# West Technology is the UK and European distributor for Labconco forensic enclosures For general enquiries please call +44 (0)1454 329898 Email forensics@west-technology.co.uk or visit www.west-technology.co.uk

## **About West Technology & Labconco**



Formed in 1993 as a specialist vacuum engineering company to provide custom made medium and high vacuum systems, the company rapidly developed its business and within a few years had established an unrivalled reputation for innovative design and manufacture of a broad range of custom vacuum systems.

In 1996, West Technology was invited by a leading establishment for forensic research and development to take a fresh look at the vacuum metal deposition (VMD) technique, in light of new process developments and an outdated range of aging VMD systems that could not meet the demands of the modern forensic laboratory. This led to the introduction in 1998 of our VMD900 system. This system quickly became the standard system throughout the UK and established West Technology in the forensic market.

Our continued commitment to improving our VMD systems, has led to many product innovations, including the launch of the compact VMD560CX in 2009, and most recently, the introduction of the world's first ever bench top VMD system – the VMD360.

As part of the on-going development of our forensic business, we are pleased to announce our appointment as UK and European distributors for Labconco.

Labconco, formed in 1925 in Kansas City, Missouri (USA) has already established itself as one of the leading manufacturers of Laboratory equipment world-wide. They pride themselves on making unique, high quality forensic enclosures.



West Technology is committed to using our specialist knowledge of vacuum technology and forensics, to create new, exciting products for use by forensic providers

West Technology is an ISO 9001:2015 accredited company.

## **Forensic Enclosures**

A key consideration in Forensic examination is the safeguarding of evidence against contamination. Correct preservation and storage is crucial to avoid contamination risk and maintain the integrity of exhibits.

Correct processing of exhibits is also essential to maximise evidence recovery. A range of laboratory enclosures are now available to assist forensic personnel with safe and efficient processing.



### **CA Fuming**

Fingermark evidence is a common evidence type for a wide range of offences and their timely identification is key to their success in the investigation and detection of crime.

Cyanoacrylate (superglue) fuming has been used for latent fingermark development on a range of non-porous and semi-porous substrates since the 1970's. It is a low cost and highly effective development technique, requiring minimal user effort

In a humid environment, vaporised liquid cyanoacrylate reacts with hydrated components present in fingermark residues, producing a white deposit. It is common practice to enhance this white deposit by staining with a fluorescent dye.

The CApture BT Fuming Cabinet is specially designed for optimum cyanoacrylate fuming of exhibits.



**Portable CA Fuming** 

Non-porous substrates are exposed to cyanoacrylate vapour. The vaporised monomers polymerise on the fingermark ridge deposits in the presence of moisture, turning the fingermark white.

The efficacy of the cyanoacrylate fuming technique has led to a requirement for portable fuming cabinets for use away from the laboratory.

The CApture Portable Fuming System allows for processing of exhibits at the crime scene. Its clever design combines all the components needed in one compact system; a heater to evaporate the cyanoacrylate, a clear protective chamber to contain the fumes, and an extractor system with particulate filter to safely remove any fumes.

Valuable laboratory processing time can be saved as prints can be developed easily at the crime scene.

Drying Cabinets are designed to provide a secure and dedicated area for drying wet evidence while safeguarding the integrity of samples for DNA testing.



**Evidence Drying** 

Forensic technology has made it possible to detect DNA profiles from the most minute amounts of sample, even from single cells. Due to this, anti-contamination safeguards are extremely important. Contamination of an exhibit, whether from DNA transfer or otherwise, has the potential to change the outcome of a criminal investigation and can have severe repercussions.

Evidence drying cabinets are now widely used to store exhibits such as stained clothing (e.g. with blood or other body fluids) and footwear, prior to laboratory examination.

The Protector Evidence Drying Cabinet provides a secure ventilated area to dry exhibits. In-built filtration systems are designed to reduce risk of external contamination and protect personnel from biohazardous particulates.

Decontamination of the cabinet is supported by an interior 254nm UV lamp and leak-proof stainless steel interior, for easy cleaning.



**Powder Stations** 

Powdering is one of the oldest reported techniques for development of latent fingermarks.<sup>1</sup> Although very effective, a key safety concern of using powders is the inhalation of powder dust by users and laboratory personnel, potentially causing respiratory issues.

The Protector Downdraft Powder Station keeps users safe by containing powder dust throughout application and examination. An in-built airflow control pulls air and excess powder through the system, away from the user. Airborne particulates are filtered out using a HEPA filter and clean air is discharged.

The Protector Downdraft Powder Station also keeps the surrounding areas free of powder dust and fibres.

[1] Bleay, S. et al. 2012. Fingerprint Source Book. Home Office

Forensic Enclosures

Forensic Technology

## **Cyanoacrylate Fuming Chambers**

- User Friendly
- Large Chamber
- Automatic & Manual Modes

This ductless bench top chamber with microprocessor control, automates the Cyanoacrylate fuming of evidence. The programmable operating system combines the control and monitoring of all critical parameters in the CA fuming process with the precision to store and easily repeat 20 specified programs.

#### **Self-contained System**

- ▶ Dimensions (H1340mm x W955mm x D740mm)
- ► Fits through a standard laboratory door
- ► Large chamber (H1130mm x W686mm x D686mm)
- Pre-filter and carbon filter means no exhaust or extraction required
- ▶ Built in humidifier

**Carbon Filter** 

#### **Flexible Operation**

- Automatic and manual operation
- Operates up to 218 °C within +/- 1%
- ► Adjust chamber humidity to 80% +/- 5% relative humidity
- Pre-set program for one-stage glue/stain process
- A range of shelves, hooks and accessories are available to securely support the evidence

**Contaminated Air** 

#### **Innovative Design**

- ▶ Interior LED lighting
- Electronic door locks
- ► Full-colour LCD control screen
- ▶ 254nm UV DNA decontamination option available
- ►110/230V, 50/60Hz
- Durable Stainless steel and tempered safety glass

During the humidifying or fuming cycle, air is recirculated within the chamber. The recirculation fan pulls air from the top of the chamber and directs it to the bottom of the chamber.

During the exhaust or purge cycle, the exhaust draws air from inside the chamber through a pre-filter and carbon filter located above the top of the chamber. The exhaust then directs the filtered air back into the room

# **Key Features**

► LED Lighting
Illuminates the interior and
flashes for 30 minutes to
indicate the end of a
fuming cycle

► Easy Access Filters
Pre-filter and exhaust filters
can be easily changed from
inside the chamber

**▶** Easy to Use Controls

#### ► Accessories

A range of shelves, hooks and accessories are available to securely support the evidence

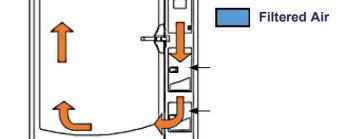
Full colour LCD control panel for controlling chamber humidity, fuming temperature and exhaust times

► Easy to Clean CA deposits on the stainless steel liner can be effortlessly removed using cleaner

► Easy Heater Access
CA fuming and humidifier
compartments provide
quick and easy access

► Dual Blower Design
Provides equal airflow through
the chamber during humidifying
and fuming cycles

► Microprocessor
Save up to 20 different
user defined programs.
Factory pre-sets include a
Lumicyano program



Cyanoacrylate Fuming Chambers

Forensic Technology

## **Portable CA Fuming**

- Compact
- Simple to Use
- **Develop Prints at the** Scene

The CApture Portable Fuming System allows latent fingerprints to be developed at the crime scene while protecting the user from hazardous fumes. The fully automated system is safe, quick and simple to use.

#### **Affordable and Compact**

- ▶ Dimensions (H480mm x W270mm ▶ Can process a range of nonx D390mm)
- ► Collapsible design
- ▶ All the benefits of traditional CA chambers but a fraction of the cost
- ► Lightweight 10kg
- ►Interior chamber (H410mm x W200mm x D200mm)

#### **Flexible Operation**

- porous exhibits at the crime scene
- ▶ Automatic and manual operation
- ▶Operates from 50 to180 °C
- A range of shelves, hooks and accessories are available to securely support the evidence
- No ducting or extraction is required

#### **Innovative Design**

- ► Self-contained system
- ▶ Two heaters for superglue and
- ► Carbon filter to remove harmful fumes
- LCD temperature display
- ►110/230V, 50/60Hz
- ► Durable Stainless steel and shatter resistant polycarbonate construction



#### ▶ Carbon Filter

Traps smoke and CA fumes from the chamber and exhausts clean air back into the room

► Stainless Steel Support

A range of shelves, hooks and accessories are available to securely support the evidence

► LCD Display Select operating modes

and shows the heater temperature settings

► Compact Design

The durable polycarbonate chamber also serves as the carrying case

► 2x Heaters

Holds both superglue and water heater dishes

**▶** Microprocessor controlled

The user can set the temperature in 1 ° increments



**Portable CA Fuming Forensic Technology** 

## **Evidence Drying Cabinets**

- Spacious Interior
- DNA decontamination
- Built in Filters

The durable, stainless steel-lined Protector Evidence Drying Cabinet provides a secure ventilated area to dry evidence such as clothing and bedding. The cabinet's HEPA and carbon filtered exhaust protects personnel from exposure to biohazards while eliminating nuisance odours.

#### **Self-contained System**

- ► Dimensions (H2000mm x W914mm x D711mm)
- ► Fits through a standard laboratory door
- ► Large chamber (H1422mm x W819mm x D673mm)
- Pre-filter and HEPA filter means no exhaust or extraction required

#### **Innovative Design**

- ► Key-activated UV switch
- ▶ Airflow monitor and alarm
- ▶ Locking casters make the cabinet easy to move
- ▶ 254nm UV or wash-down option available
- ▶110/230V, 50/60Hz
- ▶ Durable Stainless steel and tempered safety glass

#### **Available Models**

- ▶3' Bench top Version
- ▶3' Free standing
- ▶4' & 5' Double door
- ▶254nm UV lamp option
- ▶Wash-down option







## **Key Features**

#### ▶ 254nm UV Lamp

Provides secondary decontamination of the cabinet interior to help prevent DNA cross contamination ► UV Lock
Activates the fan or UV
light when security lock key
is in the "ON" position

► Spacious Interior
Stainless steel hanging
rails accommodate larger
items while collapsible
shelves can support

► Wash-down Option

smaller items

A built-in water pump and spray nozzle allows the interior to be washed down after disinfecting ► HEPA Filter
Traps airborne
particulates - 99.99%
efficient on particles
0.3 microns

► Storage Area
Houses the drain bucket
and cleaning supplies

► Inlet Filter
Traps dust and other

large particles in the air entering the cabinet

Evidence Drying Cabinets

Forensic Technology

## **Downdraft Powder Tables**

- Allows Safe Powdering
- Double Filtration System
- Airflow Monitoring

The Protector Downdraft Powder Station keeps users safe by containing powders during fingerprint processing. The work station provides unrestricted operator movement and accommodates oversized evidence.

#### **Self-contained System**

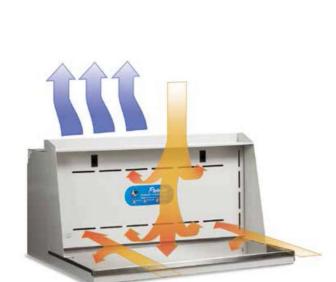
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- ► 110/230V, 50/60Hz
- ► Durable Stainless steel



# **Key Features**

#### ► HEPA Filter

Traps airborne particulates - 99.99% efficient on particles 0.3 microns

#### Shelf

Useful for fingerprint powders, brushes and other utensils and supplies

#### ▶ Durable

Powder coated steel housing with removable stainless steel work surface

► Flow-Zone perforations
A uniquely designed work
surface minimises airborne
fine powder

#### **▶** Airflow Monitor

Red, filter system alarm light to alert operator to low airflow conditions

#### **▶** Quiet Extraction

Air is pulled down through the work surface, filtered and exhausted back into the room

Downdraft Powder Tables