safe:food
queensland

Queensland Secure Supply Chain for Beef

Introduction

The beef industry is one of Australia's major rural industries with approximately 70,000+ beef production farms, holding 29+ million animals, producing about 2.5 million tonnes of beef and veal annually. Australia is the seventh largest global beef producer and the third largest global exporter of beef products. Australia exports 70% of the total beef produced to over 100 countries at a value of $6.45 billion.

Australia is the world's leading supplier of high quality live cattle to countries around the world, in particular throughout the Middle East and South-East Asia. The livestock export industry also supports the livelihoods of thousands of farming families and communities particularly across Northern and Western Australia. The industry employs 13,000 people across rural and regional Australia and is worth $1.8 billion to the Australian economy.

Beef cattle in the northern regions are typically grass fed on large property holdings. The northern region generally targets the live export markets. In some cases cattle are also sent south where they are grain fed in feed lots before being sent for slaughter and further processing. Farms in the southern areas of Australia are generally smaller and more intensive holdings than in the northern regions. Across Australia the diverse nature of environment and climatic differences from northern regions to the south regions dictates the production systems used and also the breeds of cattle proven to perform in those areas.

Due to these climatic differences producers are reliant on research, science and innovation to optimise production and be sustainable in the region where they operate. This means the implementation of best practice in utilising breeds, pastures, disease and parasite control methods and husbandry practices has the Australian beef industry recognised and regarded as a world leader.

Based upon risk management and supported by quality science, sectors of the Australian beef industry have developed stringent quality management systems that are underpinned by comprehensive regulatory requirements. Industry quality assurance (QA) programs require all sectors of the supply chain to take responsibility for food safety to build sustainability and confidence in the market place. Customer needs, food safety and product traceability are cornerstones of a quality system. Other elements such as animal welfare, biosecurity and environmental sustainability are also important considerations in the development of the quality management programs.
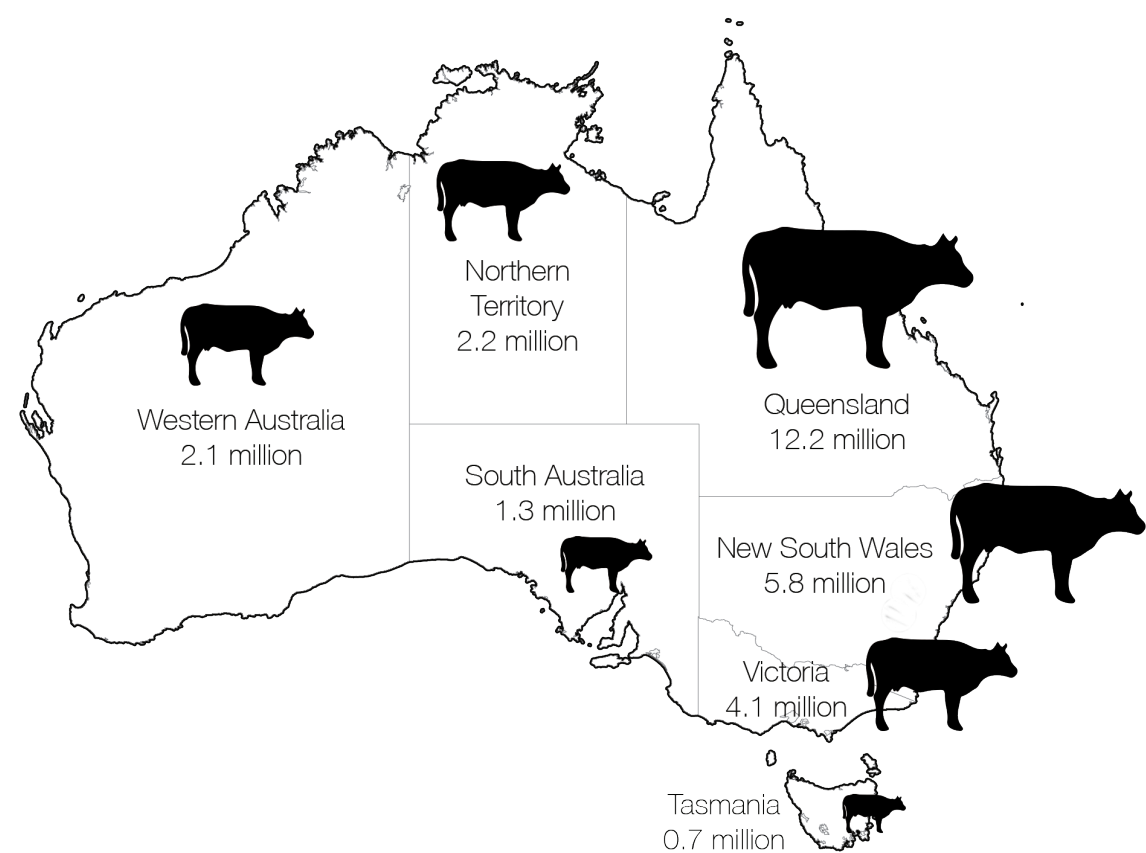
The beef industry works collaboratively with federal and state government regulatory agencies and service providers to ensure a preventative approach to food safety across the integrated supply chain. Potential risks are monitored on an ongoing basis with industry regularly updated on possible consequences from the risks. The industry approach is outcome focused, science based, non-prescriptive and proportionate to risk.

The national regulatory framework is an integrated system involving federal and state regulatory agencies but also supported by various Australian red meat and livestock industry peak representative bodies.

National Cattle Numbers

Northern Territory 2.2 million

Western Australia 2.1 million

Queensland 12.2 million

South Australia 1.3 million

New South Wales 5.8 million

Victoria 4.1 million

Tasmania 0.7 million

as at June 2012. Source: ABS (final 2012)

National Regulatory Framework

Development of Red Meat Policy

The Australian and New Zealand Food Regulation Ministerial Council consisting of Health and Agriculture Ministers from the states and territories and the Governments of Australia and New Zealand sets policies for food production in Australia. Food Standards Australia New Zealand (FSANZ) uses these policies as a framework to develop food standards.

The Department of Agriculture and Water Resources (DAWR) provides certification for exported beef products and helps facilitate market access arrangements. DAWR is also responsible for the surveillance of animals, feeds and foods imported into Australia.

The national regulatory framework is an integrated system involving federal and state regulatory agencies, industry stakeholders including peak and representative bodies.

Key Result Area: Collaborative approach between Regulators and Industry to produce a harmonised singular regulatory framework.

Development of Food Standards

Food Standards covering all foods produced domestically or imported for sale in Australia and New Zealand are developed by FSANZ in conjunction with stakeholders such as consumers, government agencies and industry groups. The Standards are published in the Australia New Zealand Food Standards Code (FSC). The FSC includes the Primary Production and Processing Standard for Meat and Meat Products.

DAWR regulates the export of meat and meat products to meet importing country requirements through the Export Control Act 1982 and the Export Orders. Wherever possible the Export Orders are harmonised with the FSC.

The Australian Pesticide and Veterinary Medicines Authority (APVMA) is responsible for a national system that evaluates and registers agricultural and veterinary chemicals and specifies the conditions of use.

The Animal Health and Welfare Committee develops national approach for the control of animal diseases and management of animal health and welfare. The implementation of the national frameworks is supported by Animal Health Australia (AHA). The National Livestock Identification System (NLIS) provides lifetime traceability for animals.
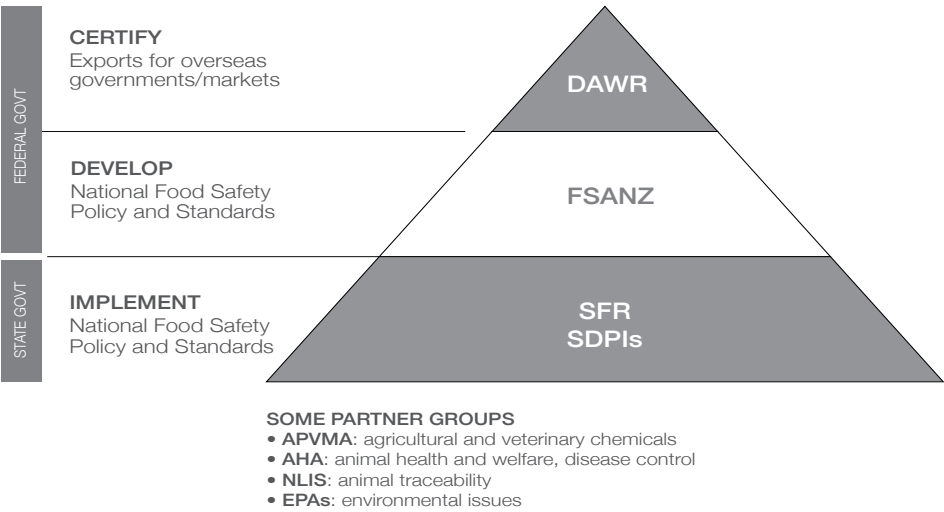
Key Result Area: Adopt and Implement a National regulatory model that meets the needs of all markets.

Enforcement and Verification

Food Standards are enforced in the Australian meat processing industry predominantly by State Food Regulators (SFR), DAWR and supported by State Departments of Primary Industries/Agriculture (SDPI), State Health Departments (SHD) and local government at a national market level.

DAWR has arrangements in place with SFRs for the enforcement of standards for exported meat and meat products.

At a farm level traceability systems record all movements

CERTIFY — Exports for overseas governments/markets	DAWR	
DEVELOP — National Food Safety Policy and Standards	FSANZ	
IMPLEMENT — National Food Safety Policy and Standards	SFR SDPIs	

FEDERAL GOVT / STATE GOVT

SOME PARTNER GROUPS
- **APVMA**: agricultural and veterinary chemicals
- **AHA**: animal health and welfare, disease control
- **NLIS**: animal traceability
- **EPAs**: environmental issues

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of cattle and support collection of information about cattle and properties that underpin food safety.

All beef consumed by Australian consumers must come from approved processors. All meat processors are required to be approved with the relevant SFR, and in addition to be registered by the DAWR for export of meat and meat products.

The food safety performance of export processors is monitored by DAWR while the performance of all other meat processing businesses is conducted by SFRs.

SDPIs enforce regulations for use of chemicals on farms, animal welfare, control of animal welfare, control of animal disease and biosecurity including traceability.

The relevant State Veterinary Practitioners Registration Board registers veterinarians for clinical practice.

Key Result Area: That industry demonstrates acceptable control of the process and a willingness to accept their accountability for the continuity and sustainability of their industry.

Surveillance

Industry and regulatory agencies monitor the safety and quality of meat and meat products through the supply chain. The National Residue Survey (NRS) is an Australian Government program that monitors agricultural and veterinary chemicals as well as some environmental and industrial contaminants. The purpose of residue monitoring is to quantify the occurrence of residues in products and to verify that residues in products are within the Maximum Residue Limits (MRLs) for national and international markets.

Key Result Area: To provide independent advice regarding the system performance which maintains confidence for the market and consumers.

Comparison of Market Access Arrangements

- ● Indicates primary responsibility
- ○ Indicates secondary responsibility

	National market						Export market		
	Federal influences		State Government influences						
	FSANZ	APVMA	State Food Regulators (SFRs)	State Departments of Primary Industries (SDPIs)	Local Government	State based Health Departments (SHD)	State Food Regulators (SFRs)	State Departments of Primary Industries (SDPIs)	Department of Agriculture and Water Resources (DAWR)
Pre-Farm									
Water	●		○		●	●	○	○	
Feed	●		○				○	●	
Agricultural & Veterinary Chemicals	●	●	○				○	●	
Fertilisers	●		○				○	●	
Farm									
Livestock	●		●	●			●	●	○
Feed	●		●	●			●	●	○
Water	●		●	●	●		●	●	○
Agricultural chemicals	●	●	●	●			●	●	○
Fertilisers	●		●	●			●	●	○
Veterinary Chemicals	●	●	●	●			●	●	○
Animals	●		●	●			●	●	○
Skills & Knowledge	●		●	●			●	●	○
Traceability	●		●	●			●	●	○
Animal Welfare				●			●	●	○
Transport									
Traceability			●	●		○	●	●	●
Animal Welfare			●	●			●	●	○
Integrity			●	●		○	●	●	●
Sales									
Traceability			●	●		○	●	●	●
Animal Welfare			●	●			●	●	○
Integrity			●	●		○	●	●	●
Live animal export			○	●			○	●	●
Processing									
Animals	●		●	○		○	●	○	●
Animal Welfare	●		●	○		○	●	○	●
Ingredients	●		●			○	●		●
Water	●		●		●	○	●		●
Equipment	●		●			○	●		●
Cleaning	●	●	●			○	●		●
Qualified Staff	●		●			○	●		●
Traceability	●		●			○	●		●
Meat	●		●			○	●		●
Waste Management			●		●	○	●		●
Distribution									
Product Traceability	●		●				●	●	●
Product Integrity	●		●				●	●	●
Markets									
Product Traceability	●		●				●	●	●
Product Integrity	●		●				●	●	●

Partner Agency and National Industry Groups

Pre-Farm › Farm › Transport › Sales › Processing › Distribution › Markets

● Indicates scheme ownership
○ Indicates collaborative, policy or educative responsibility

Agencies and Industry Groups who contribute to and support the Regulatory Outcomes	MLA	AUS-MEAT	AHA	SAFEMEAT	AMIC	Agforce	Cattle Council of Australia	ALFA	LiveCorp	RMAC	SFMCA	ALRTA
Pre-Farm												
Water	●	●										
Feed	●	●						○	○		●	
Agricultural & Veterinary Chemicals	●	●	○					○	○		●	
Fertilisers						○					●	
Farm												
Feed	●	●		○		○	○	●	●	○		
Water	●	●		○		○	○	●	●	○		
Agricultural chemicals	●	●	●	○		○	○	●	●	○		
Fertilisers						○	○	●		○		
Veterinary Chemicals	●	●	●	○		○	○	●	●	○		
Animals	●	●	●	○		○	○	●	●	○		
Skills & Knowledge	●	●		○		○	○	●	●	○		
Traceability	●	●		○		○	○	●	●	○		
Animal Welfare	●	●	○	○		○	○	●	●	○		
Transport												
Traceability	●			○		○	○		●	○		●
Animal Welfare	●			○		○	○		●	○		●
Integrity	●			○		○	○		●	○		●
Sales												
Traceability	●	●		○		○	○		●	○		
Animal Welfare	●	●		○		○	○		●	○		
Integrity	●	●		○		○	○		●	○		
Live animal export				○		○	○		●	○		
Processing												
Animals	●	● ●		○	●				●	○		
Animal Welfare	●			○	●				●	○		
Ingredients				○	●					○		
Water				○	●					○		
Equipment	○			○	●					○		
Cleaning	○			○	●					○		
Qualified Staff	●	●		○	●					○		
Traceability	●	●		○	●					○		
Meat	●	●		○	●					○		
Waste Management				○	●					○		
Distribution												
Product Traceability	○			○	●	○						
Product Integrity	●	●		○	●	○		○				
Markets												
Product Traceability	○			○	●	○						
Product Integrity	●	●		○	●	○		○				

Pre-Farm

Systems supporting Australia's commitment to maintaining the integrity of its red meat and livestock products commence before the farm.

Regulations require each of the major inputs including water, feed, agricultural and veterinary chemicals and fertiliser to be effectively managed to ensure that the integrity and safety of the beef being produced is maintained.

Feed

Beef producers that source feed requirements off farm use products such as grain, concentrates and fodder.

Grain and stockfeed suppliers have HACCP based accredited QA programs (such as Feedsafe) to ensure the feed is safe for use by livestock. The Australian Pesticide and Veterinary Medicines Authority (APVMA) registers the chemicals and prescribes their use in the production of stockfeed as well as determining maximum residue limits (MRL). Vendor declarations about the background and quality of the feed are supplied with consignments of feed to farms.

Compliance to these requirements is monitored by Animal Health Australia, State Departments of Primary Industries/Agriculture (SDPIs) and State Food Regulators (SFRs).

Fertiliser

State legislation ensures fertilisers are appropriately labelled, follow preferred methods of application and set maximum limits for elements that may accumulate or pose a risk to agriculture over the longer term.

Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals

The importation, manufacture, supply and use of agricultural and veterinary chemicals is tightly regulated through Federal and State legislation. Chemicals registered by the APVMA are the only products that can be used.

Product registration requires a rigorous assessment of efficacy, safety, and the potential impacts on trade and the environment. Approved labels detail instructions for use and withholding periods for livestock and meat products.

Only registered veterinarians can prescribe prescription veterinary treatments (such as antibiotics) for use.

Water

Water supplies must be of suitable quality to protect animal health and prevent contamination in the food chain.

State Environmental Protection Authorities (EPAs) regulate the disposal of effluent at feedlots which must be retained on farm and cannot contaminate the water supply or environment.

Key Result Area: All farm inputs are suitable for use in the food chain and can be traced to source of supply or manufacture.

Control points:
1. No contaminants in farm inputs
2. All inputs must be traceable

	National market						Export market		
	Federal influences		State Government influences						
	FSANZ	APVMA	State Food Regulators (SFR)	State Departments of Primary Industries (SDPI)	Local Government	State based Health Departments (SHD)	State Food Regulators (SFR)	State Departments of Primary Industries (SDPI)	Department of Agriculture and Water Resources (DAWR)
Pre-Farm									
Water	●		○		●	●	○	○	
Feed	●		○				○	●	
Agricultural & Veterinary Chemicals	●	●	○				○	●	
Fertilisers	●		○				○	●	

Australia's livestock and beef industry is widely recognised for having a high quality, clean and robust herd that has an ongoing ability to move with world demands and continuously supply all markets.

The prominent beef farming systems in Australia are improved pasture and feedlot based supplemented with rangeland natural production systems. The core elements and inputs of these farming systems that are required to be effectively managed include livestock, feed, water, fertilisers, agricultural chemicals, skills and knowledge, traceability, and animal welfare. The industry manages these elements and inputs through an advanced risk assessment process supported by meaningful compulsory regulation, advisory standards and certification/assurance systems.

Assurance systems include, Livestock Production Assurance (LPA), National Livestock Identification System (NLIS),

National Feedlot Accreditation Scheme (NFAS), Pasturefed Cattle Assurance System (PCAS), and National Vendor Declaration Systems (NVD). The commitment of the industry to these programs is also verified independently.

The Livestock Production Assurance (LPA) is an on-farm food safety and quality assurance certification program, it provides standards that assist livestock producers to declare food safety and quality assurance status of livestock.

The LPA system outlines requirements for agricultural and veterinary chemical use. The LPA program requires livestock producers to use a mandatory National Vendor Declaration (NVD), which details the vendor including the Property Identification Code (PIC).

The National Livestock Identification System (NLIS) is an electronic tag system of cattle and has been mandatory in Australia since 2005. NLIS allows livestock traceback to the property of birth and trace-forward from the property of birth. The system is underpinned by the eight digit Property Identification Code (PIC) issued by state governments that identifies the individual livestock property.

National Feedlot Accreditation Scheme (NFAS) covers grain fed beef for all Australian national and export markets. The scheme covers the health and feeding management of feedlot cattle and requires strict checks and records to be maintained for feed, water and other inputs.

Pasturefed Cattle Assurance System (PCAS) is an on farm declaration system that provides producers a set of standards that enable claims be made about pasturefed livestock production systems. Within this standard are governance requirements for feeding of livestock, tracing of livestock and handling of livestock.

The underlying strength of the beef industry is in its livestock. The long term partnerships

between regulators, industry and science have ensured that beef breeds have evolved to be robust in each particular environment, animal husbandry techniques are appropriate and sustainable, feed science provides efficiency and certification systems ensure high quality protein is delivered.

Risks from agricultural chemicals in feed and water are minimised by only using chemicals registered by the APVMA, which require the strict adherence to applications and withholding periods. All treatments are required to be recorded and vendor declarations made when supplying cattle. SDPI's manage diseases of regional significance through a range of programmes under the Livestock Disease Control legislation administered by each state and supported by a collaborative partnership with Animal Health Australia.

Welfare standards for livestock are managed on a collaborative approach between the state regulators and peak industry bodies. Australia has developed a set of standards and guidelines to assist the implementation of acceptable practices. As a result the livestock industry has a strong commitment to animal welfare and is recognised worldwide for the standards we set and maintain.

Key Result Area: The livestock production system ensures that the requirements are understood, the requirements are put in place, the industry is in control and consistently accountable.

Control points:
1. No contaminants entering the food chain
2. Traceable systems maintained for all inputs and outputs
3. All livestock are appropriately cared and provided for

	National market						Export market		
	Federal influences		State Government influences						
	FSANZ	APVMA	State Food Regulators (SFR)	State Departments of Primary Industries (SDPI)	Local Government	State based Health Departments (SHD)	State Food Regulators (SFR)	State Departments of Primary Industries (SDPI)	Department of Agriculture and Water Resources (DAWR)
Farm									
Livestock	●		●	●			●	●	○
Feed	●		●	●			●	●	○
Water	●		●	●	●		●	●	○
Agricultural chemicals	●	●	●	●			●	●	○
Fertilisers	●		●	●			●	●	○
Veterinary Chemicals	●	●	●	●			●	●	○
Animals	●		●	●			●	●	○
Skills & Knowledge	●		●	●			●	●	○
Traceability	●		●	●			●	●	○
Animal Welfare			●	●			●	●	○

Transport

As livestock leave the farm or the feedlot their movement is governed by a number of assurance programs and systems that ensure that their integrity is maintained and legislative requirements are met.

During transport the primary issues to be managed are animal welfare, integrity and traceability of livestock. To manage these issues, industry in conjunction with government agencies utilise the truckCare, National Vendor Declaration program (NVD) and National Livestock Identification System (NLIS).

truckCare is a quality management system used by the road transportation sector of the red meat and livestock supply chain. The program addresses animal welfare, meat safety, traceability, Occupational Health and Safety (OH&S) and biosecurity risks. The system is independently audited and integrates with other quality assurance programs that operate across the red meat and livestock sectors.

National Livestock Identification System (NLIS)

NLIS is utilised throughout the supply chain. Livestock remain traceable while being transported from farm or feedlot to saleyards, processing plants or for live cattle export. Which ensures that biosecurity and subsequently meat safety is maintained.

Key Result Area: Maintain a safe, clean, secure and seamless transport system that does not affect the integrity of the livestock industry.

Control points:
1. Animal integrity
2. Animal identification
3. Biosecurity management

	National market						Export market		
	Federal influences		State Government influences						
	FSANZ	APVMA	State Food Regulators (SFR)	State Departments of Primary Industries (SDPI)	Local Government	State based Health Departments (SHD)	State Food Regulators (SFR)	State Departments of Primary Industries (SDPI)	Department of Agriculture and Water Resources (DAWR)
Transport									
Traceability			●	●		○	●	●	●
Animal Welfare			●	●			●	●	○
Integrity			●	●		○	●	●	●

Sales

Australia has a very strong defined integrated livestock system that links the production system to the finished product. A key essential component in this is the livestock sales point. Whether this be on the hoof sales, over the scales sales or live animal exports it is a key point in the baseline that enforces industry requirements for traceability, integrity and welfare.

As with other stages of the production system, saleyards too have embraced the values of livestock assurance systems. One such system operating is the National Saleyard Quality Assurance Program (NSQAP). This system addresses all of the essential components such as animal traceability, animal integrity and animal welfare whilst integrating some community based issues such as environmental management.

Live Animal Export

The Australian live export industry is a key component to the northern beef production system. This industry has operated for the last 30 years and today is worth upwards of $1 billion to the Australian agricultural sector and regional communities.

The export of livestock is managed through regulation which is administered by The Department of Agriculture and Water Resources (DAWR). Within the structure of regulation are standards with which exporters must comply. Those standards are the Australian Standards for the Export of Livestock (ASEL) and the Exporter Supply Chain Assurance Scheme (ESCAS).

These regulations and standards require a system where exporters provide evidence of compliance with internationally agreed animal welfare standards, demonstrate traceability and control through the supply chain. They must also be independently verified for compliance and reported to the Australian Government.

Key Result Area: The integrity and reputation of the livestock industry is enhanced at point of transaction by the effective use of assured systems.

Control points:
1. Animal welfare
2. Animal identification
3. Biosecurity

	National market						Export market		
	Federal influences		State Government influences						
	FSANZ	APVMA	State Food Regulators (SFR)	State Departments of Primary Industries (SDPI)	Local Government	State based Health Departments (SHD)	State Food Regulators (SFR)	State Departments of Primary Industries (SDPI)	Department of Agriculture and Water Resources (DAWR)
Sales									
Traceability			●	●		○	●	●	●
Animal Welfare			●	●			●	●	○
Integrity			●	●		○	●	●	●
Live animal export			○	●			○	●	●

Processing

Meat processing plants are required to be approved with the relevant SFR, and in addition plants intending to export require DAWR registration.

In both instances, Approved Food Safety programs are required in the form of documented HACCP based food safety plans and quality assurance programs developed to ensure that customer needs and specifications, including food safety, are constantly met. The food safety program (FSPs) must be approved by SFRs prior to the granting of an approval to operate. These FSPs contain the documented procedures showing how the business complies with the relevant regulations, standards and codes. All businesses operate to the requirements of the Australian Standard for Hygienic Production and Transportation of Meat and Meat Products (AS 4696:2007).

Rigorous standards exist for the design and construction of facilities in order to minimise cross-contamination of the final product from raw materials and the external environment. All of these requirements ensure that animal welfare standards are managed, product flow occurs whilst incorporating risk management for food safety, high standards of biosecurity are implemented and the integrity of product is not compromised.

All suppliers of ingredients, services, equipment and packaging work with the business to ensure all meat products meet specific requirements, especially with regard to food safety, product integrity and the traceability of materials.

Product specifications reflect compliance with regulatory requirements within the Food Standards Code (FSC) and in the case of exports, the requirements of DAWR and the importing country. Information such as product description, date of production, production plant and batch information is used to identify and trace product. Additional information including nutritional and use by information is required for labels of goods sold within Australia and in overseas markets.

Training and development of staff in all areas of food safety, quality, environment and occupational health and safety is imperative for businesses seeking to improve their performance while maintaining compliance. The state food safety regulators require qualified persons to be present at each business to ensure appropriate decisions are made regarding animal welfare, food safety and matters of product traceability. It is also now a mandatory requirement of the business to notify the regulators immediately regarding issues of food safety and public health.

An annual verification program is undertaken by DAWR and SFRs to confirm the implementation of key elements of Australia's food safety systems. In addition, monitoring programs such as the Product Hygiene Indicators (PHI) and the National Residue Survey (NRS) provide further surveillance and control to ensure meat products meet National Standards and the importing country requirements.

Key Result Area: The sector implements continuous change and innovation to maintain world's best practice, improve reputation and adapt to customer needs.

Control points:
1. Approved Quality Assurance systems
2. Verification
3. Animal welfare

	National market						Export market		
	Federal influences		State Government influences						
	FSANZ	APVMA	State Food Regulators (SFR)	State Departments of Primary Industries (SDPI)	Local Government	State based Health Departments (SHD)	State Food Regulators (SFR)	State Departments of Primary Industries (SDPI)	Department of Agriculture and Water Resources (DAWR)
Processing									
Animals	●		●	○		○	●	○	●
Animal Welfare	●		●	○		○	●	○	●
Ingredients	●		●			○	●		●
Water	●		●		●	○	●		●
Equipment	●		●			○	●		●
Cleaning	●	●	●			○	●		●
Qualified Staff	●		●			○	●		●
Traceability	●		●			○	●		●
Meat	●		●			○	●		●
Waste Management			●		●	○	●		●

Distribution

Product traceability and integrity must be maintained during the distribution of meat and meat products. These requirements are achieved by processors and distributors use of industry wide assurance programs and approved Food Safety Programs.

Compliance to legislative requirements are verified by both SFRs and DAWR (in the case of product destined for export).

Cartoned meat and offal packed destined for export markets are labelled with a unique label that uses the GS1 barcode system that specifies the packaging facility, the time and date of packing and the contents of the carton. This ensures that traceability is maintained after slaughter of the animal through distribution to sale. Product sold within Australia requires similar labelling, distribution documentation and manifests to ensure that product can be effectively traced after leaving the processing facility.

All processors must have a documented system inclusive of records that quickly and efficiently enables product recall or withdrawal from market points.

Export product including cartoned product and carcases that is moved from one facility to another has to be accompanied by an official Meat Transfer Certificate issued under the general supervision of the DAWR that specifies the sending and receiving facilities, quantity of product, and market eligibility details.

Once meat is ready for export, the processing facility electronically requests a Health Certificate from the DAWR. The Health Certificate confirms that beef was processed in a hygienic manner and was derived from animals which have been found by anti-mortem inspection to be free from disease and by post-mortem inspection to be fit for human consumption. The Health Certificate is only issued if the meat complies with both the Australian and any additional importing country requirements.

The Health Certificate also ensures that product can be effectively traced by the information that it contains including details of the exporter, importer, processing facility, description of product including quantities, container marks/numbers, official container seal number, vessel or aircraft, the port of loading and discharge and any declarations that are required by the market. The information obtained from the Health Certificate is stored by DAWR in a central database.

Key Result Area: The system is comprehensively integrated to enable accurate product traceability for all distribution networks.

Control points:
1. Traceability
2. Integrity

	National market						Export market		
	Federal influences		State Government influences						
	FSANZ	APVMA	State Food Regulators (SFR)	State Departments of Primary Industries (SDPI)	Local Government	State based Health Departments (SHD)	State Food Regulators (SFR)	State Departments of Primary Industries (SDPI)	Department of Agriculture and Water Resources (DAWR)
Distribution									
Product Traceability	●		●			●	●		●
Product Integrity	●		●			●	●		●

Markets

The National market is the largest market for Australian beef. Australia is also one of the world's largest exporters of red meat and livestock, exporting to more than 100 countries. Australia's 'clean', 'green' image and reputation as a supplier of safe, quality red meat has been achieved after many years of consistently supplying quality product.

Good collaboration between industry, government, researchers and service providers has been the hallmark of the beef industry reputation. The industry continues to innovate and promote its products both nationally and internationally.

At a national level organisations such as Meat & Livestock Australia (MLA) promote directly to retail customers as well as foodservice outlets, such as hotels, restaurants and restaurant chains. Retail and wholesale customers within Australia and internationally apply rigorous buying specifications. In addition to their own specific product requirements their product specifications typically include meeting Australia's Food Standard Codes (FSC) and the relevant state based legislation.

To meet market access requirements for exported product, Export Control Orders and importing country requirements must be met. Under Australia's export legislation and importing country requirements, DAWR is the competent authority for export inspection and certification. Export regulations cover many requirements including the importing country's food safety requirements, product standards, biosecurity, quarantine standards and traceability.

Key Result Area: Marketing must develop. maintain and demonstrate sustained growth, strong linkages, capitalise on heritage values, be capable of continually responding to trends, responsive to markets and adopt innovation for a sustainable industry.

Control points:
1. Traceability
2. Integrity

	National market						Export market		
	Federal influences		State Government influences						
	FSANZ	APVMA	State Food Regulators (SFR)	State Departments of Primary Industries (SDPI)	Local Government	State based Health Departments (SHD)	State Food Regulators (SFR)	State Departments of Primary Industries (SDPI)	Department of Agriculture and Water Resources (DAWR)
Markets									
Product Traceability	●		●			●	●		●
Product Integrity	●		●			●	●		●

Regulators, National Industry Groups and Assurance Programs at a Glance

Common Acronyms	Organisation	Function	Website
Federal Government			
APVMA	Australian Pesticide and Veterinary Medicines Authority	Administers the national scheme for the assessment, registration and supply of agricultural and veterinary chemicals	www.apvma.gov.au
DAWR	Department of Agriculture and Water Resources	Negotiates with importing countries re market access requirements. Administers inspection and certification of exported beef products. Inspects imported food products.	www.agriculture.gov.au
FSANZ	Food Standards Australia New Zealand	FSANZ develops standards for primary production and processing and for food hygiene within Australia and New Zealand	www.foodstandards.gov.au
State Food Regulators			
Biosecurity Tasmania	Biosecurity Tasmania	Ensure the commercial production of meat and poultry meat is regulated under the Meat and Poultry Food Safety Scheme (Meat and Poultry Scheme), which is established by the Primary Produce Safety (Meat and Poultry) Regulations 2014	www.dpipwe.tas.gov.au/biosecurity
DoH	Department of Health (Western Australia)	The production and sale of food in Western Australia (WA) is governed by the Food Act 2008 (the Food Act), the Food Regulations 2009 (the Food Regulations) and the Australia New Zealand Food Standards Code (the Code). Food businesses must comply with the requirements of this legislation with compliance and enforcement being undertaken by the appropriate enforcement agencies. The Department of Health (DOH) and Local Governments are the appropriate enforcement agencies for various food businesses within WA.	www.health.wa.gov.au
Northern Territory	Biosecurity and Product Integrity	The role of Animal Biosecurity is to protect and facilitate market access for Northern Territory livestock and livestock products to domestic and international markets. This includes disease surveillance and control, livestock identification, meat industries, livestock welfare, veterinary laboratory services and legislative compliance	www.nt.gov.au
NSWFA	New South Wales Food Authority	A through-chain food regulatory agency working in close cooperation with its partners, industry and the wider community. Providing certainty in the safety and integrity of the food supply chain in NSW by regulating and measuring food safety across the food industry.	www.foodauthority.nsw.gov.au
PIRSA	Primary Industry and Regions South Australia	Ensuring that primary production and processing businesses across the meat sector comply with relevant regulations and standards.	www.pir.sa.gov.au/biosecurity
PrimeSafe	PrimeSafe (Victoria)	Control and keep under review the standards of meat produced for consumption or sale within the state, license meat processing facilities, approve quality assurance programs, to monitor the implementation of those programs and control and keep under review the standards of the construction and hygiene of plant, vehicles and equipment in a meat processing facility.	www.primesafe.vic.gov.au
SFPQ	Safe Food Production Queensland	Functions include, licensing/accrediting of meat processing facilities, approving quality assurance programs and monitoring the implementation of these programs	www.safefood.qld.gov.au
State Departments of Primary Industries/Agriculture			
DAF	Department of Agriculture and Fisheries (Queensland)	Enforce regulations regarding livestock disease, livestock identification, animal welfare, use of agricultural and veterinary chemicals. Advice and assistance to cattle producers.	www.daf.qld.gov.au
DAF	Department of Agriculture and Food (Western Australia)	The department's role is to support the success of the state's agrifood businesses to achieve the vision of 'a progressive, innovative and profitable agriculture and food sector that benefits Western Australia'. Working with industries and businesses throughout the sector, helping them identify and capitalise on opportunities for growth as well as to manage and overcome obstacles. Supporting all aspects of food and fibre production at each stage of the supply chain. This is achieved by building market knowledge and conducting innovative research and development and marketing and extension programs. Develop and enforce regulations that ensure the production of high-quality, safe and healthy food for our customers in Australia and overseas.	www.agric.wa.gov.au
DELWP	Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning (Victoria)	The Department provides an efficient management approach for public and private land, and water for the people of Victoria. The focus is on protecting the environment, boosting productivity in Victoria's world-class food and fibre sector, and managing all natural resources - all processes which are strongly influenced by decision-making at a local level.	www.depi.vic.gov.au
DPIF	Department of Primary Industries and Fisheries (Northern Territory)	The Primary Industries Division delivers strategic services that support profitable and sustainable primary production. It works in partnership with producers, industry bodies, community groups and related agencies to promote industry growth and ensure access to markets for animals, plants, and animal and plant products.	www.nt.gov.au
DPIPWE	Department of Primary Industries, Parks, Water and Environment (Tasmania)	The Department's activities guide and support the use and management of Tasmania's land and water resources and protect and promote its natural, built and cultural assets. The Department is also responsible for delivering the services that support primary industry development and for the protection of the State's relative disease and pest-free status.	www.dpipwe.tas.gov.au
NSWDPI	New South Wales Department of Primary Industries	The Department of Primary Industries works to develop and sustain diverse, profitable food and fibre industries, and ensures best practice management of our natural resources. Responsibilities include developing profitable, sustainable and biosecure agriculture and fisheries; ensuring best management of catchments, natural resources and water; and regulating the state's food sector.	www.dpi.nsw.gov.au
PIRSA	Primary Industries and Resources South Australia	PIRSA also has the objectives of facilitating the development and growth of food, wine, fisheries, aquaculture and forestry sectors; facilitating the application of innovative new technologies, services, products and knowledge through its strong partnerships with industry sectors; providing research and development capability delivering innovation in the food, fibre and bioscience industries; delivering rural and remote community support services; and protecting agri-food industries against potential biosecurity outbreaks.	www.pir.sa.gov.au

Regulators, National Industry Groups and Assurance Programs at a Glance (continued)

Common Acronyms	Organisation	Function	Website
National Industry Groups			
AgForce	AgForce	AgForce have responsibility for communications, advocacy and policy oversight over animal health and biosecurity, animal welfare, industry systems, transport and infrastructure, marketing, trade and market access, rural crime and livestock security, industry and government oversight.	www.agforceqld.org.au
AHA	Animal Health Australia	Coordinates national animal health programs by working through partnerships with Industry and Government.	www.animalhealthaustralia.com.au
ALEC	Australian Livestock Exporters Council	The national peak council body representing the livestock export industry, through which LiveCorp consults with industry and exporters. ALEC is responsible for developing industry policy and is made up of livestock exporters and state chapters whose members are directly involved in the export of Australian livestock.	www.livecorp.com.au
ALFA	Australian Lot Feeders Association	The Australian Lot Feeders' Association is the peak national body for the feedlot industry in Australia. Its mission is to lead the industry in a manner that fosters excellence and integrity and improves the feedlot business environment whilst ensuring its community standing.	www.feedlots.com.au
ALPA	Australian Livestock and Property Agents Association	ALPA is the national peak industry body for livestock and property agents. It represents more than 1,200 agency businesses across Australia. Collectively this group plays an important role in livestock, wool, merchandise and rural property sales and marketing. ALPA members handle in excess of 97% of rural agency business Australia wide. It is one of the largest organisations of small rural business men and women, relied on to protect the interests of agents and producers nationally.	www.alpa.net.au
AMIC	Australian Meat Industry Council	AMIC is a peak council body that represents retailers, processors, exporters and smallgoods manufacturers in the post–farm-gate meat industry. As a peak council AMIC confers with members, governments and industry groups to influence policy and provide advice to the industry.	www.amic.org.au
AUS-MEAT	AUS-MEAT Limited	AUS-MEAT is responsible for establishing and maintaining National Industry Standards of meat production and processing. AUS-MEAT is a product of, and is wholly owned by, the Australian meat and livestock industries. AUS-MEAT has always been directly accountable to industry through representation on the Australian Meat Industry Language and Standards Committee.	www.ausmeat.com.au
Cattle Council	Cattle Council of Australia	The objective of the Council is to represent and progress the interests of Australian beef cattle producers through wide and regular consultation with, and policy advice to, key industry organisations, relevent Federal Government Departments and other bodies regarding issues of national and international importance.	www.cattlecouncil.com.au
LiveCorp	LiveCorp	LiveCorp works closely with industry stakeholders to continuously improve performance in animal health and welfare, supply chain efficiency and market access through the provision of technical services and research, development and extension (RD&E).	www.livecorp.com.au
MLA	Meat & Livestock Australia	Delivers marketing and research and development services for Australia's cattle producers. MLAs funding comes from transaction levies placed on the sale of livestock, with the Australian Government providing matched funding for levy investment in most R&D.	www.mla.com.au
RMAC	Red Meat Advisory Council	RMAC has principle functions which include providing advice to the Minister on cross-sectoral or whole-of-industry matters; acting as custodian of the Meat Industry Strategic Plan that is used as a guide for industry programs; ensuring responsible management of a parcel of industry investments, known collectively as 'The Fund', in a manner consistent with established industry/Government agreement; and allowing a forum for the five Peak Industry Councils to discuss multi-sectoral issues.	www.rmac.com.au
SAFEMEAT	SAFEMEAT	Is a partnership between the red meat and livestock industry and the state and federal governments of Australia. This partnership ensures that Australian meat and livestock products achieve the highest standards of safety and hygiene from the farm to the consumer.	www.safemeat.com.au
Industry Assurance Programs			
LPA	Livestock Production Assurance	LPA is an on-farm food safety and quality assurance accreditation program	www.mla.com.au
LPA NVD/Waybill	LPA National Vendor Declaration and Waybill	These documents contain information about the location of the property, the vendor, the unique Property Identification Code (PIC), exposure of the livestock to agricultural and veterinary chemicals and grazing and supplementary feeding history. The document is a declaration that livestock owner must sign and transfer along the supply chain when livestock change ownership.	www.mla.com.au
NFAS	National Feedlot Accreditation Scheme	NFAS is a quality assurance system for feedlots producing grainfed beef for all export markets	www.ausmeat.com.au
NLIS	National Livestock Identification System	NLIS is an electronic tag system of cattle that is the primary component of Australia's beef traceability systems	
NSQA	National Saleyard Quality Assurance	A program that ensures that livestock traceability is maintained throughout the sales yard process. Transactions are recorded in the NLIS database.	www.ausmeat.com.au
PIC	Property Identification Code (PIC)	PIS is a system that is based on the application of a unique number to each farm. The system underpins NLIS.	
PCAS	Pasture-fed Cattle Assurance System	PCAS is an assurance program that enables the industry to prove claims relating to pasturefed or grassfed production methods. Underpinning PCAS are the PCAS Standards which govern the on-farm feed requirements and traceability of the cattle as well as pre-slaughter handling practices which influence eating quality. The PCAS Standards also include two optional modules to support claims relating to the freedom from antibiotics and hormone growth promotants (HGPs).	www.certifiedpasturefed.com.au

Regulators, National Industry Groups and Assurance Programs at a Glance (continued)

Common Acronyms	Organisation	Function	Website
Industry Assurance Programs (CONTINUED)			
ALRTA	Australian Livestock and Rural Transporters' Association - truckCare	ALRTA owns and operates truckCare, the only industry-based quality assurance scheme that meets the requirements of the new Animal Welfare legislation that will apply to farmers, transporters and processors from 2011. truckCare also addresses traceability and biosecurity requirements that apply to agriculture in Australia.	www.alrta.org.au
ASEL	Australian Standards for the Export of Livestock	The Australian Standards for the Export of Livestock (ASEL) outline the basic animal health and welfare requirements for the livestock export industry from farm through to the discharge of animals in the country of destination. ASEL also incorporates stringent reporting requirements for exporters to ensure the Australian Government can monitor animal health and welfare throughout a voyage and respond to emergency situations if they arise. During all voyages livestock are cared for by trained and accredited stock people and during long haul voyages a veterinarian accredited by the Australian Government is also present. LiveCorp are responsible for the training and accreditation of onboard stockpersons for the industry. A requirement of ASEL is that all livestock mortalities are reported at the end of a voyage and these statistics are tabled in parliament every six months.	www.livecorp.com.au
ESCAS	Exporter Supply Chain Assurance Scheme	The ESCAS framework requires Australian exporters to hold a current exporter licence and obtain a permit to export feeder and/or slaughter livestock and the exporter must demonstrate that throughout the entire supply chain in overseas markets, through to the point of slaughter: Animals will be handled and processed through specified supply chains in accordance with the internationally accepted requirements for animal welfare established by the World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE); They have control of the movement of animals within their supply chain; They can track or account for animals throughout the supply chain; They have conducted independent audits of the supply chain, both prior to shipment and throughout post-arrival management of the animals.	www.livecorp.com.au
GS1	Global Standards 1	GS1 is a barcode system that is used by over one million companies in dozens of industries worldwide.	
NRS	National Residue Survey	The NRS is an Australian Government program that monitors agricultural products and meat producing animals for residues of primarily agricultural and veterinary chemicals but also environmental and industrial contaminants.	www.agriculture.gov.au
SFMCA	Stockfeed Manufacturers Council of Australia -Feedsafe	The SFMCA operates FeedSafe® as the Quality Assurance Accreditation Program for the Australian stock feed industry. The central aspect of FeedSafe® is a Code of Good Manufacturing Practice (GMP), which has been developed in conjunction with the Chief Veterinary Officers within each State, and the final document has Primary Industries Ministerial Council endorsement. FeedSafe® requires feed manufacturers to meet minimum standards in relation to: • Premises and mill buildings • Personnel training and qualifications • Plant and equipment • Raw material sourcing and purchasing • Raw material quality and storage • Feed formulation and manufacturing • Product labeling • Loading, transport and delivery to clients • Product inspection, sampling and testing • Customer complaint investigation	www.sfmca.com.au

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