



Licensing Opportunity

Repeatable Trace Sampling D1732

Overview

Trace sampling relates to the collection of trace substances, such as explosives or narcotics from an item under examination. This is often performed using contact sampling or swabbing by security personnel at airports or other security checkpoints. The manual process is relatively low cost and quick, with the swab then being processed and analysed to identify whether the examined item and associated individual have been in contact with suspicious substances. This may then be used to inform subsequent security screening.

Key Benefits

This licensing opportunity relates to a novel method and apparatus for repeatable trace sampling. By providing similar items undergoing swabbing in an identical orientation relative to a swabbing apparatus, repeatable sampling can be achieved. This is achieved through use of appropriate retention means for the items undergoing examination and means for orientating the retention means.

Applications

It is anticipated that this new approach to trace sampling will have benefit in current manual swabbing practices whereby subjectivity may factor into the success of the sampling process. However this licensing opportunity is also directed to automated processes and systems that may themselves provide a better platform for repeatable automated swabbing and security screening.

IP Status

Currently this package of intellectual property is subject to both GB and PCT patent applications as follows:

GB1917021.6, Filed 22nd November 2019, Priority Date 27th November 2018, status pending.
PCT/GB2019/000160, Filed 25th November 2019, Priority date 27th November 2018, status pending.

Commercial Opportunity

We are looking for someone who is willing to see the potential in a low technology readiness level (TRL) idea and transform it into a tangible solution, with the capabilities to exploit such ideas in the commercial sector. Ideally this opportunity suits those with knowledge and experience working in security screening, but enquiries from those who can foresee transfer into other sectors are equally encouraged.

