The Slaughter Process

The Slaughter process starts in the Lairages (livestock holding pens). On arrival, animals are distributed to appropriate pens and can be weighed and tagged. If required the system can incorporate barcode or RF eartag functionality. It is suggested that the use of eartags may assist in the exact tracking of animals through the pre-slaughter process as well as through the production and distribution process when the animals are scheduled for kill.

Using appropriate documentation provided by the transport company, producer or operator, lairage personnel will accept stock and assign it to specific locations or pens. This information is then used to prepare a Kill Agenda, which dictates the order in which the animals will be slaughtered. This Kill Agenda can be printed and is also available on all Slaughter Floor Touch Terminals.

Touch Terminals can be installed on the Slaughter Floor in the following positions:

- The knocking box/bleed line to record Live Weight, Sex, Eartag and Tailtag data.
- At the beginning of the head chain to record Dentition (age) data.
- On the viscera table to record Offal Defects and Disease data.
- At final inspection to record Trim Defects and Condemnation data.
- At the grading station to record Hot Standard Carcase Weight, Fat Depth, Grade etc.

Some of these functions can be combined depending on the layout of the Slaughter Floor thus reducing the amount of Touch Terminals required. As carcasses are processed through the slaughtering process, the Touch Terminals are used to collect carcase information. Identification of carcasses through the slaughtering process can be achieved using food-approved pen, stamp or body ticket. All information is continually added and updated to the central database, allowing real time kill progress enquires from any workstation located throughout the plant.

On arrival to the Grading Station the system identifies the body number and provides body details to the operator of the Grading workstation. Carcase tickets are produced at this workstation that identifies each body with an EAN barcode. Other information available for printing on the carcase ticket includes

- Body Number
- Lot Number
- Production Date
- Hot Standard Carcase Weight
- Sex
- Dentition
- Company Name
- Customer Name

This carcase ticket is then used to identify the body throughout the rest of the production process.

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