

UELN Universal Equine Life Number

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Definition and objectives

- To keep the registration's number in the database of birth , unmodified, but only included in the UELN
- To ensure that each horse can be identified with this UELN in every database of the world!

A common tool promoted by international horse organisations

- The UELN concept comes from international meetings between ISBC, EMSBLC, UET, WAHO, ECAHO, WBFSH, CIAA and FEI



International agreement of the definitive format of the UELN

Former steps of the project

- 1988 : WAHO working group
- 1998 : french report to WBFSH
- 1999-2000 : UELN meetings
- 1999 : WBFSH proposal to EC, after unanimous vote in GA
- 2000 : acceptance of ISBC
- 2003 : first EC regulation draft
- 2004 : unanimous vote of WAHO and CIAA GA's
- 2004 : UELN meeting in Paris

05/06/05

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WBFSH requirements (1)

- WBFSH members are not maintaining pure breed stud books but « sport horses stud books »
- Horses are registered at birth in only one stud book (breed), then registered and used as reproducers in several other stud books (breeds)
- WBFSH encourages close cooperation between its members

WBFSH requirements (2)

- WBFSH encourages FEI to registrate stud book references and pedigrees in its database , in order
 - To have the FEI results database as a breeding improvment tool for every member
 - To promote the breeders of the international competitors
 - To publish the horses and stud books rankings in conjunction with FEI
- WBFSH needs a common life number, due to the changes of name of the sport horses which are often exported

Interstallion project

- The same project as « interbull »
 - Comparison between genetic evaluations of the stallions
- Co-managed by
 - WBFSH
 - FEZ / EAAP
- Requires « only » correct data
 - see « Ramiro » case !!
 - FEI project
- Management of a correct horse database

US working group on horse identification

“ What are ISO numbers?

USAIN (U. S. Animal Identification Number)

8 4 0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12

UELN (Unique Equine Lifetime Number)

8 4 0 9 8 8 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9

- ONE number per horse for its lifetime
- Compatible with international numbers for pedigree registries and other horse databases around the world, including Canada.
- Could protect the integrity of existing pedigree registry registration numbers.”

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« others »

- National « equine Canada » project : they are implementing UELN in their project
- Near 500 databases from every continent have asked and have been given their universal number which will make their stud book number unique in the world!

The Format of the UELN



- 1 = ISO-3166 country code (numeric, 3 K): the country of the database which registered the foal at birth
- 2 = Code of the database (alphanumeric, 3 K) where the horse has been registered at birth
- 1+2 = International code of the database, which makes unique the number of the horse
- 3 = registration number of the horse in the database where it was registered at birth (alphanumeric, 9 K)

Chip code as a life number ?

1. Manufacturers are able to issue a **second chip with the same code !**
2. In the world, some countries don't accept chipping of horses
3. You can **find (put) several chips in(to) the same horse**
4. Chip can be **un-readable** or **destroyed**
5. We can't add any chip to the dead horses we have in the databases (pedigrees)!
6. **So, chipping is only a (very good) complementary tool and not a universal life number !**

UELN / CHIP - CODE

1. Chip code (if any) will be used in the fields or show grounds (tool), as it is « written » on the horse (electronic tattoo)



2. UELN (universal) is used in the data bases, linked to identification and all other data concerning this horse

CONCLUSION (1)

Interest :

Format decided with many international organisations involved in horse breeding and performances management

Voted by unanimity at the WBFSH seminar (2000) and once more unanimously adopted in 2004 WAHO and CIAA GA



The UELN is giving the definition of the life number included in the 2000/68 European decision

CONCLUSION (2)

An important work has been done to get the
consensus on UELN between international
organisations



We are waiting for the official
recognition by EC of this number, by
inclusion in the EU legislation