD/YYYY, Ron Smith and Associates, Inc. (RS&A) shipped the XXXX Tire Track Comparison Proficiency Test #XXXXX. Participants were required to submit their responses no later than MM/DD/YYYY in order for them to be included in this summary report.

A total of XXX tests were ordered and shipped, with XXX participants returning their responses. This test consisted of sectional photographs of known tire(s), known impressions of the tire(s), and four (4) questioned impressions.

The results presented in this report reflect whether or not the participants' submitted results agree or disagree with the assigned values garnered from pre-distribution testing and outlined in **The Manufacturer's Report** (Appendix 1). The primary purpose of a Summary Report is to provide an overall documentation of all the submitted responses. It is RS&A's intention to go a step further by providing more meaningful statistical results through analyzing the submitted responses in relation to the demographics obtained from each of the examiners participating in this proficiency test. All results and statistics for Test #18401 will be outlined through graphs and charts found in the remainder of this report.

Prior to distribution of this test, all of the expected responses were determined to be either "Identification" or "Exclusion"; however, we are aware that some agencies allow for a conclusion of "Inconclusive" in their casework. In designing this Proficiency Test, there was no intention to force a participant to render a conclusion which goes beyond their considered opinion. To satisfy this option, participants were allowed to enter "Inconclusive" as a response. Due to the fact that a participant's "Inconclusive" response does not meet the assigned values, it will appear as an inconsistent response in the summary report and be incorporated as such in the statistical analysis. It will be up to each agency to decide if the participant's "Inconclusive" response qualifies as being acceptable under their policies and procedures.

RS&A strives to maintain the confidentiality of all of its clients and participants. All results are obtained and published using randomly generated test codes. RS&A will not release the identity of any participant without the written consent of the participant and/or the agency involved.

For any additional information, please contact the Footwear Proficiency Testing Coordinator by emailing testing@ronsmithandassociates.com or by calling toll free at 1-866-832-6772.

Appendix 1

Test Manufacturer's Information

Tire Track Comparison Proficiency Test #XXXXX

This test consisted of sectional photographs of known tire(s), known impressions of the tire(s), and four (4) questioned impressions. The assigned values are as follows:

Questioned Impressions Q-#	Conclusion	Known Tire Section #
Q-1	Identification	Section A
Q-2	Exclusion	N/A
Q-3	Identification	Section F
Q-4	Identification	Section E

The assigned values were determined through the ground truth information and verified through unanimous agreement during pre-distribution testing.

Individual reports will be provided to participants on or before early MM/DD/YYYY. The final summary report for this test will be posted on the Ron Smith and Associates website at <http://www.ronsmithandassociates.com/proficiency/tiretrack.html> by mid MM/YYYY.

For questions or further information, contact our Tire Track Print Proficiency Test Coordinator by emailing testing@ronsmithandassociates.com or by calling toll free at 1-866-832-6772.

Authorized by:

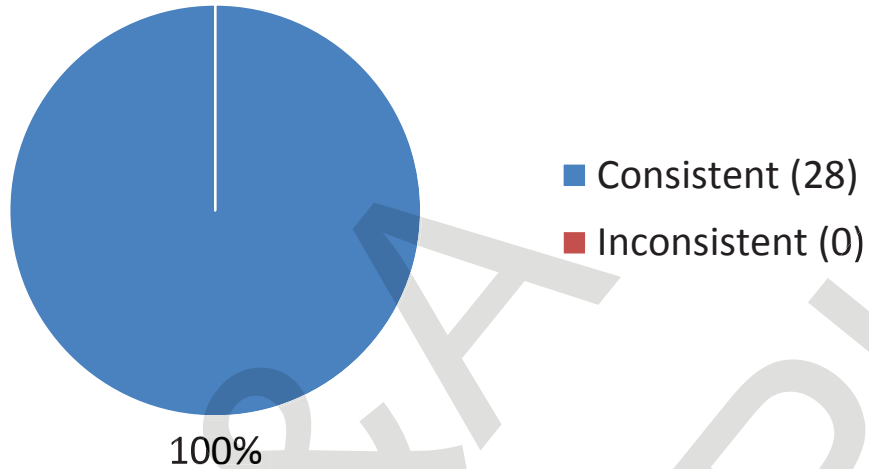


Ron Smith
President
MM/DD/YYYY

Issue Date:

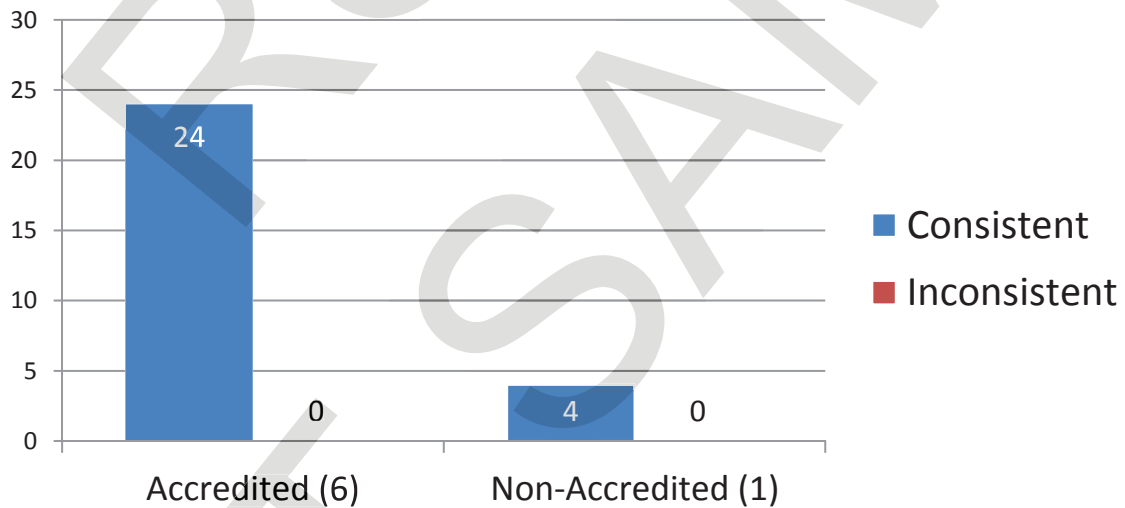
Appendix 2

Consistent vs Inconsistent Responses Compared to Assigned Values

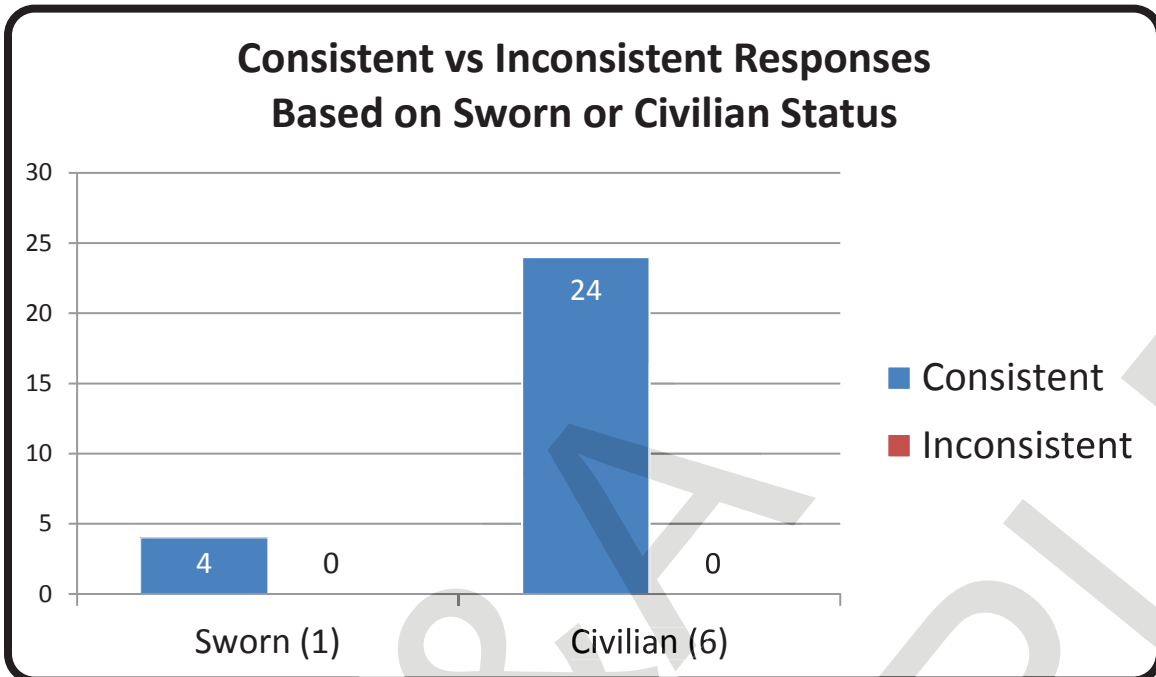


Appendix 3

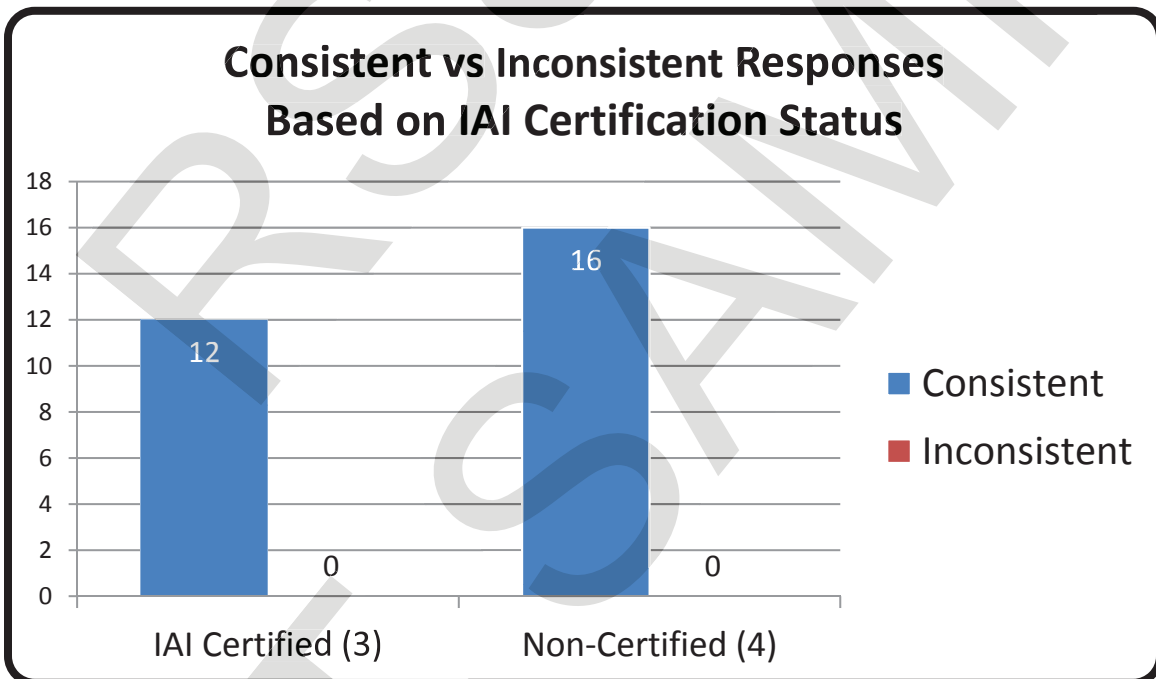
Consistent vs Inconsistent Responses Based on Accreditation



Appendix 4

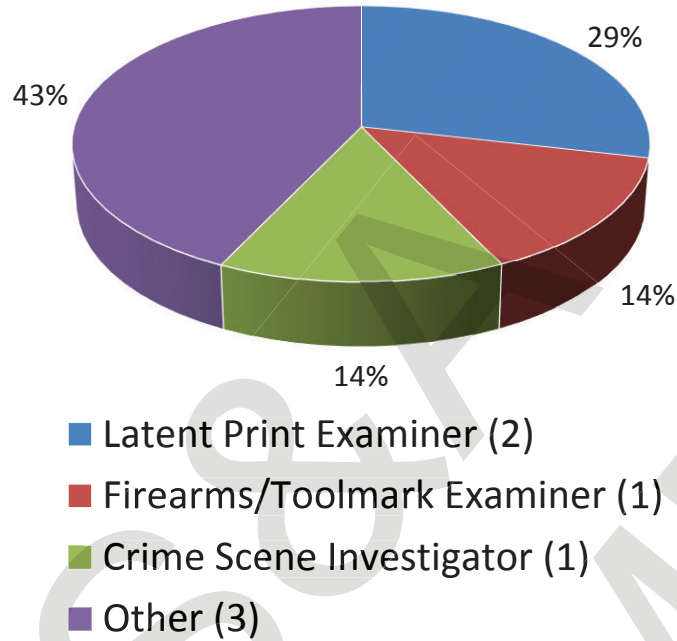


Appendix 5

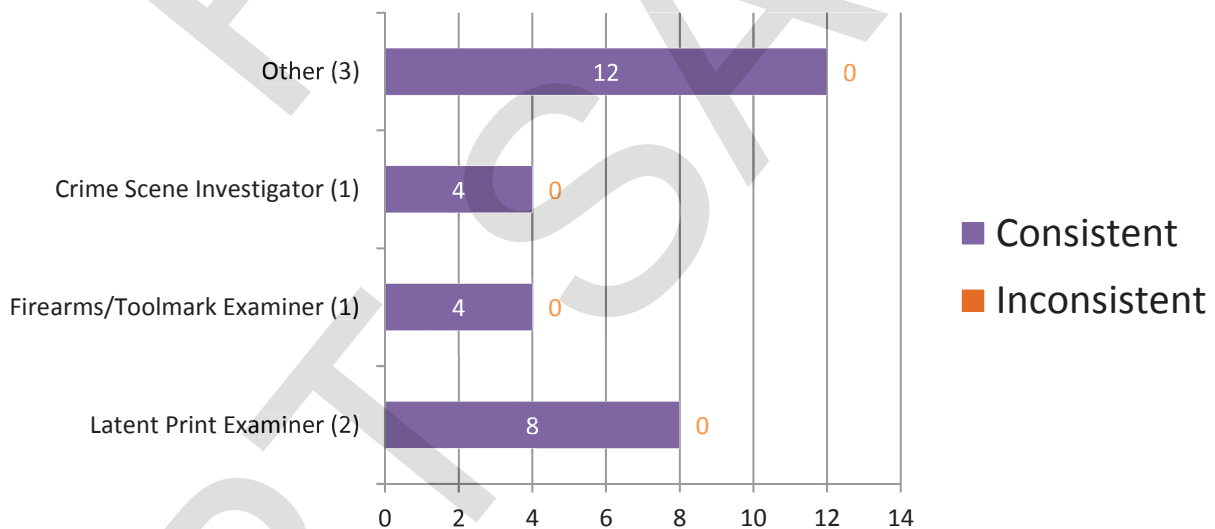


Appendix 6

Percentage of Participants Based on Primary Job Position

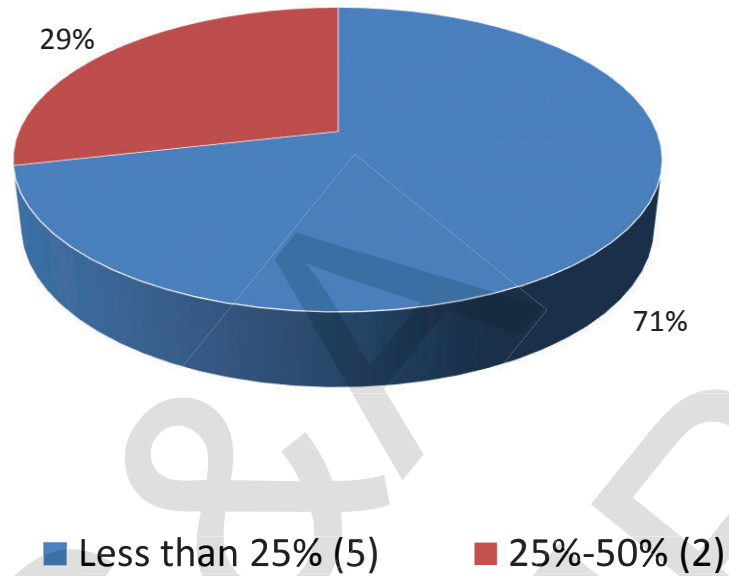


Consistent vs Inconsistent Responses Based on Primary Job Position

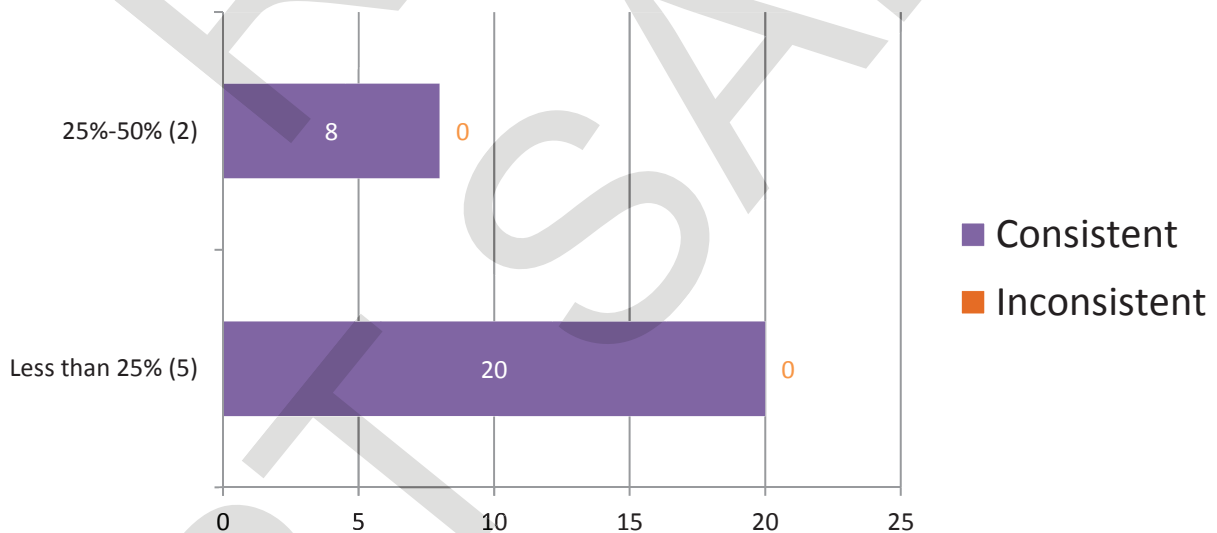


Appendix 7

Percentage of Participants Based on Time Devoted to Footwear Casework

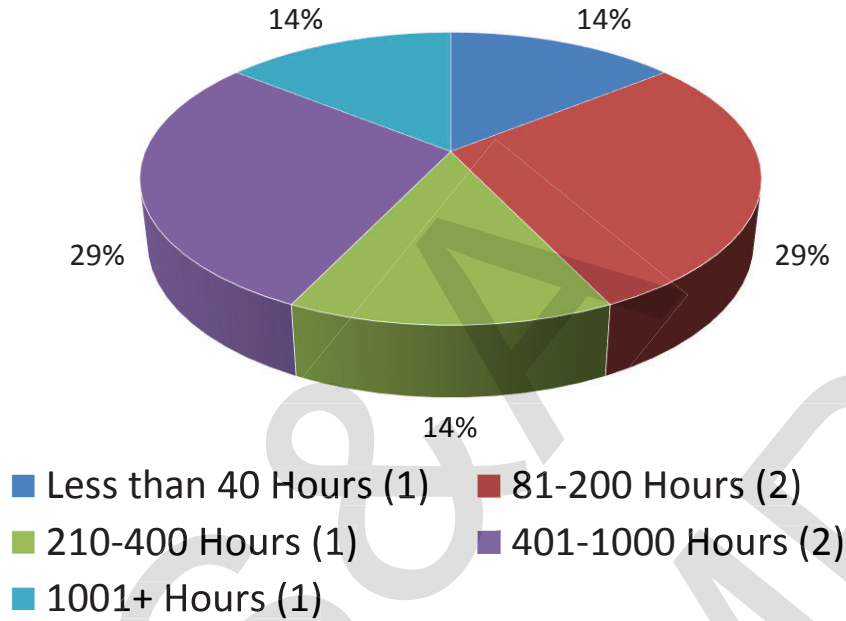


Consistent vs Inconsistent Responses Based on Time Devoted to Footwear Casework

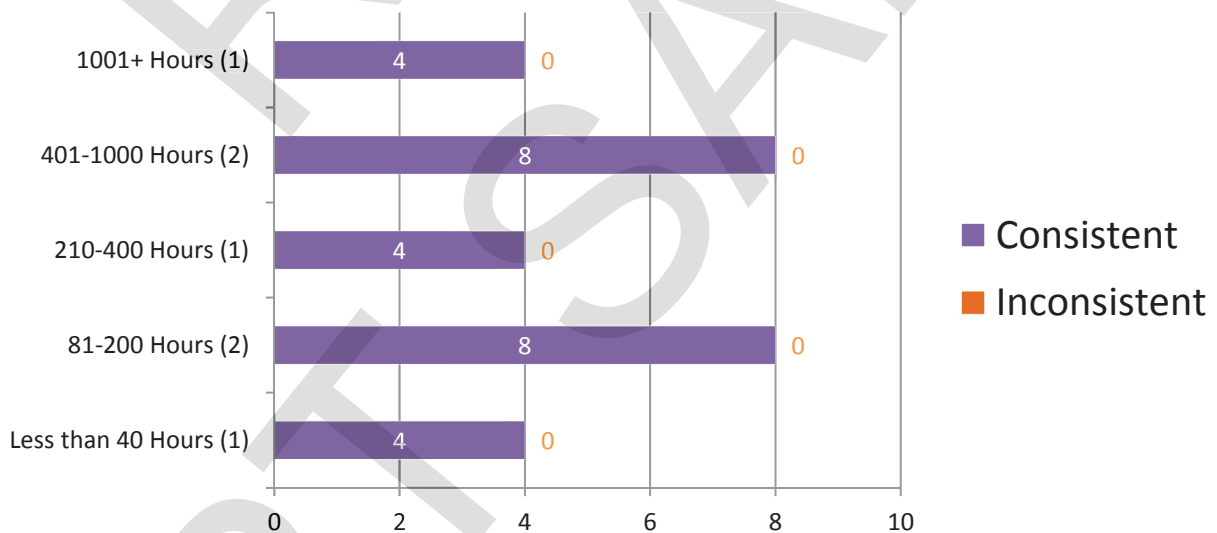


Appendix 8

Percentage of Participants Based on Hours of Footwear Training Completed

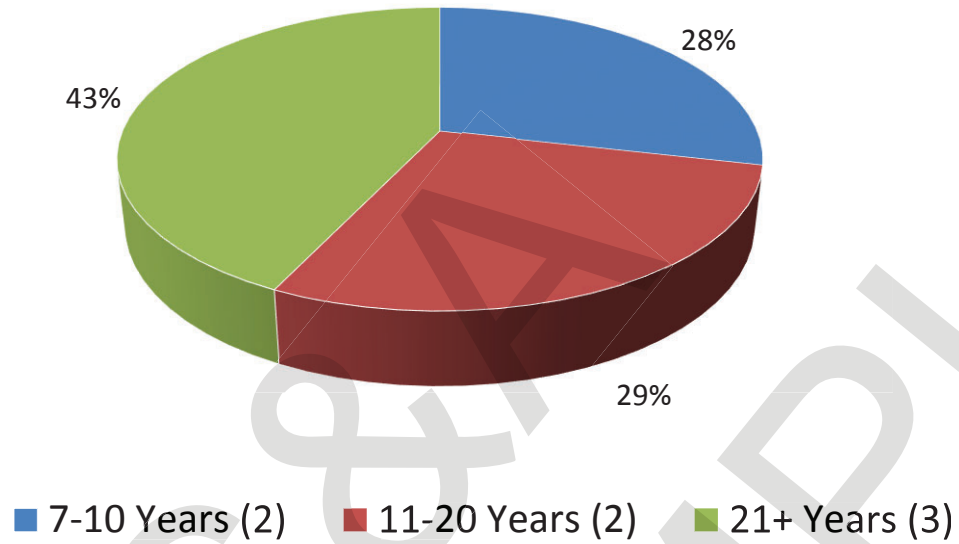


Consistent vs Inconsistent Responses Based on Hours of Footwear Training Completed

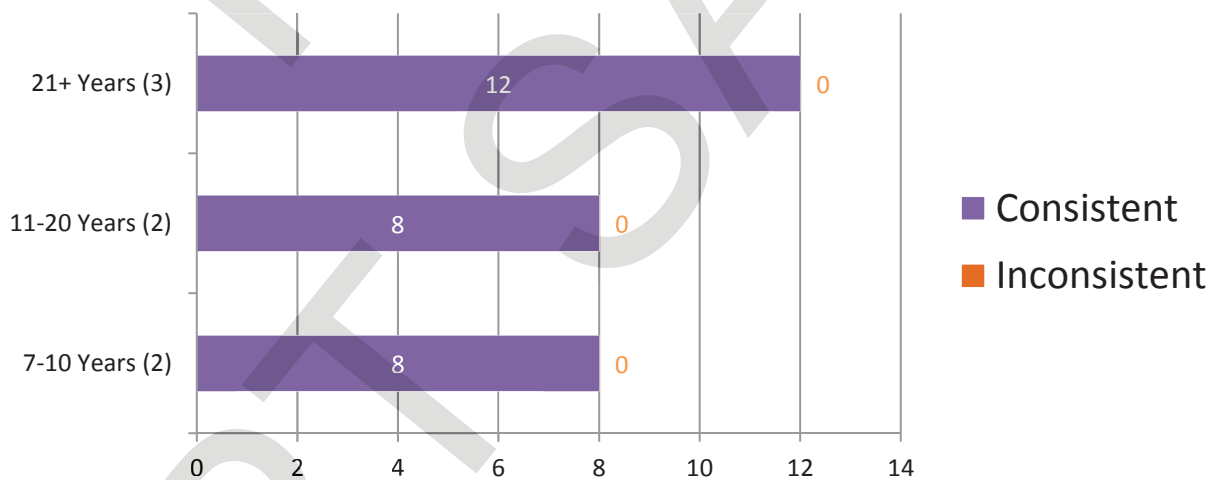


Appendix 9

Percentage of Participants Based on Years of Experience in Footwear Examinations

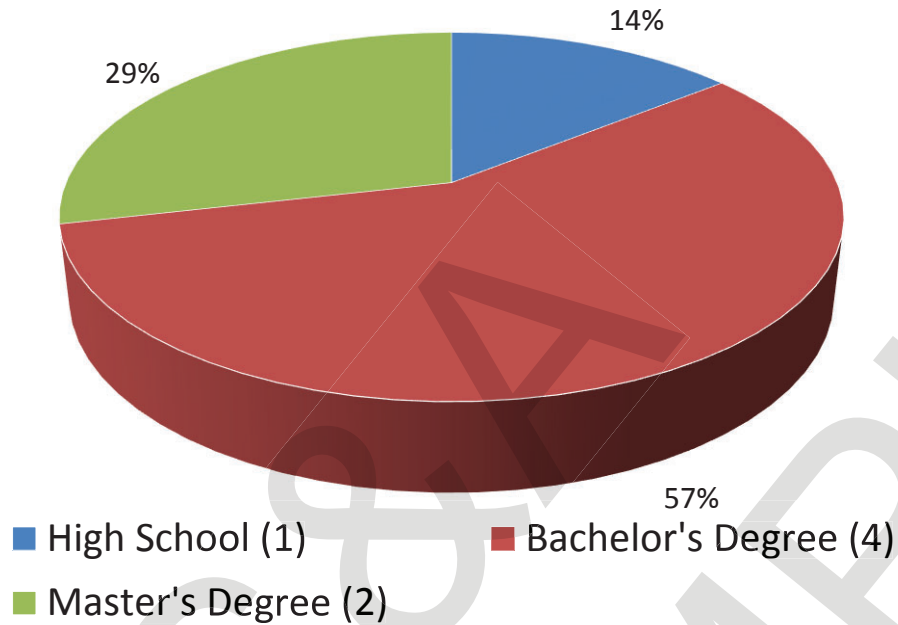


Consistent vs Inconsistent Responses Based on Years of Experience in Footwear Examinations



Appendix 10

Percentage of Participants Based on Highest Level of Education Completed

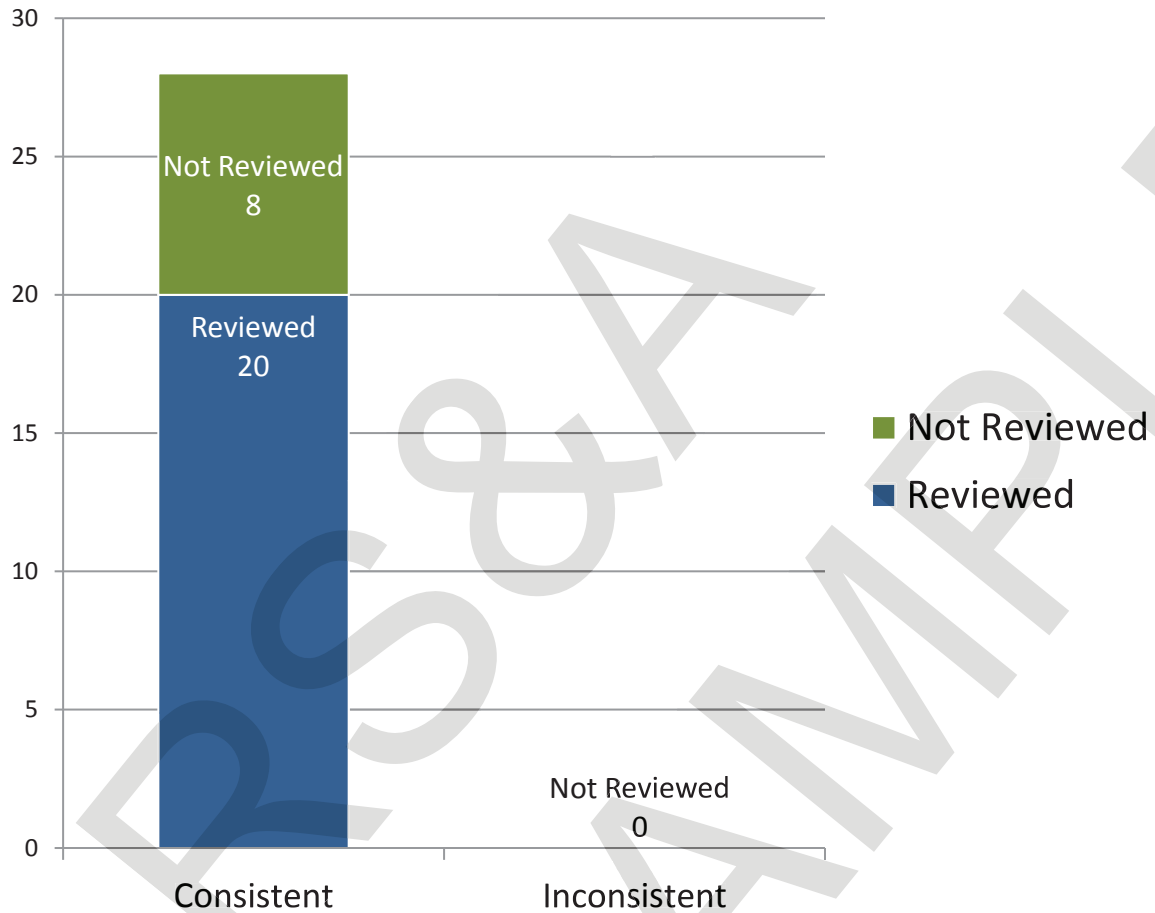


Consistent vs Inconsistent Responses Based on Highest Level of Education Completed



Appendix 11

Consistent vs Inconsistent Responses Based on Review of Original Conclusions by another Footwear Examiner Prior to Submission



Appendix 12

Participant Responses Listed by Test Code

Questioned Impression #	Q-1	Q-2	Q-3	Q-4
Assigned Values	ID Sec A	EXC	ID Sec F	ID Sec E
Test Code	XXXXXXXXXX	ID K-2	EXC	ID K-1
	XXXXXXXXXX	ID Sec A	EXC	ID Sec E
	XXXXXXXXXX	ID Sec A	EXC	ID Sec E
	XXXXXXXXXX	ID Sec A	EXC	ID Sec E
	XXXXXXXXXX	ID Sec A	EXC	ID Sec E
	XXXXXXXXXX	ID Sec A	EXC	ID Sec E
	XXXXXXXXXX	ID Sec A	EXC	ID Sec E

Totals

Questioned Impression #	Q-1	Q-2	Q-3	Q-4
Assigned Values	ID Sec A	EXC	ID Sec F	ID Sec E
Consistent Responses	0	0	0	0
Inconsistent Responses	0	0	0	0
Percentage of Consistent Responses	100%	100%	100%	100%

Participant's Additional Comments

Test ID	Comments
N/A	There were no additional comments.

Manufacturer's Additional Observations

Based upon a review of the submitted responses, the following observations were noted:

1. Accreditation status, sworn or civilian status, IAI certification status, job title, time devoted to tire track casework, hours of training, years of experience, formal education or review of findings before submittal appeared to have no impact on submitted results for test 18401.

Authorized by:



Ron Smith, President
Ron Smith and Associates, Inc.

Date of Issue:

MM/DD/YYYY