

Ballot Name: Approval of ASB Technical Report 025

Closing date of Public

Comments: October 6, 2017

Document Number: TR 025

Document Title: Crime Scene/Death Investigation – Dogs and Sensors - Terms and Definitions

Note: a specific Proposed Resolution must accompany each comment or it cannot be considered.

#	commenter	Section	Comment (E-Editorial, T Technical)	Comments	Proposed Resolution	Final Resolution
1	Nicholas Passalacqua	3	E	The following terms problematic and should not be defined in this document: 3.4, 3.5, 3.6, 3.9, 3.11, 3.12, 3.24, 3.25, 3.41, 3.43, 3.44, 3.49, 3.59, 3.70, 3.71, 3.72, 3.73, 3.74, 3.76, 3.77, 3.81, 3.82, 3.85, 3.92, 3.99, 3.102, 3.107, 3.109, 3.155, 3.123, 3.124, 3.125, 3.126, 3.137, 3.146, 3.150, 3.160, 3.162, 3.165, 3.167, 3.168, 3.169, 3.174, 3.183, 3.186, 3.187, 3.190, 3.191, 3.196, 3.198, 3.201, 3.202, 3.210, 3.221, 3.222, 3.245, 3.256, 3.262, 3.263, 3.276, 3.277, 3.288, 3.300, 3.301, 3.302, 3.305, 3.306, 3.307, 3.308, 3.309, 3.312, 3.319, 3.331, 3.333, 3.335, 3.336, 3.337, 3.347, 3.355, 3.357, 3.374, 3.375, 3.378, 3.381, 3.389, 3.391, 3.395, 3.396, 3.412, 3.413, 3.415, 3.416, 3.429, 3.430, 3.435, 3.436, 3.440, 3.441, 3.445, 3.448, 3.452. Many of these terms have definitions that are not specific to dogs and sensors (e.g., 3.452 or 3.398 for example), so there is no need to define them here as they have no special usage in this context. Using Merriam Webster online dictionary as a source means the terms are already defined, thus they do not need redefinition in this document.	all these terms should be removed from the document	Partial Accept: Historically there have been different uses/definitions of these terms across regions of the US. Going back to the work of SWGDOG, several different groups within the canine community have requested these terms be defined, even for words that have common meanings in English. Users of this document may be new to the discipline therefore many of these terms will be needed. The following have been removed: 3.9, 3.43, 3.44, 3.49, 3.82, 3.109, 3.123, 3.124, 3.146, 3.160, 3.165, 3.183, 3.186, 3.191, 3.196, 3.198, 3.256, 3.276, 3.300, 3.302, 3.306, 3.307, 3.308, 3.312, 3.319, 3.331, 3.333, 3.335, 3.336, 3.337, 3.375, 3.378, 3.381, 3.395, 3.415, 3.416, 3.435, 3.436.

2	Sue Hetzel	3.311	T	The resolution text is currently being balloted within ASTM E30.01	A class of ignitable liquids characterized as having a predominant pattern associated with a homologous series of normal alkanes in a Gaussian-like distribution of peaks, with branched alkanes and cycloalkanes present DISCUSSION: (1) Light petroleum distillates may not exhibit a Gaussian pattern and may contain only one or two of the normal alkanes. (2) Lesser levels of aromatic hydrocarbons as well as condensed ring aromatics may be found mostly in the medium and heavy subclasses. Some distillates have significantly reduced or completely absent aromatics, and may therefore be referred to as dearomatized distillates.	Accept: Eliminate definition in final document.
3	Sue Hetzel	3.218	T	The resolution text is currently being balloted within ASTM E30.01	a combination of items or components that are neither originally designed nor produced to be used in conjunction with each other and that, when placed together or assembled, constitute a mechanism that has the capability of exploding and causing personal injuries and property damage [Practical Bomb Scene Investigation, p. 123]	Partial Accept: Definition removed. Only acronym has been defined.
4	Sue Hetzel	3.201	T	The resolution text is currently being balloted within ASTM E30.01	a material of established origin that is used to evaluate the performance of a test or comparison (from ASTM E1732)	Reject. 3.201 is the term Hip Dysplasia and is not related to commenters resolution.
5	Sue Hetzel	3.211	T	Ignitable liquid residues cannot, by their nature, be quantified. The resolution text is currently being balloted within ASTM E30.01	any liquid or the liquid phase of any material that is capable of fueling a fire, including a flammable liquid, combustible liquid, or any other material that can be liquefied and burned. [NFPA 921 (2008) 3.3.94]	Accept. NFPA definition accepted.
6	Sue Hetzel	3.408	T	"nitro compounds" is general and colloquial. The resolution text is currently being balloted within ASTM E30.01	detection agent, <i>n</i> – a chemical marker added to plastic explosives to aid in detection by either instrumental or canine screening; also known as detection taggant.	Partial Accept: definition revised to "Chemical markers (e.g., Nitro compounds) that vaporize rapidly and are added to enhance the detection of plastic explosives by instrumental analysis."
7	Sue Hetzel	3.197	T	The resolution text is currently being balloted within ASTM E30.01	headspace , <i>n</i> – the space above a material that includes the vapors produced by the liquid or solid material.	Reject. The current definition is specific to canines.

8	Sue Hetzel	3.349	T	Ignitable liquid residues cannot, by their nature, be quantified. The resolution text is currently being balloted within ASTM E30.01	ignitable liquid residue(s) (ILR), n – relatively small amount of ignitable liquid retained in or on a substrate	Partial Accept: definition revised to "Remnants of a target substance that can be recovered and identified."
9	Sue Hetzel	3.396	T	The resolution text is currently being balloted within ASTM E30.01	material of established origin with certified properties. [ASTM E1732]	Reject. CB has consensus on current definition. Standard that is being established vs. an assay standard.
10	Sue Hetzel	3.202	T	The resolution text is currently being balloted within ASTM E30.01	often abbreviated as HME, any explosive not commercially manufactured; also known as improvised or illicit explosives.	Partial Accept: Definition removed. Only acronym has been defined.
11	Sue Hetzel	3.392	T	(2) appears to be missing a word: "...arrive at it's at for that odor/scent..."	don't know what's missing...	Accept. Sentence fixed to: "by arriving at it's threshold for that odor/scent"
12	Sue Hetzel	3.58	T	No definition followed the term listing. The "see 3.1 accelerant" comment makes no sense as a definition for "burnt material".	you need to put in a definition, then we can comment on its content	Reject. Term "burnt material" removed from the document as it can be considered common terminology.
13	Julie Pannuto, ATF	3.85	T	Concentrations can be expressed by mass or volume.	The amount of a constituent expressed as a mass or volume divided by the total amount of material expressed as a mass or volume.	Accept.
14	Julie Pannuto, ATF	3.202	T	As it reads, it sounds like it is limited to mixtures, rather than including synthesized compounds	non-commercial energetic material formulated with readily available components	Partial Accept: Definition removed. Only acronym has been defined.
15	Julie Pannuto, ATF	3.412	T	In order for it to be a technical review it must be conducted by an equally competent peer	An evaluation of reports, notes, data, and other documents, conducted by an equally competent peer, to ensure there is an appropriate and sufficient basis for the scientific conclusions.	Accept.
16	Julie Pannuto, ATF	3.349	T	It is not clear why something must be quantifiable to be considered a residue. Most forensic reports provide qualitative results. This could possibly lead to a problematic line of questioning regarding how much was there.	Remnants of a target substance that can be recovered and identified.	Accept.
17	Julie Pannuto, ATF	3	E	Explosives are not defined. I don't know that it is necessary to include it, but it felt suspicious by its absence since accelerant, illicit drug, IED, and HME were all included.	Could use the definition from the federal register.	Reject. Terminology for explosives are considered common terminology and the group has deemed it not necessary to define them in this document.
18	Julie Pannuto, ATF	3.218	T	IED definition uses the word improvised in the definition	Replace the word improvised - could say something like makeshift	Partial Accept: Definition removed. Only acronym has been defined.
19	Julie Pannuto, ATF	3.408	T	Could add canines to this definition	Nitro compounds that vaporize rapidly and are added to enhance the detection of plastic explosives by canine or instrumental analysis	Reject. The original intent of taggant is to assist in instrumental detection of explosives.

20	Julie Pannuto, ATF	3	E	EDC is not defined - similar to explosive, perhaps not necessary, but suspicious by its absence	A canine trained to detect explosives and materials which can be used in explosive formulations	Reject: EDC will be considered with a later revision of this document. No current documents submitted to the ASB Dogs and Sensors CB use this term.
21				Many of the terms do not have a source listed. Significant effort needs to be put forth in order to find sources that can be quoted, verbatim, and referenced with each term. I find it hard to believe that there were only 3 references used in the formation of all these definitions. And I do not believe the sources were cited when appropriate. For instance, there is only one use of footnote [3] in the entire document. I did not find any use of footnote [2] in the document (and what is footnote 2 anyway?). [I didn't do the search for footnote 1, but I have the feeling it was underutilized since I didn't see it often.]		Partial Accept: Historically there have been different uses/definitions of these terms across regions of the US. Going back to the work of SWGDOG, several different groups within the canine community have requested these terms be defined, even for words that have common meanings in English. Users of this document may be new to the discipline therefore many of these terms will be needed. Commonly used terms with the dictionary source have been removed.
22				In general, I think ASB needs to tighten up what is required when defining terms. ASTM has been around for a long time, and has pretty much figured out what works. I suggest the ASB look at the requirements that ASTM has for terminology, and consider adopting some similar guidelines/requirements. ASTM requirements can be found in the Style Guide (blue book), which can be accessed on-line (sorry, too large to attach). I have attached an old draft of a terminology document that has since been exposed to 2 rounds of balloting within ASTM as an example of a terminology document, with references.		Partial Accept: ASTM definitions have been adopted where appropriate.
23	Katylynn Sloan	Acknowledgements	E	Katylynn Beltz should be Katylynn Sloan	Katylynn Sloan	Accept.
24	Katylynn Sloan	3.22	T	Article Search should correspond to all canine detection areas	The process of locating and indicating items that contain a trained odor/scent. This may be non-specific or targeted based on the discipline.	Reject: revision made to 3.21 Article to specify human scent.
25	Katylynn Sloan	3.37	E	base rate, baseline: Should these be two separate definitions or are they used synonymously?	Define baseline and have base rate refer back to it.	Reject: Definitions are synonymous.
26	Katylynn Sloan	3.53	T	body fluids definition is specific to decomposition	Delete term or: Fluids associated with a human body (sweat, saliva, blood, vomit, decomposition fluids, etc.)	Accept with minor text change.
27	Katylynn Sloan	3.73	E	Certifying authority, I believe certifying agency was the term used in documents 024 and 026	change to certifying agency or change documents back to certifying authority	Partial Accept: modification to "certifying authority" made in corresponding documents.

28	Katylynn Sloan	3.74	E	certifying official/ assessor: Should these be two separate definitions or are they used synonymously?	define one and have the other term refer back to the defined term	Partial Accept: Text added to current definition for clarification.
29	Katylynn Sloan	3.128, 3.136, 3.340, 3.427	E	digital format was changed to electronic format in the documents	change digital format to electronic format or change documents back to electronic format	Accept
30	Katylynn Sloan	3.130	E	formatting needs to be fixed for number 3	correct formatting for number 3	Accept
31	Katylynn Sloan	3.132	E	why are certain terms underlined?	remove underlines	Accept
32	Katylynn Sloan	3.149, 3.182, 3.338, 3.353, 3.405	T	there is no mention of food or retrieve in the definition. There are numerous types of drives which could be listed within the definition.	combine all "drive" terms and list similar to petroleum distillates	Partial Accept: "retrieve/food drive" deleted and cross references to other "drive" terms added to current definition.
33	Katylynn Sloan	3.163	T	Evidence Search should correspond to all canine detection areas	since the definitions are the same, just refer to Article search	Partial Accept: definition of evidence search revised to differentiate from article search definition
34	Katylynn Sloan	3.164	T	Evidence Search dog should this correspond to all canine detection areas?	A canine trained to locate and indicate items in question by means of detecting a trained odor/scent.	Accept.
35	Katylynn Sloan	3.167	E	Should all of the different bias terms be consolidated under bias?	combine all "bias" terms and list similar to petroleum distillates	Partial Accept: cross references added to "bias" for cognitive, contextual, and experimental bias'.
36	Katylynn Sloan	3.173	T	false indication should correspond to all canine detection areas, needs to link back to false alert	Any location, person, or item incorrectly identified by the canine handler.	Accept.
37	Katylynn Sloan	3.176	E	False response should reference false positive and vice versa	add in the appropriate links	Accept.
38	Katylynn Sloan	3.234	E	last known position should reference "position last seen" (PLS) which is used in the documents	add in the appropriate links/term	Accept. Point last seen added as synonym to definition.
39	Katylynn Sloan	3.238	E	should be odor/scent; All should be odor/scent to keep with the previously used formatting	correct formatting	Accept.
40	Katylynn Sloan	3.258	E	should be formatted the way the rest of the two different definitions based on usage are formatted	correct formatting	Accept.
41	Katylynn Sloan	3.427	E	should be a period after discoverable	correct formatting	Accept.
42	Katylynn Sloan	3.429	E	should reference back to false positive	add in the appropriate links	Accept.
43	Katylynn Sloan	3.430	E	should reference back to false negative	add in the appropriate links	Accept.