

**APPLICATION OF AMERSHAM PHARMACIA BIOTECH MEGABACE™ 1000
CAPILLARY ELECTROPHORESIS INSTRUMENT FOR STR DETECTION
AS PART OF HUMAN FORENSIC GENOTYPING**

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The Forensic Science Service supplies identity testing using AB SGM™plus markers. This service is predominately for UK police, as part of an intelligence database. To date there are 1.3 million profiles held. In 1996 the Forensic Science Service moved to automate the profiling technique. Automation brings reduced turnaround times, reduced operator error, reproducibility, continuous operation, reduced staffing, and ultimately cost savings. The increase in extraction and amplification throughput must be balanced with a high capacity detection system. Traditionally a number of ABI 377 slab gel sequencers has addressed the capacity. The 377 have been a reliable instrument for the service producing high quality data, however the overhead of gel kitchens and loading technicians creates difficulty for expansion. The Forensic Science Service has pioneered work into capillary array electrophoresis. To date ABI PRISM® 3700 is used routinely for a one robotic line. The service is currently evaluating AB 3100, SpectruMedix 9610 and Amersham Pharmacia Biotech MegaBACE™ 1000 sequencers. This poster details MegaBACE™ 1000 sequencer.