

Small Particle Reagent

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Small Particle Reagent

1 INTRODUCTION/SCOPE

- A. Small Particle Reagent is an aqueous suspension used by FBI Laboratory Friction Ridge Discipline personnel to develop latent prints on wet non-porous surfaces.
- B. Small Particle Reagent is commercially available and only white or black (dark) formulations are acceptable.

2 STANDARDS AND CONTROLS

See *Processing Overview* (FRD-300).

3 LIMITATIONS

Developed prints will be preserved immediately as drying of the item may cause the prints to fade and rust formation can be detrimental to other examinations.

4 EQUIPMENT

Small Particle Reagent (White or Black/Dark)

5 PROCEDURE

5.1 Application

Personnel will use only premade suspensions of Small Particle Reagent.

- A. Personnel will complete the following steps in order:
 - 1. Prepare the working suspension following the manufacturer's instructions.
 - i. Container should be frequently shaken during processing to re-suspend solids.
 - 2. Remove item from liquid if submerged.
 - i. Do not dry the item.
 - 3. Use the Small Particle Reagent suspension according to the manufacturer's instructions.
 - i. If development is not sufficient, the Small Particle Reagent suspension can be reapplied to the item.
- B. Preserve appropriate friction ridge detail as applicable (e.g., digitally).
- C. If item was received submerged in liquid, ensure the item is stored and returned in liquid and limit exposure to air when not processing or capturing detail.
- D. The liquid the item was submitted with should be used.
- E. A copy of the manufacturer's instructions, to include the manufacturer and Lot number (if available), will be retained in the FBI Laboratory File.

5.2 Storage

Small Particle Reagent solutions can be stored in original containers.

5.3 Shelf Life

- A. Small Particle Reagent suspensions can be used provided the reagent checks are satisfactory.
- B. If the working suspension is separated, shake vigorously.
 - 1. If the Small Particle Reagent does not return to suspension, discard the suspension.

6 SAFETY

See FBI Laboratory Safety Manual for appropriate information.

7 REVISION HISTORY

Revision	Issued	Changes
04	08/01/2022	Reformatted Changed "solution" to "suspension" throughout
05	08/01/2024	Scope expanded throughout document.