



2018/9

forensic
FOUNDATIONS™

ISO 9001 certified
ISO17043 accredited

Proficiencytesting @ forensicfoundations



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Background and test design

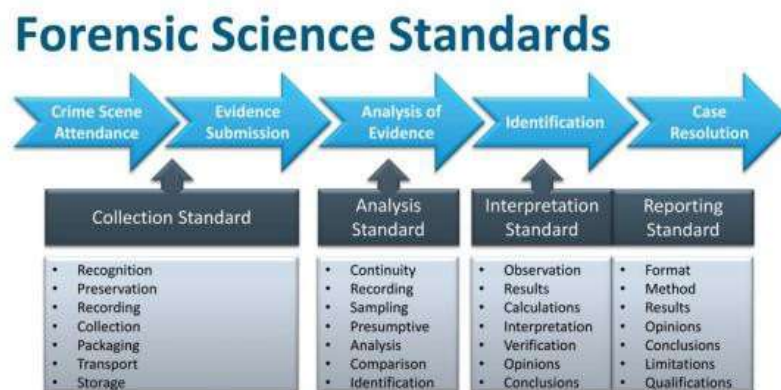
Proficiencytesting@forensicfoundations

Forensic Foundations' Proficiency Tests are designed to address the following issues:

- Relevance to forensic science laboratories;
- Limitation of any potential context information;
- Knowledge of the 'ground truth' of the samples; and
- Cost affordability for the laboratories.

An additional feature of the Forensic Foundations' Proficiency Tests is that they test the end-to-end forensic analysis/examination process. The AS 5388 Forensic Analysis series of Standards, describes the forensic examination process from collection to reporting¹. The following figure² illustrates the inter-relatedness of all steps in this process and was used as the basis of the Standards' development. The figure is also used as the basis of the development of the Forensic Foundations' Proficiency Tests.

Thus, all Forensic Foundations' Proficiency Tests commence with item collection and/or receipt and all the subsequent examination / analysis steps, culminating in the reporting, thus reflecting actual forensic casework.



All Forensic Foundations' Proficiency Tests are ISO 17043 compliant. Forensic Foundations has applied to NATA for ISO17043 accreditation. The advisory visit was conducted on 12th June and the accreditation inspection is scheduled for 15th August 2018. It is anticipated that accreditation will be formally granted later in 2018.

¹ISO Technical Committee 272 (Forensic) are currently developing a corresponding series of ISO Standards.

²James Robertson, Karl Kent & Linzi Wilson-Wilde (2013) The Development of a Core Forensic Standards Framework for Australia, Forensic Science Policy & Management: An International Journal, 4:3-4, 59-67.

Pricing structure

The pricing structure has been calculated to be affordable and flexible.

Please contact Forensic Foundations to discuss multiple test discounts.

Description		Cost (inc.freight)
Proficiency Test	Test samples and associated paperwork will be provided. Results to be submitted and reviewed. Final report including manufacturer's instructions provided for each test.	AUD750
Additional Test(s)	Using the test samples and paperwork provided with the original test, additional participants can undertake the test and submit their results for review and inclusion in final report. Final report including manufacturer's instructions provided for each test if requested.	AUD250
Training Kit	Test samples, associated paperwork and the manufacturer's instructions will be provided. This test has no external review and can be used for training purposes.	AUD250
Interlaboratory Collaborative Trial	Test samples and associated paperwork will be provided. Results to be submitted and reviewed. Final report including manufacturer's instructions provided for each test.	AUD500

2018/9 Program snapshot

Discipline and subdiscipline	Forensic Document Examination	Fingerprint detection, enhancement and identification	Biology/ Crime Scene Examination - BPA	Chemical Criminalistics - Glass	Forensic Biology – Biological examination and DNA	Chemical Criminalistics - Fibres	Forensic Biology – Biological examination and DNA	Chemical Criminalistics – Automotive Paint	Chemical Criminalistics Inter-lab collaborative study – Ignitable fluid residue
Summary of the Scenario	Fraud investigators have collected a number of documents from a number of locations. Participants will be provided with a number of machine generated documents and asked to examine the documents for authenticity and also to determine if any have a common source.	Items collected from crime have been submitted for fingerprinting. The participant laboratory will be asked to examine the items for any latent fingerprint present. Enhancement techniques may be required. Any prints collected will need to be compared to comparison prints supplied. Participants will be provided with a number of paper based items.	A serious assault has occurred. Photographs have been taken at the scene showing what appears to be blood staining. Photographs were also taken post enhancement using luminol. Participants will be provided with a number of high resolution colour images.	A break in and robbery occurred at a private home. Access was gained by breaking a window Clothing from a number of suspects has been seized. Participants will be provided with samples of the glass from the scene and the debris collected from the suspects' clothing.	A female complainant has been sexual assaulted. Participants will be provided with the complainant's clothing, medical samples and reference sample. Reference samples will also be provided from the suspects.	A break in and robbery occurred at a private home. Access was gained by breaking a window Clothing from a number of suspects has been seized. Participants will be provided with samples of a tuft of fabric collected from the broken and samples of the suspects' clothing.	The complainant had been allegedly assaulted by 2 assailants. Participants will be provided with the clothing of the complainant and the 3 suspects.	A fatal hit run occurred. Automotive paint flakes were recovered from the scene. Participants will be provided with the paint flakes and samples collected from a number of suspect vehicles.	A fire occurred in a residential dwelling. A sample of the carpet was collected, as the burn patterns indicated that it may have been deliberately lit. Participants will be provided with the sample of carpet.
Last date for orders	Friday 28 th September 2018	Friday 28 th September 2018	Friday 18 th January 2019	Friday 1 st February 2019	Friday 1 st March 2019	Friday 5 th April 2019	Friday 7 th June 2019	Friday 5 th July 2019	Friday 3 rd May 2019
Distribution	First week October 2018	First week November 2018	First week March 2019	First week April 2019	First week May 2019	First week June 2019	First week August 2019	First week September 2019	First week July 2019
Results submitted	Friday 7 th December 2018	Friday 11 th January 2019	Friday 31 st May 2019	Friday 28 th June 2019	Friday 26 th July 2019	Friday 30 th August 2019	Friday 25 th October 2019	Friday 29 th November 2019	Friday 27 th September 2019
Final Report distributed	First week February 2019	First week March 2019	First week August 2019	First week September 2019	First week October 2019	First week November 2019	Last week January 2020	First week February 2020	First week December 2019

2018/9 Program in detail

Forensic Document examination

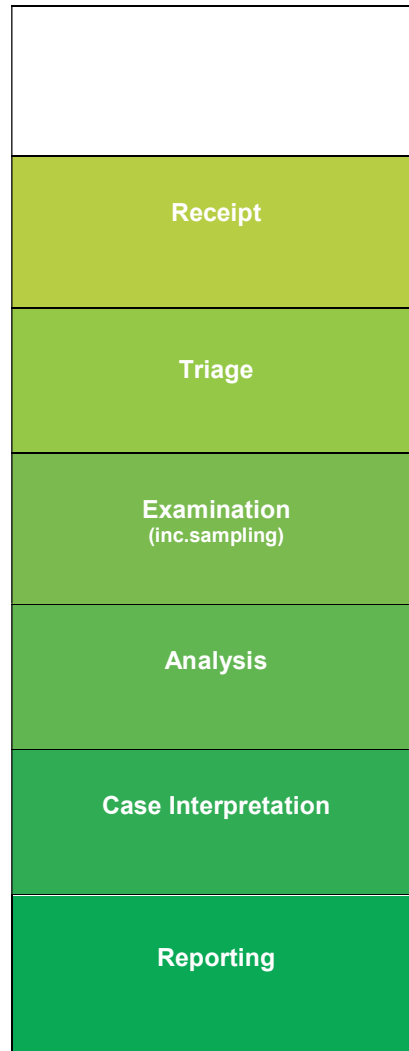
Scenario

Fraud investigators have collected a number of documents from a number of locations.

Participants will be provided with a number of machine generated documents and asked to examine the documents for authenticity and also to determine if any have a common source

Last date for orders	Friday 28 th September 2018
Distribution	First week October 2018
Results submitted	Friday 7 th December 2018
Final Report distributed	First week February 2019

The following aspects of the forensic process will be examined:



Fingerprint detection, enhancement and identification

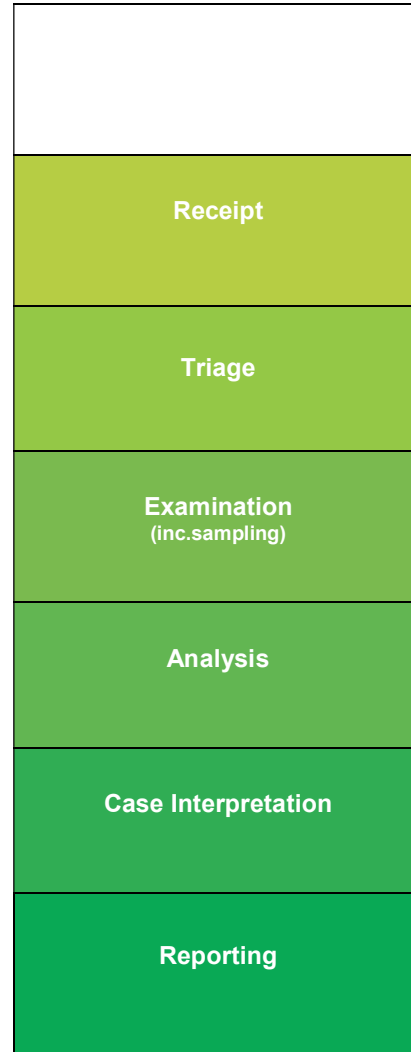
Scenario

Items collected from crime have been submitted for fingerprinting. The participant laboratory will be asked to examine the items for any latent fingerprint present. Enhancement techniques may be required. Any prints collected will need to be compared to comparison prints supplied.

Participants will be provided with a number of paper based items. The following aspects of the forensic process will be examined:

Last date for orders	Friday 28 th September 2018
Distribution	First week November 2018
Results submitted	Friday 11 th January 2019
Final Report distributed	First week March 2019

The following aspects of the forensic process will be examined:



Forensic Biology / Crime Scene Examination – Bloodstain Pattern Interpretation

Scenario

A serious assault has occurred. The victim was located at a second location.

Examination of the primary scene has been undertaken and photographs have been taken at the scene showing what appears to be blood staining.

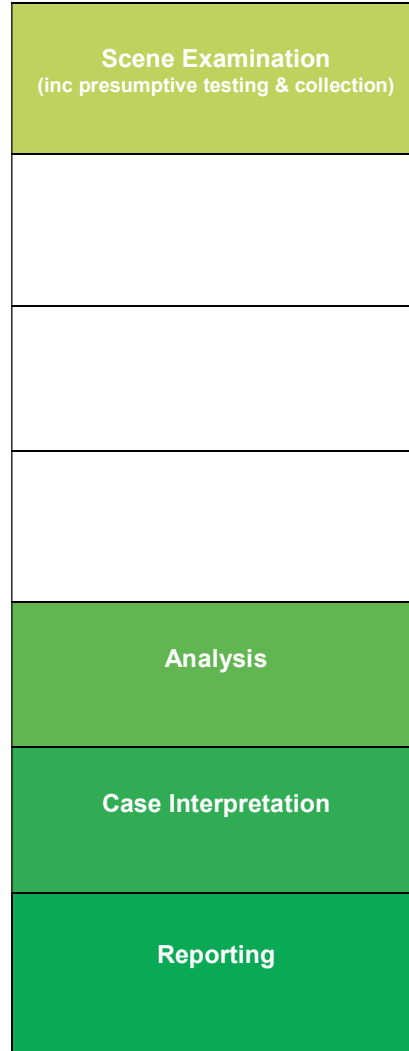
Presumptive testing was positive for blood.

The staining was enhanced using luminol and photographs taken.

Participants will be provided with a number of high resolution colour images.

Participants are asked to interpret the images and hypothesize on possible mechanisms for the deposition of the blood.

The following aspects of the forensic process will be examined:



Last date for orders	Friday 18 th January 2019
Distribution	First week March 2019
Results submitted	Friday 31 st May 2019
Final Report distributed	First week August 2019

Chemical Criminalistics - Glass

Scenario

A break in and robbery has occurred at a private home. Jewelry and computer equipment were stolen.

Access was gained by breaking the 'fan window' next to the front door. The 'fan window' included a leadlight insert. Samples of the window were collected.

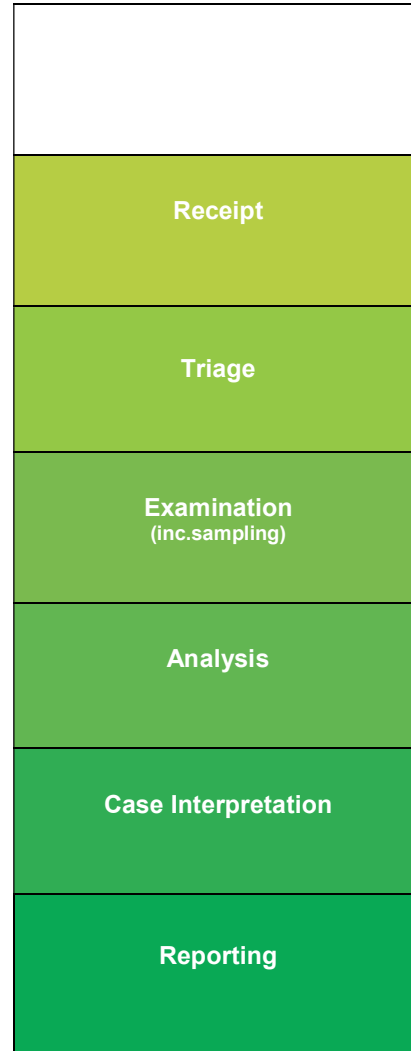
Clothing from a number of suspects was seized and debris collected.

Participants will be provided with samples of the glass from the scene and the debris collected from the suspects' clothing.

Participants will be asked if any of the glass fragments collected from the suspects' clothing could have originated from the broken window.

Last date for orders	Friday 1 st February 2019
Distribution	First week April 2019
Results submitted	Friday 28 th June 2019
Final Report distributed	First week September 2019

The following aspects of the forensic process will be examined:



Forensic Biology – Biological examination and DNA

Scenario

A female complainant was sexually assaulted by a number of males.

The complainant managed to hit out at one of the assailants causing him to have a nose bleed.

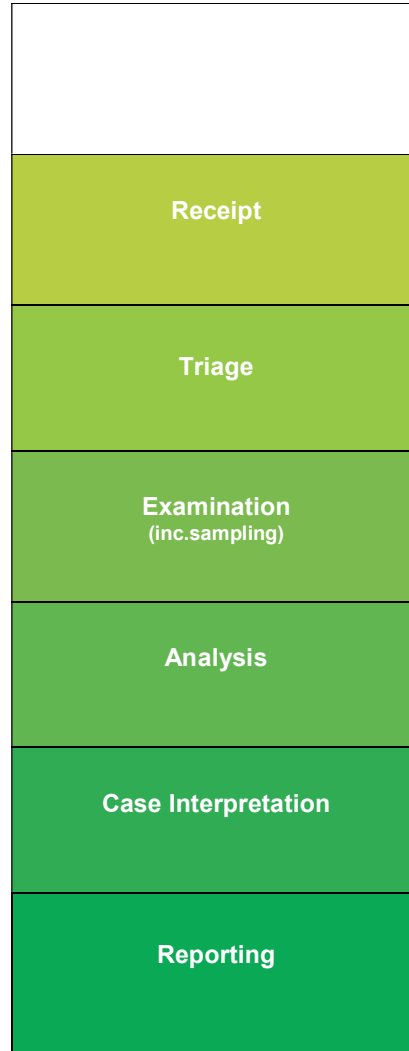
During the assault she believes one of the assailants spat on her.

She was medically examined, and samples were taken. Her clothes were also collected.

Participants will be provided with the complainant's clothing and medical samples and reference samples from a number of suspects.

Participants will be asked to locate any biological material on the complainant's clothing and whether any of the reference samples from any of the suspects 'match' these biological stains or the material on the medical samples.

The following aspects of the forensic process will be examined:



Last date for orders	Friday 1 st March 2019
Distribution	First week May 2019
Results submitted	Friday 26 th July 2019
Final Report distributed	First week October 2019

Chemical Criminalistics - Fibres

Scenario

A break in and robbery has occurred at a private home. Jewelry and computer equipment were stolen.

Access was gained by breaking the 'fan window' next to the front door. The 'fan window' included a leadlight insert.

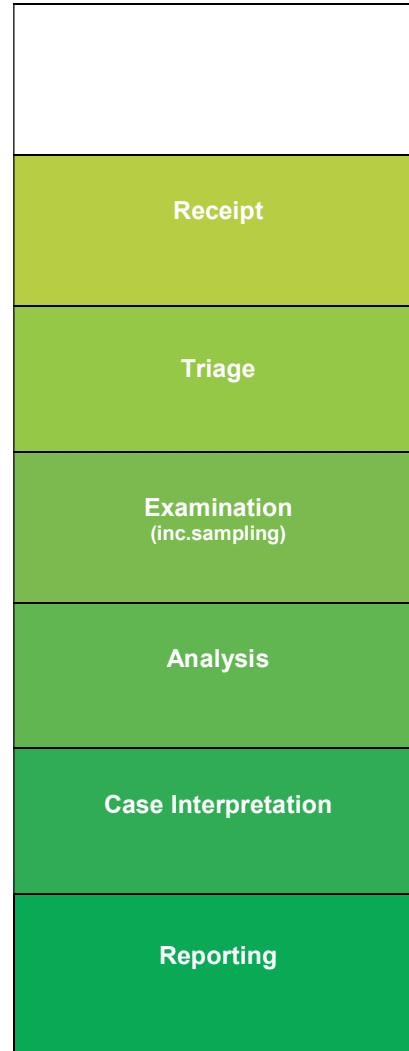
Clothing from a number of suspects was seized.

Participants will be provided with samples of a tuft of fabric collected from the broken window and samples of the suspects' clothing.

Participants will be asked if any of the pieces of clothing and the tuft of fabric may have a common origin and if so to comment on the weight or significance of this information.

Last date for orders	Friday 5 th April 2019
Distribution	First week June 2019
Results submitted	Friday 30 th August 2019
Final Report distributed	First week November 2019

The following aspects of the forensic process will be examined:



Forensic Biology – Biological examination and DNA

Scenario

A young male was assaulted by 2 assailants.

The clothing of the complainant and the 2 suspects was collected.

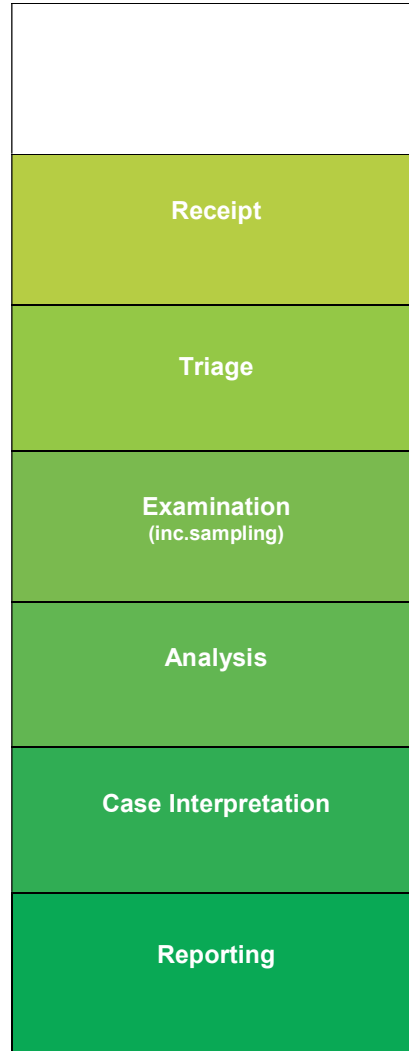
One suspect denies any knowledge of the assault whilst the other says the blood on their clothing was deposited whilst trying to render first aid.

Participants will be provided with the clothing of the complainant and the 2 suspects and the relevant reference samples.

Participants will be asked to examine the clothing and interpret any findings. DNA may be extracted from relevant stains and any profiles obtained interpreted.

Last date for orders	Friday 7 th June 2019
Distribution	First week August 2019
Results submitted	Friday 25 th October 2019
Final Report distributed	Last week January 2020

The following aspects of the forensic process will be examined:



Chemical Criminalistics – Automotive Paint

Scenario

A young girl has been knocked off her bicycle and has later died in hospital. The offending car slowed briefly, but then sped off.

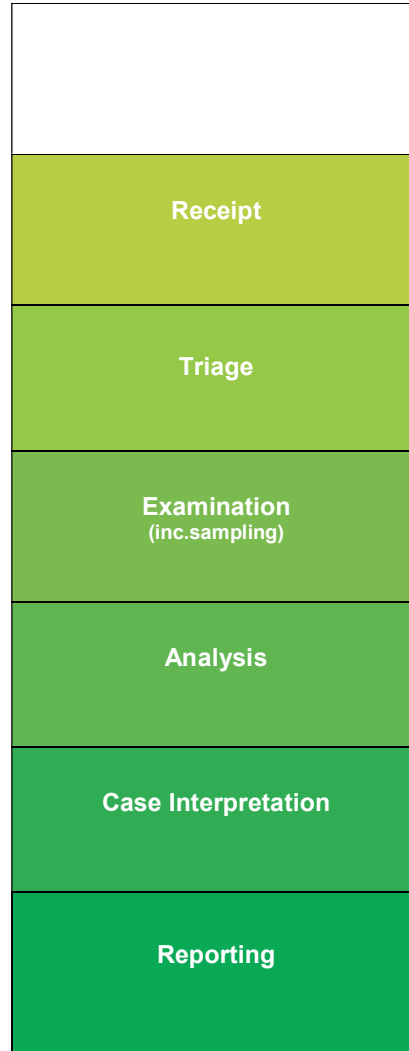
The crash site was investigated, and automotive paint flakes were recovered from the scene.

Participants will be provided with the paint flakes and samples collected from a number of suspect vehicles.

Participants will be asked if the flakes collected at the scene could have originated from one or more of the suspect vehicles, and if so to comment on the weight or significance of this information.

Last date for orders	Friday 5 th July 2019
Distribution	First week September 2019
Results submitted	Friday 29 th November 2019
Final Report distributed	First week February 2020

The following aspects of the forensic process will be examined:



Chemical Criminalistics Inter-lab collaborative study – Ignitable fluid residue

This test has been set up as an interlaboratory collaborative trial rather than a proficiency test as there are no 'correct' answers. The test is designed to test the detection of ignitable fluid residue following land/air transport.

Scenario

A fire occurred in a residential dwelling. The Fire Investigators suspected it had been deliberately lit due to the burn patterns.

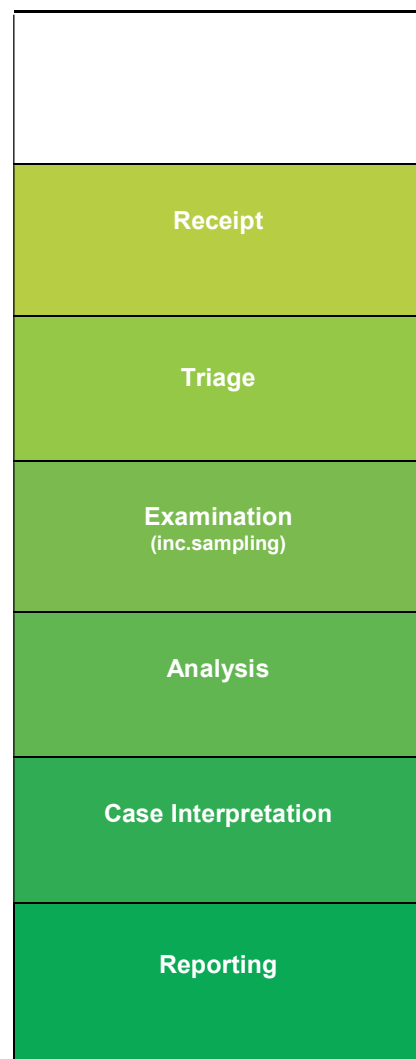
A sample of the carpet was collected.

Participants will be provided with the sample of carpet.

Participants will be asked to examine the carpet for any potential residues from ignitable fluids.

Last date for orders	Friday 3 rd May 2019
Distribution	First week July 2019
Results submitted	Friday 27 th September 2019
Final Report distributed	First week December 2019

The following aspects of the forensic process will be examined:



Forensic Foundations' Proficiency Tests are required to be fit-for-purpose. To assist us to provide the relevant fit-for-purpose tests, please use the following form to suggest further tests for development.

Recommendation for Proficiency Test development

Contact	Name	
	Email	
	Phone	
Discipline/ subdiscipline		
Specific issues(s) to be addressed*. Note: The tests can be designed to be multidisciplinary.		
Suggested technical advisor (if known)		
Suggested manufacturer (if known)		

* All Proficiency Tests will include the end to end process (receipt & continuity, triage, description, examination, analysis, data generation, interpretation, reporting) but one aspect may be of particular interest/focus.

This form can be emailed to quality@forensicfoundations.com.au or you can discuss your suggestions on either +61 3 9018 8919 or +61 429 966 012.