

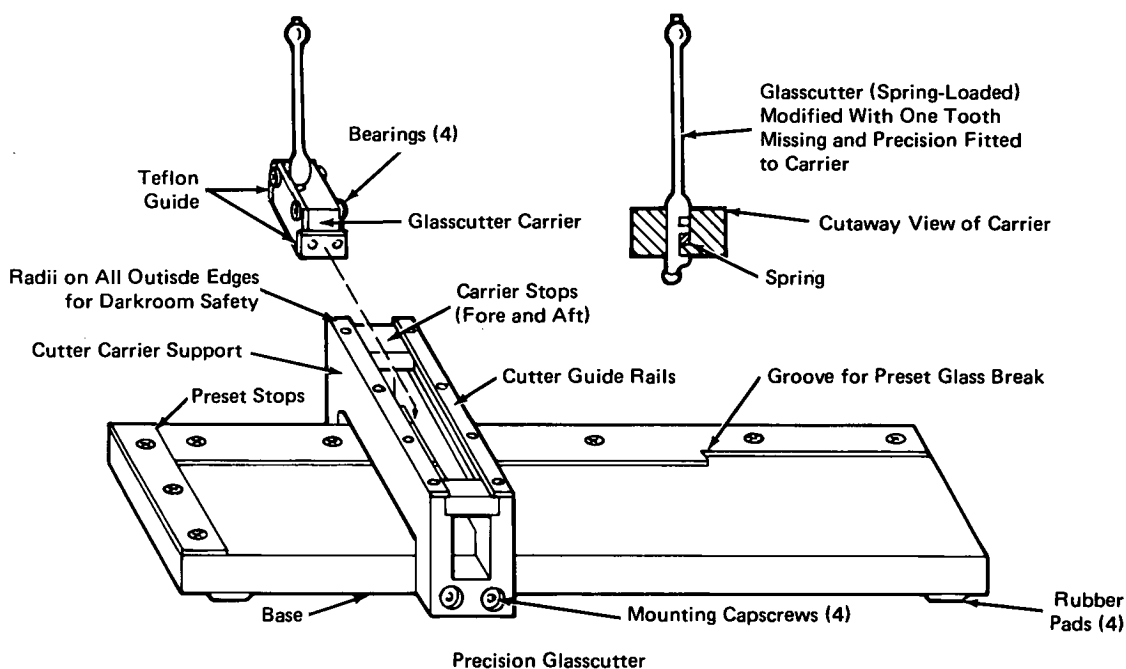
# NASA TECH BRIEF

## Langley Research Center



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### Precision Glasscutter



A precision glasscutter is now being used in the total darkness of a NASA Langley Research Center darkroom to cut glass photographic plates. Although this glasscutter is of comparatively simple construction (see illustration), it is very efficient in operation. The glasscutter is being used to reduce the length of 4-by 10-inch (10-by 25-cm) photographic plates to 5 inches (13 cm), but it could be constructed with an adjustable cutter carrier support to make cuts of various dimensions.

Glass to be cut is positioned against the preset stops; and the glasscutter, which is permanently mounted in the carrier support by cutter guide rails, is used to scribe the glass at the predetermined length. The glass then is placed against a predetermined groove at the opposite end to correspond with the setting of the cutter carrier support, and it is broken on the end of the cutter base. The cutter mechanism is spring loaded to prevent a double scribe, and a smooth scribing action is provided by bearings mounted on the cutter carrier.

Stops at each end of the cutter guide support provide preset start and stop positions for cutting.

#### Note:

No further documentation is available. Specific questions, however, may be directed to:

Technology Utilization Officer  
Langley Research Center  
Mail Stop 139-A  
Hampton, Virginia 23665  
Reference: B74-10031

#### Patent status:

NASA has decided not to apply for a patent.

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Category 07, 08