



Draft Minutes ICAR Sub-Committee for Animal Identification

October 16, 2015

Phone conference

Attendance:

SC Members:

Ken Evers (Chairman)
Kaivo Ilves
Jay Mattison
Erik Rehben
Henry Richardson
Jussi Maki-Hokkonen (ICAR Secretariat)

Invitees:

Susanne Gäckler (DLG)
Jonas Persson (RYK)
Aude Didier (CETIM)
Lilian Hennecon (CETIM)

Apologies:

Folkert Onken
Pieter Hogewerf (IMA)

1. Welcome and opening of the meeting

The Chair, Ken Evers welcomed the participants and reviewed attendance. The agenda was approved as circulated before the call. Jussi Maki-Hokkonen of ICAR Secretariat was appointed to be rapporteur.

2. Approval of the minutes of SC meeting held in Krakow, June 08, 2015.

The minutes of the Krakow SC meeting were approved.
Motion of approval by KI, seconded by HR & all in agreement.

3. Pull test results from RYK at 80°C and 55°C.

Jonas Persson of RYK summarised the comparative test performed to verify if different results were obtained in the axial/transversal pull tests after heat treatment of ear tags at 80°C and 55°C. The obtained test results indicated that no significant difference was found in pass or fail rates between the two treatments; however, there were tags that passed at 55°C but failed consistently at or before 80°C. RYK therefore recommended to maintain the Preliminary Assessment heat treatment at 80°C as currently applied.

After discussion the recommendation, the SC noted that, except for the Preliminary Assessment, the heat testing conducted in the ICAR testing procedures was at 55°C and consistency should be maintained throughout all testing procedures.



Based on the above considerations the SC decided that effective from January 01, 2016 the Preliminary Assessment Pull Test will be conducted at 55°C for permanent visual identification devices. Before the effective date the ICAR secretariat will make the necessary modifications to the texts of the standards 10.7 and 10.8 and publish the modification in the web highlights and circulate an information leaflet to the relevant manufacturers.

Motion of approval by JM, seconded by HR.

4. Approval of Device Change Notification (DCN) procedure for visual device modification

At the Krakow SC meeting held on June 10, 2015, it was agreed between the ICAR SC and representative manufacturers (Allflex, Caisley and Datamars) to develop a new procedure in place of the abolished “family test procedure” to cater for modifications to a certified permanent visual ear tag during the 5 year certification period. This procedure was termed a Device Change Notification (DCN).

The SC Chair and the ICAR secretariat submitted the necessary changes to the texts of the paragraphs 10.7.5.1 and 10.8.5.1 of the ICAR Guideline and the proposed related new application forms (Annex B2 and Annex C2) and the Device Change Notification form for manufacturers to fill in the modification details made to a certified device.

In the SC review of the application forms the following editorial modification were requested:

- replace applicant name and address with **manufacturer’s** name and address in B2 and C2 annexes;
- check the box “device usable for:” ..in annex B2 and any other formatting display issues;
- add to the headings of all Section 10 application forms: “Handwritten or faxed forms will not be accepted”.
- All Section 10 annex forms need to be considered as living documents which the SC will review at each SC meeting.

Subject to the above actions and reviews done to the proposed DCN documentation the SC approved the DCN procedure for implementation effective January 01, 2016. Prior to the effective date the Secretariat in collaboration with the SC Chair will complete all the necessary modifications to the Section 10 text. In addition the new procedure will be published in the ICAR web highlights and an information circular will be sent to all relevant manufacturers.

The SC also approved that all application forms be changed to PDF Editable forms.

Motional of approval by ER, seconded by HR.

5. ICAR strategy for Competent Authority education

The need to create an ICAR contact list of national Competent Authorities has been recognized in many previous SC ID meetings. Such a list would be important to share ICAR educational publications such as the recently published new edition of the Synthesis of the ICAR ID Guidelines. This would also create the possibility for direct communication with CA’s in solving device misuse cases in countries.



The SC again stressed the high priority in creating a CA contact list for ICAR. As the first concrete step the SC supported the Secretariat proposal to send a circular letter to all ICAR member organizations to identify the competent authority in animal identification and traceability. **The SC requested the Secretariat to proceed with the circular questionnaire.**

Motion of approval by JM, seconded by ER.

6. Communication with ISO WG3

1. Martin Burke briefing: A communication group between ISO WG3 and ICAR SC ID was agreed during the June 2015 meeting of the WG3 in Madrid. The group from WG3 is represented by Pieter Hogewerf, Helmut Ruppert, Sven Huther and Damian Pachoud and SC ID is represented by Ken Evers and Kaivo Ilves. The group will discuss issues of common interest to enhance ICAR / WG3 communications and will meet on a quarterly basis. Martin Burke stated that ICAR management considers this group as an important body to tackle critical issues and to also discuss plans and procedures for handling those issues in the future.

Martin Burke requested that the first group meeting be organized before the end of the year. Ken Evers, who is the convener of the group, assured that he will organize the first meeting during November 2015.

2. Ken Evers briefing: Over the next few months, all processes will be written into Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs). These will be made available on the ICAR website once each SOP is completed.

7. Wuxi Fofia update

Ken Evers reported he has received a number of complaints from market competitors of Fofia stating that the company is involved in fraudulent manufacturing and marketing of ID devices. To date, Ken feels the presented evidence has not proven the claims. Ken further reported that he has had several private discussions with the CEO of Fofia who has stated that Fofia is committed to the ICAR Code of Conduct and the CEO believes he has not breached this commitment with ICAR. He is aware Fofia's product is being copied and has found two companies which have copied his product. Ken Evers has recommended that the CEO be invited to the January 2016 ISO WG3 meeting and will be following this up with Pieter Hogewerf. The Fofia CEO also stated the competing manufacturers of some regions where Fofia is now marketing product have created trouble, including groundless accusations which Fofia is frustrated with. The Fofia CEO is hoping to travel to Australia in December 2015 to meet Ken Evers and discuss these issues in person.

8. Ring Test status

The round of ring tests between IMA, DLG and SAIT have been recently completed; however, the results are not satisfactory due to the variances between the values and deviations in the results of each lab. Pieter Hogewerf has emailed the SC proposing a repeat of the Ring Test with a more strict adherence to the ISO protocol



on ring tests. This email was discussed and Susanne Gackler was in agreement with this request.

The complexity of this situation is that the audit of SAIT for its ICAR approval as a laboratory for conformance testing of RFID devices has been pending the positive results of the ring test from the SAIT laboratory. The following decisions were made:

- 1. The three laboratories need to review and clarify the current Ring Test procedures and then communicate the revised procedures to the SC prior to the next round of Ring Tests.**
- 2. SAIT's ring test results will be deemed as acceptable and the on-site audit will be conducted. Ken Evers will communicate this decision to SAIT and make arrangements and schedules for the audit. The SC re-confirmed the audit team elected in Krakow: Ken Evers, Jay Mattison, Erik Rehben and Jussi Maki-Hokkonen**

Motion of approval by HR, seconded by JM.

9. Next SC ID meeting in Austria

Ken Evers proposed the next SC ID meeting be held in conjunction with the next ISO WG3 meeting in Austria. Discussion discovered that more members would be available if the SC meeting was held immediately after the WG3 meeting than immediately prior to the WG3 meeting.

Ken Evers will circulate location and dates to the SC members.

10. Any other business

1. Martin Burke requester the members of the SC ID to take interest and feel free to comment on the ICAR Accuracy Task Force report which Cesare Mosconi would be circulating in the next few days.
2. Susanne Gackler stated she was receiving queries around pig tags and specifically around the requirements for tensile testing of pig tags. This would need to be added to the agenda of the Austria SC meeting and Susanne will email Ken Evers further information around this query.

12. Meeting Closed

The meeting was closed at 16.45 CET.