

First Trainers Workshop Offered under New Certified Livestock Transporters Program

Calgary, AB, May 29, 2007: The first Canadian Certified Livestock Transporters (CLT) 'Train-the-Trainer' workshop was held at Olds College, Alberta on May 17, 2007. Thirty - six trainers and 11 observers attended the workshop, aimed at training instructors to deliver the CLT training program.

Representatives of feedlots, meat plants, assembly yards, trucking firms, government along with independent trainers and industry organizations from Alberta, Saskatchewan, Manitoba and Ontario, signed up and were selected to become CLT trainers.

The CLT is a comprehensive, multi-species training program for Canadian-based livestock shippers, truckers and receivers operating within the North American food production system. The program is a response to industry requests for increased accountability and skill upgrading for those responsible for the relocation of live animals. The program covers livestock handling, loading, biosecurity and transport regulatory requirements for Canada and the U.S. It also includes instruction on recognizing and dealing with livestock not fit to be transported as well as emergency accident response. There are species-specific modules and videos for beef, hogs, sheep, horses and poultry.

New CLT trainer, Harvey Wagner of Sask Pork in Saskatchewan, says, "We are in a world of continuous education and it is important for people to be aware of this reality. If I can get people to slow down, think about the animals as individuals, and their needs – then I have achieved something." Wagner is also a certified Trucker Quality Assurance (TQA) trainer for the National Pork Board in the U.S. He, along with other TQA certified trainers, attended the CLT workshop.

Tim O'Byrne, the CLT program developer, says, "CLT is not about lectures, but a two-way street of discussion between presenter and participants. The new CLT trainers understand their audience and will customize the course according to species and location needs."

The program was originally developed by Alberta Farm Animal Care (AFAC), in conjunction with an extensive industry advisory group. Susan Church, AFAC Manager, notes, "Interest in CLT has grown across Canada. AFAC's sister groups in Ontario, Manitoba and Saskatchewan are now involved through our joint project, [Putting Farm Animal Welfare on the Agenda](#).

The Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) contributed to the development of the course and Gordon Doonan, CFIA Humane Transportation Chief, presented the regulatory information at the workshop. Doonan notes that, "CLT has the potential to lead to continual improvement in livestock and poultry transportation. It shows industry driving forward, positioning Canada advantageously relative to other OIE countries, and taking the lead on international standards. It would be a positive development for CLT to grow into a national program."

To learn more about CLT or to book a trainer near you, visit www.livestocktransport.ca.

Contact: Susan Church: 403 932-8050, Adele Buettner: 306 249-3227
Shanyn Silinski: 204 226-5799, Crystal Mackay: 519 837-1326

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t: (519) 837-1326
www.ofac.org



t: (204) 226-5799
www.mbfac.ca



t: (306) 249-3227
www.facs.sk.ca



t: (403) 932-8050
www.afac.ab.ca