DHI Test Day’s Status Quo Changing – Integrating Handheld Computers and RFID Technology

2008 ICAR Meeting
Niagara Falls, New York
NADMA Session

Where we were

- Barnsheets
  - Dairy size
  - Milking speed
  - Size of the barn
  - Number of milkings tested
Just in the last 20 years

- Laptops in the barn
  - acceptance/resistance to new technology
  - challenges in the barn
  - “Can never go back”
Procedures of the Present -
Scanning RFID tags on test day
Recording Milk Weights with Pocket DHI-PLUS software
Pocket DHI-PLUS Opening Screen

- Cow Display
- Task List
- Reports

Positives

- Will not lose data
- No transposing of cow id’s
- Data automatically moves into software when docked with laptop
- Can use multiple devices in the same barn
- Software runs on several different mobile devices
- Works with several different wands
Challenges

- Style of the barn
  - Flat barn
- Battery life on devices
- Continuously changing OS on mobile devices