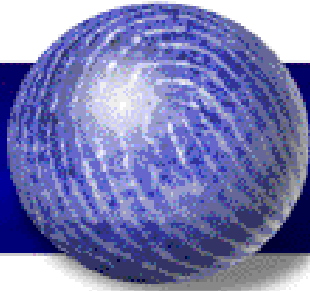# Universal Latent Workstation

The Universal Latent Workstation (ULW)

is the first in a new generation of interoperable latent workstations. Several state and local agencies, the FBI, NIST, and the AFIS vendors have been working together on standards to improve interoperability and sharing of latent identification services. The ULW is part of that program. It helps agencies and AFIS vendors understand and develop the concept of encode once and search anywhere. With the ULW you can create a native feature set for Printrak, Cogent, Morpho, NEC and IAFIS. Ultimately, standards-based workstations, such as the ULW, will provide you with the ability to search local, state, neighboring and the FBI IAFIS system, all with a single encoding.

Currently, IAFIS, Anaheim PD (Printrak), Ontario PD (Cogent), and Pierce County PD (Morpho) can receive and search an ANSI/NIST formatted record. As the availability of this capability grows, we will build a national Latent Identification Services Exchange Network so you can reach other agencies as required. If you think agencies should be able to support each other with latent identification services then ask your AFIS vendor about his schedule for implementing the ANSI/NIST latent standard.

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System Requirements
The following are minimum and recommended PC requirements for the ULW:
- Pentium CPU with 32 Mb; Pentium II or better recommended
- Video display of 1024 x 768 pixels works well on portables
- Video for desktop should be at least 20 inch with 1280 x 1024 pixels
- CD-ROM drive for software installation
- TWAIN compliant scanner capable of scanning at 500 and/or 1000 pixels per inch UMAX Powerlook III, HP 6300, etc.
- Windows 95/98/NT/2000
- AWARE WSQ compression

ULW Installation and Support
ULW auto installs from the provided CD and support is available at ulw@leo.gov.

ULW Training and Documentation
The ULW on-line documentation lists the encoding steps and shows examples of IAFIS feature placement. You should also request someone on the ULW team to walk you through your first encoding via teleconference. Contact ulw@leo.gov for an appointment.

ULW Costs
You will have to provide your own PC, scanner and compression software as detailed in the system requirements section.
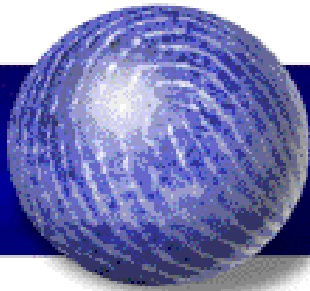
Connectivity to IAFIS
You will need e-mail connectivity to IAFIS to run your search and receive your candidates. Connection to CJIS WAN is your agency's responsibility but the CJIS Programs Development Section will provide details on the various options as well as planning support.

Key ULW Functionality
- Full IAFIS Latent Search Capabilities
- Encode Once and Search anywhere – The ULW can create a native feature set for Cogent, Morpho, Nec, and IAFIS so you can run all your searches from a single encoding. If your AFIS does not yet have an

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ANSI/NIST interface or you would prefer to use your vendor's workstation for searching your own AFIS you can still eliminate the second encoding. ULW will translate your vendors search record (provided in ANSI/NIST format) into an IAFIS search, add in the ridge counts and then provide you the opportunity to edit the record before submission.

- Direct Latent Tracings Search.

- Complementary encoding technology – The ULW will mark the easy minutiae and then stop short of marking a lot of false minutiae. You can complete the encoding without the wasted time of deleting a large number of false minutiae. The ULW encoding complements rather than competes with the examiner.

- Case History – ULW logs all actions to an image.

- Interoperable with Windows desktop tools – The ULW reads and writes to the clip board and understands most file formats so it can be used in conjunction with other desktop tools such as MoreHits, ImagePro and PhotoShop.

- Examiner collaboration – The ULW is not hard wired to any AFIS. It can be used to view, mark and share fingerprint images with anyone.

- Read and display any ANSI/NIST transaction, including ten-print search records with mug shots.

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