



## **Our Needs / Our Mission / Our Goals**

### **Our Needs**

In order to reduce the economic, social and environmental impacts of a foreign animal disease outbreak and a food safety crisis, the Canadian swine sector needs to develop a national traceability system that will be compatible with the ones developed by other livestock sectors and packers. It will locate and provide information on swine premises, and will allow to trace back and trace forward movements of live animals. This national traceability system will need to be endorsed by the Swine Value-Chain Roundtable.

There are in Canada differences among hog producers' both in their financial and labour resources to identify pigs, and the production systems used in their farms or group of farms to raise their hogs. Hence, in order to organize and focus stakeholders' discussion, there is a need to clarify our goals, the means and milestones to achieve them, and estimate costs for the development and maintenance of a national traceability system.

### **Our Mission**

To ensure Canada has an efficient national traceability system that supports the financial viability of the swine sector.

In July 2002, the Canadian Pork Council received the mandate from its member to coordinate the development of a national traceability system from the birth of pigs right through to their slaughter:

*“The CPC will play a coordinating role within the pork industry in the development of a national strategy and action plan towards ensuring eradication, and a capability for zoning, of foreign animal diseases affecting swine. [...] The CPC will also continue to collaborate where possible with its counterparts in other livestock sectors as well as provincial governments, and there will be a particular focus on animal identification and location requirements”*

In order to be able to have a full traceability system, it will be the lead role of packers in developing traceability system(s) from the slaughter of the pigs to the plate. Already some systems developed by packers have been developed.

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## **Our Goals**

The national traceability system will serve the following goals:

- 1) To help minimize the impacts of a foreign animal disease outbreak or a food safety crisis by:
  - a) Identifying correctly the source of the disease or contamination, and to establish correctly the control area;
  - b) Reducing the response time;
  - c) Helping to zone Canada in addressing the guidelines of the *Organisation internationale des épizooties* (OIE, or World Animal Health Organization), and meeting our trading partners' expectations;
  - d) Ensuring that the national traceability system is compatible with systems developed by other Canadian livestock sectors and packers.
  
- 2) To reinforce our domestic and export market access by:
  - a) Responding to the growing desire of consumers to know the origin of their food;
  - b) Eradicating domestic animal diseases;
  - c) Responding to the development of traceability systems developed by pork-exporting countries;
  - d) Supporting our Canadian Quality Assurance Program®;
  
- 3) To improve the competitiveness of our industry

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*Canadian Pork Council*

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