With over 7 million profiles currently stored in European databases, and the number expected to increase in response to the Treaty of Prum, the likelihood of random matches will undoubtedly increase as well. To improve the overall power of discrimination as well as provide standardization across Europe, the ENFSI and EDNAP committees have made a recommendation to extend the current European Standard Set (ESS) for STR systems. The PowerPlex® European Systems have been designed to comply with the new recommendation. The kits are based on five-color-technology and allow co-amplification and detection of the current commonly tested loci, plus the 5 new recommended loci. These kits are offered in multiple formats, including the option to detect SE33, to accommodate various requirements and/or preferences. The kits have increased tolerance to common inhibitors and increased sensitivity to obtain full profiles from low-level DNA template. Additionally, they are robust enough to genotype degraded DNA samples through the use of mini STR loci.