WORLD HORSE IDENTIFICATION, REGISTRATION & DATA EXCHANGE COMMITTEE

Minutes of the working-meeting

Paris (France), 1st of July 2011

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Participants:

Alf Fuessel	European Commission DG SANCO
Graeme Cooke	FEI
Rudi Eerdekens	BWP (Belgium)
Carine Luys	VCP (Belgium)
Véronique Bodart	Confédération Belge du Cheval (Belgium)
Jean Pierre Devos	Confédération Belge du Cheval (Belgium)
Michèle DELAURIER	SBS (Belgium)
Maiken Holm	National Centre Horses (Denmark)
Fabio Iannetti	UNIRE (Italy)
Pedro Azor	ANCCE (Spain)
Ana Mª Catalán Alcalá	MARM (Spain)
Jurg Guggisberg	Identitas (Switzerland)
Nick Wallbridge	NED (UK)
Guillaume de Thore	Société Hippique Française (France)
Célia Llacera	Société Hippique Française (France)
Xavier Guibert	IFCE (France)
Bérengère Lacroix	IFCE (France)
Daniel Taysse	IFCE (France)
Alban Ferignac	IFCE (France)

I. **Welcoming of the participants**

The WHIRDEC meeting took place in Paris,
Agenda of the meeting :

- Welcome and presentation
- UELN website
- Data exchange Project
    - European law 504/2008 (page 4 art.31)
    - Copenhaguen presentation
        - Workflow presentation between different databases
        - Details of the data exchange
- Access rights administration
    - Presentation
- Horse Webservice
    - Reference tables
    - Presentation
    - Validation
- Lunch
- Future webservices (performance…)
- Chart for hub use
- Planning
- Project for the futur : microchip reference database (→ postponed)
- Conclusion

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Xavier Guibert introduces the meeting and the project ; he presents the place of the FEI and its importance to promote standards.

Horses are more and more travelling for leisure and competition. For example, France imports and registers now more than 10 000 horses in a year.

The export of semen is also now a main business, and breeding associations have to know stallions details to record origins.

UELN has been adopted by most international organisations and is now compulsory in Europe.

Since 2008, with New regulation, traceability becomes very important in UE. Horse industry is growing, each country has to maintain a central database or to link the different databases between them. Those databases have to record imported horses and they need to limit costs.

Today we would like to facilitate data exchange, to improve links between central databases, Stud book databases, NF databases, FEI database…

II.Presentation of participants :

Graeme Cooke is in charge of the passport System in the FEI.

134 NF are linked to FEI database. The project is very important for the FEI because there are a lot of duplications of horses. At the moment, the FEI is still in a middle of a huge IT project, steps are going on. SO, they are interested in this hub project.

Michele Delaurier from SBS : interested by the hub and the access to others databases.

Véronique Bodart/Jean Pierre Devos from Confédération Belge du Cheval, responsible of the central database in Belgium

Celia LLacera/Guillaume de Thore from the SHF: parent company for horses and ponies industry in France, SHF represents breeders, owners, riders, … for young horses and ponies.

Fabio Iannetti from UNIRE (Italy) : new system which unifies all databases in Italia.

Rudi Eerdekens : BWP (Belgium, chairman of the Flamish central database, he represents also WBFSH finance department

Carine Luys from VPC (Belgium), Flamish central database

Alf Fuessel represents DG SANCO (European Commission)

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Xavier Guibert from IFCE (France) was in charge for a long time of the French Central Database. Now in charge of the national and international relationships of IFCE and leads the breeding department in WBFSH executive committee.

Hubert De Cadolle from SIRE (France) : French National Database.

Jurg Guggisberg from Identitas (Switzerland) central database. First participation.

Ana Maria Catalan Alcala from MARM (Spain)…: central database for breeding horses and registered horses. They have already developed a system of web -services to exchange data in Spain between this DB and regional and stud book Data Bases

Pedro Azor from ANCCE (Spain): in charge of the PRE. They think it should be easy to work together in this project

Maiken Holm from the Denmark National Database IT department

Nick Wallbridge from NED (United Kingdom) IT department manager

Daniel Taysse from IFCE (France) IT manager

Alban Ferignac from IFCE (France) is the IT project manager in charge of the UELN and HDE project

Bérengère Lacroix from IFCE (France) is in charge of the UELN and HDE project and UELN.net webmaster

III. **The different discussions of the meeting**

A. UELN website presentation

The link between the UELN website and the EU commission website has been presented.
http://www.ueln.net/ueln-presentation/eu-regulation/
http://ec.europa.eu/food/animal/identification/equine/ms_information_en.htm

The UELN principles are available on the UELN website :
http://www.ueln.net/index.php?id=5

Do not forget that 1 UELN code = database = 1 address.
In some cases, a database can have 2 UELN code; for example when 2 databases merge. But the address has to be unique, behind the two codes.

For information, in 2010, 69 news UELN codes have been assigned to databases.

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In 2011, already 15 UELN code have been assigned.

On the UELN website, at the address http://www.ueln.net/ueln-code-database/find-addresses-of-organizations/, the UELN code of each organisation in a country is available.

B. HDE = Horse Data Exchange project

The outcome of the project depends on our collaboration all together. At least European national databases should rely on the EU regulation :

> "(31) In order to maintain control over the issuing of identification documents, a minimum set of relevant data relating to the issuing of such documents should be recorded in a database. The databases in different Member States should cooperate in accordance with Council Directive 89/608/EEC of 21 November 1989 on mutual assistance between the administrative authorities of the Member States and cooperation between the latter and the Commission to ensure the correct application of legislation on veterinary and zootechnical matters (6) to facilitate the exchange of data."

Even if nothing happened in 2010 for different reasons, the project of data **exchange should restart now** and our common goal should be to present our advance on it at the WBFSH GA in October 2011 in Sevilla.

C. Remind you Copenhaguen (November 2009)

The solution to use a hub was accepted in Copenhaguen : the principe is a communication between databases through a hub (on the UELN database server).

With this solution :

- No data stored in the hub
- The hub counts the access requests (logs)
- This central database would hold and maintain all access rights and grants and the available webservices list
- A portal window will be created to this central hub for each database which will then allow them to grant access rights to specific webservices to specify other databases.

Advantages of this solution :

Only few developments for the applicant

Several formats available to broadcast data back (SOAP, REST)

Centralization of the accesses facilitates your firewall settings

Hub counts the exchanges between databases (applicants and providers)

Data exchange from the UELN, we get the address of the original database thanks to the UELN.

Each database can decide which data webservices can be use by it to provide data. The webservices will be linked to a protocol of exchange (specification), each database would know which data would be exchanged.

At the moment the UELN would be the unique way to get a horse, we can think about the next step (microchip database).
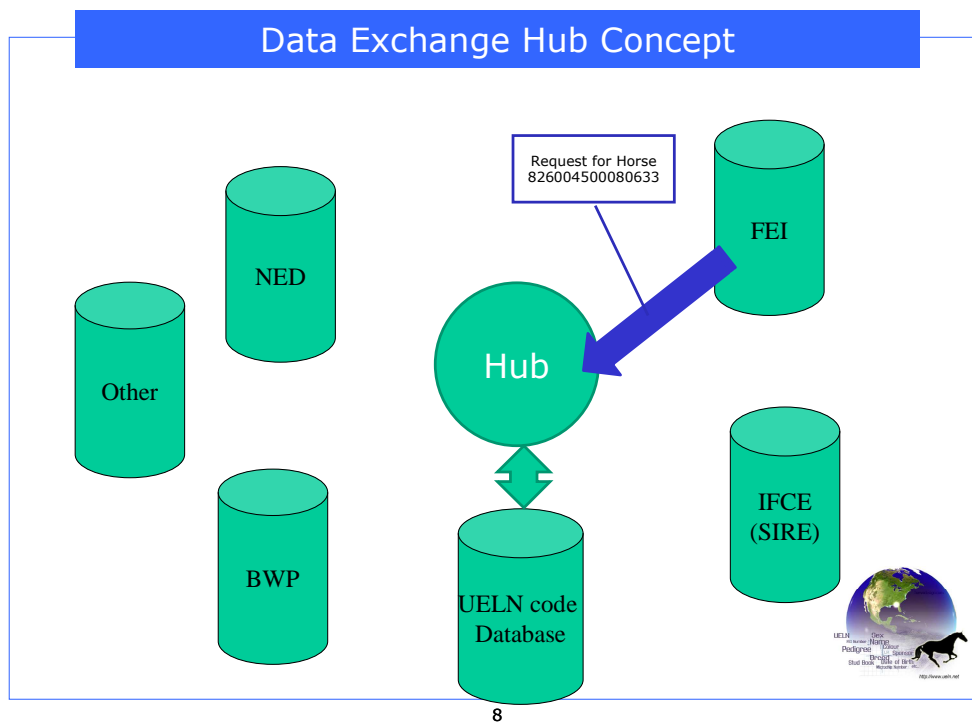

Remarks :

SANCO (Alf E. Fuessel) : UELN is the unique number for the EU, all horses alive should have a passport and an UELN. The microchip is not the number to qualify the horse for exchange. (due to several reasons listed in 1999)

EU does not impose which data have to be exchanged. In the regulation, core data are (Chapter VII; Article 21, 1):

UELN, Species, sex, Colour, date of birth, microchip (if applicable), country of birth, date of issue and any amendment of the identification document, name and address of the person to whom the identification document is issued, the status as registered equidae or equidae for breeding and production, the name of the animal, the known status of the animal as not intented for slaughter for human consumption, information concerning duplicate, notified date of death.
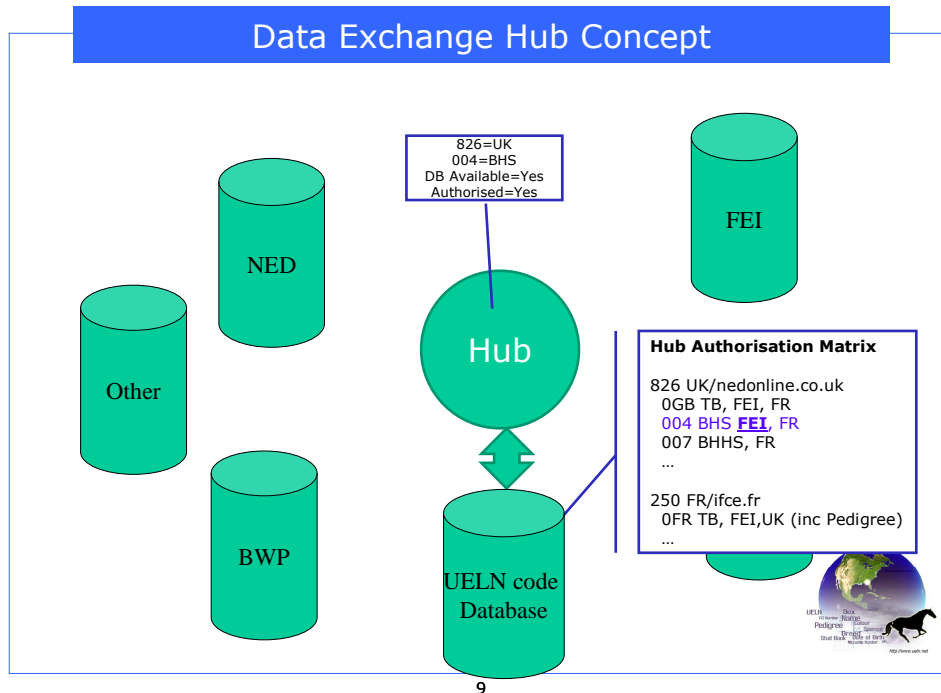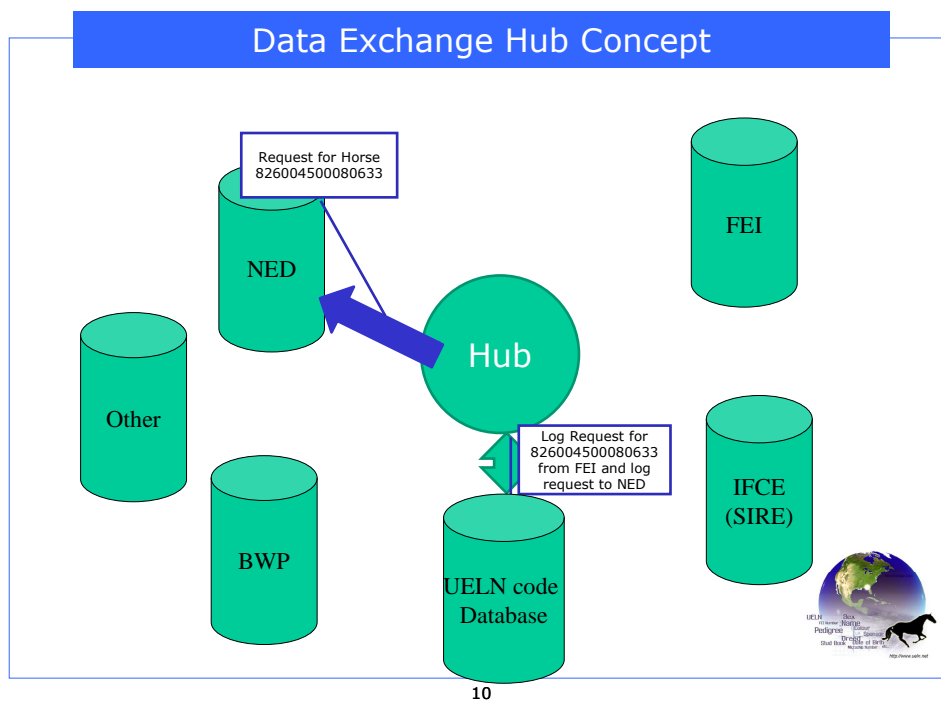
Data exchange concept

A database requests for a horse with its UELN.
The request goes through the hub

Data Exchange Hub Concept

826=UK
004=BHS
DB Available=Yes
Authorised=Yes

NED

FEI

Other

Hub

BWP

Hub Authorisation Matrix

826 UK/nedonline.co.uk
  0GB TB, FEI, FR
  004 BHS **FEI**, FR
  007 BHHS, FR
  …

250 FR/ifce.fr
  0FR TB, FEI,UK (inc Pedigree)
  …

UELN code Database

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The Hub checks authorisations with the UELN code

Data Exchange Hub Concept

Request for Horse
826004500080633

FEI

NED

Other

Hub

BWP

Log Request for
826004500080633
from FEI and log
request to NED

IFCE
(SIRE)

UELN code Database

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The request is sent to the correct database
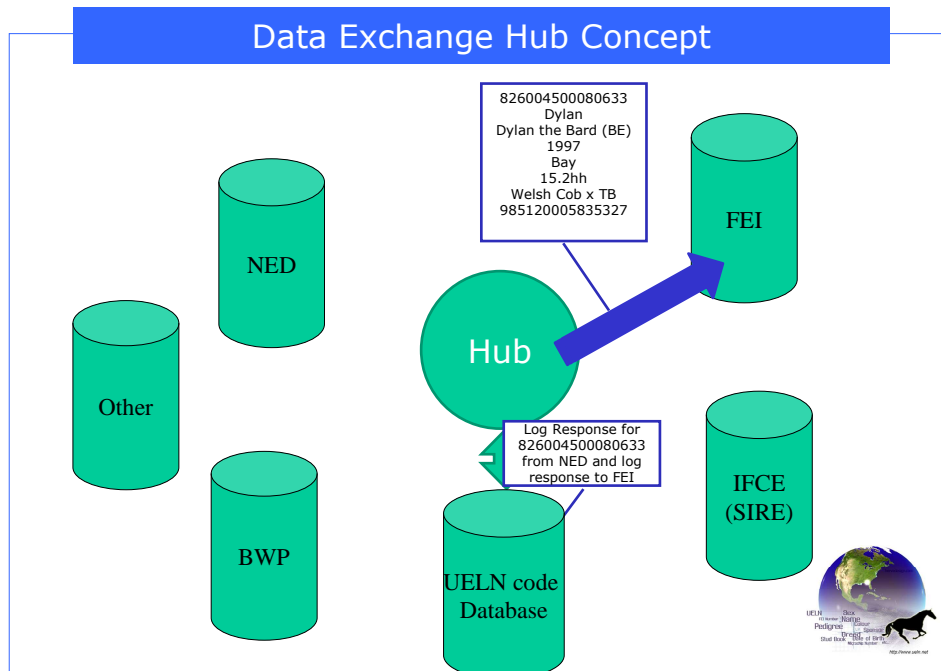The hub counts the log and record the UELN number and the date of the request

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Data Exchange Hub Concept

826004500080633
Dylan
Dylan the Bard
1997
Bay
15.2hh
Welsh Cob x TB
985120005835327

NED

FEI

Log Request for
826004500080633

Hub

Other

BWP

UELN code
Database

IFCE
(SIRE)
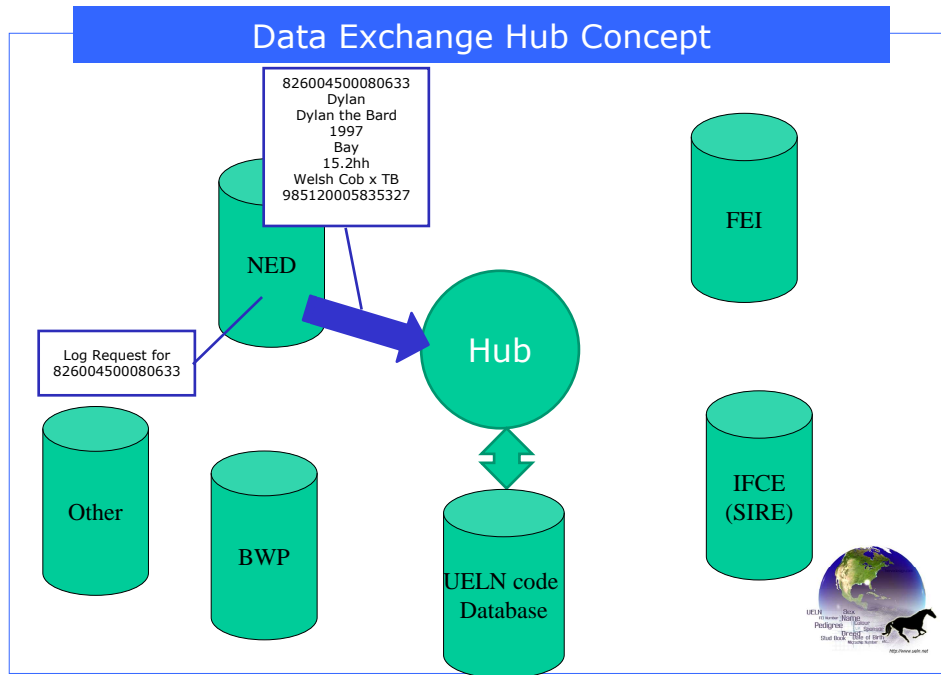
11

The provide's database send the detail thanks to the WS. The provide's database can log the request too.

Data Exchange Hub Concept

826004500080633
Dylan
Dylan the Bard (BE)
1997
Bay
15.2hh
Welsh Cob x TB
985120005835327

FEI

NED

Other

Hub

Log Response for
826004500080633
from NED and log
response to FEI

BWP

UELN code
Database

IFCE
(SIRE)

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Details are sent to the applicant database through the hub which does not store data, it only logs the answer through the hub which does not store data.

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FEI involvement

FEI provides a screen to NF's to record horses properly, thanks to the UELN;

The FEI system queries the hub to get horse's data from the original database;

This system could avoid mistakes and double records.

In the FEI database, it is very important that the data be correct.

FEI presents screens they use to record a horse, with risks of duplications. So the hub could be a big advantage to record correct data, and it would permit to preserve time also. The traceability of the horse is very important whatever where is the horse.

Stud books are interested to promote breeders → thanks to correct data.

All (most of…) FEI horses are now microchiped and FEI intends to ask for making microchip compulsory in the future.

Remarks :

SANCO (Alf Fuessel) : what is NFs want to look at a horse without going to/through the FEI ?

SANCO (Alf Fuessel) thinks that it should have a link from NF to the hub directly to get horses which are not necessary horses competiting at international level. (OK, as it exists in some countries, like France)

Databases should be able to record more than one microchip per horse.

BWP (Rudi Eerdekens) : Problem about horses in pedigree about UELN : some UELN are maybe not correct, how can we do?

IFCE (Xavier Guiebrt) : it is the job of the database to fill UELN of horses it registered at birth (including horses born before 2009, adding the 6 digits before the life number of these horses).

Only horses with an UELN can be exchanged.

In exchange of the horses'data, the FEI would pass
- to NF databases the international performances of their horses

- to Stud book databases, with the agreement of the concerned NF, the international performances of their horses (at present, those who count in rankings).

IV.   **Access rights administration**

Each database decides which databases are allowed or not to get data.

NED asks to get an other level on the database level (3 firsts digits level, and then 3 digits of the code). It might be

3 firsts digits → central databases (ex NED in UK and Ministry DB in Spain)
6 digits → for a particular database
→ an access can be done even if a database has no UELN

How to manage a database which has no UELN (as NED?)

It would be by a dropdown list with all 'database' managed, because each individual database can have its specific authorisations.

For security when a login and password is requested, the webmaster checks if the database which requests is legitimate.

In any case if we do not have the UELN, it is not possible to get information.

To grant access rights each database would get :
- Personal access by login and password
- The list of databases involved in the project to allow or not the access
- The list of partners for whom the database is allowed or not to access (and the contact person to request an access)
- The list of web services managed
- An access to download web services specifications

V. <u>Webservices</u>

A. Description of webservices :

<u>Horse data :</u>
only basic equine data, no human data (except breeder : forename and surname)
Stub Book Code: as used in the WBFSH stud book table
Nat Passport and FEI number should be 2 different fields.

The 'compulsory data' are those listed by the UE 504/2008 regulation Add « version number » for the web service

→ <u>fields are optional.</u>

<u>Pedigree :</u>
from the UELN of the horse, you get the UELN of SIRE and DAM and then you can complete pedigree with name and so on, thanks to the UELN of the parents.

<u>licensing :</u>
Description of the web service to get approval for one year or for several years…
We can imagine to add a free text field to comment the level of approval (for some breeds, for qualification…)

<u>Performances:</u>
To obtain performances of horses in a country. Performances could go through the stud book database directly.

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B. Horse data Webservice :

GetHorseInformation(string nUELN)
This method return theses informations for the select horse. Version of the WS

Informations	Description
UELN	UELN 15 digits (also in input of the web service)
birthName	Name of the horse given by its breed stud. Max 25 characters
currentName	Current name of the horse. Max 25 characters
genderCode	2 digit number. (without dot)
FEIColorCode	Colour code for the horse (FEI Code). 3 car. (BAY, CHE, GRE, BLA or OTH)
birthCountryCode	Country code for the horse (ISO number 3 digits).
dateBirth	Date of birth, or 1st Jan of the (estimated) year of birth if the date is not known (YYYYMMDD).
IsDead	Flag (true or false)
dateDeath	Date of death, or date death informed if actual date not known. (YYYYMMDD)
colorComplement	Detailed description of the colour of the horse. Max 50 characters.
dateCastration	Date the horse was castrated (YYYYMMDD).
height	Height of horse in centimetres.
breed 30	Breed name. Maximum 30 characters.

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studBookWBFSHCode	UID of the breeding stud book for this horse (recognized by WBFSH). Note that a horse may have registrations in other stud books (e.g. for grading or as a parent), but these should not be used instead. (Example : SBSF for StudBook Selle Français, BHHS for Bristish Hanoverian Horse Society)
studBookName	Free name of the studbook (not recognized by WBFSH).
sectionCode	Section (Example : A, B, C, D, …). Free text.
breederFirstName	First name of the breed stud. Maximum 100 characters.
breederLastName	Last name of the breed stud. Maximum 100 characters or company name.
microchipNumber	free text (if several microchips : the web service send a list of microchip). Example : 123456789 (the reference number) 123456789 123456788 123456787
isHotBranding	1 for yes and 0 for no
isFreezeMarking	1 for yes and 0 for no.

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Marking Value	Free text characters
Tattoo	Free text characters
isBloodTyped	1 for yes and 0 for no (old system before DNA)
parentageTest	1 for yes and 0 for no
isDNATyped	1 for yes and 0 for no (DNA system)
DNANumber	DNA number, 25 characters
natPassport	A national passport Identifier. Maximum 20 characters. Currently only one national passport ID is supported. To avoid confusion NFs should identify which passport scheme is nationally valid, and use only that passport for identifying a horse. It can be the FEI number.
recognitionCode	The unique identifier written in the horses recognition document (internal number like SIRE in France).
pcThoroughBred	Percentage of thoroughbred. 5 characters
pcArabBlood	Percentage of arab blood. 5 characters

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<u>Pedigree Web service</u> :

Future webservice

- **Pedigree**
  - **getHorseAncestry(string UELN, int rank)**

  This method return theses informations for each horses in the pedigree at rank given by parameter. We use recursivity to get the pedigree.

Informations	Description
UELN	UELN 15 digits
uelnSire	Ueln of the sire 15 characters
uelnMare	Ueln of the mare 15 characters

n

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VI. Agreements to make :

An agreement between WBFSH and databases should be written.

An agreement between databases to use and exchange data :
- No modification for main data (UELN, name, date of birth, pedigree...) ;
- Databases make a commitment to specify the database of origin of the horse and the born country in brackets () ;
- Databases make a commitment to ask for information of imported horses, imported semen and horses in competition in the country.

WBFSH maintains financially the hub, the Haras nationaux are in charge of the maintenance.
WBFSH members could use the hub for free .
No member should pay a fee, even very small to the WBFSH.
What about the charge of providing data ? Proposal : no fee if everyone works in the same way.
Databases should not make profit with data coming from another database. They can use it only for their own management, without intention "to make money" from the data of other database.
In UK, main data are free, more data are charged.
Data which should be exchange : Sire, Dam, Sire of the Dam
It should have a difference between 'active' horses and 'unactive' horses in databases .
FEI thinks that this exchange is based on 'solidarity'.

For 'small' databases with no IT skill, we are thinking of developing a web page with a 'form' to display data on a screen, so they do not have to develop particular evolutions on their databases
Databases even small should be encouraged to link to the hub and use data exchange.
In Belgium, all small databases are linked to a 'plateform' which makes the records easier.

The agreement WBFSH/FEI should be signed in WBFSH GA or FEI GA.

NF/Stud Book agreement
It depends of the NF if data go to the stud book database through the NF DB, or or if data go directly to the Stud book database.

VII. Motion signed

"Those attending the meeting, representing their organisation, agree that the HDE project, as presented today in Paris (1st of July 2011) meeting, managed under the umbrella of WBFSH and FEI, and according to the EU requirements, appears to be in a good way.

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They ask the WBFSH to start with the development of the hub, as explained today, in close cooperation with FEI.

They declare representing stud books or/and central databases, that they do intend to use the hub and to share data.

Until the October 2011 Sevilla meeting of WHIRDEC, the project team will work in order to develop the first tool of exchange, according to the presentation made today. This tool will start with those who will ask for being volunteers and will be presented at WHIRDEC meeting in Sevilla".

VIII. **Next meeting**

The next meeting will take place in Sevilla the 27th of October 2011, after the WBFSH GA.