Minutes of the work-meeting
Copenhagen (Denmark), 2nd of November 2009

WORLD HORSE IDENTIFICATION, REGISTRATION & DATA EXCHANGE COMMITTEE

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Participants:

Ken Ball	American Federation
Lisa Owens	American Federation
Debbie Fuentes	arabianArabian horses
Vel Evans	Canada Equine
Alf Fuessel	European Commission
Catherine de Coulon	FEI
Dominique Delcourt	FEI
Klaus Miesner	German Federation
Dr.Thomas Nissen	German Federation
Xavier Guibert	HN (France)
Bérengère Lacroix	HN (France)
Daniel Taysse	HN (France)
Alison Corbally	HSI (?)
Jim Flanagan	Irish Sport Horse
Danielle Arts	KWPN (Holland)
Nicolas Fourcroy	LDC Conseil
Maiken Holm	National Centre Horses Danemark
Nick Wallbridge	NED (UK)
Arancha Rodríguez Sainz de los Terreros	PRE (?)
Pedro Rey	PRE (?)
Birgit SCHULPZAND	SBS (Belgium)
Michèle DELAURIER	SBS (Belgium)
Jon Stenqvist	Swedish Warmblood

I. **Welcoming of the participants**

The WHIRDEC meeting took place at Copenhagen, at the same time at the WBFSH GA.

Agenda of the meeting :

- Opening and apologies

- Validation of the minutes of the last meeting (June in Paris)

- UELN reminder

- Work FEI/WBFSH

- Data exchange between databases (Stud Book - Stud Book; Stud Book - FEI; Equestrian Federation - FEI) and setting up of a 'hub' to manage database access

- FEI files for rankings process

- European subsidies for FEI/WBFSH projects

- Miscellaneous

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- Conclusion

II. The different discussions of the meeting

A. Validation of minutes of last meeting

OK for everyone.Agreed by everyone.

B. UELN reminder

According to the EU regulation (504/2008), the UELN is NOW COMPULSORY in EUROPE FOR ALL HORSES born since after the 1rst of January 2009[NW1]

- UELN reminder :
  - 6 first digits numbers : database in the country (UELN code)
  - 9 alpha-numeric digits numbers : horse number in the database system
  - -- > UELN of the horse 1 number for all along of its life 15 characters (no blank, no dot… only figures numbers and letters)

- How to put a UELN on a 'new horse' registerioned:
  - 1st case : **first** registration for a horse born in your country :
    - Create UELN with UELN code of your database

  - 2nd case : **first** registration for a horse born in another country but registered at birth in your database :
    - Create UELN with UELN code of your database
    - NB: the ISO code of the **country of birth** would be in the **microchip number** (Agreement from meeting in Lyon's agreement)

  - 3rd case: registration of a horse coming from another database of your country :
    - keep the UELN of this horse in your database

  - 4th case : registration of an imported horse with UELN :
    - keep the UELN of this horse in your database

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- 5th case : registration of an imported horse without UELN printed on the passport :
  - DO NOT ADD an UELN for this horse
  - ask the SB of birth for the UELN of the horse
  -

Remarks:
- it is very difficult to define the UELN of 'old' horses when they do not have one in the passport. If you do not know the UELN, you can put 999999 for the UELN code then the 9 characters of the horse number. It will only mean that you do not know the UELN of the horse, and you did not add one → because this UELN could be wrong in the pedigree of the progeny.

- For the 2nd case : According to the EU regulation, microchip is not compulsory (if there is an alternative method for identification accepted under derogation by the Member State), and the identification of horse by microchip, or alternative method, is only compulsory for horse born after 1st of January 2009[NW2].
  Each government decides its policy about horses born before the 1st of January 2009[NW3].
  However the microchip is the link between the horse and its passport. It is the responsibility of stud book members of the WBFSH to set an example by using the microchip and ~~attributing~~ assigning a correct ~~properly~~ UELN for horses.
  Using the microchip to know the country of birth of a horse is the simplest solution to set up; the UELN code ~~givesn~~ the address of the database which registers the horse for the first time.

- Concern raised that the WPCS in the UK are using incorrect UELLEN prefixes to register horses in other countries. It was emphasised that only UELN prefixes authorised and registered by National Governments and be used by PIOs. This will be referred back to the UK Government for investigation.

C. The communication around the UELNCommunicating the Correct Usage of UELN.

To attribute properly the UELN, it is the responsibility of every one to communicate around it. The government should communicate about the application of the UELN, but if they don't, we have toIt is the responsibility of Governments to communicate and enforce the correct formatting and usage of UELNs by their approved PIOs. However, the members of the working group should do all that they can to encourage and communicate the correct usage of UELN.

D. UELN and microchip

-For the 2ⁿᵈ case of UELN attributionusage: According to the EU regulation, microchip is not compulsory (if there is an alternative method for identification accepted under derogation by the Member State), and the identification of horse by microchip, or alternative method, is only compulsory for horse born after 1ˢᵗ of January 2009[NW4].
Each government decides its policy about horses born before the 1ˢᵗ of January 2009[NW5].
However the microchip is the link between the horse and its passport. It is the responsibility of stud book members of the WBFSH to set an example by using the microchip and attributing properlycorrectly assingning UELNs for to horses.
Using the microchip to know identify the country of birth of a horse is the simplest solution to set up; the UELN code givesn the address of the database which registers the horse for the first time.

- If a horse already has a microchip but no UELN in its passport, it means that this horse has been recorded in a database.

- It seems very interesting to think of a solution for a world database for microchip (link between microchip and database). It could be easier to find in which database the horse has been recorded. → this is only a proposal. We should not forget that the first microchip use is to link the horse with its passport → its identity to recognize the horse (in the case of horse stolen for example) [NW6]
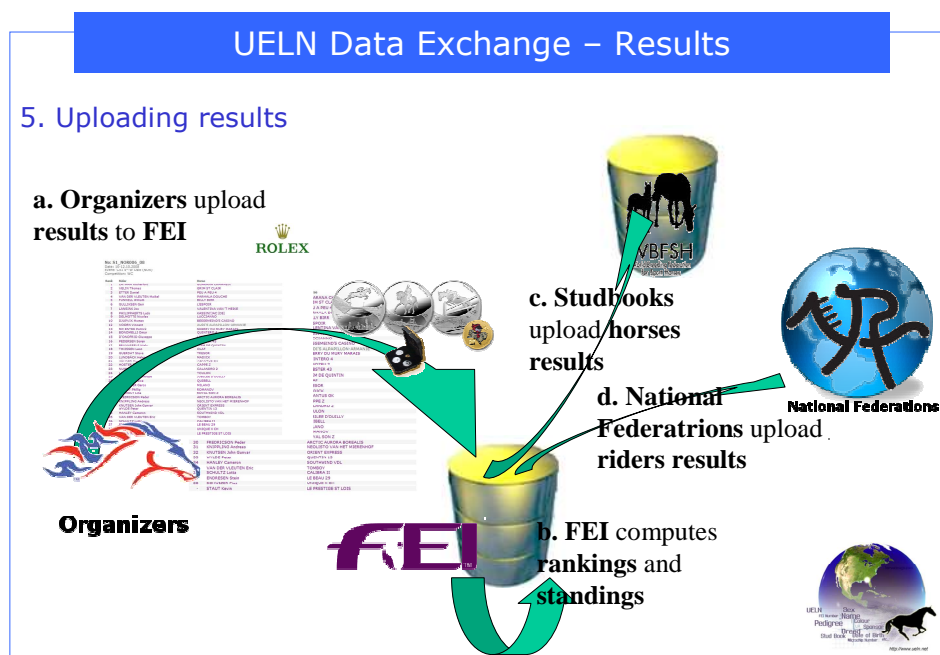
E. FEI presentation

The FEI is very involved in this project because the FEI is interested in to recording correct data in its database.

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The UELN is an important data link to follow uniquely identify horses and record the data coming from the original database. It facilitatesParticipate to data exchange between Stud-Books, but also with the FEI. is an advantage for everyone.

Dominique Delcourt invited people to visit the FEI website (www.fei.org) to consult review the updates and modifications.
It is possible to consult view horse data on the FEI website.
Remark : the UELN should not appear on <u>public</u> pages (this must be confidential in order to avoid falsificationfraudulent use of the data).

He insists also on Tthis is the high level schema:

Each actor is in charge of its data :data:
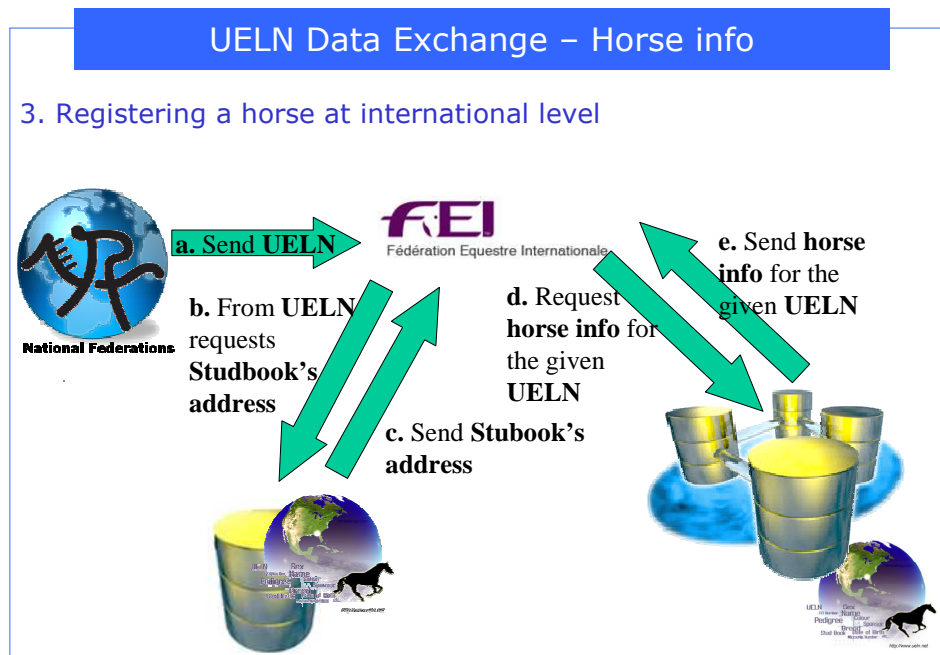Organizers : competition data
Stud Books : horses data
National Federations :Federations: riders data

It is the automation of data exchange which will be key to the success of this schema.

Indeed when a horse is Rregistering ed for a competition :

The national federation sends he UELN of the horse, the FEI requests the address of the database which owns the horse's' data. Then the FEI connects with the database to receive correct horse data.

Data are exchanged by Web service.
The FEI has already developed the Performance Web service for a horse's' performances → ready to test, ask the FEI

F. Stud-books dataDatabase Eexchanges : proposalition of a Hub (Nick Wallbridge presentation)

Exchange of data is not only important with the FEI, it is also important between Stud-Books and/or National databases. It can help when a horse is imported and needs to be recorded in a new database. All the information (core data) about the horse have has already been recorded in the original database and are correct. Thanks to UELN, databases are able to communicate and exchange data concerning a horse.

There is no commercial goal in data exchanges. Only the information which are is on the passport could be exchanged. This is a real way to save time and money.
Possibilities with the Hub to exchange data :

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- Each database gives authorizations to access to horses' data. There is a control to access.Each database will individual authorise access by any other database.
- If access allowed ; data can be exchanged.
- The hub doesn't store horse s'data
- The hub is only a way to control access between database thanks to the UELN code.
- Doesn't matter the database version → no problem of compatibility with the hub.
- The FEI performances exchanges data are not managed by the hub.
- Horse data exchange by Web Services. Each database builds its own web service (do not forget data conformity according to reference tables). Each database is in charge of data exchanged (for example, horse with or without its pedigree).
- A counter notes the number of connections.Each Database and the hub will keep an audit of the number of data exchanges.
- Each organisation has its own login and password to manage authorizations

The hub is a method of communication between databases.
It has been suggested that this hub be maintained by "les Haras nationaux" with the support of the WBFSH.[NW7]

G.   Agreement proposal for the use of the hub.

In order to normalize the use of the hub, each user should sign an agreement concerning data exchange policy.
This agreement should be between :
- Stud Book databases
- Central databases
- FEI
- National federations

This agreement will be submitted to you soon.

H. FEI files for ranking process (Danielle Arts)

There are a lot of troubles witherrors in horse data → some data, even UELN sometimes,UELN are wrong, in consequence rankings are wrong. We should notThere should not be find any character like "–" or "/" or "." in UELN.
The problem concerns also the designation of breed or stud book.
→ Most of the time, NFs do not know provide the correct information.
The solution could be for the NF to use the UELN of the horse and the hub to transfer the correct information for a horse to the FEI. But in any case a NF

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or any Stud book should not add a UELN to a horse if it doesn't have one (except 999999 as UELN code which means that it is not a known UELN known)

During next few months, we will have to work on Stud Book/Breed abbreviations.

I. European subsidies for FEI/WBFSH project

First of all, this project concerns more than European organisations. It seems that DGInfso is not interested in this data exchange project (even if it helps cattle in a similar project).
Mr Fuessel put forward the fact that horse data exchange are very limited compared to the traceability for cattle.
→ Nevertheless, the traceabeality problematic could be reviewed according to North American needs (electronic data exchange with Canada).

J. Miscellaneous

Vel Evans from Equine Canada mentions the sanitary issue and medication for horses. In the identification project in Canada, there are three sections :
- identification
- movement
- medication

→ all data for a horse should will be stored in an electronic passport.
Concerning the sanitary part, the government will decide who will record the treatments → Who records the data?

Today, in Europe, medical treatment pages are compulsory in the passport (Section IX), but only to record the use of proscribed medicine that are not allowed in horses destined for human consumption..
The FEI is considering imposing a more complete medical record for FEI registered horsesimposes to record all medication, but the problem of how this is included how can they be integrated in the actual passport needs to be considered. (which is not planed to record all treatments)?

→ remark : it will always be easier to add record on an electronic passport rather than in a paper passport.

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Next steps

Agreement proposal.

Setting up of the Hub → with agreement and support of the WBFSH

Middle Interim meeting before the next GA of the WBFSH next November.

Proposition by ANCCE for a meeting in Spain at the end of April/ beginning of May 2010.

If you have any question, do not hesitate to contact m:e.

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