

stored permanently by the metadata portal.

The metadata system would provide the greatest flexibility for affected industries and stakeholders. While organizations that wish to consolidate their tracking data could still do so, and would be encouraged to do so, most of the existing industry and State systems would be able to continue collecting and storing information in much the same way they do now.

To “jump start” the integration of private and State ATDs into the NAIS, APHIS has designed an interim/development phase that will allow interested organizations to participate in early 2006. During this interim/development phase, APHIS will enter into a cooperative agreement (CA) for the integration of the ATD with any organization that has a qualifying database(s) and that wishes to support the advancement of the integration of private and State animal tracking/movement systems into the NAIS.

Included in the current document are the data standards and technical requirements and specifications that an organization’s ATDs must meet to be eligible to participate in the interim/development phase of the ATPS. Organizations must complete the “Request for Evaluation of Interim Private/State Animal Tracking Database” to initiate an APHIS review of their systems. If its system meets the interim requirements, an organization may elect to enter into a CA with APHIS. The CA will ensure that animal health officials have access to the information contained in the ATD when necessary to perform their duties. Entering into a CA does not imply that an organization’s ATD will be eligible to participate in the NAIS as a fully compliant system after ATPS implementation is completed and final eligibility requirements are established.

During the interim/development phase, APHIS, in cooperation with stakeholders, will continue to develop the complete requirements for the integration of private and State ATDs with the NAIS. Systems that meet these specifications will be defined as “NAIS Compliant Animal Tracking Databases” upon the signing of the agreement with the organization responsible for the information system. It is anticipated that the requirements for compliant systems will be completed by late 2006, and actual integration, by early 2007.

APHIS will establish an agreement with each participating organization that maintains a database with animal tracking information and that elects to provide access to the information according to the NAIS requirements. In

addition to outlining data elements and access and operating procedures, the agreement will also stipulate how movement data will be archived and transferred in the event the organization and/or technology company ceases business or elects to discontinue the operation of the ATD.

The document regarding the integration of private and state ATDs with the NAIS, and a template of the CA, may be viewed on the Internet at <http://www.usda.gov/nais> or at <http://www.regulations.gov>. You may request paper copies of the document by calling or writing to the person listed under **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT**. Please refer to the title of the document (“Integration of Private and State Animal Tracking Databases with the NAIS; Interim Development Phase”) when requesting copies.

Done in Washington, DC, this 5th day of April 2006.

**W. Ron DeHaven,**

*Administrator, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

### Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service

[Docket No. APHIS-2006-0052]

#### National Animal Identification System; Notice of Web Conference Training Sessions for Animal Identification Number Managers and Resellers

**AGENCY:** Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, USDA.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** We are informing producers and other stakeholders who plan to participate in the distribution of animal identification number (AIN) tags of the availability of additional training, via Web conferences, so that they can prepare to participate in this component of the National Animal Identification System (NAIS) by becoming AIN managers or resellers. The Web conferences will provide more details about the administration of AIN tags, as well as provide a demonstration of the AIN Management System, the Web-based system for distributing and administering AINs in the NAIS.

**DATES:** The Web conferences will be conducted on April 13, 2006, and April 26, 2006. Details regarding each event are provided in the **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** section of this notice.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Mr. Neil Hammerschmidt, NAIS

Coordinator, Surveillance and Identification Team, National Center for Animal Health Programs, VS, APHIS, 4700 River Road Unit 200, Riverdale, MD 20737-1231; (301) 734-5571.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** As part of ongoing efforts to safeguard animal health, the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) initiated implementation of the National Animal Identification System (NAIS) in 2004. The NAIS is a cooperative State-Federal-industry program administered by USDA’s Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS). Its long-term goal is to track all animal movements, from birth to harvest, as part of USDA’s National Animal Health Monitoring and Surveillance Program.

In order to facilitate the implementation of the NAIS, on November 8, 2004, we published in the **Federal Register** (69 FR 64644-64651, Docket No. 04-052-1) an interim rule that, among other things, amended the regulations to recognize additional numbering systems for the identification of animals in interstate commerce and State/Federal/industry cooperative disease control and eradication programs and to redefine the numbering system used to identify premises where animals are managed or held. Specifically, the interim rule recognized the animal identification number (AIN) as an official numbering system for the identification of individual animals, the group/lot identification number (GIN) for the identification of groups or lots of animals within the same production system, and the seven-character premises identification number (PIN) for the identification of premises in the NAIS. Use of the new numbering systems was not, however, required as a result of the interim rule. Finally, the interim rule amended the regulations to prohibit the removal of official identification devices and to eliminate potential regulatory obstacles to the recognition of emerging technologies that could offer viable alternatives to existing animal identification devices and methods.

On March 3, 2006, we published a notice in the **Federal Register** (71 FR 10951-10952, Docket No. APHIS-2005-0117) in which we announced the availability of a document entitled “Administration of Official Identification Devices with the Animal Identification Number,” which expands upon certain aspects of the NAIS that were presented in the Draft Program Standards. The document describes how an AIN may be used in conjunction with official identification devices in the NAIS; provides performance and

printing requirements for visual identification tags with AINs and an explanation of the process by which these AIN tags will be authorized for use in the NAIS; presents performance standards for radio frequency identification tags or devices that may be used on cattle or bison to supplement visual AIN tags; and describes the AIN Management System, a Web-based system for distributing and administering AINs in the NAIS, and discusses the roles and responsibilities of key participants in the system.

The animal identification component utilizing the AIN in the voluntary phase of NAIS is now being implemented. Producers who elect to participate in the animal identification component using the AIN must first obtain a PIN.

Under the AIN Management System, animal identification numbers are allocated to companies that manufacture official identification devices or technologies. Other individuals and organizations may perform roles that support the distribution of official identification devices to producers. The complete and accurate recording of the AINs distributed and assigned to each premises is imperative. The AIN Management System allows for many participants in various roles and provides the means to record AIN allocations to manufacturers and distribution to premises.

The AIN Management System is now available to participants (pending authorization of AIN devices). In this notice, we are informing producers and other stakeholders who plan to participate in the distribution of AIN tags of the availability of additional training, via Web conferences, so that they can prepare to participate in this component of NAIS by becoming AIN managers or resellers. The Web conferences will provide more details about the administration of AIN tags, as well as provide a demonstration of the AIN Management System (the Web-based software application).

Two training sessions have been scheduled for April 2006. The visual elements of the training will be presented on the Internet while the audio portion is provided over the telephone. Details for participation in each training session are as follows:

- *Date/Time:* Thursday, April 13, 2006, at 1 p.m. eastern standard time.  
*Internet participation at:* <https://www.mymeetings.com/nc/join/>.  
*Web conference number:* PG7717522.  
*Phone (audio participation):* 1-888-566-0007.  
*Passcode for phone conference:* INDUSTRY2.

To access an Internet replay of the event, go to: <https://www.mymeetings.com/nc/join.php?i=PG7717522&p=INDUSTRY2&t=r>.

The replay of the April 13 event will be available for 30 days, ending May 13, 2006.

- *Date/Time:* Wednesday, April 26, 2006, at 1 p.m. eastern standard time.  
*Internet participation at:* <https://www.mymeetings.com/nc/join/>.  
*Web conference number:* PG7717530.  
*Phone (audio participation):* 1-888-566-0007.  
*Passcode for phone conference:* INDUSTRY3.

To access an Internet replay of the event, go to: <https://www.mymeetings.com/nc/join.php?i=PG7717530&p=INDUSTRY3&t=r>.

The replay of the April 26 event will be available for 30 days, ending May 26, 2006.

Done in Washington, DC, this 4th day of April 2006.

**Elizabeth E. Gaston,**

*Acting Administrator, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service.*

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**BILLING CODE 3410-34-P**

## **ARCHITECTURAL AND TRANSPORTATION BARRIERS COMPLIANCE BOARD**

### **Courthouse Access Advisory Committee; Meeting**

**AGENCY:** Architectural and Transportation Barriers Compliance Board.

**ACTION:** Notice of meeting.

**SUMMARY:** The Architectural and Transportation Barriers Compliance Board (Access Board) has established an advisory committee to advise the Board on issues related to the accessibility of courthouses covered by the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 and the Architectural Barriers Act of 1968. The Courthouse Access Advisory Committee (Committee) includes organizations with an interest in courthouse accessibility. This notice announces the date, times and location of the next Committee meeting, which will be open to the public.

**DATES:** The meeting of the Committee is scheduled for May 18, 2006 (beginning at 9 a.m. and ending at 5 p.m.) and May 19, 2006 (beginning at 9 a.m. and ending at 3 p.m.).

**ADDRESSES:** The meeting will be held at the Hyatt Regency Miami, 400 South East Second Avenue, Miami, FL.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** David Yanchulis, Office of Technical and Information Services, Architectural and Transportation Barriers Compliance Board, 1331 F Street, NW., suite 1000, Washington, DC 20004-1111. Telephone number (202) 272-0026 (Voice); (202) 272-0082 (TTY). E-mail [yanchulis@access-board.gov](mailto:yanchulis@access-board.gov). This document is available in alternate formats (cassette tape, Braille, large print, or computer disk). This document is also available on the Board's Internet site (<http://www.access-board.gov/caac/meeting.htm>).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** In 2004, as part of the outreach efforts on courthouse accessibility, the Access Board established a Federal advisory committee to advise the Access Board on issues related to the accessibility of courthouses, particularly courtrooms, including best practices, design solutions, promotion of accessible features, educational opportunities, and the gathering of information on existing barriers, practices, recommendations, and guidelines. On October 12, 2004, the Access Board published a notice appointing 31 members to the Courthouse Access Advisory Committee. 69 FR 60608 (October 12, 2004). Members of the Committee include designers and architects, disability groups, members of the judiciary, court administrators, representatives of the codes community and standard-setting entities, government agencies, and others with an interest in the issues to be explored. The Committee held its initial meeting on November 4 and 5, 2004. Members discussed the current requirements for accessibility, committee goals and objectives, and the establishment of subcommittees. The Committee established three subcommittees: Education, Courtrooms and Courthouses (areas unique to courthouses other than courtrooms).

The Committee has held quarterly meetings in the following cities: Phoenix (February 2005), Washington, DC (May 2005), Chicago (August 2005), San Francisco (November 2005), and Washington, DC (February 2006). At each of these meetings, Committee members toured area courthouses and held full Committee and subcommittee sessions. At the next meeting in Miami, members will continue to address issues in meetings of the full Committee and of each of the subcommittees. Meeting minutes and other information about the Committee are available on the Access