

PUBLIC SECTOR EXPERIENCES AND PROSPECTS: CANADA'S EXPERIENCE

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The Veterinary Authority is responsible for protecting animal health and for mitigating public health risks in the event of a zoonotic outbreak or food contamination. To ensure that traceability systems meet this objective, the Canadian Food Inspection Agency, in collaboration with Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada and Canada's provincial and territorial governments and in consultation with industry, has drawn up a strategy for the design and implementation of traceability systems to meet OIE standards. The key elements of Canada's strategy include: the identification of sectors that should develop a traceability system; the identification of information elements that facilitate trace-back; the development of a legislative framework for the exchange of information; the development of performance targets and standards for information management and protection and the regulatory implementation and verification of systems. This presentation will discuss the development of this strategy and the public and private benefits to be derived from traceability systems.

Key words: Traceability –OIE standards –Regulation –Strategy.
