

"I have found that when you are deeply troubled, there are things you get from the silent devoted companionship of a dog that you can get from no other source."

Doris Day



Bomb-Sniffing Nanotechnology

Dogs have been used to sniff out explosives for years. A new nanotech device might soon put Fido out of a job.

Taking a cue from biology, researchers at University of California, Santa Barbara (UCSB) have designed a detector that uses microfluidic nanotechnology to mimic the biological mechanism behind canine scent receptors.

"Dogs are still the gold standard for scent detection of explosives," says Carl Meinhart, UCSB mechanical engineer. "But like a person, a dog can have a good day or a bad day, get tired or distracted." The device, he says, is just as sensitive as a dog's nose when it comes to detecting airborne molecules of the primary vapor that emanates from TNT-based explosives.

"The technology could be used to detect a wide variety of molecules," says Meinhart. "The applications could extend to certain disease diagnosis or narcotics detection, to name a few."

The best part: No need for a pooper-scooper.



Canine Factoids

Japanese researchers have found that a dog's gaze can increase its owner's levels of oxytocin, the hormone behind human bonding and trust.

A dog can shake about 70% of the water from its fur in 4 seconds.

Studies of how wild canines play have concluded that dogs have a sense of justice or fair play.

A dog's nose print is as unique as the human fingerprint.

Research has shown that petting dogs lowers the blood pressure of their owners.

Merchandising Mutts

Can you pair these spokes-dogs with the companies or product they represented?

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1) Axelrod (basset hound) | A) Target |
| 2) Gidget (Chihuahua) | B) Greyhound Corp. |
| 3) Spuds MacKenzie (bull terrier) | C) Bush's Baked Beans |
| 4) Lady Greyhound (greyhound) | D) Budweiser |
| 5) Nipper (terrier) | E) Taco Bell |
| 6) Bullseye (bull terrier) | F) Flying A |
| 7) Paddington (golden retriever) | G) RCA Victor |

Answers: 1-F, 2-E, 3-D, 4-B, 5-G, 6-A, 7-C

off the mark.com by Mark Parisi



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If you have a cartoon, anecdote, joke or interesting safety item you'd like to submit for publication on this page, send your contribution to professionalsafety@asse.org. Submissions will not be returned.

Shame, Spot!

Picture this. After a long day's work and grueling commute, you come home to find a half eaten pair of boxer shorts on the floor. You look over to your trusty pooch, whose guilty look gives him away. If only there were a way to show the world his transgression and embarrass him in front of his friends.

Chris Mohney created a photo blog to do just that. The site, www.dogshaming.com, features hundreds of photos that people have submitted of their dogs and the evidence of their mischief, along with a sign that explains the reason for the criminal's telling expression.

Apparently there are a lot of naughty pets out there—since its August 2012 launch, the blog has grown to nearly 1,500 guilty-looking dogs (and cats), as of this writing.

Congratulations to **Isaiah Silva** of the Greater Boston Chapter for his winning caption contest entry, which appears below the photo.

January Safety Photo of the Month



Harry Houdini's safety plan
Greg Anderson, Plainfield, IN