PRODUCERS AND EMPLOYEES
HOW TO PROTECT YOUR HERD

MANY TIMES, EMPLOYEES DO NOT REALIZE THE ABILITY THEY HAVE TO PROTECT THE PIGS THEY CARE FOR. BY FOLLOWING A FEW SIMPLE STEPS, EMPLOYEES CAN PREVENT DISEASE INTRODUCTION INTO A HERD.

Don’t use other player or come in contact with other people. Many times when animals first pick up a disease, they may be shedding the organism before they show clinical signs. By avoiding contact with other pigs, employees help ensure that accidental cross-contamination from one group of pigs to the other is minimized.

Leave valuables at home. It is difficult to keep jewelry while hand washing or showering to ensure removal of potential infectious diseases. It is better to leave them at home.

Stay home when you are sick. Employees may infect pigs with zoonotic diseases, including the flu.

Wash hands or change clothes/clothing. Hand washing should be done with soap for at least 20 seconds. If you have shower facilities, follow correct biosecurity by removing all items on the dirty side, showering, and dressing with only items on the clean side. Eyewear should be cleaned in shower before entering clean side.

Wash clean coveralls and boots on each side. Having clean coveralls and boots on each side limits the spread of disease if anyone needs to move between sides.

Sitting is prohibited in animal areas. Keep any food in a dedicated area or room if it’s necessary to bring the food into the building. Diseases can be brought into a site if meat products if these products are carried into animal areas.

Respect clean and dirty areas when loading animals. Personal equipment and equipment in the clean area must stay on the “clean” side while the truck driver and any loading equipment from the truck must remain on the “dirty” side.

Replace coverall and boots on each site. Having clean coveralls and boots on each site limits the spread of disease if anyone needs to move between sides.

Do not share equipment between sites, or clean, disinfect, and allow equipment to dry before moving to a new site. Any organism can survive on equipment and infect the next group of pigs.

Clean and disinfect equipment between pigs or area when possible. Even processing equipment can carry disease from one pigs site to the next if the instruments are not allowed sufficient contact time in a disinfectant.

Keep pets out of hog buildings. Cats and dogs have the potential to carry and spread diseases to pigs.

Follow farm policy for downtime following international travel. Depending on what country you traveled to, and what activities you participated in, your post-trip procedures may be affected upon your return.

Clean and disinfect the facilities. Cleaning and disinfecting facilities and allowing them to dry between groups of pigs reduces the risk of spreading disease.