PRODUCERS AND EMPLOYEES
HOW TO PROTECT YOUR HERD

MANY TIMES, EMPLOYEES DO NOT REALIZE THE ABILITY THEY HAVE TO PROTECT THE PIGS THEY CARE FOR. BY FOLLOWING A FEW SIMPLE STEPS, EMPLOYEES CAN PREVENT DISEASE INTRODUCTION INTO A HERD.

Don't wear other play or come in contact with other pigs. Many times when animals first pick up a disease, they may be shedding the organisms before they show clinical signs. By avoiding contact with other pigs, employees help ensure that accidental cross-contamination from one group of pigs to the other is minimized.

Wash hands or change clothing and shoes. Hand washing should be done with soap for at least 20 seconds. If you have shower facilities, follow correct biosecurity policy by removing all items on the dirty side, showering, and dressing with only items on the clean side. Eyewear should be cleaned in shower before entering clean side.

Respect clean and dirty areas when loading animals. Personal equipment in the clean area must stay on the "clean" side while the truck driver and any loading equipment from the truck must remain on the "dirty" side.

Do not share equipment between sites, or clean, disinfect, and allow equipment to dry before using. If absolutely necessary, pathogens can survive on equipment and infect the next group of pigs.

Leave valuables at home. It is difficult to clean jewelry while hard washing or showering to ensure removal of potential infectious diseases. It is better to leave them at home.

Stay home when you are sick. Employees may infect pigs with zoonotic diseases, including the flu.

Wear clean coveralls and boots on each site. Having clean coveralls and boots at each site limits the spread of diseases if anyone needs to move between sites.

Washing is prohibited in animal areas. Keep any food in a dishwaher or oven if it is necessary to keep the food into the building. Disease can be brought into a site in meat products if these products are carried into animal areas.

Clean and disinfect equipment between pigs or groups when possible. Even processing equipment can carry disease from one pig farm to the next if the instruments are not allowed sufficient contact time in a disinfectant.

Clean and disinfect the facilities. Cleaning and disinfecting facilities and allowing them to dry between groups of pigs reduces the risk of spreading disease.

Follow farm policy for downtime following international travel. Depending on what country you traveled to, and what activities you participated in, your post-trip procedures may be affected upon your return.

Keep pigs out of hog buildings. Cats and dogs have the potential to carry and spread diseases to pigs.