

Media Release

4 September 2015

HSA RELEASES NEW GUIDANCE NOTES ON ELECTRICAL WATERBATH STUNNING OF POULTRY

New publication provides comprehensive guidance for a variety of personnel working with live birds to optimise welfare during waterbath slaughter

As part of its work to promote the highest standards of welfare for food animals during transport, marketing and slaughter, and following ongoing research into bird welfare during electrical waterbath stunning of poultry, the Humane Slaughter Association has published new guidance notes.

Primarily aimed at animal welfare officers, official veterinarians and those who train staff for Certificates of Competence in animal welfare at slaughter, the guidance, with illustrations, is intended for the global industry and is available to download free of charge from the charity's website (www.hsa.org.uk).

The guidance covers the various types of equipment available, gives examples of standard operating procedures for primary and back-up stunning equipment and information on risk assessment for animal welfare.

Dr Mohan Raj, Visiting Fellow of the University of Bristol's School of Veterinary Science said: "... very well written and [will] be immensely helpful to the industry".

The HSA is an independent charity that works through educational, scientific and technical advances to improve the welfare of food animals worldwide during transport, marketing, slaughter and killing for welfare reasons or disease control. For more information about this work visit our website or telephone 01582 831919.

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Note to Editors:

As an independent registered charity, the HSA is unique in working exclusively to achieve the highest worldwide standards in food animal welfare at markets, during transport and at slaughter through scientific and technical advances, education and training. Its work includes researching, refining and demonstrating humane slaughter methods, publishing material such as guidelines, best practice, books and videos, funding research projects and the development of equipment. Specialist technical staff provide expert and practical advice on all welfare issues relating to food animals.

The HSA is funded by voluntary donations, subscriptions and legacies.

For more information about the HSA's work call 01582 831919, email info@hsa.org.uk or visit www.hsa.org.uk

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Humane Slaughter Association and Council of Justice to Animals Registered in England Charity No: 209563

Issued – 4th September 2015 to: