



Manufacturer's Information

Questioned Documents Examination Test No. 18-521

Each sample set contained three questioned items and two sets of known exemplars. Items Q1, Q2, and Q3 were each a single photocopied page containing cut-and-paste style text issuing accusations and threats to the receiver. Items K1 and K2 each contained three blank exemplar pages created on two photocopiers in question. Participants were asked to determine if either of the known photocopiers, as represented by the exemplars, were used in the production of any of the questioned items.

SAMPLE PREPARATION-

Each photocopier to be used was artificially trash marked on the glass platen prior to production of the exemplars.

Each questioned document was created by simulating text cutouts using varied fonts and colors in Adobe Photoshop, then printing these items on Epson photo paper. The Q1 and Q3 original documents were placed face-down on the platen of the photocopier used to produce K2 and individually copied. The position of Item Q3 was rotated 180 degrees from the position of Item Q1 during the copying process. The Q2 original document was placed face down on the platen of the photocopier used to produce K1 and copied.

The known exemplars were created by placing a blank piece of white Staples brand multiuse paper on the platen of each photocopier and producing three copies per sample set.

All copies were printed on white Staples brand multiuse paper using black and white photocopier settings. All questioned and known items were labeled on the back side of each copy with an item number label.

SAMPLE SET ASSEMBLY-

After visual quality reviews were complete, all items were packed. Known exemplars K1 and K2 were placed between protective chipboard and packaged into their respective labeled envelopes and sealed. Questioned items were packaged together into a single labeled envelope, separated by protective chipboard, and sealed. Following predistribution testing, item envelopes were packaged into a sample set envelope and sealed.

VERIFICATION-

Predistribution examiners determined that photocopier used to produce K1 was used in the production of Item Q2, and the photocopier used to produce K2 was used in the production of Items Q1 and Q3. This was supported by the following observations: shared printing processes for K1/Q2 (inkjet) and K2/Q1/Q3 (toner); individualizing, unique patterns of trash marks between K1/Q2 and K2/Q1/Q3; and the presence of matching machine indentations on K2/Q1/Q3.

The information presented here details how test samples were prepared as well as any design specifications. This information does not necessarily represent the answers that should or could be obtained from an examination of the sample(s). Final interpretation of the results should be deferred until the summary report is available.