



**U.S. Customs and
Border Protection**

October 13, 2006

Mr. Jim Horan
Perpetual Marketing, INC
Box 86
Lisbon, MD 21765-0086

Dear Mr. Horan,

I have taken the past several weeks to test and evaluate both the ASP chained and hinged handcuffs. Further down in the narrative I will discuss my conclusions but initially, the only word I can think of is WOW! These handcuffs are some of the finest engineered pieces of equipment I have ever used.

In short, the cuffs work. They are very comfortable to carry and are so light when compared to other brands (Smith and Wesson, Peerless), that I hardly knew they were there. As I do work in plain clothes and carry all my equipment concealed the ambient noise it makes is important and in this case there was no noise. I have in past carried both Smith and Wesson and Peerless handcuffs and have now found my everyday carry handcuffs.

The cuffs themselves have a certain coolness factor to them. Carrying them around the station, they certainly do not look like traditional style handcuffs so other Agents ask questions and want to examine them. Everyone has expressed admiration for the handcuffs noting the weight savings and smoothness of operation. The next things usually said were "where can I buy some?" and "they seem to have thought of everything." Several Agents in the field were provided with pairs of handcuffs and absolutely love them.

The Agents who were given the handcuffs to test in the field are assigned to K9 duties and to the farthest and dirtiest areas of our stations area of responsibility. None of these Agents have reported any failures with the cuffs and have been using them in everyday use with no problems except for one Agent who claims to have been cursed since being given the cuffs because he has not put them on a bad guy yet. These guys have all been showing the cuffs around to other Agents who have all wanted a pair.

The area in which we work, is the high Chihuahua Desert and is covered with scrub brush and dirt. Not the good dirt but the fine dirt that finds its way into every nook and cranny of your gear. This had no apparent effect on the cuffs. A simple blast from compressed air took care of any dirt. The cuffs were dropped, as could happen in normal use and when recovered worked each and every time.

I have questioned several of the illegal aliens and arrestees who have had the handcuffs placed on them and each has said that they were much more "comfortable" than any of the other handcuffs they had worn.

The only problem identified, and I am hesitant to call it a problem, more of an observation made by the Agents in the field was the cuff case. The majority of the Agents are right handed and as such keep their handcuffs on the weak side behind the hip. They did say that when sitting in a vehicle for an extended period of time, they could really feel the case pushing against them and wondered if a thinner profile case was being developed with less padding. That being said, all the Agents are still carrying the case on their duty belts.

The fit, finish and ease of use are phenomenal. I cannot say that I put the cuffs through any scientifically designed series of tests; I just used them and had other Border Patrol Agents use them during the course of normal duties. I seriously doubt that I will be carrying any other handcuffs in the foreseeable future and fully intend to look into other ASP products as I now carry the handcuffs and collapsible baton.

The other items, which I was provided, were the flex ties and rings; in short, what a wonderful piece of equipment. I and several other Agents have these all primed and ready to go and they are extremely easy to use and deploy. The only issue I have encountered is that there is a finite supply of them, so I do not want to use them up.

In the wish list category, I would very much like to see an expanded line of leather goods. I would like to see a plain-clothes gun belt, both single and double magazine pouches and a combo magazine/ cuff pouch. Overall the fit, finish and quality of the leather goods are above what I have been issued.

I really cannot find a negative thing to say about any of the samples, which I was provided to test. Aside from the phenomenal products, the customer service was above and beyond what I ever expected from ASP. Thank you again for the wonderful opportunity.

Sincerely,

Richard J. Coyle
Lead Border Patrol Agent
United States Border Patrol