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aux animaux

ANNEX 1

**Requirements to Comply with the
National Companion Animal Coalition (NCAC) Review Process
Regarding the Use of Radio Frequency Identification (RFID) Technology in
Canada**

BACKGROUND

The NCAC has a mandate, which focuses on issues relevant to companion animals. Electronic identification of companion animals is a critical issue for pet recovery and other purposes.

The NCAC has recognized that electronic or microchip implants (RFID technology) are a safe and effective means of permanent animal identification.

The utility of any microchip identification system depends on compatible technology and effective, efficient interplay between a microchip system's three integral components (i.e. microchip, reader, database).

Global RFID technology standards have been developed through the International Standards Organization (ISO 11784 [Code Structure] and ISO 11785 [Technical Concept]). The Standards Council of Canada participated in the development of the codes.

At present, there is no single, national coordinated database in Canada for all companion animals, nor is there a national regulatory authority which can ensure allocation and maintenance of unique individual identification numbers.

Effective December 1, 2004, the NCAC has adopted a new Canadian standard for electronic identification of companion animals, based on ISO standard microchips. The NCAC is also committed to a transition period strategy focusing on member awareness and the upgrading of the national recovery network of transceivers to be both forward and backward compatible.

REVIEW PROCESS

The following protocol will be used to adjudicate various providers of RFID technology to the Canadian microchip marketplace for companion animals upon tendering an application for review. The NCAC will recognize and recommend to its members, the primary manufacturers and/or distributors and their products that have successfully completed and are determined to be in compliance with this review process. Manufacturers and/or distributors shall agree to and provide the following:



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Transponders (i.e. Microchips)



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1. Confirmation that the manufacturer/distributor's technology adheres to ISO 11784 & ISO 11785 FDX-B technology by providing a copy of their ICAR (International Committee for Animal Recording) certificate of conformance of injectable transponders and their assigned 3-digit manufacturer's code specific to the product to be distributed within the Canadian microchip marketplace.
2. A legally verified declaration that they will adhere to the following ISO/TC23/SC19/WG3 (ISO committee overseeing RFID technology for companion animal application) derived RFID implementation guidelines.
 - 2.1 Recommendations for implantation of their product is in adherence to the WG3 N233 Working Group document titled *WSAVA Microchip Implantation Sites - updated October 1999*.
 - 2.2 Microchips containing the 3 digits '999' in place of the manufacturer code will never be manufactured other than as requested by ICAR for use as test microchips.
 - 2.3 Given that there is no central national registry for the issuance of unique numbers in Canada at this time, the manufacturer code will be used as the first 3 digits of the 15-digit identification code, in place of the usual (e.g. Canada code is 124) country code.
 - 2.4 There shall be specific recommendations regarding chip implantation provided in an instruction manual for the end user or owner. These will include the recommended site for implantation, the necessity of scanning the chip prior to implantation to confirm the identification code, and the recommendation for the owner to update owner and pet information, as required, on the company's database.
 - 2.5 In addition, each microchip package shall contain three bar code labels which represent the unique number of the microchip.
3. A legally verified declaration that any changes in the product's technical specifications, even if conforming to ISO standards (e.g. read/write technology), will be made in writing to the NCAC and approval requested. Any new models must undergo the same process.
4. A legally verified declaration of the uniqueness of the transponders, attesting to no duplication in the individually-assigned identification numbers.
5. Please see Annex 5 for acceptable statement referring to NCAC recognition.



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Transceivers

6. A legally verified declaration that the transceivers used to support their RFID technology will support the revised Canadian standard as a whole by adhering to the following points:
 - 6.1 Transceiver model(s) to be used in Canada must be both forward (ISO 11784 and 11785) and backward (125 kHz non-encrypted) compatible.
 - 6.2 Transceivers with the above read capabilities must be supported with a commitment that the model(s) submitted to the NCAC for review and/or any replacement model(s) will continue to be supported by the company, with capability to read both forward (ISO 11784 and 11785) and backward (125 kHz non-encrypted) microchip technologies up to the year 2020.

Database - Recovery System

7. A legally verified declaration attesting to the provision of database support for information generated through the sale of their RFID implants (such as, but not limited to, pet name, sex, breed, age, distinguishing features, pet owner contact information, alternate contact information, etc.) addressing the following:
 - 7.1 Recovery information shall be easily accessible 24 hours per day, 365 days per year by a toll-free phone number. In addition, Internet access may be provided.
 - 7.2 There is a commitment to define and explore the implementation of mutually acceptable methods of database cooperation to enhance the overall technology's ability to function as a seamless national recovery network.
 - 7.3 The manufacturer and/or distributor assume full responsibility, either as owner or as the representative of the database administrator, to make the database available, for animal identification purposes, regardless of any eventuality (e.g. company insolvency). This commitment may be accomplished through the establishment of a Trust agreement between the NCAC and the database owner or by other mutually agreeable method.
 - 7.4 The manufacturer and/or distributor shall develop and provide a protocol (e.g. provide a toll-free number or a mailing address) designed to promote the maintenance of current and updated information, not solely reliant on the initiative of individual pet owners.



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- 7.5 The manufacturer and/or distributor shall work cooperatively with other Canadian companies and their databases to ensure the recovery of information for any microchipped animal, regardless of product used. Specifically, when a manufacturer and/or distributor is contacted regarding a lost animal, the company must provide the toll-free number or email address, or web site for that manufacturer or database administrator custodian of that animal's recovery information. The NCAC shall specify from time to time, the appropriate means for effective interaction and/or coordination of databases.

In addition, as per ICAR requirements, the manufacturer must maintain a database on which is recorded the initial purchaser of all ISO 11784/11785 transponders sold. The manufacturer must also recommend purchasers to maintain the same information and further recommend subsequent purchasers of the transponders to do the same until the transponder is applied to an animal.



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8. The manufacturer and/or distributor, database administrator and any persons having authorized access to the databases for purposes of this protocol, shall ensure full conformity with the federal *Personal Information Protection and Electronic Documents Act*. A copy must be provided of the relevant privacy policy, name and contact information for the responsible Privacy Officer.

Commitment to Compliance

9. In support of the NCAC's goal of ensuring an effective and practical pet recovery system in Canada, a legally verified declaration is required attesting to the adherence to and promotion of the Canadian standard for RFID technology.



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The NCAC reserves the right to periodically modify these requirements.

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