



Media Release



WA REPRESENTATION FINALLY ON THE BOARD OF NATIONAL SALEYARDS QUALITY ASSURANCE (NSQA)

Western Australia finally has representation on the Board of National Saleyards Quality Assurance or NSQA.

Mr Dave Saunders, Western Australian Meat Industry Authority Project and Operations Manager has been elected to the board as a result of a national nomination process and ballot. His term is for 12 months.

Mr Saunders has been responsible for the management of the Midland Saleyards over the last 12 years and is leading the relocation to The Livestock Centre Muchea. He was integral in the development of the innovative joint venture between WAMIA, Elders and Landmark, now called Livestock Logistics WA. He was the author of the 1996 State Saleyards Strategy, which has been adopted by the Minister for Agriculture and Food as well as the meat and livestock industry.

NSQA was launched in 1997 and has been adopted nationally as the quality assurance program for the saleyards industry. It includes construction, husbandry, densities, and other aspects of saleyards management.

Mr Saunders said the appointment provided Western Australia its first opportunity to be part of a peak saleyards body at a national Level and he looked forward to working with other industry members to ensure that NSQA continued to provide an avenue for saleyards operators to remain part of the paddock to plate pathway.

Mr Saunders said that while the saleyards sector continued to play an important part in the livestock industry it must keep pace with the changing consumer requirements & concerns in addition to the higher operational standards required in today's environment".

"If not, it will not remain as a real marketing alternative for livestock producers, which makes programs such as NSQA essential to its survival". Mr Saunders said.

The first meeting of the new NSQA board will be held in Adelaide on 26 October also appointed to the Board were Earl Pratt (Murgon, Queensland), Daniel Toohey (Orange, New South Wales), James Henderson (Gloucester, New South Wales) and Andy Madigan (CEO, Australian Livestock and Property Agents Association).

For further information, contact:-

Renata Paliskis-Bessell at the Western Australian Meat Industry Authority on 92747533

Western Australian Meat Industry Authority

15 Spring Park Road, MIDLAND WA 6056. PO Box 1434, MIDLAND WA 6936

Tel: (08) 9274 7533 Fax: (08) 9274 7588 Email: wamia@wamia.wa.gov.au