



Testing Standard for Certification

Notice: *The Canine Accelerant Detection Association (CADA) does not recognize certification of canine teams utilizing CADA's testing standard by persons or organizations other than CADA.*

Test Administrator(s):

CADA reserves the right to use CADA certified Trainers, CADA Board Members or other persons deemed qualified to administer or proctor the testing process.

See Attachment #2 for additional instructions for test administrators.

Ignitable Liquids:

Canine teams may be required to locate any of the 12 ignitable liquids from the following classifications:

Light	Medium	Heavy
1) Paint Remover	1) Ultra-Pure Lamp Oil	1) Diesel
2) Coleman Fuel	2) Gasoline	2) Kerosene
3) Acetone	3) 50% Evaporated Gasoline	
4) Lacquer Thinner	4) 75% Evaporated Gasoline	
	5) Charcoal Lighter Fluid	
	6) Paint Thinner	

Testing Instructions:

1. These tests are designed to determine the proficiency and reliability of the accelerant detection canine team in the detection of ignitable liquids in a variety of realistic search scenarios.
2. The following tests are on a pass/fail basis and shall be arranged in no particular order.
3. All tests shall be blind tests except for one test, which shall be a double-blind test.

4. There shall be no time limit for a team to complete each phase of testing; however, the test administrator(s) may stop the test once it has been made evident that the team cannot locate the target odor(s).
5. It shall be the handler's responsibility to inform the test administrator(s) when they have completed each test, and shall describe to the test administrator(s) where the target odors are located.
6. Should the canine team fail any phase of the testing process, they may be allowed to retest no more than once for that particular test, but in no case shall they be allowed to retest on the same day the test was failed. If the team does not pass by the second attempt, the team shall be reevaluated in all phases at a different time to be scheduled by CADA.
7. Test administrator(s) or evaluators will ensure odor availability of every aid. If odor availability comes into question, the exercise will be halted and a new exercise prepared. If an area of an exercise is believed to be contaminated, the testing administrator will discount any behavior previously seen in that area, and alter the exercise to exclude the contaminated area. Spiking an aid is allowable should the testing administrator feel the substance has dissipated during the testing cycle.
8. All target odors shall be placed immediately before each phase of testing and allowed to sit for at least 5 minutes. Handlers shall not know prior to testing where any of the target odors are located.
9. For certification, a team cannot have more than one false positive or miss more than one aid in all phases of testing.

Test 1: Pinpoint – Accuracy

- A. Two (2) common 1" X 4" pine boards, 24" each in length, will be divided with pencil/pen marks into three (3) sections approximately 8" each. The sections will be numbered 1 through 6.
- B. The boards shall be placed lengthwise, approximately one (1) foot apart. The ignitable liquid shall be placed near the center of one numbered section on one board. The other board shall be free of any target odors.
- C. Ignitable Liquid: 20 µL from the *Light Ignitable Liquids Class*.

Test 2: Open Area Search

- A. This will be an outside search conducted in an area measuring at a minimum of 50' X 50' (or 2,500 sq. ft.). The surface may be grass, gravel, pavement, dirt, etc.
- B. Various distracter items shall be placed within the search area. Two target odors will be placed within the search area. The target odors may be placed on the various distracters used or placed on the ground itself.
- C. Ignitable Liquid: 1/16 to 1/4 cup from the *Heavy Ignitable Liquids Class*.

Test 3: Building Search

- A. The building(s) will be either commercial or residential and may be one that was recently involved in a fire, if available.
- B. The size of the area used for testing shall not be less than 1,200 square feet or more than 2,500 square feet. A total of five (5) target odors shall be placed anywhere from a height of three (3) feet to a depth of three (3) inches under debris or ash. One room with a minimum of 100 square feet shall be blank.
- C. Prior to the test, each canine team shall be allowed to conduct a walk-through to become familiar with the building and to look for any safety hazards.
- D. Typical furnishings, distracters and burned materials consisting of plastics, rubber, foam, wood and carpet/pad, etc. may be present in the search area(s).
- E. The handler shall be allowed to call for a time out period during the search to refresh his/her canine partner if needed. The time out period shall not exceed 7 minutes.
- F. Ignitable Liquid: 10 µL from the *Medium Ignitable Liquids Class*.

Test 4: Vehicle Search

- A. The search shall be conducted utilizing three (3) unburned vehicles. Two (2) vehicles shall have one target odor placed inside the passenger compartment. The third vehicle shall be free of any target odors. The testing administrator shall determine which vehicle shall remain blank.
- B. Ignitable Liquid: 20 µL from the *Medium Ignitable Liquids Class*.

Test 5: Scent Discrimination

- A. This shall consist of a double-blind test.
- B. There will be a total of six (6) quart size cans that will contain materials from the following list:
 - 1) Softwood (pine or fir)
 - 2) Plastics (milk jug, water bottle)
 - 3) Styrofoam (egg carton, disposable coffee cup)
 - 4) Carpet and Pad
 - 5) Rubber (tire, etc.)
 - 6) Mixed-Matrix (containing each of the materials from above)
- C. Each can shall contain only one material (except for the mixed-matrix), and shall not fill more than one-half (1/2) of the can. Each sample shall be burned with a propane torch until the contents are partially charred.
- D. After the samples have been allowed to cool to ambient temperature, an ignitable liquid will be placed inside one (1) or two (2) cans. Prior to the test, the lids will be punched with a minimum of eight (8) 1/16" diameter holes.
- E. The cans shall be placed approximately 3' apart.
- F. Ignitable Liquid: 10 µL of 50% evaporated gasoline.

**** The Testing Administrator and Canine Handler shall not know which cans are hot. The testing shall be conducted out of sight of any spectators.***