

Ergonomic Evidence Bag

A new design of evidence bag that allows materials to be collected without the need for gloves, whilst minimising contamination risk.



Evidence bags are used to recover forensic evidence and preserve the integrity of exhibits whilst transported or stored. Existing evidence bags require meticulous protocols, can be awkward to manipulate, and require the user to wear gloves. This new design developed by Dstl is easier to use and permits evidence collection without the need for gloves.

Evidence collection requires meticulous protocols to ensure exhibits are not contaminated. Currently, users are required to repeatedly change gloves to mitigate the risk of secondary DNA transfer. There are few exceptions, such as if time is of the essence or there is an imminent threat to life.

Current evidence bags can be difficult to manipulate and turn inside out to use the bag to pick up the evidence. This is accentuated in warm climates where the bag's sides may stick together, and in situations where the individual may be required to wear personal protective equipment, such as combat gloves.

This new evidence bag design permits evidence to be easily collected by an individual without gloves, whilst minimising the likelihood of cross-contamination.

Furthermore, in light of new hygiene measures resulting from the Covid-19 pandemic, there is less chance of viral or hazardous particles being spread, since only the inside of the bag touches the object collected.

Benefits

- » **Simple to Use** - ergonomic design simplifies the evidence recovery process and reduces the training burden
- » **Flexible** - can be used with other personal protective equipment
- » **Faster Evidence Collection** - no need to don gloves or wait for a specialist team
- » **Low Cost** - the design is simple, cost-effective and requires fewer consumables
- » **Minimises Cross-contamination** - evidence is less likely to contact the top of the bag
- » **Minimises Secondary DNA Transfer** - gloves do not need to be changed
- » **Reduces Hazardous Waste Disposal** - fewer consumables come into contact with hazardous substances

Description

The new evidence bag comprises two compartments, one acting as a pocket and the other as a sleeve with a sealable opening.

1. The user places their hand inside the pocket,
2. reaching through the sleeve to expose the interior surface of the bag.

3. The user can then grasp the evidence with the bag material acting as a barrier.
4. With the item grasped, the hand is withdrawn through the sleeve, which inverts the pocket so the item is now enclosed.

A key benefit over existing designs, other than the reduced need for gloves, is the ergonomic ease of evidence collection.



Applications

- » Forensic evidence collection
- » Food processing and handling
- » Laboratory equipment removal

Intellectual Property

Patent applications GB 2014742.7 and WO2021/053315 A1

More Information

For more information about licensing this technology, or to speak to us about our other security-related IP, please contact us.

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