Gold Standard Code Of Conduct- Guidance on U/V Lights

Why do we need to use a U/V light?

A handheld UV light source is required to screen all goods for forensic property marking or postcode markings. There are a number of scenarios that could raise suspicions when identifying whether property is marked:

- Prior to screening the property the customer should be asked if the property is marked. If the customer replies 'no' and the UV light reveals markings then this should be considered as suspicious.
- Forensic property markings will glow one of three colours. If parts of the property glow green/yellow it may be marked with Smartwater, blue it may be marked with SelectaDNA and red it may be marked with either EnigmaTAG or Crimestoppers Protector. Obviously a customer could be legitimately selling property that is marked with one of the above products, however, the asking of pertinent questions will reveal whether to be suspicious or not.

- If the UV light screening reveals a postcode and this does not match the postcode of the customer then this should also be considered as suspicious.

- If you experience any of the above suspicious incidents then you should proceed with caution.

Where can I purchase a U/V light?

U/V lights are not expensive. There are many sources for U/V lamps, key fobs or torches. It is best to avoid U/V lamps that require 'warm up time' which may not be very convenient for customers.

The NPA cannot endorse any particular company or product, however some of our members have suggested for example;

UV Light Technology Limited, based in Birmingham.
www.Uv-light.co.uk

Maplin stores and online
http://www.maplin.co.uk/uvlight-source-4848

Crime Prevention Products
http://www.c-p-p.co.uk/_uv_lamps/asp/CtgID/2287/af/page.htm

Finally, in terms of staff training, we are advised that Smartwater supply training sheets at a nominal cost, (£1 each) to enable staff to see what Smartwater marked products look like under UV light. Tel 0870 242 8899

http://www.smartwater.com/Contact-Us.aspx