



final report

Project Code: P.PIP.0285
Prepared by: MAR
September 2007

Date published:

PUBLISHED BY
Meat and Livestock Australia Limited
Locked Bag 991
NORTH SYDNEY NSW 2059

BladeStop

This is an MLA Donor Company funded project.

Meat & Livestock Australia acknowledges the matching funds provided by the Australian Government and contributions from the Australian Meat Processor Corporation to support the research and development detailed in this publication.

This publication is published by Meat & Livestock Australia Limited ABN 39 081 678 364 (MLA). Care is taken to ensure the accuracy of the information contained in this publication. However MLA cannot accept responsibility for the accuracy or completeness of the information or opinions contained in the publication. You should make your own enquiries before making decisions concerning your interests. Reproduction in whole or in part of this publication is prohibited without prior written consent of MLA.

Current Status of the BladeStop Project

Continued progression in the development of the Blade stop system over recent months has seen a new blade brake/shear mechanism and a sensor circuit control board function extremely well under test and production testing at NCMC.

Recently Completed Installation and Commissioning Tasks

- Various electrical quick connect solutions for connection of operators arm band have been trialed.
- New versions of operators arm band have been sourced to eliminate moisture build-up on band preventing false signals when arm band is removed.
- The Bladestop system is currently in use every day at NCMC
No false trips have been reported during current production since modifications were completed.
Introduction of a strap on operators clothes to feed sensor cable and to improve operator comfort implemented.
- NCMC have installed a camera to monitor the saw during production for review should false trips occurs.

Planned Work in Oct / Nov 2007

- Upon successful completion of testing, new sensing circuit and control boards will be manufacture to new design.
- Further investigation to source a more user friendly electrical quick connect solution of operators arm.
- Shear mechanism to be removed from prototype unit running at NCMC for the purposes of an Audit. (Scheduled 8th Oct 2007)
- Installation of new control box and sensing circuits by 8th Nov 2007.
- Commencement of final trials will start as a last step before the system is handed over to NCMC.

The Road Ahead

MAR & Bladestop Pty Ltd are committed to having the Bladestop System completed as a commercial product at the earliest possible date to ensure the industry receives the benefits of Reduced risk of serious injury, Increases processing uptime and personnel morale

Bladestop and MAR would like to thank NCMC and the industry for their support and we look forward to releasing a further update on Bladestop after completion of further testing at Casino.

Upon completion of final trials at NCMC with the first prototype Bladestop System MAR will commence manufacturing of the first 2 of 20 commercialised Bladestop systems to be fitted to New Thompson MK6 Bandsaws.

An industry open day will be held at MAR scheduled December 2007 to demonstrate the commercialised Bladestop system fitted to a Thompson MK6 Supercut Bandsaw. The industry open day will be valuable to raise the profile of Bladestop and to showcase the system as it will be installed to nominated sites. It is intended that the open day will be held after installation of the 2nd system.