Developing the Livestock Global Assurance Program

Peter Schuster – 26 November 2015

Agenda

- Project background and development process
- Program owner
- LGAP and ESCAS
- Components of the proposed Program
- Feedback from in-market consultation
- Next steps

First research project completed

2013

ALEC Resolution

First consignment under ESCAS

08/11

Farmer Review undertaken

06/11

The live export trade suspension

A Bloody Business

05/11

The project

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- Development of a conformity assessment program for animal welfare and management.
- Builds on previous research.
- Pilot and deliver a complete, implementable Program.
- Funded by MLA, LiveCorp and the Australian Government.
- R&D – not implementation.

Development process

- Commenced Jul 2014.
- Consultative Committee (*first meeting: Sept 2014*)
  - Industry, Department and Project representatives.
  - Independently chaired.
- Wider consultation.

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Consultation

Consultation

- Australian exporters — Nov 2014, Feb, Apr, Jul, Aug, Nov 2015
- Department of Agriculture — Feb 2015
- MLA/LiveCorp LEP in-market personnel — Mar, Sep, Nov 2015
- Indonesian representatives — Apr 2015
- Middle Eastern representatives (7 countries) — Jun 2015
- Minister for Agriculture — Jun 2015
- Animal welfare groups — Jun, Sep 2015
- South East Asian representatives (4 countries) — Oct 2015
- Peak Industry Councils — Jun, Sep, Nov 2015
- Consultative Committee — 10 meetings

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Considerations

International precedents

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Approach and structure

- ISO/IEC 17007:2009
- ISO/IEC 17065:2012
- ISO/IEC 17067:2013
- ISO/IEC Guide 59:1994
- WTO - Agreement on Technical Barriers to Trade, Annex 3
- ISO 9001:2015
- ISO/IEC 31000:2009
- ISO/IEC Directives

International precedents

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Animal health, welfare and management

- OIE Terrestrial Animal Health Code
- GLOBALG.A.P. requirements
- American Meat Institute guidelines (Temple Grandin)
- Red Tractor Assurance requirements
- Global Animal Partnership
- Assurewell
- Freedom Foods
- Council of the European Union regulations
- In-market animal welfare legislation

Domestic reference

Animal health, welfare and management

- ESCAS Animal Welfare Standard
- Animal Health Australia (AHA) land transport guidelines
- National Feedlot Accreditation Scheme (NFAS)
- Australian Meat Industry Council (AMIC) Animal Welfare Standards
- MLA/LiveCorp LEP resources/research (eg SOPs, guidelines)
- RSPCA Approved Farming Scheme

Basis for LGAP

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- Necessary due diligence.
- Nothing left to chance.
- None of the decisions have been made in isolation.
- Thorough research and consideration.

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The Program

The Program

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The Livestock Global Assurance Program (LGAP)

- An international conformity assessment program based on international precedents and science.
- Aims to foster world's best practice in the welfare and management of animals.
- Recognises areas of strength and excellence and encourages continual improvement.

Scope

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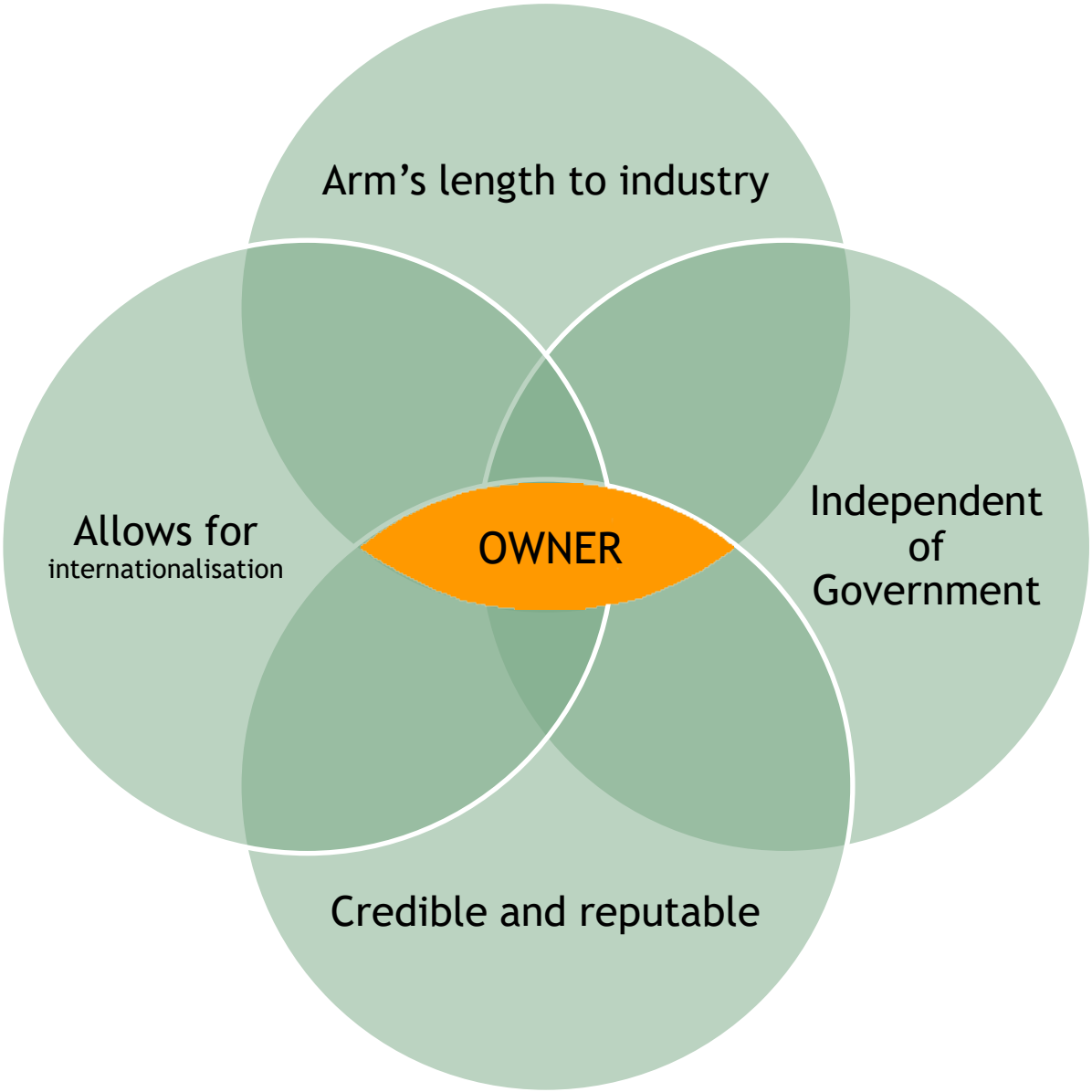
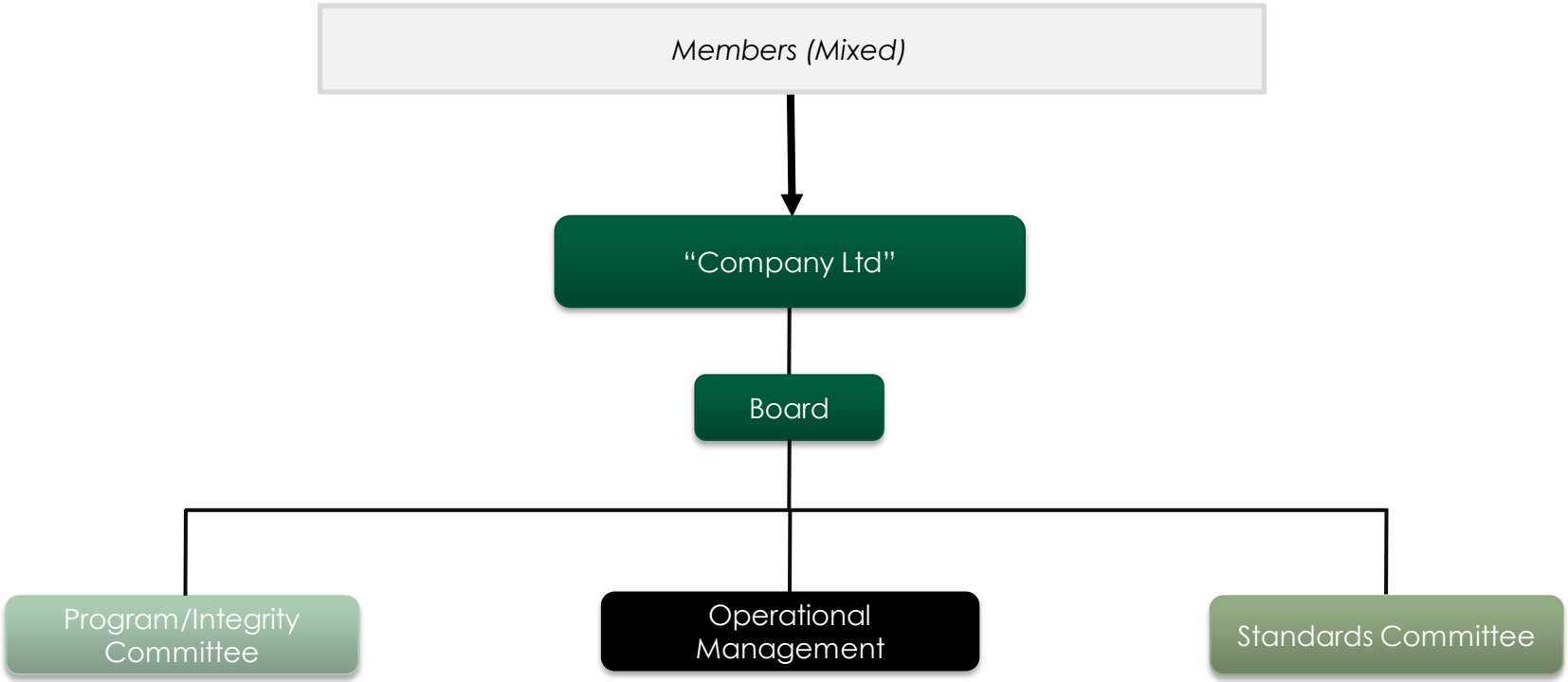
- Feeder and slaughter livestock.
- Disembarkation in-market to slaughter.
- Cattle, buffalo, sheep, goats.

PROGRAM OWNER
RULES
Administration and maintenance
STANDARDS

Key criteria



Program Owner structure



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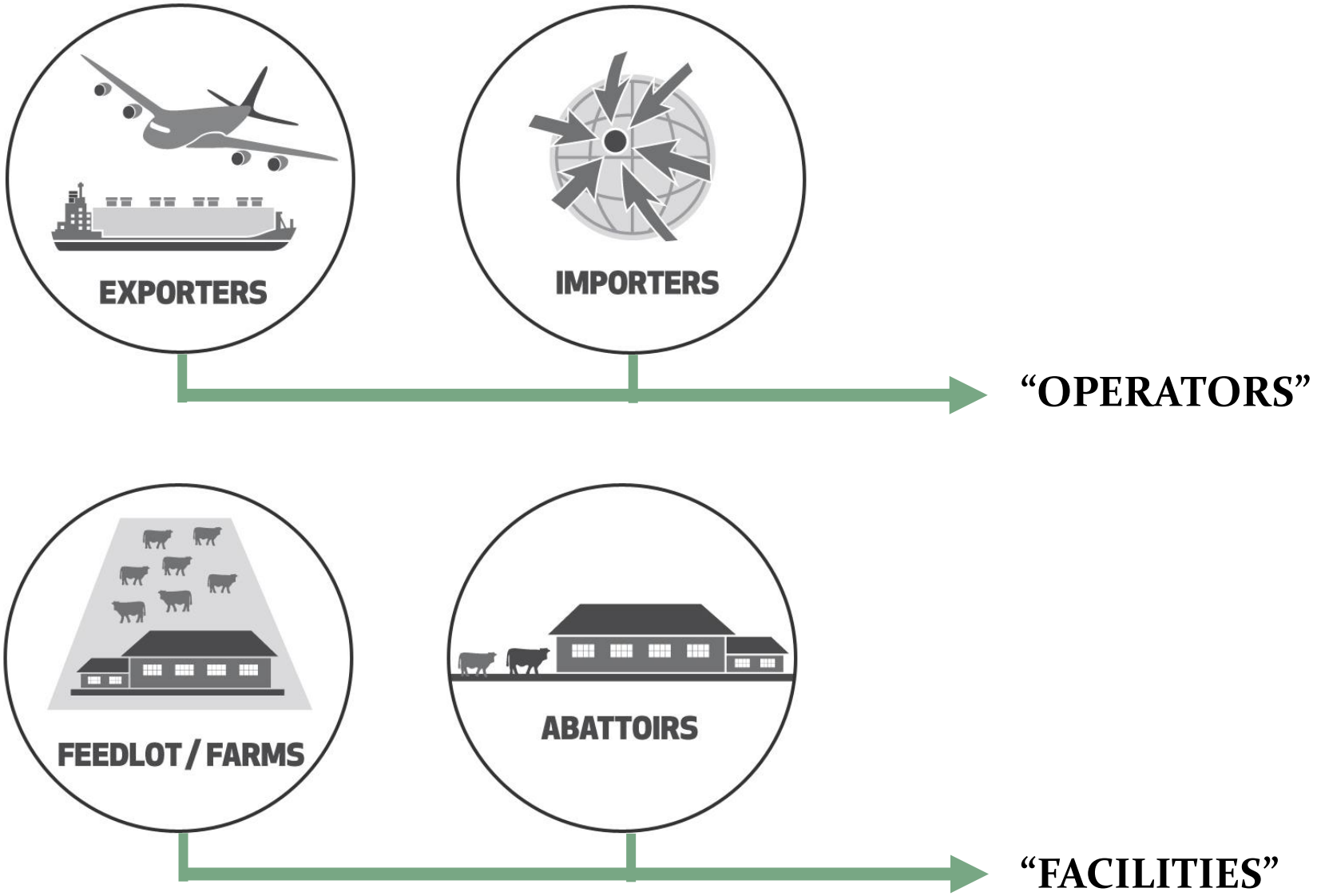
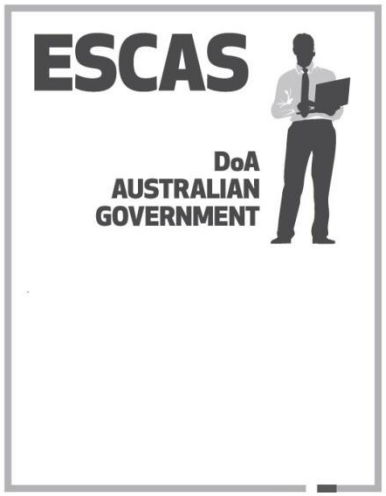
LGAP and ESCAS

Facilities and Operators

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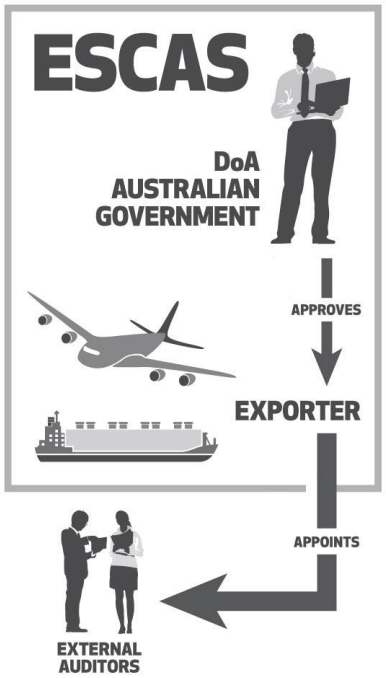
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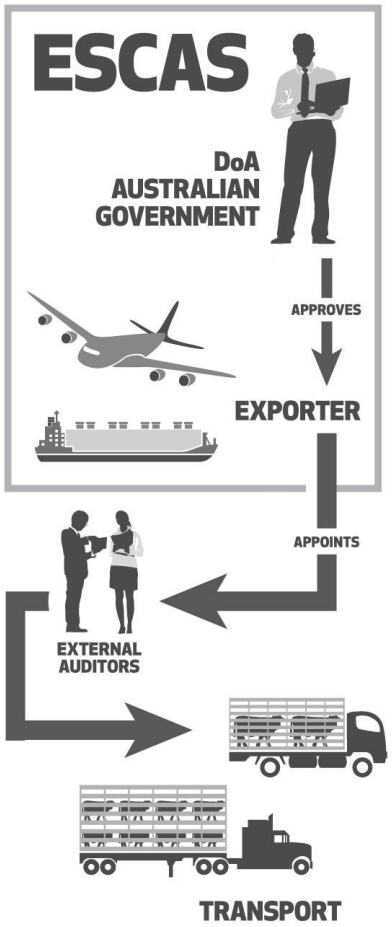
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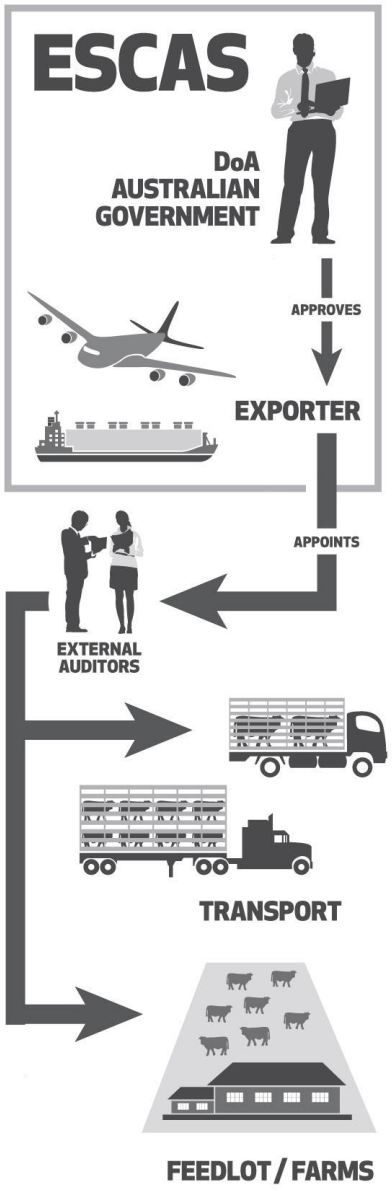
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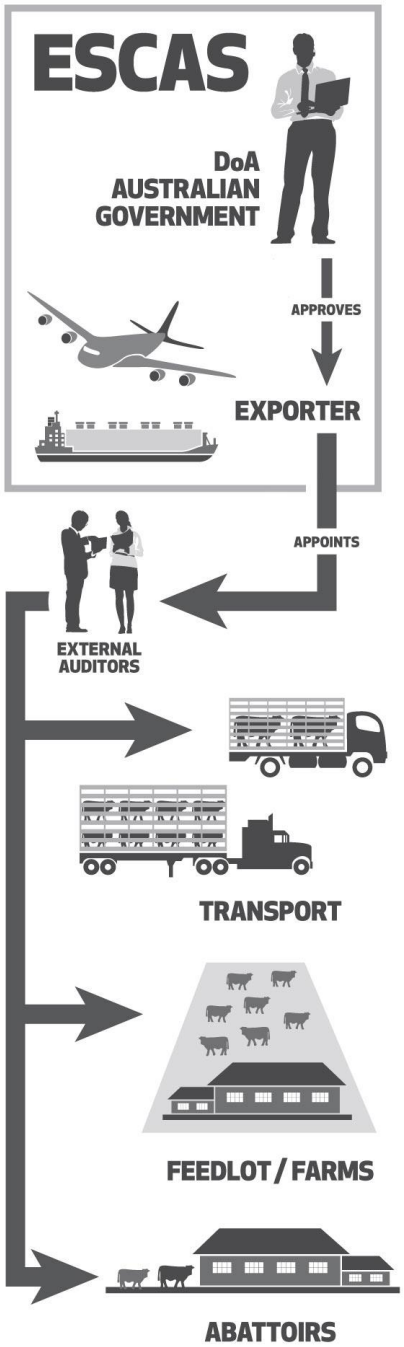
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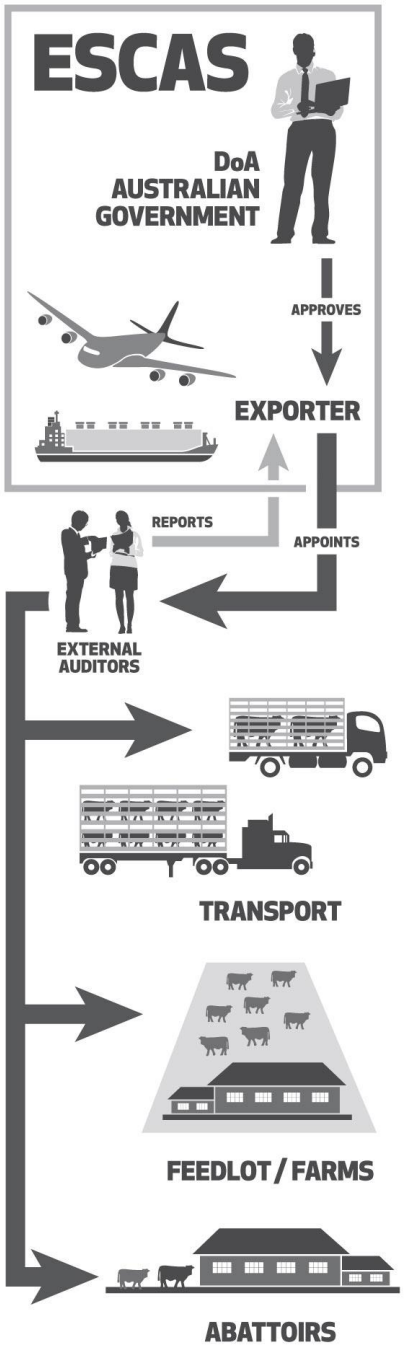
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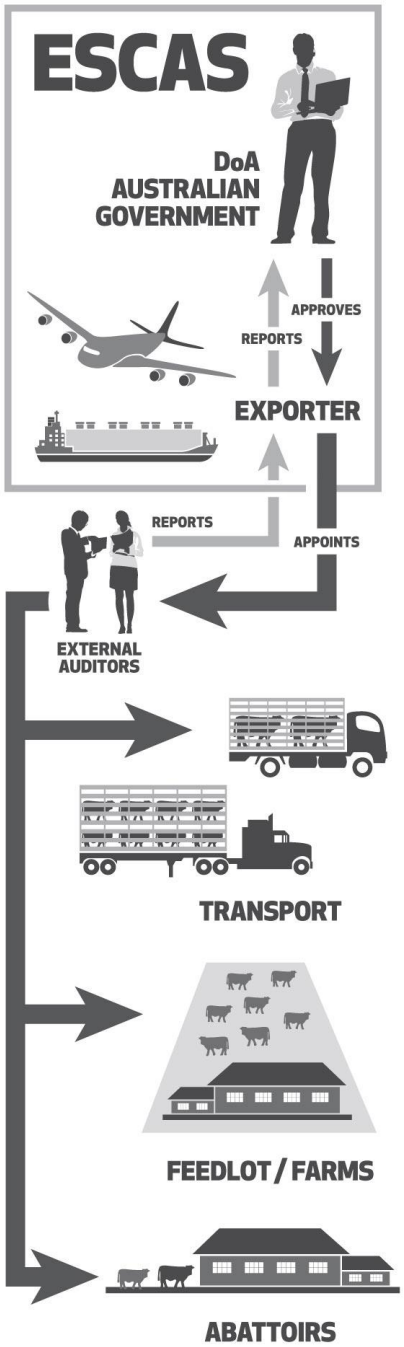
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Livestock
Global
Assurance
Program

Livestock Global Assurance Program

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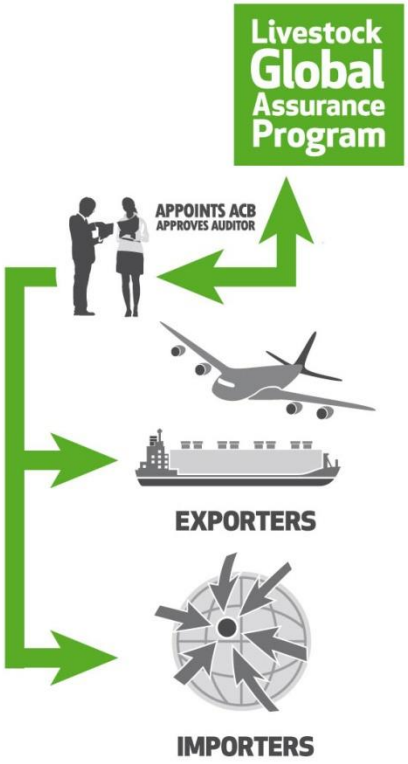
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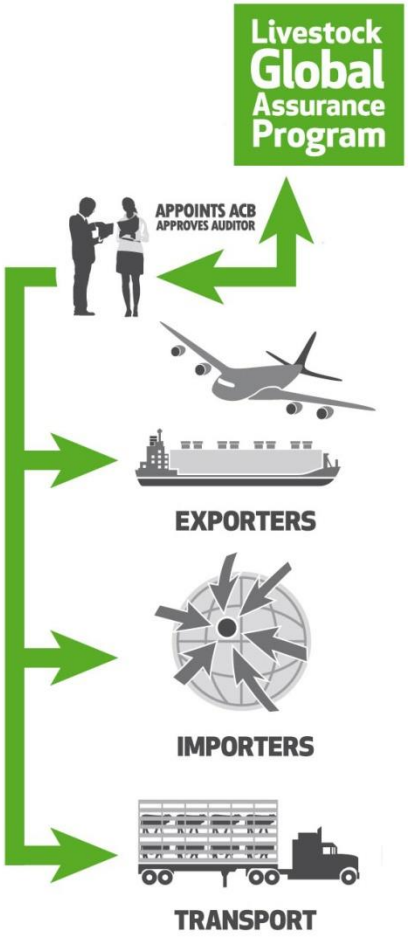
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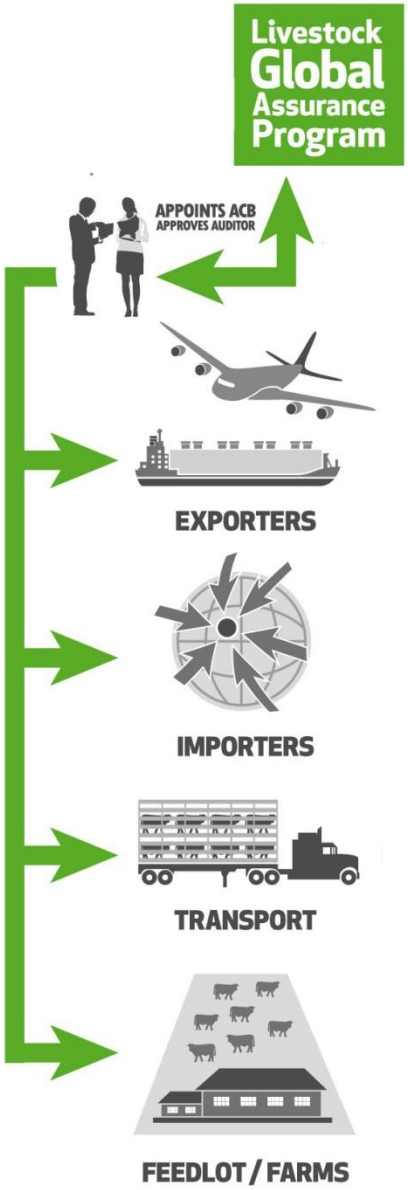
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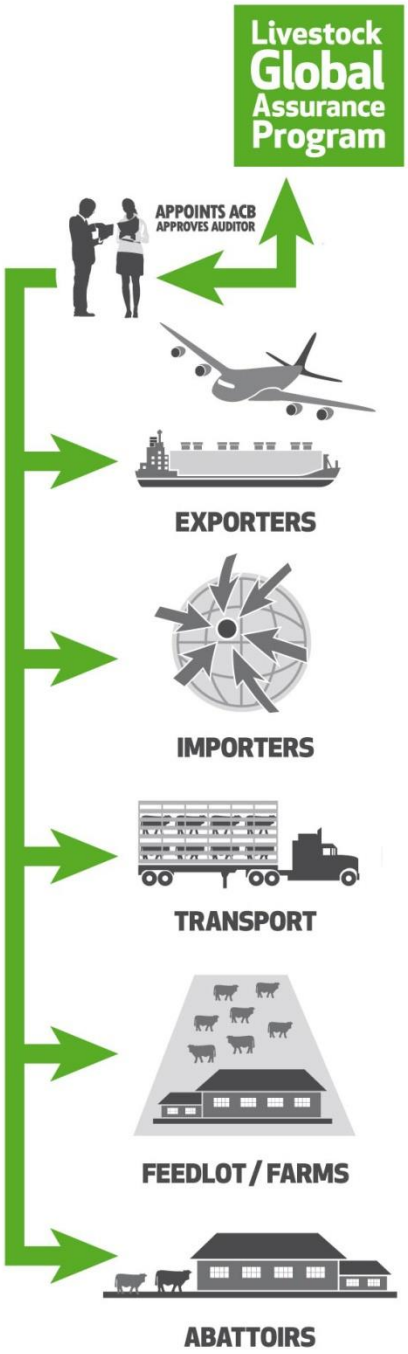
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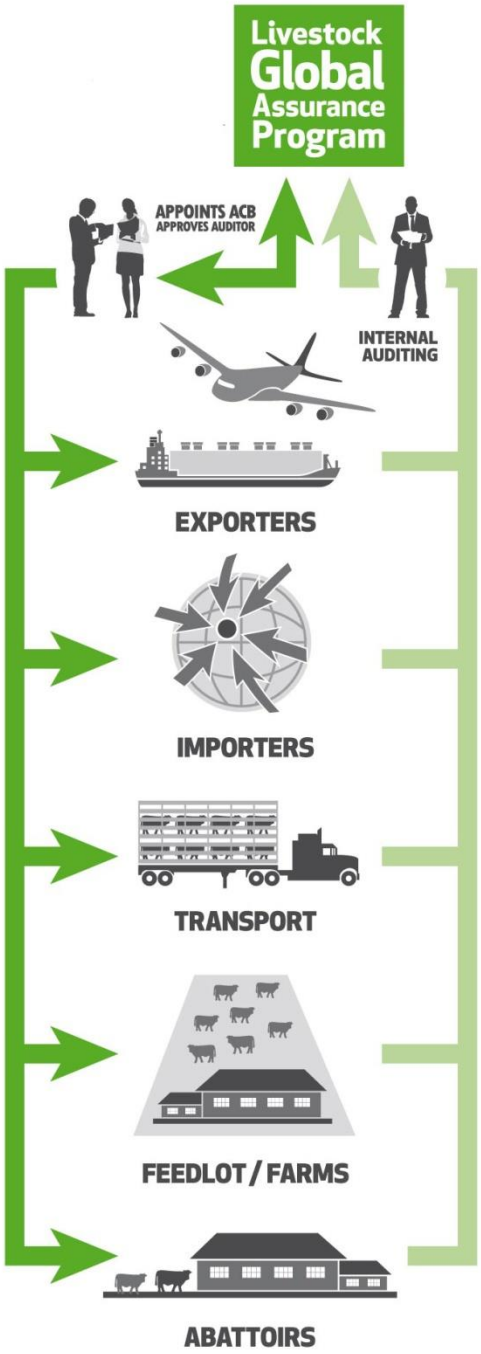
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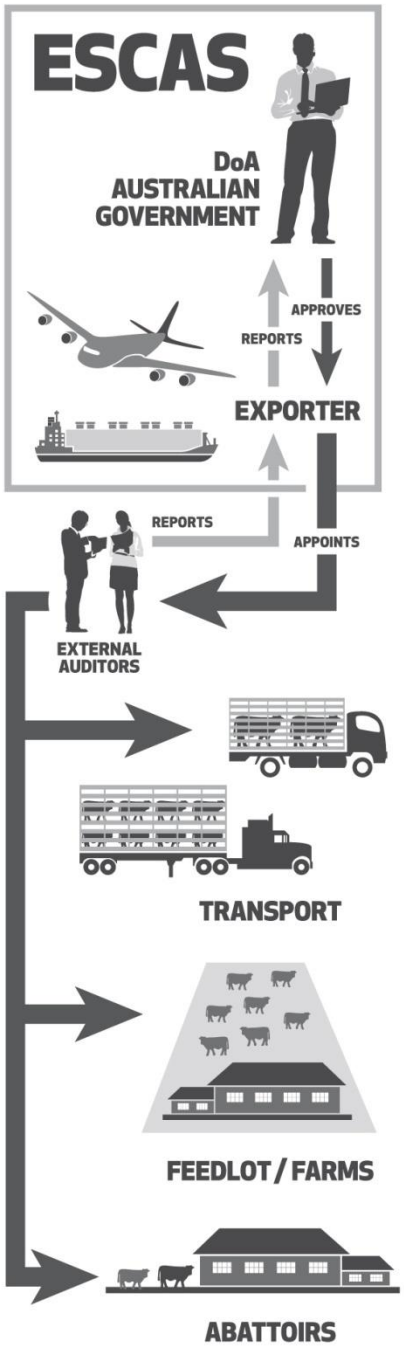
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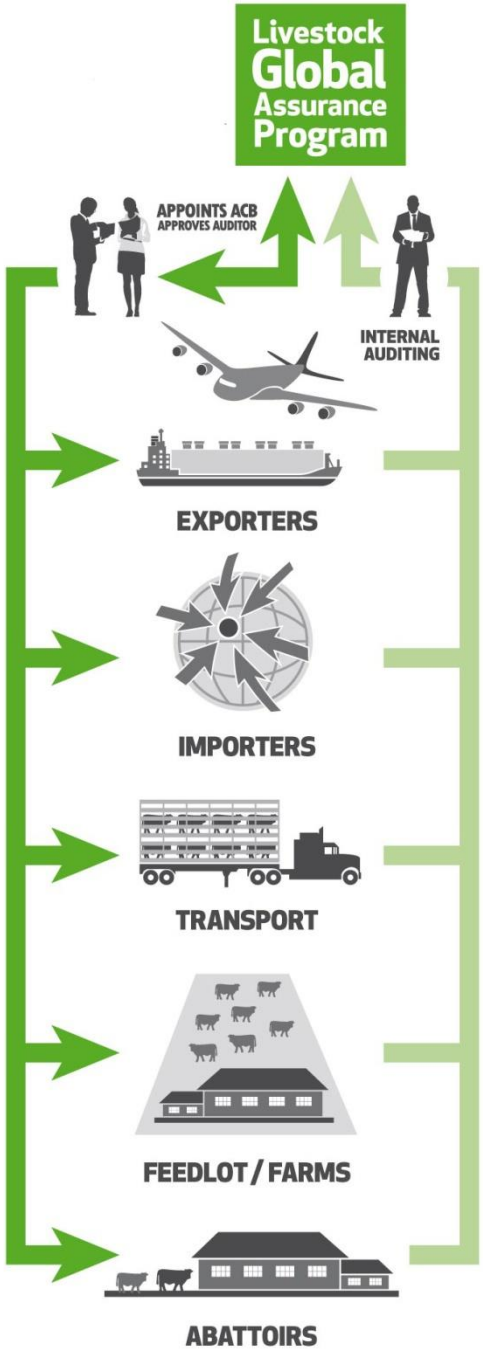
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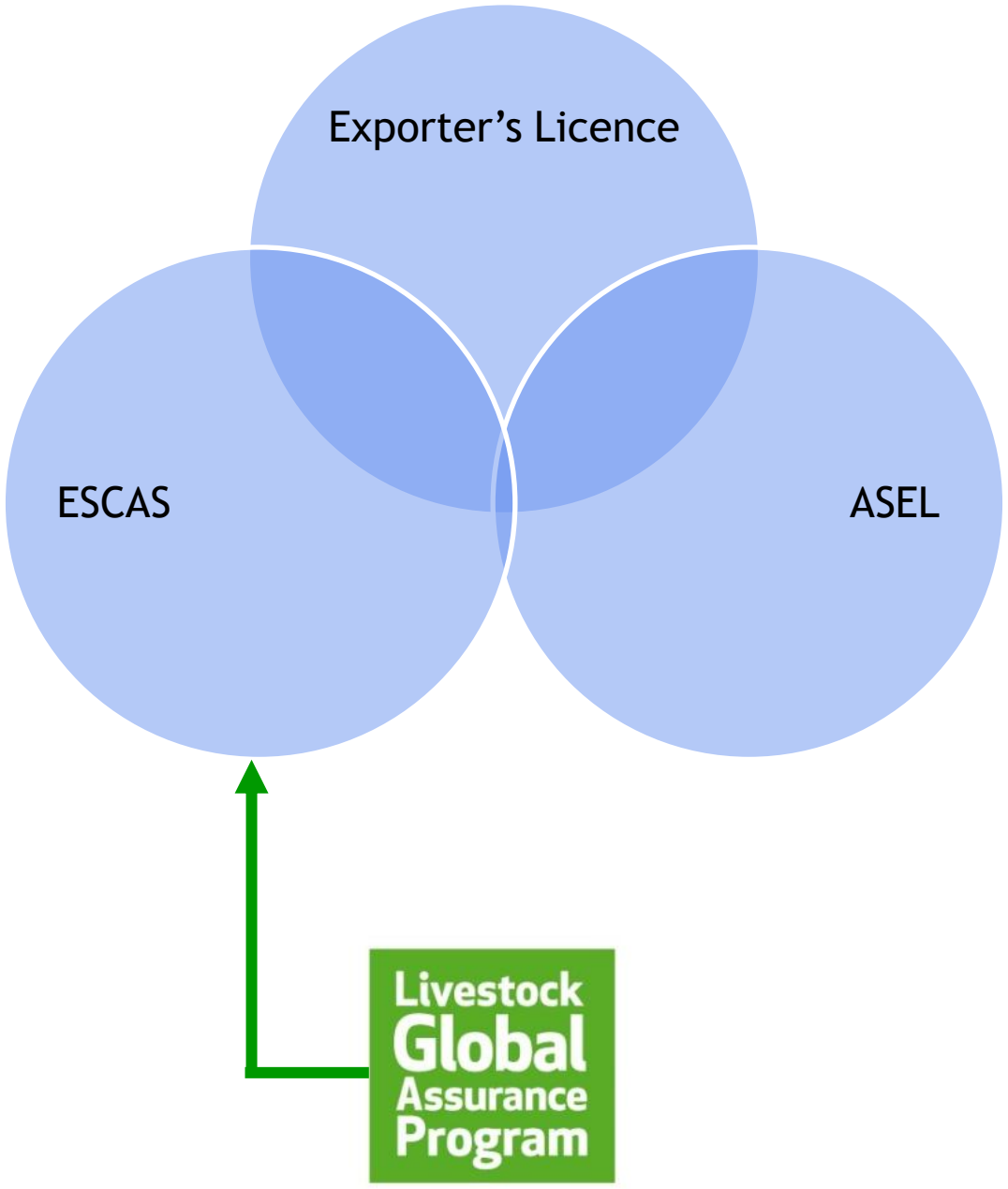
Interaction with regulation

Australian Regulation

Regulatory Enabler



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The Standards

LGAP Standards

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- Requirements of the Program.
- Follows ISO and WTO guidelines for development of standards.
- Follows ISO formatting for standards:
  - *ISO 14001 Environmental management systems – Requirements with guidance for use*
- Considers appropriate standards setting process and nomenclature.

LGAP Standards Committee

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- Defined requirements for Standards Committees:
  - Balanced representation - impacted stakeholders.
  - Public comment period of not less than 60-days.
- Ten person LGAP Standards Committee.
- Inaugural meeting held – 19-20 November.
- Public comment – Review – Finalise - Release.

LGAP Standards

- *LGAP 1000 Livestock assurance* - ***Fundamentals and vocabulary***
- *LGAP 1001 Livestock assurance* – ***Requirements for animal welfare and management***
- *LGAP 1002 Livestock assurance* – ***Requirements for the management system of Operators and Facilities***
- *LGAP 1003 Livestock assurance* – ***Requirements for Operator Chain of Custody***

Provides flexibility (concepts only)

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- *LGAP 1004 – Livestock assurance – Requirements for the sourcing and preparation of livestock for export (ASEL)*
- *LGAP 1005 – Livestock assurance – Requirements for the management and breeding of livestock*
- *LGAP 1006 – Livestock assurance – Requirements for specific markets – People's Republic of China*
- *LGAP 1007 Livestock assurance – Requirements for food safety and hygiene*

Public comment

- To be released for international public comment (60 days).

- Will be available from:

www.livestockglobalassurance.org

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The Rules

LGAP RULES

Based on international methodology (ISO)

- **Responsibilities**
- **Interactions**
- **Obligations**

- Program Owner
- Facilities
- Operators
- Certification Bodies
- Auditors

Scopes and levels of certification

Facility 'Levels'

LEVEL FACTOR	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3
Equivalence	**OIE**	**ESCAS**	***'Best practice'*** **Founded on science and research**

- Promotes continual improvement.
- Presents aspirational pathway.
- Opportunity for local livestock to come under the Program.

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Conformance system (CS)

Recording and monitoring

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- Real-time visibility into conformance, performance and history.
- NOT a traceability system.
- NOT a supply chain management system.
- A tool for internal AND external audits.
- A tool for nonconformity management.
- A tool for reporting.

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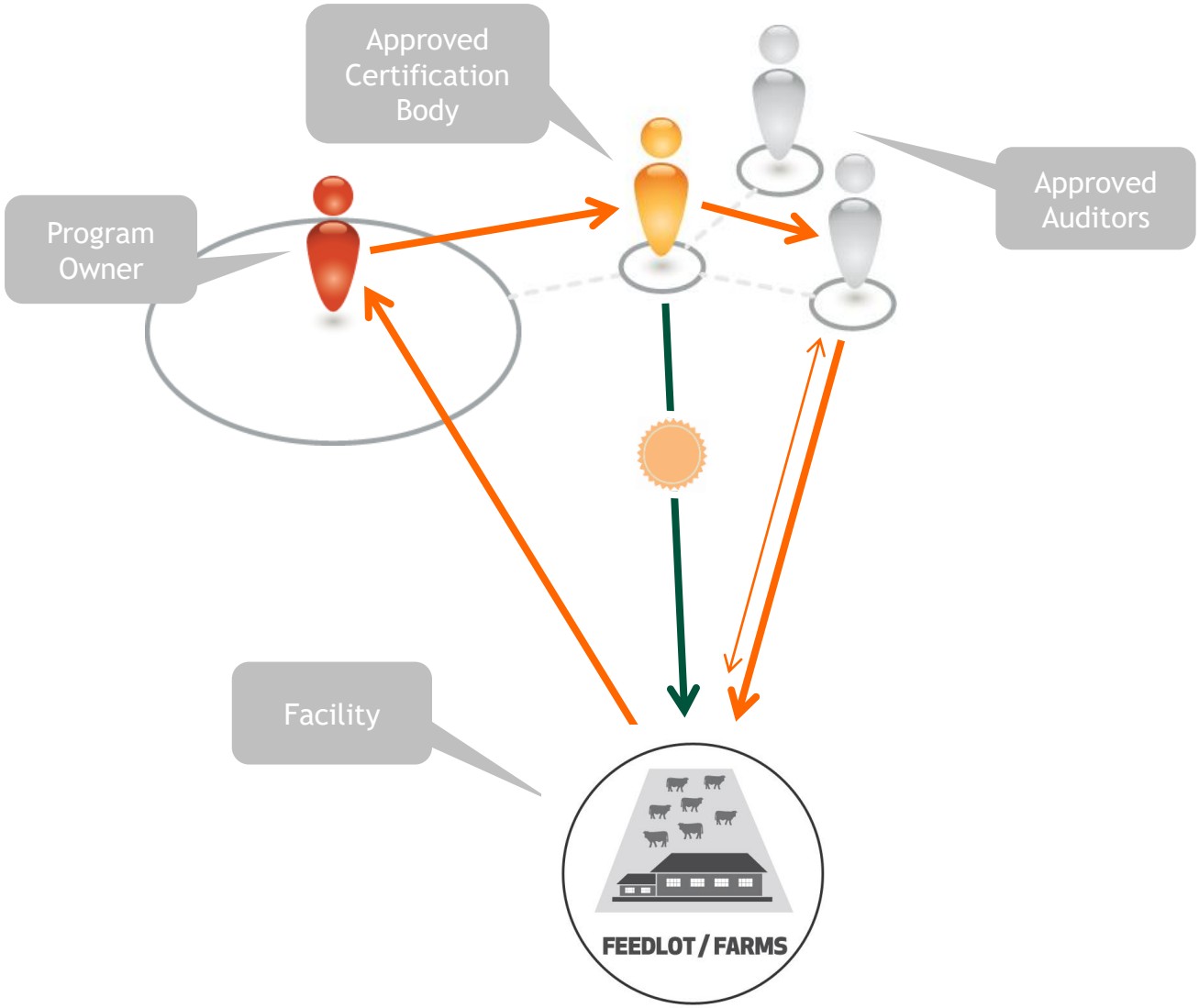
Certification Bodies and Auditors

Approved Auditors
RULES: Competence & Training
Program Owner
Approved Certification Body
RULES: ISO/IEC 17065:2012

External auditing



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Nonconformities and corrective actions

Nonconformities

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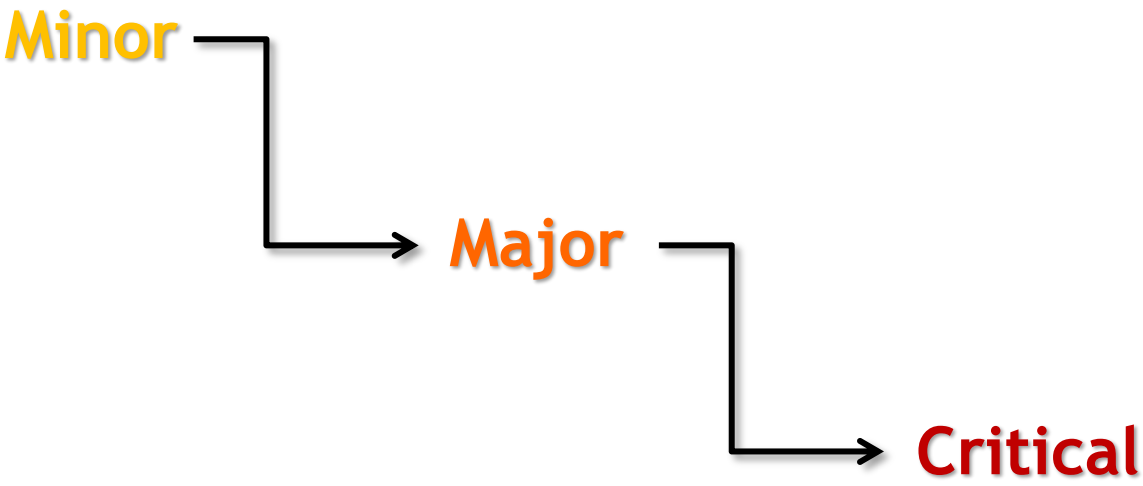
- Nonconformities identified during internal ***and*** external audits.
- Facilities and Operators close out nonconformities:
  - Submit evidence of corrective action.
- Auditors review the corrective action:
  - Consider - is it sufficient to close the nonconformity?

Nonconformities

- The Rules determine how nonconformities will be classified.



- Escalation pathway: Suspension and withdrawal of certification

Complaints

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- Follows ISO 17065 for complaints and feedback.
- Requirements for how complaints are handled...

  and on complainants.
- Qualified complaint supported and justified.
- Action taken to review and investigate.
- If complaint upheld - leads to nonconformities, escalation.

Surveillance frequency and risk

Risk assessment

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- External auditors undertake risk assessment during every audit.
- Considers risk of not maintaining conformance.
- Considers controls in place to minimise or eliminate risk.
- Outcome of risk assessment is a RISK RATING.
- Auditors do not determine the risk rating.

Surveillance frequency

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- Risk rating dictates timeframe of next surveillance activity.

Surveillance frequency

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- Risk rating dictates timeframe of next surveillance activity.

Low risk	Medium risk	High risk

Surveillance frequency

- Risk rating dictates timeframe of next surveillance activity.

	Low risk	Medium risk	High risk
Internal audit			

Surveillance frequency

- Risk rating dictates timeframe of next surveillance activity.

	Low risk	Medium risk	High risk
Internal audit	4 monthly	3 monthly	Monthly

Surveillance frequency

- Risk rating dictates timeframe of next surveillance activity.

	Low risk	Medium risk	High risk
Internal audit	4 monthly	3 monthly	Monthly
External audit			

Surveillance frequency

- Risk rating dictates timeframe of next surveillance activity.

	Low risk	Medium risk	High risk
Internal audit	4 monthly	3 monthly	Monthly
External audit	Annual	6 monthly	3 monthly

Surveillance frequency

- Risk rating dictates timeframe of next surveillance activity.

	Low risk	Medium risk	High risk
Internal audit	4 monthly	3 monthly	Monthly
External audit	Annual	6 monthly	3 monthly
	Random – 10% annually		

Surveillance frequency

- Risk rating dictates timeframe of next surveillance activity.

	Low risk	Medium risk	High risk
Internal audit	4 monthly	3 monthly	Monthly
External audit	Annual	6 monthly	3 monthly
	Random – 10% annually		

- Improvement – avoids higher audit frequencies and therefore higher costs.

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Pilot

Participants

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- Australia, Jordan, Indonesia, Malaysia.
- Piloting the entire process and all components.
- Pilot Operators, Facilities, Certification Bodies and Auditors.
- Consider outcomes – Review – Refine.

In-market consultation

Summary of feedback

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- Recognition of and adherence to ISO.
- Flexibility associated with facility rather than supply chain approach.
- Use of independent, highly skilled auditors.
- Elimination of audit duplication.
- Program flexibility and ability to respond to other market drivers. Immediate opportunities exist.
- Independence from foreign government.

Summary of feedback

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- Cost.
- Capacity of smaller facilities to manage conformance.
- Support during (possible) implementation will be important.

Where to from here

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- International public comment period for Standards.
- Finalise research based on pilot process.
- Industry to consider research findings and implementation.

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Summary

Summary

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- Designed to provide the same assurances as ESCAS but through a different, more normal mechanism.
- LGAP would become the regulatory enabler – regulation remains.
- Facilitate the long-term sustainability and continued growth of the trade.

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Thank you