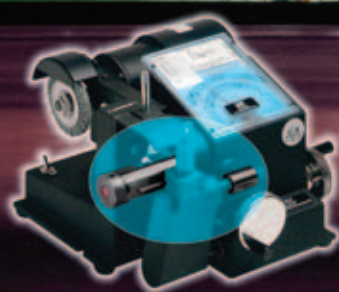


# The National Locksmith.

International Convention  
**ALOA 2002**  
and Security Expo

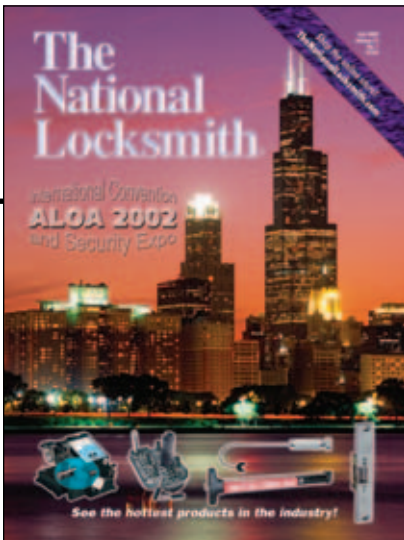
July 2002  
Volume 73  
No. 7  
\$7.00

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**On The Cover...**



This year's ALOA Convention is just a stones throw from *The National Locksmith* in Rosemont, IL. Don't miss the latest products by HPC, PRO-LOK, Lockmasters, Detex and Adams Rite, and be sure to stop by our booth and say hi.

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# ELECTRONIC LOCKS, SAFES and SECURITY

by Richard Allen Dickey

A look at the  
Electronic  
InfoBase  
Edition of Locks,  
Safes and  
Security (LSS+)

Did you read the September 2001 issue of *The National Locksmith*? Do the words “Locks, Safes, and Security” ring a bell? If it does, and you liked what you read, you are going to love this! For the rest of you, just sit back and enjoy, but before we start, I have to include this shortened introduction.

Marc Weber Tobias is one of those rare people that can do just about anything. He has more credentials than you can shake a stick at and is known around the world by corporations and governments as a consultant and technical fraud



**1. Locks, Safes and Security, published on December 27th 2000, is a 1400 page work of art. It covers every conceivable aspect of physical security. The book has well over a million words and around 550 photographs and illustrations.**

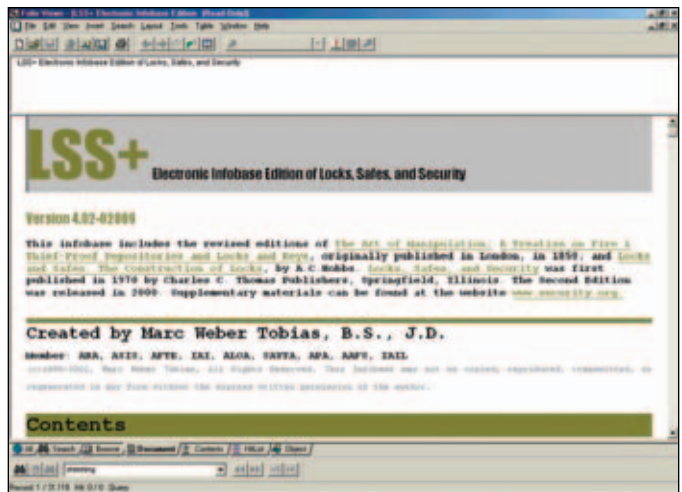
investigator.

Tobias received a Bachelor's Degree in 1970 from the University of Nebraska-Omaha, and a Juris Doctor Degree from Creighton Law School in 1973. He is an attorney in Sioux Falls, South Dakota, with Investigative Law Offices, P.C.

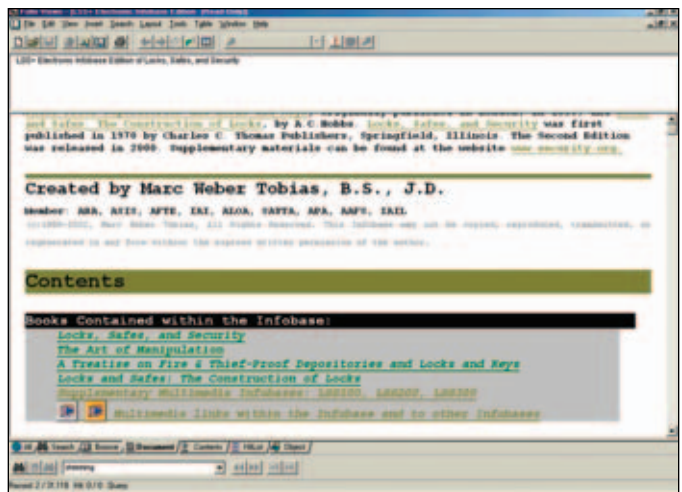
As part of his practice, he routinely conducts technical fraud investigations and consults with corporations and government agencies throughout the world regarding the bypass of locks, analysis of design defects, and security liability issues.

Tobias has authored four law enforcement textbooks dealing with criminal law, police communications, and security. His latest book, “Locks, Safes, and Security”, published on December 27th 2000, is a 1400 page

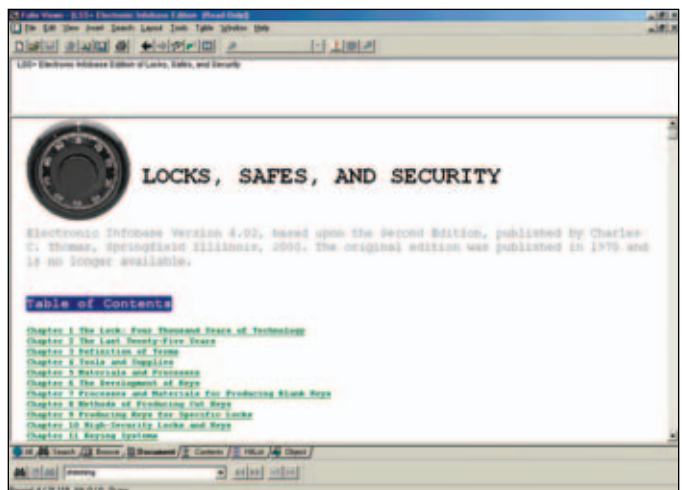
work of art. (See photograph 1.) It covers every conceivable aspect of physical security. The book has well over a million words with around 550 photographs and illustrations. There is a lot more I could say about Tobias, but it would take up



**2. The main screen shows the name of the InfoBase and the name of the creator.**



**3. If you scroll down just a little, you will see the contents of the InfoBase.**



**4. By clicking on the link, you are taken to the table of contents of that section.**

another page of text and I am sure you get the idea that this guy doesn't just talk the talk, but can walk the walk as well!

In the September article I mentioned that the book would be available on CD-ROM some time in the future. Well it's the future and the CD-ROM is here. It is called the "LSS+ Electronic InfoBase Edition of Locks, Safes and Security" and comes on 8 CD's. There is a lot more here than just the original book. I should mention that the sum of its parts constitutes a 4 Gig InfoBase.

The electronic InfoBase edition contains updated materials for many locks that are featured in the book. In addition, enhanced graphics, audio, video, and full-text patents are included.

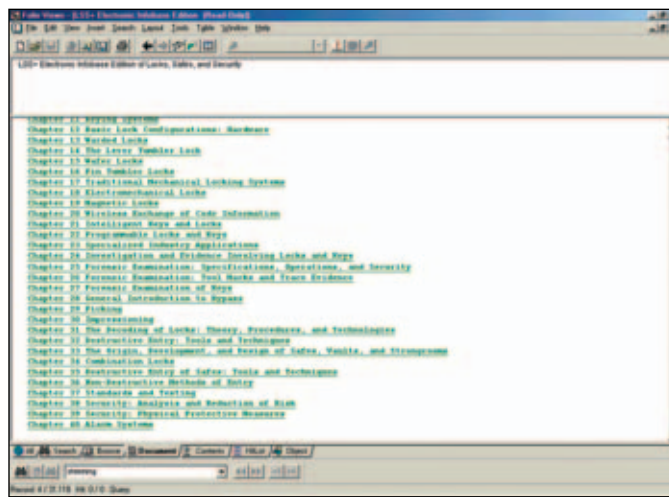
This additional information was collected after the book was published. One of the nice things about the digital world is the ability to easily update existing information. All of these additions would require reprinting a book. By using the Internet, updates can be downloaded instantly. This means that your new book on CD-ROM will never be out of date.

When the program is run, the main screen shows the name of the InfoBase and the name of the creator. (See *photograph 2.*) In the area around the main screen, you will find many of the tools you would expect to find in a Windows based program. There are pull down menus, buttons and view tabs. If you have used other windows based programs in the past, this one will feel natural to use.

If you scroll down just a little, you will see the contents of the InfoBase. Each underlined portion of the contents is referred to as a link. (See *photograph 3.*) By clicking on the link, you are taken to the table of contents of that section. (See *photograph 4.*)

The table of contents for Locks, Safes and Security is 40 chapters long. (See *photograph 5.*) By clicking on a chapter link, you are taken directly to that chapter. I clicked on chapter 33.

At the beginning of the chapter is a list of photographs and drawings. (See *photograph 6.*) The ones that start with LSS are new additions that did not appear in the book. As you



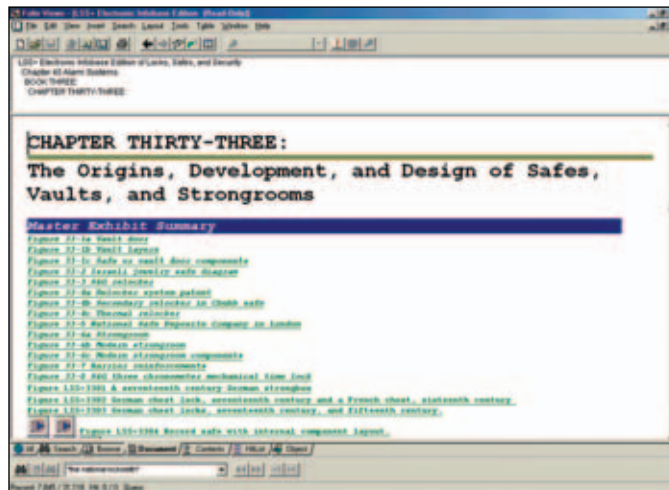
**5. By scrolling through the table of contents, you can see that there are 40 chapters.**

can see, they are listed after the originals.

More than 4000 new images have been added, as well as new text in many chapters. *Photograph 7*, is a duplicate of an original Egyptian pin tumbler design. *Photograph 8* is an example of an early Roman and African padlock and will also give you an idea of the quality of the photograph you can expect to find throughout the InfoBase. Extensive materials on forensic investigations, forced entry, and bypass of high security locks has also been included.

There is approximately thirty hours of audio and video, featuring some of the most recognized experts in the world. I watched over an hour of video and found it to be of good quality. It has been integrated into the text throughout the InfoBase.

The author has re-written two of the most famous works on the subject of locks and safes, by George Price and Alfred C. Hobbs. Each has been



**6. At the beginning of the chapter is a list of photographs and drawings. The ones that start with LSS are new additions.**

revised and can be searched for detailed information on warded and lever locks, combination locks and time locks as well as safe and vault construction techniques.

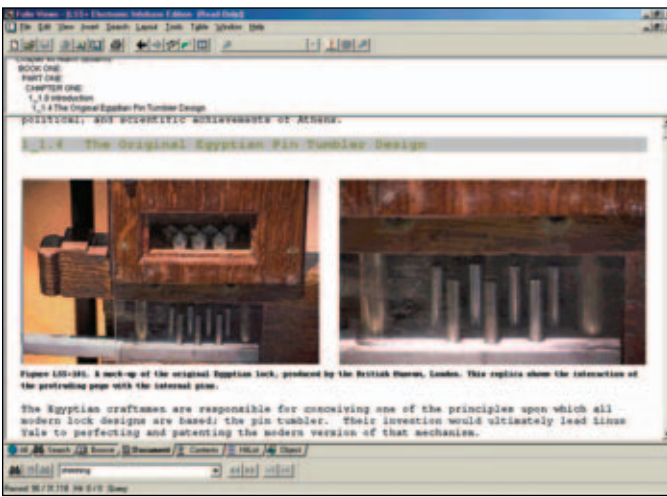
These two books were recognized as the leading works during the industrial revolution, and present a rich description and testament of the fierce battle for security and supremacy in the lock manufacturing business. The advanced search engine allows the instant location and retrieval of any information from all of these works. How can that be?

Well the search engine has recorded every single word that has been typed into it. This seemed to be a little hard to believe, so I did a test. I clicked on the binoculars (or press F2) located in the bottom left of the screen. This brought up an advanced query window. I typed in "The National Locksmith" and was surprised by the results.

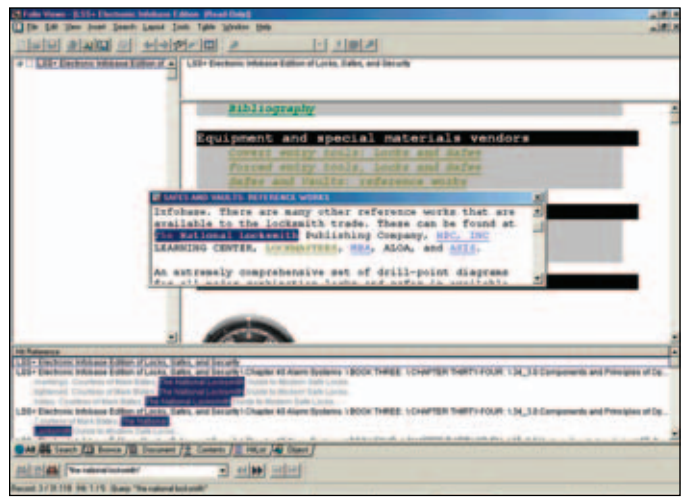
The word "the" shows up 12,229 times in the InfoBase. The word "national" shows up 59 times. The word "locksmith" shows up 176 times. This by itself doesn't mean very much. The really neat thing is that the phrase "The National Locksmith" shows up 5 times in the InfoBase. (See *photograph 9.*)

When you click "OK" you are taken to the first occurrence of the phrase. (See *photograph 10.*) By pressing "F4" you are taken to the next occurrence of the phrase and so on until you get to the last occurrence. (See *photograph 11.*) If you will notice, the phrase is highlighted and all surrounding information is displayed along with the phrase. Try that with a book.

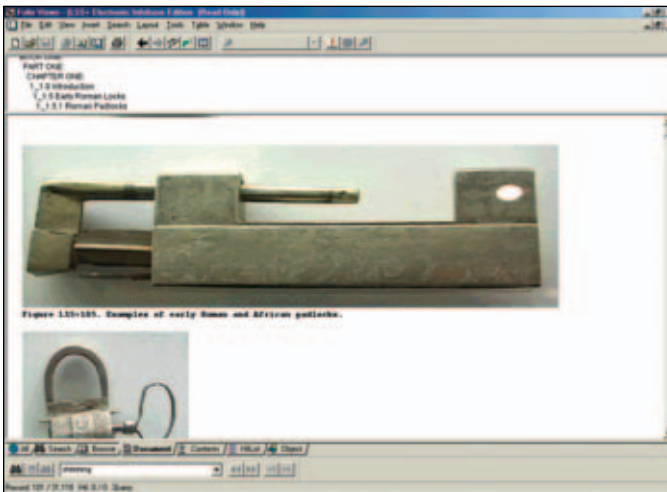
There are three security levels, depending upon your access rights. Each security level provides extensive multimedia presentations regarding locks, forensics, safes, and bypass. In order to purchase the Locksmith or Government version, you will be required to provide proof of employment or identity. Certain restricted materials will only be available to government agencies. Now that you have an idea what is in the CD-ROM collection, what does it take to run this



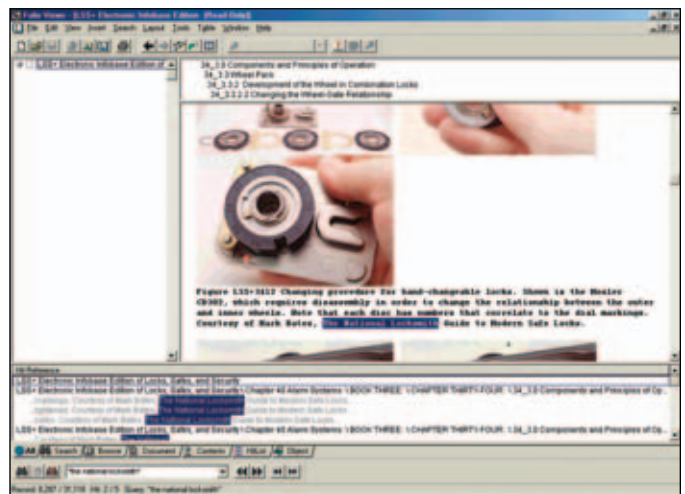
**7. This is a reproduction of an original Egyptian pin tumbler lock created by the British Museum.**



**10. The query reveals five occurrences of the phrase "the national locksmith". This is the first of those five.**



**8. As you can see, the quality of the photographs on the CD-ROM are very good.**



**11. By pressing "F4" you are taken to the next occurrence of the phrase and so on until you get to the last occurrence. The phrase is also highlighted for convenience.**

monster?

The size of the LSS InfoBase is in excess of 600 MB. That is just the InfoBase. Each LSS multimedia linked InfoBase is about the same size. The combined size of the InfoBase's are greater than 4GB. This thing is huge and needs a relatively new system to operate properly. The requirements for a PC and a MAC are as follows:

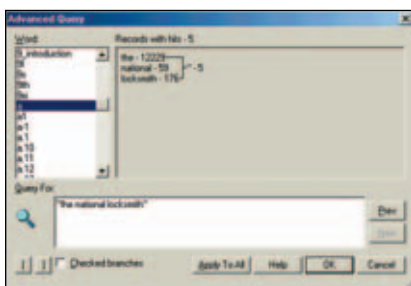
- Windows 98 or later operating system
- Display set at 1024 x 768 pixels and

at least a million colors

- MAC OS 9 or X
- Microsoft Word
- Windows Media player version 7 or above
- Intel Pentium III preferred
- RAM: minimum 256 MB for proper operation
- CD ROM or DVD drive, 4X read minimum
- Internet connection to support embedded links within the text. (not required to use the InfoBase)

My operating system is Windows ME, my screen resolution is set at 1024 x 768 pixels with 16 bit color, but my system only has 160 MB of RAM and everything seems to run just fine.

If your display size is not set properly, the layout of each page will be incorrect, with regard to text and images. This can cause viewing problems. It is a good bet that if your system is able to run the InfoBase, your system is new enough to achieve the recommended display settings.



**9. To find something specific, you use a query. The query will search every single word that has been typed into the InfoBase.**

LSS+ Electronic InfoBase Edition of Locks, Safes and Security is available from two different sources. HPC Inc. will carry security levels 1 and 2. All level 3 information must be purchased through MBA USA (Mark Bates Associates). The cost will range from around \$300.00 to \$500.00 depending on the security level purchased. If you have purchased the book, you may be eligible for a rebate when you purchase the CD-ROM set! How's that sound?

If you would like to contact the author, there are several ways you can do it.

Marc Weber Tobias welcomes feedback from readers. His e-mail address is [mwtobias@security.org](mailto:mwtobias@security.org). He may be contacted toll free utilizing Internet telephony or video conferencing through <http://www.security.org>. What would we do without technology!

