SERIAL NUMBER RECOVERY

Helston Forensics
FORENSIC BALLISTIC LABORATORIES

Introduction

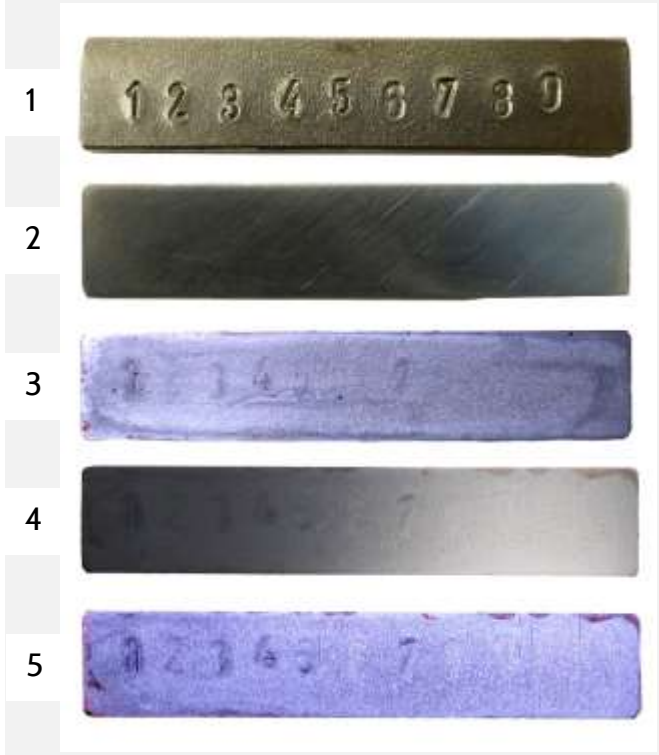
This 1 day course is designed to demonstrate methods of serial number and mark recovery from a range of metals, of interest to forensic scientists who are required to undertake examinations where serial numbers or marks have been damaged or removed.

Agenda

- Health & safety
- Serial number marking
- Mixing chemicals
- Preparing samples
- Surface preparation
- Recovery on steel
- Recovery on aluminium
- Recovery on brass
- Recovery on stainless steel
- Recording evidence
- Where numbers are stamped

Notes

1) Firearm serial numbers and various test pieces will be used to demonstrate the process. It is recommended the student brings a camera to record the process and results.
2) All PPE will be provided where required.
3) The course duration will be 0900 to 1730.
4) Refreshments and lunch will be provided.
5) Assistance with hotel bookings will be available from our office staff.
6) This is a CPD- related course. This course can contribute to your Continuing Professional Development (CPD) and will be evidenced through a multiple-choice summative assessment and the award of a course completion certificate.



Steel sample at different the stages of the recovery process, some numbers may be more visible than others at various stages. Lighting can be used to enhance viewing, for example in the last two photographs the numbers 6, 8 and 0 vary in clarity depending on angle and brightness of white light

Stage 1 – Original number
Stage 2 – Number removed
Stage 3 – Feint traces visible
Stage 4 – Numbers showing
Stage 5 – Best results

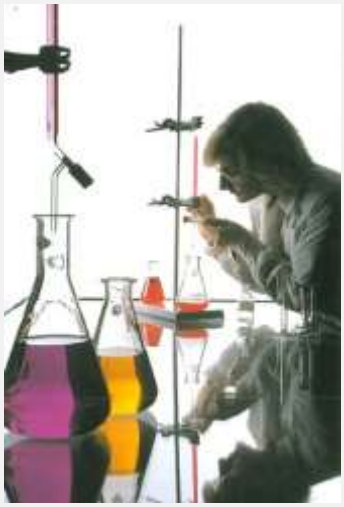
Typical serial numbers on an AK47 Assault Rifle

Adobe Photoshop and photo editing can be used to enhance results – and potentially reveal numbers that were not easily visible

Proof marks on a shot gun barrel

Marks removed and surface prepared

Marks recovered



Mixing chemicals using correct containers and equipment is essential for safety

There are many different solutions for different metals, dangerous chemicals need to be stored and transported with great care

Contact Details

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