



Humane Handling: Best Practices

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- Components of a Robust Systematic Approach
- Common Humane Handling Challenges and Solutions
- Open Discussion and Questions

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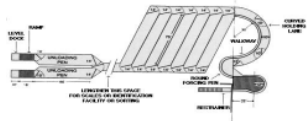
- **Components of a Robust Systematic Approach**

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Describes:

- **Procedures** implemented to stay in compliance
- **Records kept** to demonstrate that program is **implemented** as written
- Records to demonstrate the program will **prevent potential non-compliances**
- **Actions** the establishment will take when it fails to implement program as written or fails to **prevent a non compliance**



Include:

- Diagrams or blueprints of the animal handling systems
 - Receiving area
 - Holding pens and alleys
 - Crowd pen and lead up chute

Include:

- Stunning area
- Restrainers
- Bleed rail



NAMA Initial Assessment

Can Include:

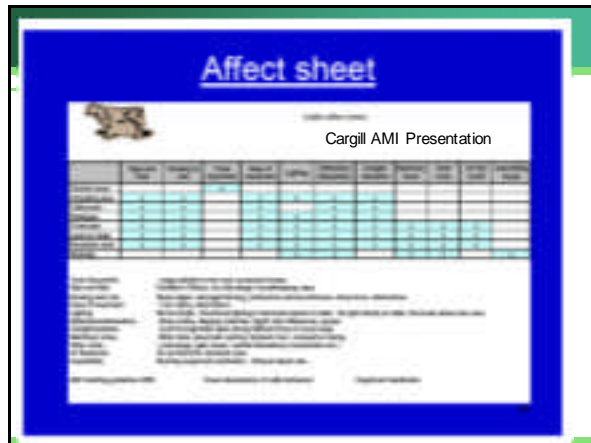
- Flowcharts (risk assessment)
- Written evaluations
- Minutes of team meetings
- Written Standard Operating Procedures (SOP's)



NAMA Photos Before / After



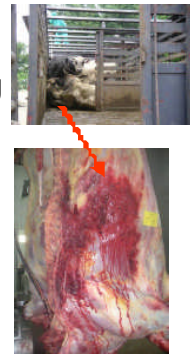
Photos by
T. Grandin



NAMA Factors that Affect Animal Handling: Issues

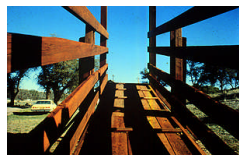
Make a table to outline areas where the following humane handling issues can occur:

- Slips and falls
- Bruising and cuts
- Truck discomfort
- Ease of movement



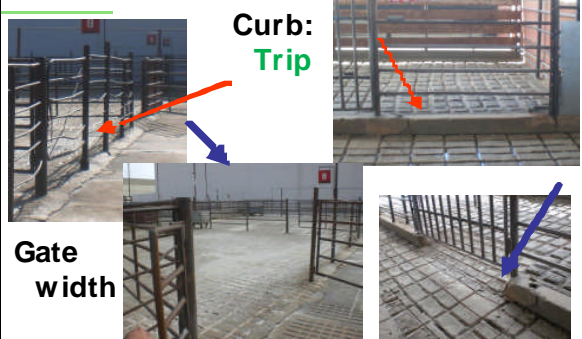
NAMA Factors that Affect Animal Handling: Causes

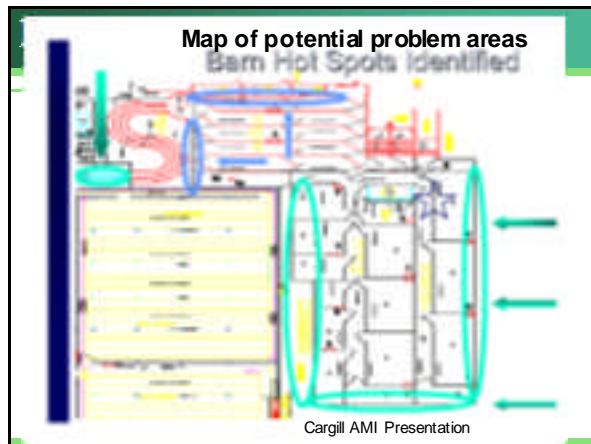
- Lighting
- Reflections
- Sunlight/shadows
- Machinery noise
- Other noise
- Air flow/smell
- Insensibility issues



Photos: T. Grandin

NAMA Factors that Affect Animal Handling: Causes





NAMA Facility Design and Handling Practices

SOP's for live animal handling:

- Providing water and feed
- Providing ample pen space (stocking density)
- Special procedures for non-ambulatory, disabled or young animals (**Be careful!!!!**)

NAMA Facility Design and Handling Practices

SOP's for stunning:

- Stunner maintenance
 - Include backup stunner
- Procedures to assure stun operator competency
- Procedures for handling a sensible animal on the bleed rail

NAMA Facility Design and Handling Practices

SOP's for:

- Inspecting pens and equipment
- Cleaning of pens
- Employee Training
- Frequency of meetings, training and auditing
- **Verifying and monitoring practices!!!!**

NAMA Employee Training

Training should include:

- Initial training for animal handlers and truckers, **prior** to working with animals.
- Interactive training methods

Alchemy: Computer Training

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NAMA Employee Training

Training should include:

- Training **materials** (videos, slides, etc.)
- A **quiz** to measure understanding
- Visual review (**verification**) of practices to assure effectiveness
- Quarterly or annual retraining
- **Certificates!!!!**

NAMA Implementation and Ongoing Evaluation

Monitoring and documentation should include:

- **Training documentation**
- **Work orders** and records for corrective actions
- **Maintenance records** for stunners and other equipment used to handle animals
- **A log book** works well for small plants



NAMA Implementation and Ongoing Evaluation

Monitoring can include:

- Internal audits of HH practices (follow AMI and industry formats, document frequency and components reviewed)
- Include facility inspection and transport reviews
- 3rd party or corporate HH audits



NAMA Implementation and Ongoing Evaluation

Monitoring can include:

- Video surveillance, including review of live feed or recordings
- Statistical Process Control (SPC) or trending to review measures and deficiencies (including NR's)
- Program Reassessment at least annually



NAMA Pro-active Actions

Document actions to take and actually taken when issues occur:

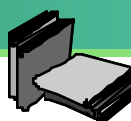
- **Emergency management plan** for livestock: considering floods, tornados, power outages, fire or mechanical breakdowns, etc.



NAMA Pro-active Actions

Document actions to take and actually taken when issues occur:

- **Corrective action documentation** for deficiencies identified during daily activities and monitoring
- **Guidance for employees** when unanticipated incidents occur:
 - AW Corrective Action Report



NAMA Corrective Actions

Example of Program Corrective Actions for audit deficiency:

1. Notify supervisor and superintendent of the failure. Recheck in 30 minutes.
2. Notify supervisor and superintendent of the failure. Recheck in 30 minutes.
3. Notify supervisor and superintendent of the failure. A 10% line speed reduction until 2 consecutive rechecks at 30 minutes apart meet the process control standards.



NAMA Agenda

- Components of a Robust Systematic Approach
- **Common Humane Handling Challenges and Solutions**



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NAMA Slipping and Falling



Short Term:

- Barn lime
- Sand
- Salt

Medium Term:

- Scrub Cement
- Acid Etch Cement
- Utilize Mats (ddfamilymats.net)



NAMA Slipping and Falling

Long Term:

- Score, roughen or stamp concrete
- Add rebar or cleats



NAMA Distractions and Balking

Noise:

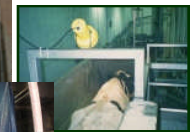
- Sound Baffles and Silencers

Light / Contrast:

- Spot Light
- Tarp

Visibility:

- Cardboard
- Curtains
- Walls



NAMA Balking

Keep animals calm !!!

Reduce electrical prod use

Alternative:

- Vibrating Prod
- Air operated engraver with softened carbide tip



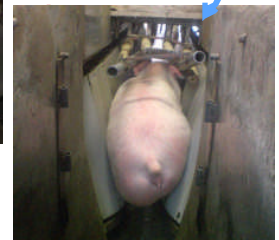
- <http://www.mcmaster.com/#1564t68/=3fh yvw>

Restraint





Restraint: Even movement both sides


Restraint: Larger animals require equipment



Restraint

Restraint: Larger animals require equipment changes



▪ Adjustable hold down (entrance)

Photo by T. Grandin

NAMA Stunning

You need a **BIGGER** stunner for **BIG** animals!



Cash Magnum with longer barrel and pin



B&D electric stunner wand extensions


More Info




AMI Website:
www.animalhandling.org
www.grandin.com
Auditing: Interpreting AMI Guidelines
www.VoogdConsulting.com

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When Something goes Wrong




An "anomaly" occurs:




1. Explain your "robust" systematic approach
2. Rapidly investigate the root cause
3. Determine additional steps and procedures to implement: **Step up your game**
4. Retrain employees
5. Measure results
6. Document!!

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Summary



Humane Handling



1. Use a systematic approach
2. Minimize animal excitement, injury
3. Facility design and maintenance are critical
4. Provide employee training
5. Measure results
6. Document!!

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THANKS!!!!!! NAMA






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