

## EXPERIENCES IN THE BEEF PROCESSING INDUSTRY

### TRACEABILITY IN INDUSTRIAL MANAGEMENT

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Traceability is a powerful tool due to its multiple uses. Important benefits range from disease control and support to government public health programmes to all aspect of ensuring product quality for the benefit of consumers. Furthermore, traceability is also very useful tool for the private industry in process control.

Generally speaking, the main drivers for the use of traceability are for the purpose of food safety and for the possibility to reduce the incidence of foodborne diseases.

The decision to start the application of traceability at the first step of the food chain - animal identification and maintenance of proper registration- provides a wide range of options for the application of traceability systems. This situation requires the analysis of a more complex type of information that, although available, needs to be integrated and analysed for the purpose of traceability.

Industry' practical experience has shown that traceability is an extremely important management tool since the entire process can be controlled and analysed at every stage through "data capture" points. These points will provide not only with effective information for improving production efficiency, but also vital information for controlling potential incidents and so safeguarding public health and consumer confidence.

**Key Words:** Identification - Data capture - Process control.

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