

Stand by what you sell

WEBINAR - NSW



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NSW Webinar Question and Answer Transcript

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1pm to 2pm EST

Hosted by Integrity Systems Company (ISC)

Property Identification Codes (PICs) and Ear Tags

Q: Do all saleyards and abattoirs currently have a PIC?

A: Yes all saleyards and abattoirs do have a PIC, some abattoirs have multiple PICs. It is recommended, when coordinating your consignment to be sent to the saleyard or abattoir, you request the PIC that you can include in the Destination PIC field on the NVD.

Q: Does moving sheep on-foot between properties with different PICs cost a fee? The properties are both managed by the same people, i.e. no change of livestock ownership nor management.

A: If the stock graze between the two properties and they have the same PIC, there is no need to do an NVD. If the properties continuously graze between the two properties and they have different PICs, currently there is no need to record that movement or use an NVD because it sounds like the two properties are worked as a single property. However, if there are distinct movements then those movements should be recorded on the NLIS database to the different PICs. The only fees that may be associated is ensuring that both PICs are LPA accredited and have separate LPA NVDs, although this is currently at no cost due to the MLA Accelerated Adoption Initiative until 30 June 2021.

Q: I bought 400 NLIS tags for my cattle ... does ISC assume I own 400 cattle?

A: Each NLIS account holder is responsible for accounting for the tags/devices on their NLIS account. It does not matter if they are in cattle or in the cupboard.

Q: What are the tokens? Are they our NLIS tags?

A: Tokens are what you purchase to gain access to the eDEC solution. Sales of eDEC tokens ceased in April. The functionality of the faster, easier eNVD replaces that of the eDEC, which is being decommissioned.

Q: When a home breed animal loses a NLIS tag in the paddock, can we replace with the white tags from our own supply or do we need an orange tag?

A: For home bred cattle that have not left their PIC of birth, you can replace lost tags with your own white breeder tag for that PIC.

National Vendor Declaration – NVDs and eNVDs

Q: How long do you need to keep completed NVDs for in NSW?

A: When you receive NVDs for stock you have bought in you should keep them for 7 years.

Q: We have properties in NSW and Victoria and both have a PIC. Do we complete an NVD to move stock from one property to the other or just log a transfer via NLIS?

A: Yes, you should complete an NVD to accompany the stock on the journey between properties. It is a NSW requirement that there be a Transported Stock Statement (TSS) with the stock when they are transported by road in NSW. The Livestock Production Assurance NVD is a TSS. You must record the movement on the NLIS database and use the serial number of the NVD which is with the stock when they move.

Q: How do we handle the case of a sharefarmer managing the sheep for NVDs? Should the sharefarmer fill out the eNVD or is it the PIC owner? The sharefarmer is "on the ground" at truck loading time?

A: Technically, the person responsible who has ownership of the stock should be completing the NVD to ensure all questions specifically regarding food safety are answered correctly. However, so long as the owner has given responsibility to the sharefarmer to complete the NVD on their behalf, then this is suitable.

Q: Are refunds available for old versions of NVDs (C0413)?

A: Unfortunately, there are no refunds for old books however all new versions are free under the MLA Accelerated Adoption Initiative until June 30 2021. The initiative started on 25 November 2019 so any purchases before that will not be refunded.

Q: What is the cost of eNVDs?

A: The eNVD is free. Using the eNVD ensures you will be on the correct NVD version every time.

Q: The PICs of saleyards and agents, for example, are not easily searchable on the eNVD. In the current search, the terms had to be exact. Does the new eNVD have inexact searching?

A: ISC is working with state departments to improve the information in the PIC register. However, you are able to update the destination information or complete it manually. ISC is encouraging saleyards, agents, feedlots and processors to share their PICs so producers know where the animals need to be assigned.

Q: If you finish the eNVD offline, do you then edit the online copy later?

A: You can update the online version at a later time and ISC advises you do this to ensure your records are kept in one place.

Q: What is the use of an eNVD when you still need connectivity and still requires you to print copies for cartage and agent? Where is the time saving and paper saving takes place?

A: The new eNVD system has a number of features that help NVD creators at this stage of its development. For example, the ability to answer questions once for all consignment forms, the use of consignment templates, and its mobile-friendly application etc. These features combined save a

lot of time and effort for those that are fortunate enough to have connectivity and we will continue to improve the system to deliver these features to those who are not in range as well.

Q: Just to clarify, with the new NVD ... if I'm selling sheep at a saleyard, the consignee is the agent and the destination is the saleyard location?

A: Yes this is correct. Ensuring the Destination PIC of the saleyard and its full physical address is included in the destination location will ensure your NVD is complete and correct.

Q: Will this be the last time the NVD is changed?

A: The NVD versions for all species are reviewed on an annual basis by both industry and government. Where changes are requested, they will go through the annual process and, once agreed upon by all parties, will be rolled out through a 12-month notification period. ISC recommends only purchasing a maximum of 12 month's supply to ensure you are always using the most up-to-date NVD.

Q: When completing the eNVD online, what is best way to add transporter details if they are not known at the time of online completion? There's no wifi at our yards or phone service.

A: You can still print an eNVD which is partially completed. While you may not know the number of head or the transporter, you can complete as much as you can. Print the form (3 copies) and provide that to the transporter, then you can then update the online eNVD to reflect the hard copy.

Q: Can a Transported Stock Statement TSS be used to transfer stock between properties?

A: Yes, a TSS can be used to transfer stock between properties in NSW however LPA accredited producers must use an LPA NVD whenever livestock are moved between different PICs.

Q: With the eNVD, does it need to be printed for carrier and receiver?

A: No, it does not need to be printed if the transporter and receiver are comfortable with digital (PDF) copies of the consignment forms. However, if you're unsure you can print eNVDs at any time. Thanks for your question.

Q: Can I do an EU (European Union) NVD online as well?

A: Yes you can. It is included in the eNVD solution as well as animal health declarations, MSA and NFAS forms.

Q: Next time these NVDs get updated, is there any chance that in the carrier section can there be a tick box indicating whether the charge is going to be direct, to agent or own transport please.

A: The NVDs are reviewed each year through SAFEMEAT and are then rolled out over a 12 month period. To suggest changes for consideration through SAFEMEAT, contact your producer representation body – either [Cattle Council of Australia](#), [Sheep Producers Australia](#), or the [Goat Industry Council of Australia](#) or if you are a transporter, the [Australian Livestock and Rural Transporters Association](#). Those groups put forward suggested changes and agree on what needs to be included. ISC is then tasked with rolling out the changes.

Q: In regard to the livestock ownership section, what is the recommendation if you are selling a mix of cattle you have bred yourself on farm and cattle you have previously purchased? Are two or more NVDs required and then separation at the saleyards?

A: If you use one NVD, then tick the box that relates to the most recent date of purchase. If you feel there is a marketing advantage to selling them separately then use two NVDs, but make sure the agent is aware and the animals can be identified and separated. If there is no marketing advantage, then just use one NVD.

Q: For two neighbouring properties with a common boundary and stock moving back and forward between the two, do I need to do an NVD for each time they change properties?

A: If the stock graze between the two properties and they have the same PIC there is no need to do an NVD. If the properties continuously graze between the two properties and they have different PICs, currently there is no need to record that movement or use an NVD because it sounds like the two properties are worked as a single property. However, if there are distinct movements the movements should be recorded on the NLIS database to the different PICs.

Q: Looking at my NLIS account, I can no longer see a record of my past eDecs? Is there a way to retrieve these?

A: You should be able to access your completed eDECs through your LPA account up until two years old. ISC is currently working on making all older eDECs available in a historical format. Should you have any queries please contact us at operations@integritysystems.com.au

Q: Is it correct that you still need to print out an eNVD to give to the freight contractor and destination agent? And do you also need mobile coverage for the eNVD to work?

A: In NSW it is still the best thing to do to print out the eNVD to give the transporter and agent. Yes, the eNVD system does need mobile signal to work. Best to speak with LPA directly as to what to do with off-line issues.

Q: Are there any plans to make an application that can be loaded to a mobile device to complete and submit a NVD? It is a real pain to try and fill one out on a phone through the website when out in the yards with no printer close.

A: Yes, there are plans to develop offline solutions in the next 6-12 months. This may mean native mobile apps amongst other solutions like bluetooth transfer and SMS. Keep an eye on ISC's eNVD system updates for information on this development. Thank you for the great question.

Q: On an eNVD, how does the truckie fill in details and sign?

A: The livestock transporter can fill out Part B on a mobile device or on the printed eNVD.

Q: To access the mobile log-in for eNVD is this accessible through a dedicated 'app' or a unique website address?

A: The eNVD is currently accessible on mobile devices using this web address <https://envd.integritysystems.com.au> In the next 6-12 months ISC will be working on an offline solution which is likely to include a native mobile app amongst other solutions like Bluetooth and SMS transaction if consignments. Thank you for your question

National Livestock Identification System (NLIS)

Q: We recently bought some heifers but their NLIS tag does not match the number on our sale invoice. The agent assured us that they were registered to the number on the invoice and were transferred to our PIC. How do we sell them when the time comes?

A: If you are unsure that your heifers were vendor-bred and came from the PIC on the invoice you received, you can easily check this by looking at livestock located on your PIC within the NLIS database and making sure the transfer was completed by your agent. The NLIS database is located at www.nlis.com.au and it would be the first step to ensure they have been transferred onto your PIC (a requirement of your LPA accreditation). Once you have completed this, it is the responsibility of the purchaser after your sale to complete the NLIS transfer of those heifers by scanning the RFID tags and doing this on the NLIS database.

Q: Historically we have applied our NLIS tags along with our identification tags when the calves are young and are being vaccinated. Over the course of time, the retention rate of the NLIS tag has become a problem with a number of tags lost in the paddock and are not identifiable. How do we reconcile our 'lost' tags?

A: Instructions on how to complete a PIC reconciliation is on the ISC website – we will provide you with the link in the webinar follow up email. By completing a PIC reconciliation, you can make those lost tags 'inactive'. To identify which tags have been lost, you will need to have taken note of what NLIS tags have been applied to each group of calves. You can look back at the tag numbers you have ordered on your NLIS account and start to work out which ones have been applied and when by matching up the date they were ordered. Otherwise to do a complete reconciliation, the process is to scan all animals on your property and the spare tags you have in the cupboard and compare this against the tags assigned to your PIC on the NLIS database.

Q: How do I do a PIC reconciliation?

A: The process is to scan all animals on your property and the spare tags you have in the cupboard and compare this against the tags assigned to your PIC on the NLIS database. ISC has a detailed Tech Tip on how to do a [PIC reconciliation by file upload](#) and if you are seeking more of these step-by-step documents to use the NLIS database, visit www.integritysystems.com.au/techtips

Q: Rookie question ... how do I scan the cattle NLIS ear tags? Where do we access a scanner?

A: You can buy a scanner or wand or ask your agent to hire or borrow it. You can also read the visual number on the tag – please refer to this [Tech Tip](#)

Q: We will be selling our current property and buying another, what do we have to do as we intend to take our stock with us?

A: When you move your stock to the new property you must transfer all the stock from your current property to the new property on the NLIS database. This will mean scanning cattle RFIDs and transferring them individually on the database. Sheep and/or goats are moved as mobs. A NVD for the current property for all cattle and sheep consignments must also be filled out when the stock move to the new property. You will also need to update your details with Local Land Services when you move to your new place.

Q: Is there an option on the NLIS database to select whether a tag is currently active (on an animal) or sitting in a box waiting to be used to help with reconciliation?

A: The NLIS database views all tags on your account as active. When completing a PIC reconciliation it is recommended to scan any tags sitting in a box and add these to the PIC reconciliation file so they are not deemed inactive within the NLIS Database at the time of upload.

When completing the PIC reconciliation process, the only tags that you will make 'inactive' are tags that you identify as either lost or no longer assigned to your PIC (transfers that have not been completed). All tags that are still **to be used** need to remain active. To keep track of the tags in the cupboard – note the sequence of numbers that the bag/s contains and keep some records of what is used from the bag/s.

Q: If I find that an animal is not transferred during the reconciliation, what do I do them?

A: A PIC reconciliation will identify two groups of animals – those that are on your NLIS account but not physically on your property (either lost tags or animals that have not been transferred off). These can generally be set to inactive. The other group are animals (devices) that you **do** physically have but are not appearing on your NLIS account. Tracking down where this group came from to complete the transfer may be easy or difficult – the visual tag that has the PIC number of the animal's place of birth may help you when going through your NVD records. Please contact the ISC Helpdesk for assistance, you may also need to talk to your State department.

Q: What is the best way to reconcile your database? Do it yourself or is there a business that can help?

A: To complete a PIC reconciliation, you will need to scan all RFID tags on your PIC both in livestock and any yet to be used and upload this file to the NLIS Database in your NLIS account at www.nlis.com.au – there's more information in the [PIC reconciliation by file upload](#) Tech Tip. If you tackle this yourself then you can always call the ISC Helpdesk for assistance.

Q: We purchased a property and have just found out that the previous owner did not transfer her cattle off the property correctly and are still showing as active on our PIC code. Will a PIC reconciliation correct this and what documentation do I need?

A: Yes, you are correct, a PIC reconciliation will correct this. To complete a PIC reconciliation, you will need to scan all RFID tags on your PIC both in livestock and any yet to be used and upload this file to the NLIS Database in your NLIS account at www.nlis.com.au – there's more information in the [PIC reconciliation by file upload](#) Tech Tip. You can always call the ISC Helpdesk for assistance.

Q: How do you reconcile lost tags on database if tags are not able to be located?

A: The process for a PIC reconciliation is to scan all your livestock plus all your spare tags in the cupboard - this gives you a list of 'active' tags to compare to the tags assigned to your account as active on the NLIS database. For all your 'breeder' tags that are on the database list but not on your 'active' list - it's likely these are the ones that have been lost and can be set to 'inactive'. We will be providing a link to a Tech Tip on this in the follow up webinar as there are a few other things to consider (eg transfers off that have not been completed).

Q: What should we do if the buyer doesn't perform the NLIS transfer?

A: If the buyer doesn't perform the transfer, please contact them and ask them to do it. They should have the NVD from you with all the details to do it. You could also ask your agent to do it. Otherwise you could do it yourself but talk to your agent and buyer first to ensure they have not.

Q: Looking at my own NLIS records it appears only the cattle movements are recorded and not sheep. Is this because the NLIS database only records stock with electronic tags?

A: If you are using the visual tag system, these sheep movements will be recorded as mob-based movements on the NLIS Database. The reports will look slightly different to that of cattle but all the records should be there. Should you have any trouble accessing these results, please contact the ISC Helpdesk at support@integritysystems.com.au

Q: I'm new to all of this. I didn't know that I had to do a transfer on purchase, I thought the vendor was doing this. Can I just do this now and bring it up to date if it hasn't been recorded?

A: Yes you can. Firstly check that the transfer has not been done as in some cases the vendor may have done the transfer. If they have not, a PIC reconciliation will help to identify what animals are on your property compared with the NLIS database. The process is to scan all animals on your property and the spare tags you have in the cupboard and compare this against the tags assigned to your PIC on the NLIS database. ISC has a detailed Tech Tip on how to do a [PIC reconciliation by file upload](#) and if you are seeking more of these step-by-step documents to use the NLIS database, visit www.integritysystems.com.au/techtips.

Once you have identified the animals that have not been transferred onto your PIC, you can complete the transfer of their NLIS devices, referring back to the NVD that you received with the animals for the details and including the NVD serial number. Please contact the ISC Helpdesk for assistance.

Livestock Production Assurance (LPA)

Q: How can we stand by what we sell when we have such enormous challenges in biosecurity and breeches of biosecurity? For example, feral animal invasion.

A: As part of the LPA Program, biosecurity is a key requirement which assists our producers in standing by what we sell. Challenges with biosecurity such as feral animal invasion are something that ISC understands can be out of your control. Being aware of this risk and noting risks such as these in your Biosecurity Plan and how you attempt to manage this is the key to keeping on top of how this risk can affect your enterprise should you ever be questioned on this as an LPA Producer.

Other questions

Q: Can we trace where our weaner cattle go after sale and how they end up performing when processed via the NLIS tracking system?

A: Depending on where these livestock ended up in the supply chain, you can access this information via the Livestock Data Link (LDL) program. For more information about this program, visit the [LDL webpage](#). If those animals are not sent to a processor participating in LDL, you can ask to receive feedback from the purchaser.

Q: Is the sheep health statement still needed? Has it been changed in any way?

A: The sheep health statement is not mandatory in NSW when selling sheep, but some buyers may request it. Visit the Farm Biosecurity website at www.farmbiosecurity.com.au/industry/sheep/ and note the form for sheep (dated July 2019) can be [downloaded here](#)

Q: Are there large posters available to advise the changes for Local Lands Services offices please?

A: Yes, there definitely will be in the near future, ISC will be in contact.