

NLIS Pig Standards

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Introduction

Purpose

The purpose of this document is to specify minimum standards that, if adhered to, will ensure the traceability of pigs for disease control and food safety purposes.

These rules have been developed collaboratively between industry and government and form the basis for the introduction of harmonised legislation in each jurisdiction to support and achieve consistent identification and traceability outcomes and the adoption of codes of best practice by industry. The standards also represent minimum mandatory requirements needed to ensure compliance with the National Livestock Traceability Performance Standards and the Primary Production and Processing Standard for Meat and Meat Products.

These minimum standards support the harmonisation in legislation across jurisdictions. It is recognised that State/Territory legislation may impose more demanding requirements. Industry participants need to comply with relevant legislation in the jurisdiction in which they operate.

It is expected that these minimum standards will be progressively adopted by industry production assurance programs, and that program participants will be subject to periodic audits in relation to their compliance with these standards.

Scope

These standards apply to:

- 1) All pigs and their movements in Australia.
- 2) Those personnel responsible for the care and management of the movements of pigs from or to farms, saleyards, artificial breeding centres, veterinarians, Agents' Property Identification Codes (PICs), transport vehicles, knackeries and processing establishments and agricultural show societies or any other movement between locations with a different PIC.

Interpretation

Each numbered section or part of the document covers a particular responsible person and contains the following information:

- Scope – who the section or part applies to.
- Objective — the intended outcome(s) for each section of the standards.
- Standards — the minimum pig identification and traceability requirements designated in this document which are the minimum requirements that must be met under state and territory law for pig identification and traceability.
- The standards are:

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- intended to be clear, essential and verifiable statements. Standards use the word ‘must’.
- numbered with the prefix ‘S’.
- Notes — explanations of the context of the standards.
- Definitions – are described in the glossary.
- Further details on pig identification and traceability standards can be found in other industry and state and territory government publications.

Some standards describe the required identification and traceability outcome without prescribing the exact actions that must be done.

Note that:

- Note the use of ‘a person’ or ‘a person in charge’ in the standards. ‘A person’ means more than one person (plural) and not just a specific person. Use of ‘a person in charge’ is appropriate where responsibility is shared and may extend along a hierarchy of management.

Principles of Pig Identification and Traceability

The rapid traceability of pigs is critical in order to:

- *Facilitate swift responses by industry and authorities in the event of emergency animal disease outbreaks –*

The spread of infectious animal disease is primarily by the movement of infected pigs and often disease is first detected at a distance from where the pigs were infected. Delay in determining the identification and origins of pigs, their cohorts and at-risk contacts threatens to delay an emergency disease response, with potentially devastating impacts particularly for highly infectious diseases like foot and mouth disease.

- *Maintaining national and international market access –*

Minimum livestock identification and traceability standards are set for global trade by the World Organisation for Animal Health (the OIE), and it is these that must be met as a minimum to ensure that Australian pigs and pig products can continue to be traded internationally.

- *Underpinning food security, safety and public health –*

Pigs may be contaminated with residues or infectious agents that pose a risk to other animals and humans. To protect these, it is critical to be able to identify pigs and their movement history.

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This ability to determine where a pig has been from the point of enquiry back to the property of birth is termed 'lifetime traceability'.

Property Identification and Registration

Individual properties and enterprises are identified by PICs to which are attached contact details of the pig owners and managers.

Mob-based Pig Identification

Pig movements are based on mobs rather than individual animal identification. All animals in a mob are identified on the basis of the last property of residence, through either National Livestock Identification System (NLIS) approved devices (e.g. ear tags) or registered brands, which are both linked to the PIC of that property. The devices and brands are approved under state legislation. This means that any time a pig moves, it will have a new device or brand applied.

A mob can refer to a single animal if moving with visual identification (not individual electronic identification).

Note that:

- Where 'NLIS approved device' is mentioned, it implies any identifier approved by NLIS Ltd for the identification of pigs. This may include visual and electronic ear tags or any other type of identifier approved into the future.

Movement Information

There are critical details that need to be recorded when pigs are moved, including the PIC from which the pigs were dispatched, the date of dispatch, the numbers and description of pigs being dispatched, the serial number of the movement document that accompanies the pigs, the name and signature of the person completing the document and date it was made, and the intended destination of the pigs.

Central Database

All movement information is recorded on a central database (i.e. the NLIS database via the PigPass database) which links the mob of pigs involved in the movement between properties. It is through interrogation of the NLIS database that animal movements between properties can be traced.

Part I: Producers

Scope

This Part of these Standards applies to:

- 1) persons owning and/or managing a property upon which pigs are bred, agisted, reared or kept
- 2) persons owning and/or managing pigs moving off or onto a property at any point of the animals' life for any reason.

Note that:

- The above includes: artificial breeding centres, the premises of veterinary practitioners and farms. It also includes pigs kept as pets by lifestyle farmers irrespective of whether the owner or manager has an Australian Business Number or is registered as a 'primary producer' with the Australian Taxation Office.

Objective

To ensure that pigs are correctly identified with an NLIS approved device or brand prior to movement and that their movement between properties can be traced effectively and rapidly.

Standards

SI.1 Property Identification

- SI.1.1 All persons owning or managing a property upon which pigs are or will be kept must obtain and hold a valid PIC registered for that property from their state animal health authority. This includes farms, saleyards, showgrounds, abattoirs, knackeries and any other property where pigs may be kept.
- SI.1.2 Changes to the following details relating to a PIC must be notified to the state animal health authority within 14 days:
 - a) Owner contact details including name, address and contact phone number
 - b) Manager contact details including name, address and contact phone number
 - c) Changes to property boundaries involving their expansion through acquisition agreement, or their reduction through sale or otherwise.

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SI.1.3 In some jurisdictions, parcels of land do not have to be adjacent to utilise the same PIC, however each parcel of land on which a pig resides or is held must be covered by a PIC assigned by the relevant state or territory authority.

SI.2 Pig Identification Devices and Brands

There are two methods of identification permitted for movement purposes in respect to this Standard:

- Brands prescribed by the state or territory authorities
and
- NLIS approved devices (breeder and post-breeder).

SI.2.1 NLIS approved breeder devices must only be placed in the pig's left ear and NLIS approved post-breeder devices must only be placed in the pig's right ear.

SI.2.2 By no later than the time of their departure:

- a) All pigs born on a property must, before being dispatched from the property of birth, be either:
 - 1) branded on the left shoulder with a state or territory authority prescribed brand assigned for use on that property
or
 - 2) tagged in the pig's left ear with a yellow 'breeder' NLIS approved device assigned for use on that property.
- b) All introduced pigs and those of unknown or uncertain origin, before being dispatched from the property, be either:
 - 1) branded on the right shoulder with a state or territory authority prescribed brand assigned for use on that property
or
 - 2) tagged in the pig's right ear with an orange 'post-breeder' NLIS approved device assigned for use on that property.

Note that:

- All NLIS approved devices and brands must comply with the NLIS Pig Standard for visual identifiers.
- Piglets that have not been weaned and are moving with their mother are exempt from approved identification.

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SI.2.3 Brands must:

- a) comply with the state or territory legislation for pig brand size and composition
- b) be directly linked to the PIC of the property being moved from
- c) be applied using only tattoo ink or paste approved for that use
- d) be applied as per the manufacturers' instructions.

SI.2.4 Brands must be applied as a body tattoo prior to movement but should not be used on pigs under 25 kg live weight. Only NLIS approved devices should be used on pigs under 25 kg live weight.

SI.2.5 The prescribed brand must be applied to pigs residing on the property of birth on their left shoulder.

SI.2.6 Subsequent transaction brands must then be applied in order of availability to the right shoulder, followed by the right rump and then the left rump.

Note that:

- An NLIS approved device or brand is required each time a pig moves from a property, unless the pigs are moved under a QA program (approved by the state/territory authority) and ownership doesn't change. Therefore, pigs moving between multiple properties will, over their lifetime, obtain multiple NLIS approved devices and/or brands.

SI.3 Pig Identification

Pigs on the property

SI.3.1 If a pig loses its NLIS approved device whilst on the property it must be replaced according to SI.2.2.

SI.3.2 NLIS approved devices are issued for use on individual properties (PICs) and must not be applied to pigs on properties with a different PIC unless approved in writing to do so by the relevant state or territory authority.

Pigs moving off the property

SI.3.3 All pigs leaving the property (PIC) must be individually identified with an NLIS approved device or a properly applied brand before moving off the property.

SI.3.4 Where pigs are moved to another PIC and ownership does not change, (excluding movements to shows/events and saleyards) such movements will not require identification or to be accompanied by a movement document provided traceability back to the last property of residence is maintained on the database and the property has an approved QA program (such as APIQ) and these movements are reported to the database within two working days.

NLIS Pig Standards

Note that:

- Some states/territories may require alternative identification and movement requirements. Please check with your state animal health authority to ensure you are compliant.

SI.3.5 Where pigs cannot be safely tagged or branded on a property prior to dispatch, or emergency tags or a brand cannot be obtained within the required timeframe, the person in charge can make application for permission (Permit) from the relevant state or territory animal health authority to dispatch them, and must comply with all terms and conditions of the permit if granted.

SI.3.6 In instances of extreme emergency, such as imminent threat from bushfire or floods, pigs may be moved without being tagged or branded but this must be recorded in an auditable paper trail of records, which must as a minimum record the details set out in SI.4.1 and SI.4.2, with the state animal health authority notified and provided with that information within seven days. The pigs may be returned directly to their property of origin unidentified, however pigs must be identified and accompanied by a movement document if they are sold, moved again from the property resided at during the emergency, or sent for slaughter.

SI.3.7 Unweaned piglets when moving with their mother from the property of birth do not require tagging or branding. They must be accompanied by a fully completed movement document (noting exemption in SI.3.4), and must be included in the database transfer.

Note that:

- Pigs with NLIS approved electronic RFID devices applied on one property that subsequently move to another property will still require an NLIS approved breeder or post-breeder device or brand to be applied before moving off that property unless the database is updated with the details of that electronic RFID device and the new PIC of residence.
- Permits may be issued by the state or territory animal health authority to move unidentified pigs where required. An application is required before consideration will be given by the state or territory authority.
- Uploading of property to property movement information to a relevant database (presently only two relevant databases - PigPass or NLIS) is the responsibility of the owner/receiver of the pigs at the destination.
- The owner/receiver of the pigs at the destination property must ensure that lawfully unidentified (permit issued) pigs are recorded as moving onto the destination property in PigPass within two days and that the pigs are identified correctly before they next move.

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Pigs moving onto the property

SI.3.8 After arrival on a property where the pigs have arrived directly from another PIC (other than a saleyard), the owner/receiver must:

- 1) record the movement on the database within two working days
and
- 2) provide all of the relevant movement information as described in SI.4.2;
or
- 3) take active steps to ensure or confirm the movement has been recorded, for example by an agent or third party if such parties have agreed to undertake the recording on the owner's behalf.

Note that:

- The following information must be uploaded to the database:
 - a) Date of movement
 - b) The origin (from) PIC
 - c) Destination PIC
 - d) Number of pigs
 - e) Movement document serial number
 - f) Whether the stock have been bred on the PIC of consignment, and if not, the period of time they resided on the property of consignment.

SI.4 Movement Information and Documents

SI.4.1 One of the following movement documents must accompany the movement of pigs off a property and be provided to the receiver of the pigs:

- a) PigPass National Vendor Declaration (NVD) with the elements under SI.4.2 completed;
or
- b) An alternative document approved in the jurisdiction (e.g. waybill) containing the required movement information and with the elements under SI.4.2 completed.

Note that:

- The PigPass NVD is the industry's preferred approved movement document and may be used for all pig movements.

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SI.4.2 The minimum movement information (the 'movement information') that must be recorded on the movement document for all pig movements is the:

- a) Name or Trading name of owner of pigs
- b) PIC that identifies the property from which the pigs were dispatched and physical address of where the journey commenced
- c) Tattoo/brand number linked to the origin PIC (if brand is used to identify pigs in the consignment)
- d) Date and time of dispatch of the pigs
- e) Number and description of pigs dispatched
- f) Whether the pigs have been bred by the vendor and, if not, the period of time the pigs have resided on the property.
- g) Name, address, phone number, and signature of the consignor/person completing the document
- h) intended destination PIC of the pigs (if a PIC is not available then include the destination property/place location)

Pigs moving off the property

SI.4.3 The documentation ('movement documents') that must accompany the movement of pigs off a property and be provided to the receiver of the pigs at the time or before their arrival is a:

- a) PigPass National Vendor Declaration with the elements in SI.4.2 legible and fully and accurately completed
- b) Alternative document approved by the jurisdiction (e.g. waybill) containing the required movement information
- c) The state or territory animal health authority permit if the pigs are not identified with an NLIS approved device or brand
and
- d) Any state specific required documentation such as a health certificate

unless
- e) Pigs are being moved in accordance with SI.3.4 or the elements in SI.3.5, SI.3.6 and SI.3.7 are met.

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Note that:

- In the case of pigs leaving a saleyard, movement documents may accompany (as per state legislation) the pigs in transport or be sent separately as long as it is received prior to arrival at the destination property, or abattoir in the case of slaughter pigs.

Pigs moving onto the property

SI.4.4 The buyer/receiver of pigs, at the time of purchase or before the end of the day of sale, must provide the seller or selling agent with the destination PIC.

Records

SI.4.5 Copies of movement documents must be kept for three years by the vendor and purchaser of the pigs.

SI.4.6 The movement information must be confirmed as uploaded to the database by the owner/receiver of the pigs at the destination or by the saleyard or abattoir operator as applicable within two days of the pigs' arrival on the property, including for pigs arriving untagged or under permit.

SI.4.7 The person uploading the information to the database must ensure that only correct and accurate information is uploaded to the database.

Note that:

- Movement documents may be uploaded with the movement information as images to the database, and provided they are legible, will comply with the requirement to keep records for three years. This is a preferred option for the storage of movement documents.

SI.5 Managing Supply Chain Risks

SI.5.1 It is the responsibility of the owner or person responsible for the husbandry of the pigs, when dispatching pigs from their PIC, to accurately complete the accompanying movement document.

SI.5.2 It is the responsibility of the owner or person responsible for the husbandry of pigs to ensure that the pigs being dispatched are 'fit for purpose' and are not subject to food safety, welfare, biosecurity or product integrity regulatory restrictions.

Part 2: Transporters

Scope

This Part of these Standards applies to:

- l) persons or businesses transporting pigs between properties, saleyards and processing establishments and knackeries, veterinary and artificial breeding centres and agricultural shows and events for any reason or purpose.

Objective

To ensure that pigs are correctly identified and that their movement between properties can be traced effectively and rapidly.

Standards

S2.1 Transported Pig Identification

S2.1.1 A person should only transport pigs that are identified in accordance with S1.3 unless the movement is:

- a) in accordance with the conditions of a permit issued by the relevant state animal health authority(s) and the transporter has a valid copy of the permit

or
- b) in the case of extreme emergencies, such as the imminent threat of bushfire or flood.

S2.2 Movement Documentation

S2.2.1 Unless exempted in accordance with S1.3.4 to S1.3.7, the person transporting pigs should ensure all pigs are accompanied by an approved movement document prior to departure, i.e. PigPass NVD or alternative state animal health authority approved movement document (e.g. waybill), which must be delivered to the person receiving the pigs.

S2.2.2 The person transporting pigs should complete and sign sections of approved movement documents that relate to transporters in the transport section of the document.

Part 3: Livestock Agents

Scope

This Part of the Standards applies to:

- l) persons working as livestock agents involved in the preparation and presentation for sale and purchase of pigs when they are moving between properties, including properties, saleyards and processors such as abattoirs and knackereries.

Objective

To ensure that pigs are correctly identified with an NLIS approved device or brand before movement, and that their movement between saleyards and properties, including artificial breeding centres, processing establishments and knackereries, can be traced effectively and rapidly.

S3.1 Pig Identification Devices and Brands

There are two methods of identification permitted for movement purposes in respect to this Standard:

- a) NLIS approved devices (e.g. ear tags)

or

- b) Brands prescribed by state or territory animal health authorities.

S3.1.1 NLIS approved breeder devices must only be placed in the pig's left ear and brands applied to the left shoulder of the pig when on or leaving the property of birth.

Brands of subsequent properties should be applied in order of availability, to right shoulder, right rump, and left rump (in stated order).

NLIS post-breeder devices must only be placed in the pig's right ear.

S3.1.2 Brands must be applied using only tattoo ink or paste approved for that use.

S3.1.3 Brands must be applied as a body tattoo prior to movement but should not be used on pigs under 25 kg live weight. NLIS approved devices should be applied to pigs under 25 kg live weight.

S3.1.4 Brands (tattoos) must be applied as per the manufacturers' instructions and be legible at slaughter.

S3.2 Identification of Pigs Presented For Sale at a Public Auction Sale

S3.2.1 A person must only present for auction sale or sell pigs that are correctly identified with either an NLIS approved device or brand that relates to the most recent property of residence.

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S3.2.2 Pigs must be visually checked by the selling agent or their representative to verify the presence of an NLIS approved device or brand, before being presented for sale at saleyards, and on-farm or online auctions.

S3.2.3 Pigs with missing or incorrect identification as determined by S3.2.2 or pigs moved under permit of the state or territory authority to a saleyard must, prior to leaving the saleyard be either:

- a) tagged in the right ear with an orange saleyard 'emergency post-breeder' NLIS approved device assigned for use at that saleyard

or

- b) branded with the special crown brand (tattoo) assigned to the saleyard on the next available position, by the selling agent or their representative in accordance with the requirements of Section 1.2 of this document.

Note that:

- state or territory animal health authorities may issue permits for non-NLIS identified pigs to move off the property, for example where inadequate facilities exist to safely tag/brand the pig(s), to a saleyard (other than on an auction sale day) where suitable facilities exist.

S3.2.4 The saleyard operator must keep auditable records of the use of saleyard emergency post-breeder tags or special crown brands (tattoos) for at least three years, including as a minimum:

- details of the tag PIC and serial number or Crown brand/tattoo description
- date applied
- vendor PIC
- the number of pigs for each property to which the emergency tag or Crown brand was applied
- the name and address of the person applying the emergency tag or Crown brand
- movement document serial number (where supplied).

Note that:

- the buyer is required by SI.4.4 to provide the selling agent with their PIC at the time of purchase.

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- where the buyer is a livestock agent and is uncertain of the destination PIC, the agent may provide their Agents' PIC to the saleyard if they have one, but then are required to transfer the pigs, to the correct destination PIC, on the NLIS database within two days or before slaughter, as per SI.4.6.
- S3.2.5 The serial number on emergency tags and Crown brand descriptions must be recorded against the PIC of consignment and included in both the database upload and post-sale documentation provided to buyers/receivers as per S3.3.2.
- S3.2.6 A person must only dispatch an animal from a saleyard that is correctly identified with an NLIS approved device or brand.
- S3.2.7 Where a public auction sale occurs involving a selling agent as the 'saleyard operator' (e.g. on-farm auction, agent owned saleyard, showground, etc.), the responsibility to upload the movement information to the database lies with the selling agent, and must be completed within two working days of the sale or before slaughter.

This could be an on-farm sale or interfaced with electronic sales method (e.g. AuctionsPlus).

S3.3 Post-sale Movement Information and Documentation

- S3.3.1 The saleyard operator must ensure a completed movement document (see SI.4.1 for details) has been provided by the vendor/consignor before presentation for sale.
- S3.3.2 A summary (see SI.4.1 and S4.5.1 for details) must be provided to the purchaser by the saleyard operator in a public auction within the nominated time period.
- S3.3.3 Copies of movement documents must be kept by selling agents for three years.

S3.4 Records

- S3.4.1 The agent must reconcile the numbers of head linked to their Agent's PIC on the database and move them off that Agent PIC to the actual destination PIC within two days.

S3.5 Managing Supply Chain Risks

- S3.5.1 Where pigs have a food safety, biosecurity or market eligibility status derived from the movement document and/or the database, the agent will inform the buyers by presale catalogue and/or announce the status prior to the offering of those lots.

Part 4: Saleyard Operators

Scope

This Part of these Standards applies to:

- 1) persons operating, or employed in pig saleyards, scales (mobile or fixed) and any other location where pigs are offered for public sale or auction (including on-farm and showgrounds) but excluding on-line sales.

Objective

To ensure that all pigs are correctly identified, buyers are provided with pre- and post-sale information and all pigs moved into and out of saleyards are recorded on the database to enable the movement of pigs out of the saleyards to be traced quickly and efficiently.

Standards

S4.1 Property Identification

- S4.1.1 All persons operating a pig saleyard must obtain and hold an active PIC relating to that business from their state or territory authority.

S4.2 Pig Identification Devices and Brands

Saleyard operators must only use NLIS approved devices with a unique serial number included on the device or crown brand as the only method of identification permitted for movement purposes from saleyards in respect to this Standard.

- S4.2.1 Emergency NLIS approved devices (orange post-breeder tags) must only be placed in the pig's right ear. Special crown brands should be applied in accordance with the requirements of Section 1.2 of this document.
- S4.2.2 NLIS approved devices must not be re-used, or removed, unless under a permit issued by the state or territory authority, or under the direction of one of its officers.
- S4.2.3 Saleyard emergency NLIS approved devices or brands are issued to an individual saleyard and must not be applied to pigs on properties with a different PIC (including saleyards) unless approved in writing to do so by the relevant state animal health authority.

S4.3 Pig Sales

- S4.3.1 A person must only present for auction or sell pigs that are correctly identified with an NLIS approved device or brand, in accordance with these standards.
- S4.3.2 A person must only dispatch pigs from a saleyard or sale that are identified with an NLIS approved device or brand, except where an identifier has not been applied as per S1.3.4, S1.3.5, S1.3.6 and S1.3.7.

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S4.3.3 The saleyard operator or their representative (e.g. selling agent) must keep auditable records of the use of saleyard post-breeder tags for at least three years, ensuring that the relationship between the identifier, the PIC of origin and movement document (e.g. PigPass NVD) is maintained, and including as a minimum the device's PIC and serial number, date applied, the saleyard PIC, destination PIC, and the name and address of person consigning the pigs.

S4.4 Database Notification

S4.4.1 The saleyard operator must upload the following information about each consignment, provided by the agent or vendor to a database:

- a) Date of sale
- b) The origin (consignment) PIC
- c) Destination PIC
- d) The number of pigs in the consignment that die in transit to or before dispatch from the saleyard, recorded as using 'Deceased' as a default (8 character) destination PIC
- e) Total number of pigs in the consignment
- f) Movement document (e.g. PigPass NVD) serial number (where provided)
- g) Whether the stock have been bred on the PIC of consignment, and if not, the period of time they resided on the property of consignment
- h) The saleyard PIC, or other unique identifier registered to the NLIS database and linked to the saleyard PIC
- i) If an emergency saleyard device or emergency Crown brand is applied, the sequential serial number must also be uploaded.

S4.4.2 The uploading of movement information as required under S.4.4.1 must be:

- a) In the case of sales where pigs are not sold/purchased for direct slaughter, the information must be uploaded to the database by the saleyard operator by the close of business of the next working day.
- b) In sales where pigs are purchased for slaughter, the movement information must be completed and uploaded to the database by the end of the day of sale (i.e. midnight) or before slaughter, whichever is sooner.
- c) Where a sale does not occur, for example when stock are 'passed in' or are in transit through the saleyard, the movement information must still be uploaded to the database by COB next working day.

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Note that:

- More stringent, individual arrangements with processors may be determined on a case by case basis if the information is required sooner.

S4.4.3 The saleyard operator must take steps to confirm that the uploaded information has been received by the database and undertake corrective action for all error messages received from the database within three working days.

S4.5 Provision of Documentation to Buyers

The saleyard operator must provide all buyers with information about the origin of pigs they purchase to enable them to meet their regulatory requirements in relation to traceability and food safety.

S4.5.1 Post-sale documentation for slaughter pigs must be provided by close of business on the day of sale or before the pigs are slaughtered – whichever occurs first. For all other pigs, the documentation must be provided within two days of sale.

S4.5.2 Post-sale documentation need not accompany the stock during delivery as long as the information is forwarded to the buyer separately via fax, email or post within the required timeframes.

S4.5.3 Accepted formats for post-sale documentation include:

- a) Buyer Reconciliation Report or Post-Sale Summary. Such documents contain all of the critical information supplied on the PigPass NVD that is required (by processing establishments in particular), provided the original NVDs are accessible
- b) Copies of individual vendor NVDs or waybills
- c) Scanned image of original NVD uploaded to the database.

S4.5.4 Post Sale Summaries or Buyer Reconciliation reports must include:

- a) Place where sale occurred
- b) Date of sale
- c) Name of saleyard operator
- d) Saleyard phone number
- e) Saleyard email address
- f) Source PICs and brands represented in the mob
- g) Number of pigs from each source property

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- h) Movement document serial number from each source property where provided
- i) Whether the pigs were bred on each of the source PICs, and if not, the period of time the pigs resided on the source property.
- j) Serial numbers of emergency saleyard tags or details of emergency crown brands applied.

S4.6 Records

- S4.6.1 The saleyard operator must reconcile the numbers of animals linked to its PIC on the database with the number remaining on the premises after each sale.

S4.7 Managing Supply Chain Risks

- S4.7.1 Where pigs have a food safety, biosecurity or market eligibility status derived from the movement document and/or the database, the saleyard operator will inform the buyers via the post-sale summary prior to the pigs leaving the saleyard.

Part 5: Processors (Abattoirs and Knackeries)

Scope

This Part of these standards applies to:

- l) persons owning, operating, or employed in processing of pigs and their carcasses, including processing establishments and knackeries.

Objective

To ensure that pigs are correctly identified and that their movement to a processing facility can be traced effectively and rapidly, and that all pigs processed are recorded on a database.

Standards

S5.1 Property Identification

- S5.1.1 All persons owning or operating a processing business that processes pigs and/or their carcasses must have an active PIC relating to that business from their state or territory authority. That PIC must be provided to the seller, selling agent or saleyard operator at the time of purchase.

S5.2 Pig Identification Devices and Brands

NLIS approved devices or brands are the only method of identification permitted for movement purposes in respect to this Standard.

- S5.2.1 Pigs must be kept in mobs according to their PIC of consignment (or consigning saleyard) in the holding yards, and processors must have documented systems for managing unidentified pigs or pigs with absent or incomplete documentation.
- S5.2.2 Pigs must not be slaughtered or processed unless they are identified by an NLIS approved device or brand, except:
 - a) where pigs have been deemed to be dangerous or unsafe to tag and are moved under a state or territory authority permit, provided the conditions of that permit are met and the pig is slaughtered at an abattoir or knackery

or
 - b) under the direction of the state or territory animal health authority, or one of its officers

or
 - c) due to an animal welfare emergency situation

and

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- d) where permitted under a state or territory considered Approved QA Program describing the processor's system for managing untagged /unbranded pigs.

Where pigs arrive without an NLIS approved device or brand, or correctly completed movement document, the establishment must follow the system(s) listed as part of the processing establishment's Approved Program. This will include the keeping of records and how the issue was rectified to enable traceability.

S5.2.3 Once slaughtered, the pig carcass must be identified in a manner that correlates with the NLIS approved device or brand of that animal and enables traceability to the last PIC of residence (other than the PIC of a saleyard) until the point at which:

- a) it has passed meat inspection and/or any residue testing if destined for the human food chain
or
- b) it has been inspected, and tested if appropriate, and found suitable for feeding to pets as required by the *Australian Standard for the Hygienic Production of Pet Meat*, if destined for the pet food chain
or
- c) it has been inspected and found to be fit for purpose and free from obvious notifiable diseases if processed for other purposes.

Note that:

- if moved or slaughtered under permit or direction of the state or territory animal health authority and the pig does not have an NLIS approved device or brand, the permit number or other reference number provided by that authority is to be used.

S5.2.4 The abattoir, knackery or other processor operator must upload the following information relating to each carcass to the database by the close of business on the next working day after the pigs are slaughtered or processed.

In the case of processing establishments, the:

- a) Date of slaughter
- a) Saleyard PIC, or for direct consignments, the consigning PIC
- b) For direct consignments, whether pigs have been bred on the PIC of consignment; and if not, the period of time they resided on the property of consignment
- c) Number of pigs slaughtered

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- d) Movement document serial number
- e) Processor PIC.

Note that:

- If moved or slaughtered under permit or direction of the state animal health authority and the pig is not identified with a NLIS approved device or brand, the NLIS approved device or brand details above may be replaced by a permit or other reference number provided by that authority.
- S5.2.5 The operators of processing establishments and knackeries must reconcile the number of head killed with the numbers and details of carcasses uploaded to the movement database within two working days of the time of slaughter or processing.
- S5.2.6 The processing plant or knacker operator must monitor the numbers of live pigs linked to its PIC on the movement database compared with the number of live pigs remaining on the premises at the end of each kill week with the view of reconciling the account numbers.
- S5.2.7 If inconsistencies are noticed in S5.2.5 or S5.2.6, the operator of the knacker or processing establishment must resolve it on the movement database by close of the next business day.
- S5.2.8 The knacker or other processing plant operator must take steps to confirm that the uploaded information has been received by the database and undertake corrective action for all error messages received from the database within seven working days.
- S5.2.9 The knacker or other processing plant operator must dispose of all NLIS approved devices in a manner that prevents unauthorised recovery and re-use.

S5.3 Movement Information and Documentation

- S5.3.1 A person must not slaughter or process a pig unless it is accompanied by completed movement documentation that records the PIC of last residence. This movement documentation may be:
- a) a PigPass National Vendor Declaration
 - b) an alternative document approved in the jurisdiction containing the required movement information (e.g. waybill)
 - c) the animal health authority permit when the pigs are not identified with a NLIS approved device
 - d) any other state or territory specific approved documentation

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Note that:

- For saleyard pigs, movement documents may be provided to the receiving abattoir by physically accompanying the transported pigs or being electronically transmitted prior to the end of the day of sale.
- The animal health authority permit when the pigs are not identified with an NLIS approved device or brand does not replace the need for a completed movement document for pigs slaughtered at processors.

S5.3.2 Copies (i.e. physical/electronic) of movement documents must be kept by processors for three years.

S5.4 Managing Supply Chain Risks

S5.4.1 It is the responsibility of the knackery or other processing plant operator to establish if they are processing pigs coming from a property with a food safety, biosecurity or market eligibility PIC-based status.

S5.4.2 It is the responsibility of the abattoir or other processing plant operator to ensure the food safety, biosecurity or market eligibility instruction (where required/relevant) has been followed.

Part 6: Agricultural Shows and Events

Scope

This Part of these standards applies to:

- l) persons organising, operating or employed in agricultural shows and other such events at which pigs are present.

Objective

To ensure that pigs are correctly identified and that their movement to and from agricultural shows and other such events can be traced effectively and rapidly.

6.1 Property Identification

- S6.1.1 The agricultural show/event organiser must ensure that the property or location where the event is to be held has an active PIC from their state or territory authority.

6.2 Identification of Pigs

- S6.2.1 Pigs attending agricultural shows or other such events must be identified correctly with an NLIS approved device or brand, which is the responsibility of the pig owner or manager as per Part 1 of these standards.
- S6.2.2 The agricultural show/event organiser must ensure that all pigs exhibited at the show are identified with an NLIS approved device or brand and the movement onto and off the showground is recorded in the database by the show/event operator.
- S6.2.3 A person must only dispatch an animal from a show or event that is correctly identified with an NLIS approved device or brand.

Note that:

- Show and event organisers are not required to apply an NLIS post-breeder tag or brand to facilitate the return of a pig to its property of origin.

6.3 Movement Information and Documentation

- S6.3.1 The agricultural show/event organiser must ensure a completed movement document for the pig(s) (see SI.4.2 and SI.4.3 for details) is provided by the exhibitor at the show or event.
- S6.3.2 The agricultural show/event organiser must ensure that each consignment of pigs moving onto the showground or event property is transferred onto the PIC of the property by notifying the database of the following information:
 - a) Date of movement or show start date

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- b) PIC of consignment (From PIC)
- c) PIC of showground/event
- d) Number of pigs
- e) Movement document serial number where provided

Note that:

- Movement document record keeping must comply with SI.4.3.
- Pigs leaving the agricultural show/event are required to be transferred to the destination PIC on the database as a property to property movement. This transfer must be undertaken by the agricultural show/event organiser but is the legal responsibility of the person in charge at the destination PIC. These pigs can be accompanied by the movement document used for moving the pigs onto the show/event PIC.
- Where stock are not returning to their property of last residence, a property to property movement must be completed (with a movement document, e.g. PigPass NVD or waybill), and be recorded on the database by the receiver, (as per other property to property movements) unless sold by public auction in which case the sale (yard) operator is responsible for recording the movement on the database.

6.4 Database Upload

S6.4.1 The agricultural show/event organiser must upload the movement relating to each mob of pigs to the database within two working days of the time of arrival at the show or before leaving the event, whichever is the sooner.

Note:

- Usually one movement document can be used to accompany pigs on their movement to the show and back to their property of origin.

S6.4.3 The agricultural show/event organiser must take steps to confirm that the uploaded information has been received by the database and undertake corrective action for all error messages received from the database within seven working days.

S6.5 Records

S6.5.1 The showground operator/event manager must reconcile the numbers of animals linked to its PIC on the database with the number remaining on the premises within seven days of the end of each show/event.

S6.5.2 The showground operator/event manager must keep copies of movement documents for three years.

Part 7: Export Depot Operators and Exporters

Scope

This Part of these standards applies to:

- 1) persons operating export registered premises or export depot operators (EDOs) or employed by a livestock export licence-holder (exporter).

Objective

To ensure that all pigs are correctly identified and that their movement from their registered premises onto aggregation properties or export depots then off to port of export and 8Es (default live export PIC) is correctly recorded so that they can be traced effectively and rapidly.

These requirements are in addition to the requirements placed on producers by Part I of these standards and are to be read in conjunction with those.

S7.1 Property Identification

- S7.1.1 The EDO must ensure that all properties upon which the pigs are to be held during the export preparation period, including pre-export quarantine and export depot properties, have an active PIC from their state or territory authority.

S7.2 Pig Identification Devices and Brands and Movement Documentation

- S7.2.1 The EDO must take steps to ensure that pigs being prepared for export, during all stages including pre-export quarantine and export depot properties, are correctly identified with an NLIS approved device or brand as per Part I of these standards, unless specific approval for other arrangements is in place with the state animal health authorities.
- S7.2.2 The EDO must ensure that all pigs being sourced for export are accompanied by a movement document, and that a movement document or equivalent is completed for all subsequent movements between export-related properties; except for the final movement from export depot to port where separate export certification/documentation is required.

S7.3 Database Notification

- S7.3.1 The EDO must correctly notify the database of all pigs moving onto (except saleyard purchases) and between export-related properties within two working days of the movement as per S1.3.8 but not later than the next movement, whichever is sooner. This includes culls and individual pigs otherwise removed (e.g. placed back into the domestic supply chain) at any point along the export supply chain, except pigs consigned to an abattoir or saleyard.

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- S7.3.2 Where pigs are moved to the final export destination (i.e. the port of departure where they are loaded onto the export vessel or aircraft), the exporter must ensure that the pigs are transferred on the database to the port PIC then to the default export PIC, 'EEEEEEEE' (also known as the '8Es'), within two days of that movement.
- S7.3.3 The EDO must reconcile the number of head exported with the numbers and details of numbers uploaded to the database within two days of the time of export.
- S7.3.4 The EDO must reconcile the numbers of live pigs on its PIC on the database with the number of live pigs remaining on the premises at the end of each shipment. This would entail the recording of dead pigs on the NLIS Database.
- S7.3.5 If inconsistencies are noticed in S7.3.3 or S7.3.4, the EDO must resolve it on the database within two working days.
- S7.3.6 Both the exporter and EDO must take steps to confirm that the correct uploaded information has been received by the database and all warning and error messages received from the database are noted and acted on within seven working days.

S7.4 Managing Supply Chain Risks

- S7.4.1 It is the responsibility of the exporter to establish if the pigs have a food safety, biosecurity or market eligibility PIC-based status.
- S7.4.2 It is the responsibility of the exporter to ensure the food safety, biosecurity or market eligibility status instruction (where required/relevant) has been followed.
- S7.4.3 Where pigs have a food safety, biosecurity or market eligibility status, the exporter will inform the buyers by the movement document or announce the status prior to the sale of those pigs.

Glossary

Brand	State issued registered identifier that is applied to pigs like a tattoo.
Database	There are two databases that record the movement of pig mobs; the NLIS database (via the PigPass database), Australia's central livestock traceability database administered by NLIS Ltd for the purposes of biosecurity, food safety, product integrity and market access. Pig movement data can be uploaded either directly or via the PigPass database administered by APL.
Emergency	An emergency exists when animal welfare or human safety is potentially compromised.
Lifetime traceability	The ability to determine where a pig has been from the point of enquiry back to the property of birth.
Mob	A group of pigs that form a cohort and are moved together from one location to another. A mob may be comprised of many pigs or just one.
Movement document	A document that contains critical details that need to be recorded when pigs are moved, including the PIC from which the pigs were dispatched, the date of dispatch, the numbers and description of pigs being dispatched, the serial number of the movement document that accompanies the pigs, the name and signature of the person completing the movement document and date it was made, and the intended destination of the pigs
NLIS	National Livestock Identification System
NLIS approved device	A visual or RFID ear tag approved by NLIS for use on pigs which complies with these standards, and is printed with the PIC, the NLIS logo and P in a circle.
NVD	Document that combines product integrity status information with waybill movement information.
Person	Means more than one person (plural) and not just a specific person.

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Person in charge	Where responsibility is shared and may extend along a hierarchy of management.
PIC	Property Identification Code – a unique identifier for a parcel of land that is linked to the owner's details.
PigPass ¹	A national tracking system which provides real time information on the movements of all pigs in Australia.
PigPass NVD	Is classified under the broad term of a movement document (see above). It is an NVD for pigs which can accompany all movements of pigs during their transportation between the PICs.
Property	A parcel of land that has been assigned a PIC by a state authority, consisting of one or more blocks operating as part of a livestock enterprise.
Reconcile	Make (in this case account) consistent with another, especially by allowing for transactions begun but not yet completed.
Vendor	Vendor is the person responsible for the Pigs on the residing PIC

¹ <http://www.pigpass.com.au/>