

# Animal Identification & Information Systems Council Report

2012 NIAA Annual Conference

Wednesday, March 28, 2012



The Animal Identification & Information Systems Council met on Wednesday, March 28, 2012 from 8:00 am to 11:30 am during the 2012 NIAA Annual Conference in Denver, Colorado with about 77 people present. Mr. Victor Velez & Dr. Michael Coe served as Co-Chairs.

The committee session focused the practical application of electronic Interstate Certificates of Veterinary Inspection as well as the proposed and practical administration of official identification devices (Cost, Distribution, Collection) as well as an update on the changes concerning the use of premises identification number (PIN) and “State” Location Identifiers (LID). The following speakers presented relevant information pertaining to:

**Dr. Keith Roehr, State Veterinarian, Colorado Department of Agriculture & Dr. Jim Logan, Wyoming Livestock Board,** presented “State Animal Health Official Perspective on the Use of eICVIs.” (*PPT Presentations are included*)

Unifying the CVI format has been accomplished through efforts of National Assembly of State Animal Health Officials and AVMA

#### Benefits:

- Legibility, accuracy, consistent, uniform
  - Speed of commerce
  - Ease of completing information fields on CVI
  - Real-time certificate submission and receiving
  - Individual ID recorded on CVI (when applicable)
  - Immediate search look up on all fields of data including partial fields
  - Auto forwarding to destination state
- Challenges/Requirements/Goals:
    - Data capture
      - New systems drive consistency not required or available with paper systems
    - User education
    - Industry acceptance (Fees from Third Party Vendors)
    - Connectivity – not required on mobile offline systems
    - Easy interaction with state and federal systems
    - Training of veterinarians and livestock producers
    - Livestock Auction Market implementation
  - Necessary Components
    - User friendly/simple at a veterinary practice level
    - Cost effective/affordable
    - Integration capability with state/federal systems
    - Commercial competition to provide best product/s
    - Seamless interface with states and federal systems and other CVI systems
    - State owned, but Federally compliant

- Works Offline
- Works with other data collection systems like auction check-in including brands (in the Western states)
- State Animal Health Officials Needs
  - Data (Brand and CVI) is collected, owned, and managed by the state
  - Compliant with existing and future reporting rules
  - NOT reliant on federal databases to store and retrieve individual inspection and/or animal data in case of a disease trace back
  - Age requirement vs. potential use
  - States rules are sometimes more stringent

**Dr. James Moest, Lena Veterinary Clinic, Lena, IL, presented “Use of eCVI at Markets: Benefits and Challenges.” (PPT Presentation is included)**

- Located in NW IL in which we serve NW IL and SW WI
- 8 person practice- mixed animal practice
  - 6 person Dairy/Beef
  - 1 person Small animal
  - ½ person Swine
  - ½ person Equine
  - Serve 2 sale barns
- Started veterinary work at Equity Livestock (Monroe) in 2004
- CVI Volume
  - Calf sales – 10-12 CVI’s /sale
  - Feeder sales – 30-40 CVI’s/sale
  - Sheep & Goat sale – 6-8 CVI’s/sale
- Sale Schedule
  - 2 Calf/Fat Cattle/Cull Cow Sales/week
  - 2-3 Feeder calf sales/month
  - 1 sheep/goat sale/month
- Prior to Aug 2010 – CVI’s were completed after end of sales & after animals left the sale barn – CVI’s mailed to consignee’s
- From 11/1/2010 – 3/22/2012
  - 2836 CVI’s
  - Equity Livestock Coop
  - Coop of 13 livestock barns
  - Corporate office in Baraboo, WI
- Aug 2010 – State of Wisconsin enforced rules & required CVI prior to loading
  - Disruption in consignee’s routine
  - Created bottleneck during checkout for consignee’s due to delay in completion of CVI’s
  - Required extra personnel for real-time completion of CVI
  - ↑ in customer complaints due to wait
- Lena Vet Clinic staff & Equity Management decided to investigate electronic CVI’s
  - Streamline process
  - Increase CVI completion speed
  - Decrease consignee wait at checkout
- Issues to overcome
  - Internet access & Internet speed
  - Computer system and Printer access

- Decided to implement USDA VSPS system
  - LVC purchased laptop & provided extra personnel for eCVI
  - Internet access was extremely slow initially
  - Customer complaints continued due to delay in checkout
  - Investigated wireless modem to ↑ speed
  - improvement noted, but still received customer complaints due to delays
- Nov 2010, Equity Livestock encouraged LVC to investigate other eCVI systems
  - Decided to switch to Global Vet Link (GVL)
  - Install high-speed internet
- Since Nov 2010
  - Consignee wait reduced considerably
  - Customer satisfaction increased

**John Picanso, USDA/APHIS/VS**, presented “USDA’s eICVI and Other Traceability Systems.” (No PPT presentation)

Reported that the Data Standards Document is almost finished and will be presented to the State Animal Health Officials in the next few weeks for review and comment. USDA is encouraging states to share it with private companies. This document will provide continuity of data structure to facilitate data exchange between the private and public data systems.

**Panel Discussion: Industry Compatibility — Questions addressed**

Dr. James Moest, Dr. Jim Logan, Dr. Keith Roehr, and John Picanso.

1. Backtags are the main form of ID at the Markets serviced by Lena Veterinary Clinic, 10 to 20% Metal and no RFID tags at this point in time.
2. USDA will lean on Private Industry more in the Future.
3. Nebraska has also launched a “State Created” e-ICVI tool.
4. Dr. Ellis suggested education and outreach surrounding the availability and implementation of eICVI systems.

**Glenn Fischer, Senior Vice President, Allflex/Destron Fearing**, presented “A Tag Manufacturer’s View on How It Will Work.” (No PPT presentation)

It is essential to associate the official Animal Identification Number (AIN) with the location (PIN or LID) and record that association in a searchable database at the time of shipment of the device and application of the device to an animal.

Manufactures don’t set the rules but need to fully understand the rules to assist their clients to be able to achieve compliance within the Animal Disease Traceability System.

**Neil Hammerschmidt, Program Manager of Animal Identification Program, USDA/APHIS/VS**, presented “Administration of Official Identification Devices: Cost, Distribution, Collection.” **(PPT Presentation is included)**

- Administration of Official ID Devices
- Review PIN/LIDs
- Changes to administration of PIN
- Collection of Identification Devices at Slaughter and Rendering Plants

**§ 310.2 Identification of carcass with certain severed parts thereof and with animal from which derived**

(a) The head, tail, tongue, thymus gland, and all viscera of each slaughtered animal, and all blood and other parts of such animal to be used in the preparation of meat food products or medical products, shall be handled in such a manner as to identify them with the rest of the carcass and as being derived from the particular animal involved, until the post-mortem examination of the carcass and parts thereof has been completed. Such handling shall include the retention of ear tags, backtags, implants, and other identifying devices affixed to the animal, in such a way to relate them to the carcass until the post-mortem examination has been completed.

**Proposed Rule:**

(2) All man-made identification devices affixed to covered livestock moved interstate must be removed at slaughter and correlated with the carcasses through final inspection by means approved by the Food Safety Inspection Service (FSIS). If diagnostic samples are taken, the identification devices must be packaged with the samples and be correlated with the carcasses through final inspection by means approved by FSIS. Devices collected at slaughter must be made available to APHIS and FSIS.

**List of ADT Working Groups were described**

- Regulatory Monitoring and Compliance
- Traceability Effectiveness
  - Baseline tracing capabilities
  - Trace activities defined by Regulatory WG
- Admin of Official ID
  - Tag retirement
- Cost of traceback investigations

**Zack Ireland**, Director of Grading, JBS Infrastructure to Collect Electronic Devices Information at Slaughter Plants. (No PPT presentation)

Speed of commerce will dictate the use of electronic ID and also stated that animal welfare and safety will need to be considered when determining the type of official ID used. Restraining the animals to read id devices is not acceptable.

**Group Discussion**, Are EID Devices the Only Cost-Effective Retirement Device? Minimal input.

**Old Business:** There was no old business presented.

**New Business:**

- No new resolutions were proposed, the three existing resolutions were not amended or revised, and no resolutions removed.
- Action Items requested include:
  1. Develop, administer, and report on survey questions surrounding the use of electronic ICVI's by the industry.
  2. Consider a symposium and/or online type training and conversations to support education and outreach for state animal health officials, IT support staff at the State, Federal and commercial levels as appropriate when USDA Data Standards and the Final Animal Disease Traceability rule are published.
- Consensus Points for NIAA White Paper Development
  - 1) It's time to move forward with eICVI systems

- 2) The goal is improved disease response
- 3) A collaborative effort between industry, state and federal entities is required
- 4) The government will continue to support VSPS but also understands the value of private ICVI and eICVI systems.
- 5) Use of eICVI's in Auction Markets is feasible.

**General Discussion:** None

**Committee Session adjourned at 11:35 am.**