

DEVELOPING A CONSISTANT APPROACH TO NLIS PRACTICES IN MEAT PROCESSING – STAGE 2

NLIS TRAINING ROLL OUT

With Stage 1 complete and a comprehensive set of training and assessment materials, sample SOPs and work instructions available to industry, Stage 2 has supported a national roll out of the training. This stage is the second AMPC/MLA funded project designed to assist meat processing plants meet their National Livestock Identification System (NLIS) requirements.

Stage 2 has supported MINTRAC to provide NLIS workshops covering both cattle and sheep/goats NLIS which has taken place throughout June and July 2013. Workshops were held across South Australia, Western Australia, Queensland, Victoria, and New South Wales (Wagga Wagga and Tamworth).

In total, the workshops were attended by over 80 participants across 39 processing plants, 9 Registered Training Organisations and state and government department representatives. Having regulatory officers present at the training has meant that all parties involved in operating and monitoring NLIS have received a consistent message.

Each participant was provided with a comprehensive set of training materials covering both cattle and sheep/goats NLIS including sample SOPs and WI and an e-learning CD. The e-learning CD, developed during Stage 1 of the project, enables users to generate reports and conduct database uploads as well as the option to practice without being connected to the 'live' NLIS database.

EVALUATIONS

Evaluations were conducted both pre and post workshop with some interesting results. From the 80+ participants, only 22 had received any form of training in NLIS previously and every person had received errors or warnings when conducting database uploads. The main issues people were having concentrated around missing and incomplete paperwork, tags not reading, and failure to complete prior property-to-property transfers.

The post workshop evaluation identified that 100% of participants found the training worthwhile, particularly in increasing their overall understanding of NLIS through the various sections which include:

- direct consignment
- sale yard purchase
- lairage and
- reading and recording.

Some of the other general comments representing the majority of evaluations included:

- a greater appreciation and acceptance of the whole system and why it is so important that paperwork is received completed, why ERP checks are carried out and why timeliness of uploading data is crucial
- overwhelmingly positive feedback about the material especially the SOPs, WI and e-learning tools.

NEXT STEPS

As a result of the workshops, MINTRAC has had requests to conduct site specific training at a number of sites and also a request to run a workshop in Tasmania. Both of these are currently being planned and details will be provided as soon as these are finalised.

In the final stages of this AMPC and MLA funded project, MINTRAC will be working with NLIS Ltd to evaluate whether the training has had an impact on:

- call centre assistance required including the number of calls and reason for the calls
- time taken to report from kill date to upload date
- the success of data uploads including the number and nature of errors and warnings received - the types and number of reports generated.

For further information, please contact AMPC on (02) 9436 0042 or visit the AMPC website at www.ampc.com.au