



Cattle Traceability Working Group

DRAFT

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ADT Adult Cattle System Structure Proposal
Schematic Talking Points
April 6, 2018

- Bookend vs. Full Traceability
 - The Cattle Traceability Working Group is an Independent working group of interested stakeholders not beholdng to any organization but interested in developing an industry-driven flexible solution to I.D. and traceability.
 - Discussions by the CTWG Working Group to date have supported a Bookend structure for an I.D. and traceability system.
 - We must walk before we run. A full traceability system may be achievable in the future, but there is strong opposition among producers today for full traceability.
 - Beginning with enhancing the current Animal Disease Traceability system is prudent.
 - Improve the tagging technology from metal clip tags to approved low frequency or ultra-high frequency tags will significantly improve “speed of commerce” capabilities, supporting infrastructure is already evolving in the market, and it is the market that will determine if the dual technology approach continues to be preferred, or if one technology or the other proves to be more practical over time.
 - Adding value-added information sharing capabilities will create dual-purpose databases that are larger, operate more efficiently and reduce costs to producers and other users. Many such databases already exist in the private sector today.
 - 840 tags are currently required for interstate movement, however we must facilitate greater participation by including intrastate movement and the inclusion of 900 series tags.
 - Adding 900 series tags in the beginning will increase producer participation thus increasing traceability capabilities until the 900 series tags can be phased out. More than 10 million Low Frequency RFID tags were sold into the U.S. market in 2017 and more than 50% of them were non-840 tags.

- Data management and structure
 - Some stakeholders are concerned with cost, thus the emphasis on state-agency databases. Other stakeholders are concerned about privacy and confidentiality, thus the emphasis on private sector databases. This demands flexibility in database structure and management.
 - Producers must be in control of their own choices and own data.
 - Public sector databases
 - usually more susceptible to Freedom of Information Act requests from activist groups and others.
 - The CTWG Liability subgroup is researching this issue and will provide a report in early summer. ???
 - Private sector databases
 - can usually provide more confidentiality to data protection but this is being researched.
 - usually more economically and operationally efficient
 - more capable of scaling up to serve more producers and data sharing needs than federal or state government agencies
 - Distributed Private Database Network system which creates databases capable of managing disease traceability information and private value-added information will reduce costs.

- Speed of Commerce definition
 - Several have been suggested....and continuing to work towards a more comprehensive definition of all segments is critical.
 - “Provide a system that can be integrated with current industry practices with a minimum amount of economic and efficiency disruption, and, wherever possible, create valuable management efficiencies for the producers at each stakeholder level.
 - “Allowing livestock to move through agriculture operations at the quickest speed possible, especially in livestock auction settings, where the pace of sale can affect value of animals.”
 - Both of these and likely others (from other stakeholder segment perspectives) dictate that the fastest, most efficient and economically feasible methods to process cattle and collect accurate required ID information at ranches, dairies, markets, feeders and packers to meet current state and federal ADT regulations should be utilized.