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ASCLD-NIFS-SMANZFL

INTERNATIONAL FORENSIC STRATEGIC ALLIANCE (IFSA)

An Opportunity for Business Improvements



ASCLD

Excellence Through Leadership in Forensic Science Management



The International Forensic
Strategic Alliance (IFS)



ASCLD

- A professional organization of crime laboratory managers
 - Approximately 550 members
 - Membership includes federal, state and local laboratories
 - Committed to the highest quality forensic science services



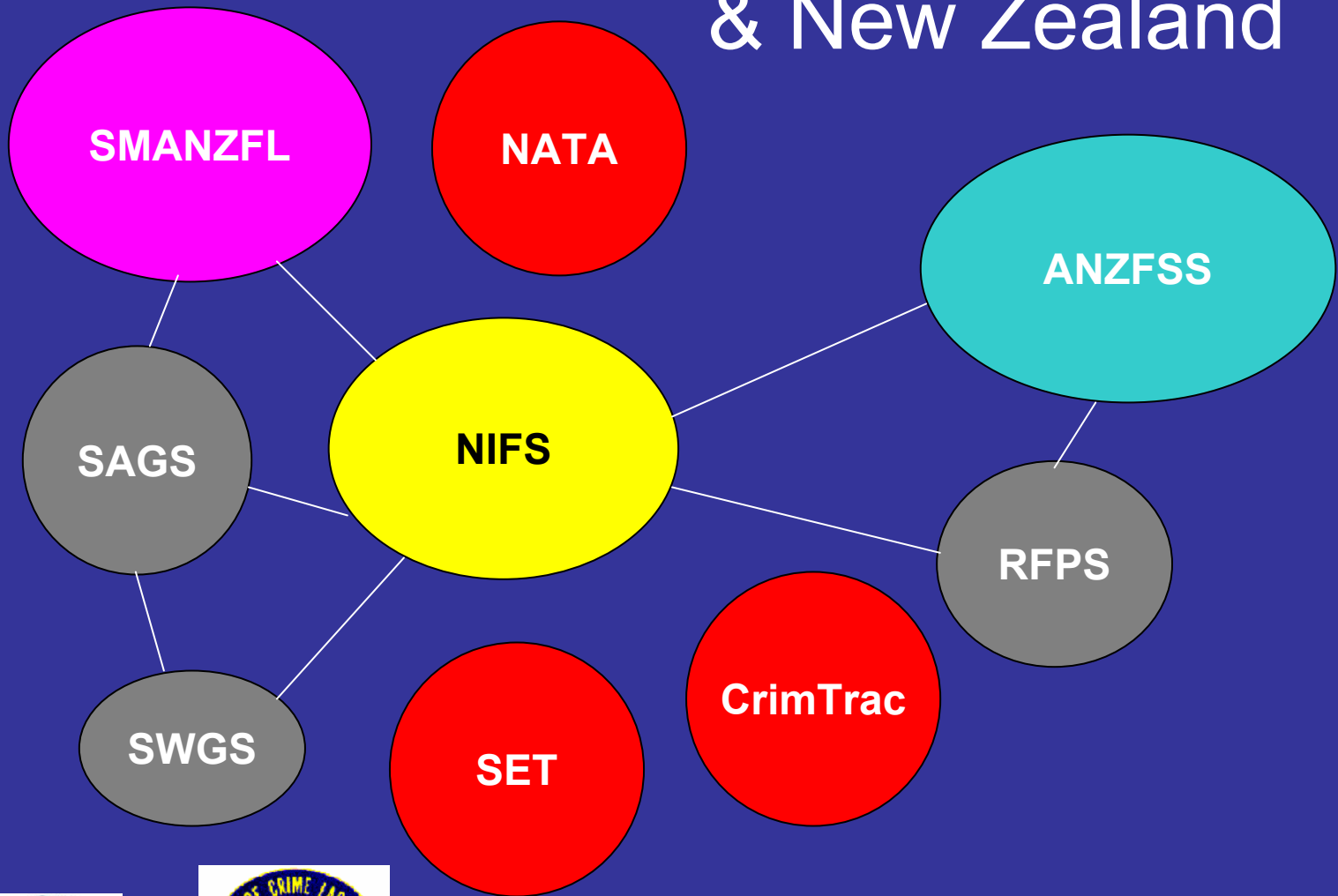


Goals and Objectives

- Provide leadership in the forensic science community
- Provide training and information to members
- Promote quality in the practice of the forensic sciences



Forensic Science Organizations in Australia & New Zealand



SMANZFL



- **Senior Managers of Australia and New Zealand Forensic Science Laboratories**
 - **Membership**
 - Two delegates from each region (including NZ)
 - One field representative
 - One laboratory representative
 - NIFS Director
 - **Seven member Executive**
 - NIFS Director, *ex-officio*
 - **Specialist Advisory Groups**



Principles of Operation

Purpose



- To encourage best practice in the management of forensic science
- To support and promote quality management practices through accreditation programs
- To provide a forum to discuss matters of national and international importance in forensic science
- To contribute to the formulation of national policy in forensic science



Encourage Best Practice



- Commitment to accreditation programs
- Commitment to training and education
- Commitment to R&D
 - Support ANZFSS International conferences
- Fostering linkages and information exchange with wider communities
 - Academic
 - Scientific
 - International
- Discharge responsibilities in accordance with the ANZFSS code of ethics



National Institute of Forensic Science (NIFS)

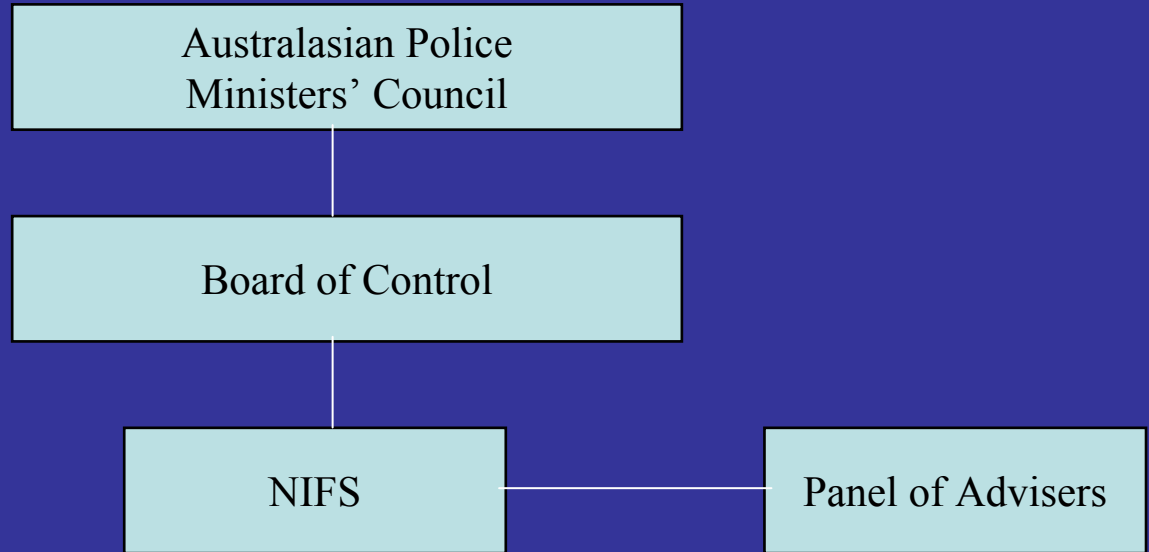


- National Common Police Service
- Role: Peak body for forensic science



The International Forensic
Strategic Alliance (IFS)

National Institute of Forensic Science (NIFS)



The International Forensic
Strategic Alliance (IFSA)

National Institute of Forensic Science (NIFS)



- Sponsor and support research in forensic science
- Advise and assist with the development and co-ordination of forensic science services
- Gather and exchange forensic information
- Support, co-ordinate and conduct training programs in forensic science
- Conduct relevant quality assurance programs



National Institute of Forensic Science (NIFS)



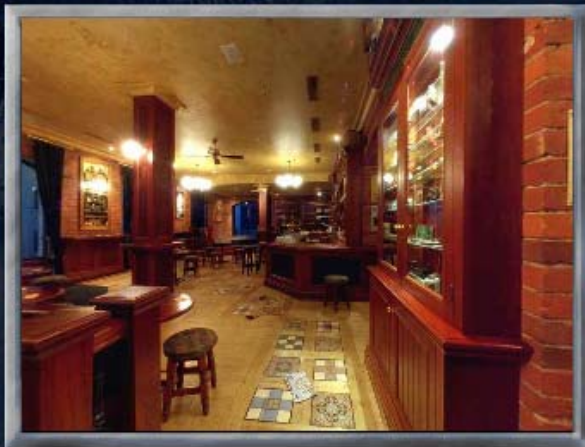
- Funding/facilitation of workshop/symposium program
- Provision of joint web site
- Funding for research and development
- Funding for international travel
- Development of national/international education/training programs
- Assistance with major national projects



“After the Fact”

- **Crime scene product for both training and proficiency testing**
 - Available for 6 years
 - Used routinely for the last 3 years
- **Demonstration on information sharing computers**





Resolution

HIGH
 LOW

FULL
SCREEN
MODE

After the Fact

VIRTUAL FORENSIC TRAINING

SAVE

PRINT

QUIT

'Shift' to zoom in, 'Control' to zoom out

1. INITIAL ASSESSMENT OF THE SCENE

INTRO

QUALITIES

PRINCIPLES

QUESTIONS

1

An initial assessment of the scene requires you to:

2

1. Ascertain the circumstances regarding the incident.

3

2. Assess health and safety, (O.H.&S.) risks and take adequate safety precautions.

4

3. Define or redefine scene boundaries to optimise the recovery of physical evidence.

5

4. Conduct a preliminary visual/physical inspection and evaluation of the scene (ie. "walk through").

6

5. Take precautionary initial action to prevent loss of evidence.

7

When you are ready, click on "Questions".

To do this you must:

- assess where the boundaries are located and ensure they are extensive enough to cover all possible areas relevant to the crime scene including the furthest immediate physical evidence.
- clearly define boundaries and ensure that they are securely guarded
- ensure an entry guard is in place and operating



Sharing Current Information

- Performance Review Framework including cost benefit analysis and success measurements – next week's SMANZFL workshop
- Operations using DNA, other forensic evidence and intelligence to solve serious and volume crime
- New South Wales – Forensic Armed Robbery Unit (FARU)
- Queensland – Operation Bravo Claypot

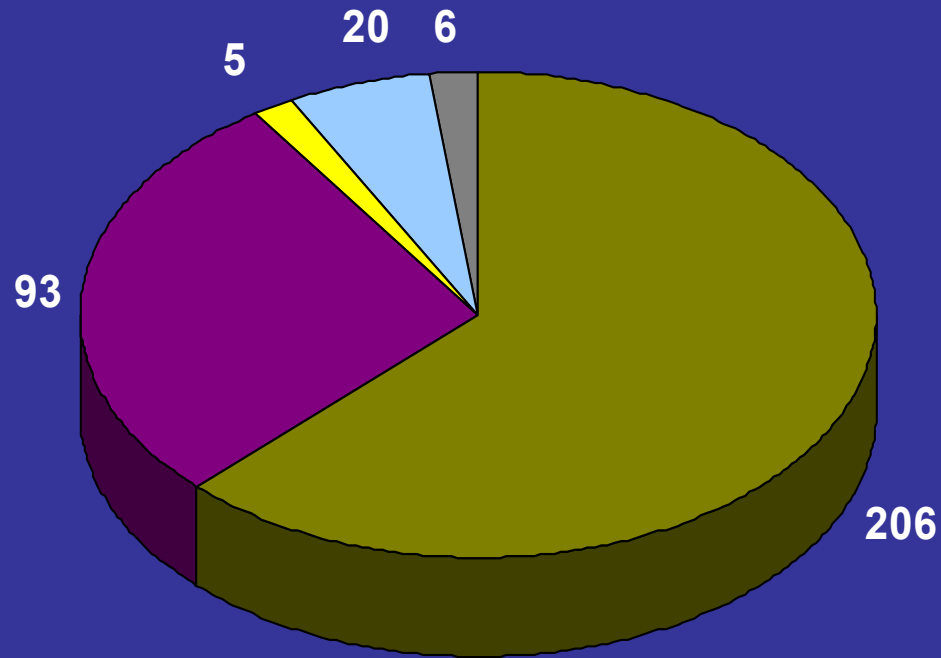


Operation Bravo Claypot

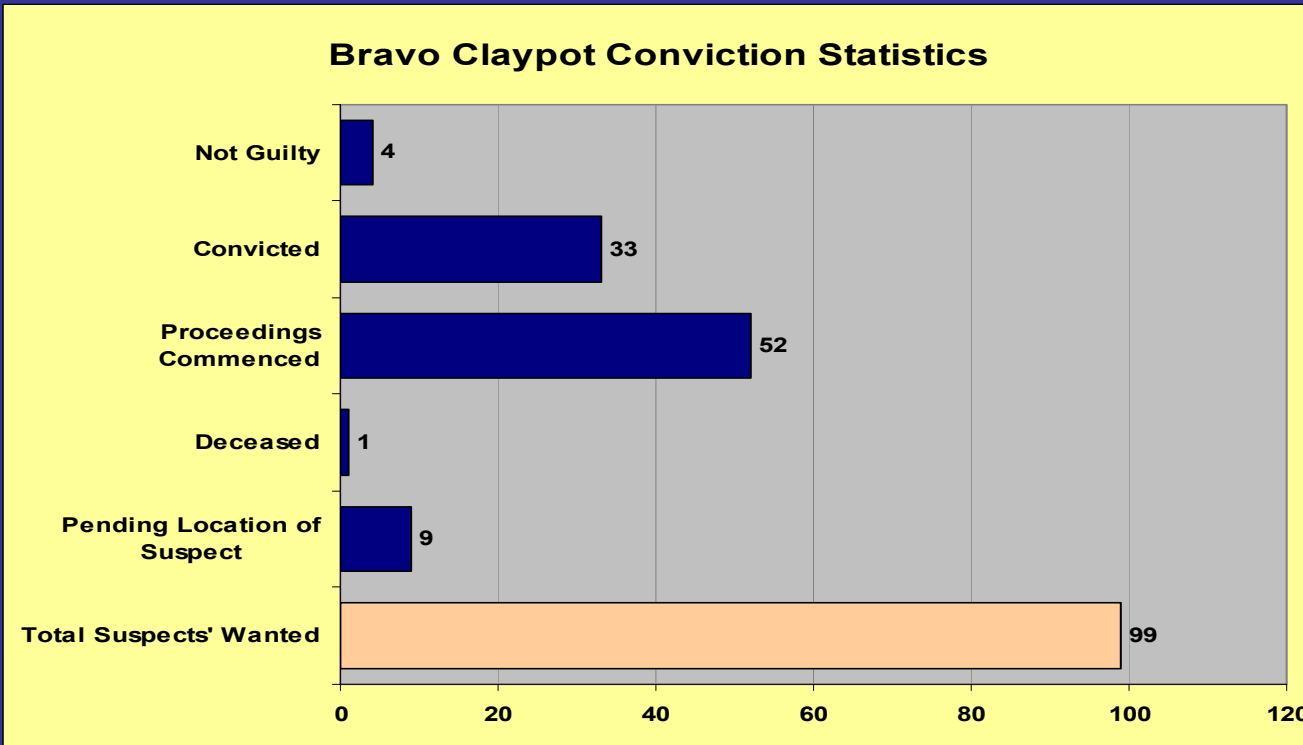
- Total of 199 suspects were linked to 347 crime scenes/crime reports using forensic science
- DNA identified 75 suspects for 119 offences
- Fingerprints identified 141 suspects to 228 crime scenes
- A further 148 crimes linked to 59 suspects after total analysis of forensic results (overall total of 258 suspects for 495 offences from 260 initial offences)
- 24% of offences related to offences outside District



Operation Bravo Claypot



Operation Bravo Claypot



– Funding of \$5M over three years to analyse the samples in the DNA backlog



History of Collaboration

- **1995 - 2001**
 - ASCLD, ENFSI, and SMANZFL meet informally at several venues
 - Known as AES
- **2002**
 - Informal dinner discussion hosted by ASCLD in St. Petersburg, Florida identified areas/programs of mutual interest



History Collaboration (*Continued*)

- **2003**
 - Electronic “discussions” held
 - Planning meetings held between ASCLD and SMANZFL representatives
 - At the ASCLD Meeting in St. Petersburg
 - At the Interpol Meeting in Lyon, France
- **2004**
 - More electronic “discussions” held
 - Outcomes identified for Forensic Summit in Wellington, New Zealand between ASCLD and SMANZFL/NIFS
 - Agenda agreed upon



Forensic Summit Wellington, New Zealand

- 2004 Meeting held between ASCLD, NIFS, SMANZFL and invited guests
 - Identified challenges to the development of international partnerships
 - Identified immediate benefits for a more formal international collaboration
 - Planned for future collaborations



Challenges to International Partnerships

- Clarity of Vision
- Long term communications
- Lack of identifiable outcomes
- Costs



Vision

Create opportunities for strategic collaboration across the global forensic science community



The International Forensic
Strategic Alliance (IFSA)

Long Term Communications

- Created an International Liaison
 - Tony Raymond
 - Susan Johns
- Multiple year (3 year) appointment
- Focus on an agreement between
 - ASCLD
 - NIFS
 - SMANZFL



Goals and Objectives

- Identify potential improvements to the effective business management of the participating organizations
- Research and implement programs and products offered by the participating organizations
- Provide information **directly** to members of the participating organizations



Contain Costs

- Use electronic mechanisms, when possible
- Structure meetings (i.e., create an agenda)
- Set meeting schedule
 - Telephonic (2 per year)
 - “In-person” (1 per year)
 - Electronic “meetings” as needed



Outcomes

- **SMANZFL/NIFS participation in meeting**
 - ASCLD board meeting
 - Presentations
 - Workshop
- **Exchanges**
 - Newsletter articles
 - Web site postings
 - Web site links



Additional Outcomes

- Information from SMANZFL/NIFS available at this meeting
 - Scenes of Crime
 - “After the Fact” software
- Disaster Victim Identification SOPs
- Documents program
- Firearms training
- Interpol review papers are available at this meeting



Letter of Agreement

- Non-binding letter describing goals and objectives for collaboration
- To be signed at this meeting

