



Responsible Down Standard International Working Group

Slaughter Module

March 15, 2018

Agenda

1. Introductions, Announcements, and Housekeeping
2. Updates
 1. Dutch Advertising Commission
 2. Stakeholder groups calls
 1. Parent Farms
 2. Parallel Production
3. Review of Slaughter Module

Anti-Trust Guidelines

- Do not agree or discuss how each of the Participants will price their own goods or related products;
- Do not agree to allocate certain geographic markets (i.e., territories) or product markets (i.e., types of products) among each other;
- Do not discuss or agree to the cost or method of pricing products manufactured or sold by each other or otherwise direct each other's business activities that are outside the scope of the IWG;
- Do not compare cost information that is confidential, such as labor cost, manufacturing costs or other variables affecting pricing;
- Do not agree among yourselves to not do business with certain vendors (potential "boycott") or otherwise pressure other competitors or vendors to comply with certain pricing or cost policies;
- The IWG should not share with each other or discuss confidential, competitive information for individual Participants or any information that might affect the Participants' own day to day business decisions related to cost, price or output of their own products. For example, this confidential competitive information may include: price lists or pricing plans, volume, rebate or refund programs, discount policies, credit policies, advertising credits or program allowances, slotting allowances, product cost variables or profit margins, customer lists or specific complaints, supplier contract terms, current or future marketing plans, bidding plans, purchasing plans, planning strategies, capital improvement plans, terms of sale or other contract terms, or competition in the sale or manufacture of competing products;
- The IWG should not facilitate agreements or coordination among Participants for the prices they charge for the products they manufacture or sell or other collusive conduct, including market allocation or refusals to deal with suppliers or customers, or organize boycotts against other manufacturers or retailers; and
- The IWG should not publish or share any information that would be suggestive or conclusory as to how any individual Participant should deal with individual contracting or other third party issues
- Participants may discuss or share non-confidential, publicly available information or data

Chatham House Rules

When a meeting, or part thereof, is held under the **Chatham House Rule**, participants are free to use the information received, but neither the identity nor the affiliation of the speaker(s), nor that of any other participant, may be revealed.

Member Agreement

1. Agrees to contribute a reasonable commitment of time and expertise to participate in the Responsible Down Standard IWG.
2. Agrees to act respectfully to other Members of the IWG, and commit to honest and polite discourse.
3. Agrees that in order to maintain a level of trust and continuity, that all meetings and discussions of The RDS IWG and/or its Members remain strictly confidential and will treat any information that is shared within the RDS IWG as confidential in accordance with the Chatham House Rule (appendix A).
4. Agrees to comply with all applicable antitrust and anti-competitive laws, including, without limitation:
 - a. Agrees that none of the information shared during or as part of IWG meetings may be used to cause competitive injury or disadvantage to another Member, participant, Textile Exchange or the RDS; and
 - b. Agrees to abstain from any conversations or activities that may restrict competition or set prices).
5. Refrains from using any information obtained through the RDS IWG other than to advance the objectives of the IWG and in no event to disparage Members, their products, practices, businesses or their reputations.
6. Commits to promote the RDS as a meaningful tool to address animal welfare in the down industry.
7. Works openly and collaboratively to meet the objectives of the RDS and the IWG, sharing best practices and lessons learned.

UPDATES

Dutch Advertising Commission

- With the sentence: "**This product is certified to the Responsible Down Standard and thereby contributes to the animal welfare of ducks and geese**", Auping seems to claim that its product contributes to the animal welfare of ducks and geese through the RDS certification. Such a claim is too absolute. The guarantee of animal welfare mentioned in the expression suggests a broader content than the ban on live plucking and forced feeding of the ducks in the RDS. **It has not been made plausible that the RDS guarantees that all conditions relevant to the welfare of ducks are met. The fact that Auping follows the Responsible Down Standard - which is not in dispute - does not yet justify the claim that this means that the ducks are "healthy, do not suffer pain and experience no fear or stress"**.
- <https://www.reclamecode.nl/webuitspraak.asp?ID=210187&acCode>
- Next Steps:
 - Textile Exchange will continue to follow the case and notify you of any changes.
 - Reviewing our website, as well as RDS Logo Use and Claims Guide, to provide better guidance and clarity to avoid the use of absolute claims.

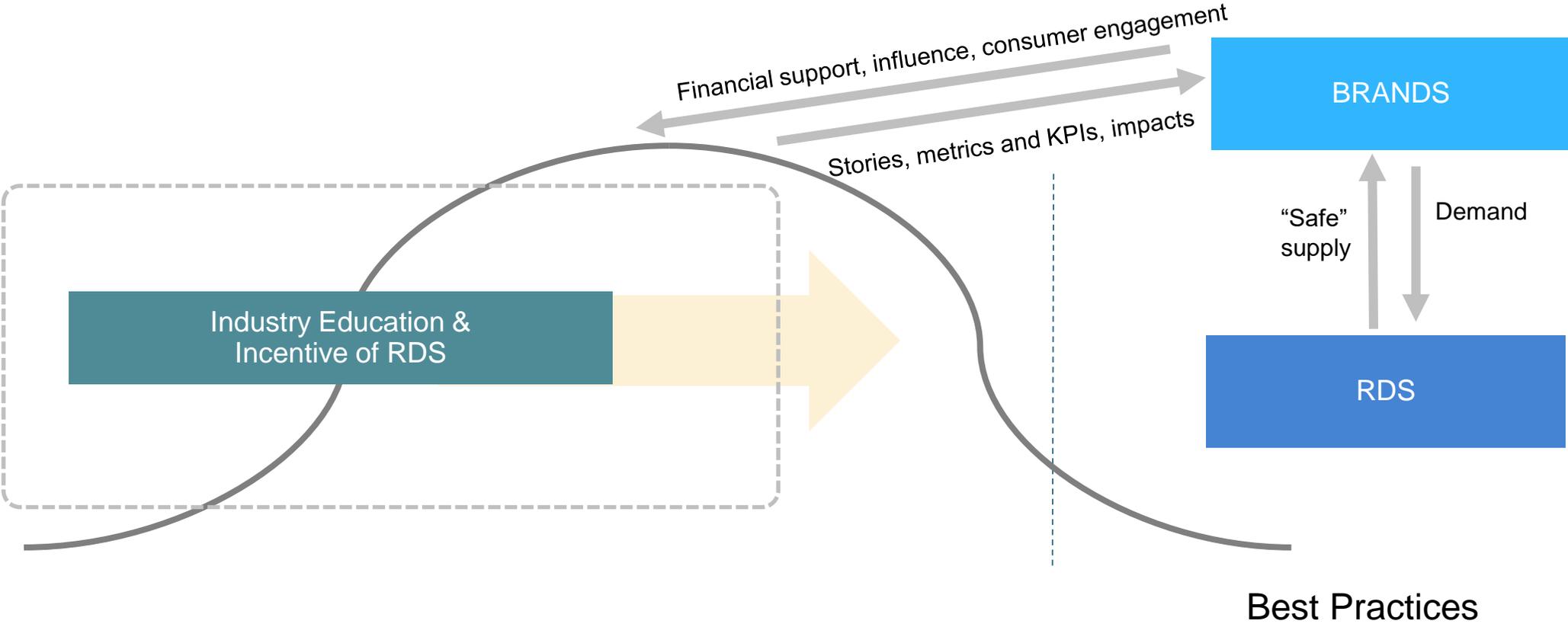
Stakeholder Group Calls

- Animal Welfare Groups
- Down Suppliers
- Up next – Certification Bodies (Professional Services)

- Topics:
 - Parent Farms
 - Parallel Production
 - tbd

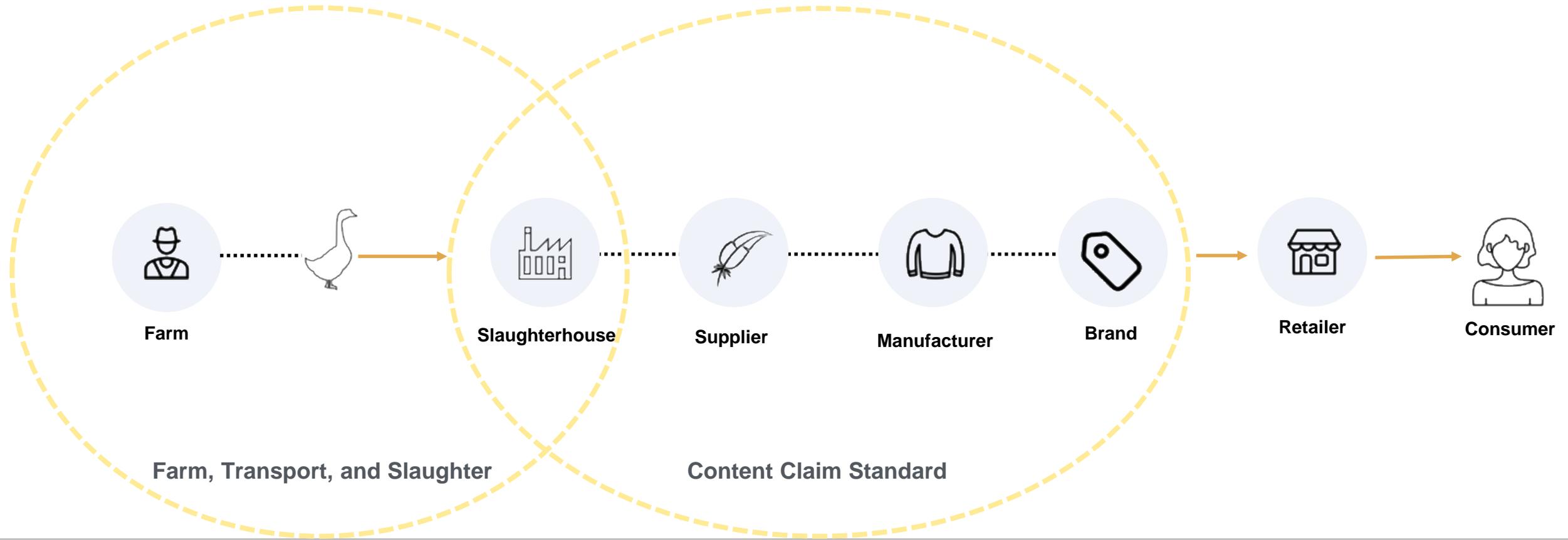
THEORY OF CHANGE

Theory of Change



SLAUGHTER MODULE

RDS Stakeholders



Background Info

- Humane Slaughter Association:
- <https://www.hsa.org.uk/downloads/related-items/poultry-slaughter.pdf>

Slaughter Module

NUMBER	REQUIREMENT	GUIDANCE	LEVEL
S1	The site shall comply with local legislation on animal welfare.		MAJOR
S2	Personnel responsible for unloading, stunning and killing shall receive basic animal welfare training.	Staff shall be trained to recognize signs of distress, and injury, and be competent in bird handling and, if necessary, casualty slaughter. Staff shall never kick, strike, throw or deliberately injure a bird.	MINOR
S3	Training records shall be kept for at least five years.		MINOR
S4	After arriving at the slaughter site, waterfowl shall be handled with care and as minimally as possible.	Inspection of all birds upon arrival and ensure procedures are in place to deal with panting or huddling birds. Weigh (and record) trucks to monitor density.	MINOR
S5	Waterfowl shall be unloaded and slaughtered within two hours, unless the slaughterhouse has a waiting area with appropriate facilities.		MINOR
S7	In an industrialized slaughterhouse, waterfowl shall be stunned then killed before they can regain consciousness.	Available best practice shall be utilized.	MINOR
S6	In an industrialized slaughterhouse, waterfowl should be unloaded in a dimly lit room preventing stress and fear as much as possible. In case of open air slaughtering, other stress reducing measures should be implemented.	In any type of slaughter site, steps should be taken to prevent waterfowl from seeing other waterfowl get killed. This requirement is fulfilled if sufficient measures are taken to minimize stress of waterfowl from arriving to the slaughter site up to the moment of killing. The following stress reducing methods should be applied: planned arrival time at the slaughter facility so birds do not have to wait for long periods on transport vehicles; careful loading and unloading of birds; handling birds one at a time; minimizing the time between inversion and stunning; adjusting the water-bath height to fit the size of the birds.	RECOMMENDATION
S8	If electrical stunning applied; when using a 50 Hz AC frequency stun setting, a minimum of 130 mA per bird should be applied.		RECOMMENDATION
S9	Stunning frequency should be checked 3 times per day and results recorded.	Adjustments to be made when frequency is too low. Results should be recorded.	RECOMMENDATION
S10	Confirmation inspections should be done of supplier farms to confirm their compliance to RDS.		RECOMMENDATION

Slaughter Module - Operations

NUMBER	REQUIREMENT	GUIDANCE	LEVEL
S1	The site shall comply with local legislation on animal welfare.		MAJOR
S10	Confirmation inspections should be done of supplier farms to confirm their compliance to RDS.		RECOMMENDATION

Slaughter Module - Training

NUMBER	REQUIREMENT	GUIDANCE	LEVEL
S2	Personnel responsible for unloading, stunning and killing shall receive basic animal welfare training.	Staff shall be trained to recognize signs of distress, and injury, and be competent in bird handling and, if necessary, casualty slaughter. Staff shall never kick, strike, throw or deliberately injure a bird.	MINOR
S3	Training records shall be kept for at least five years.		MINOR

- Training for auditors on how to assess the birds to determine if the stunning working or not.
- Bring in an education program to explain why stunning is preferred, and how to do it properly; create a visual SOP poster that will remind workers of what is acceptable.

Slaughter Module - Handling

NUMBER	REQUIREMENT	GUIDANCE	LEVEL
S4	After arriving at the slaughter site, waterfowl shall be handled with care and as minimally as possible.	Inspection of all birds upon arrival and ensure procedures are in place to deal with panting or huddling birds. Weigh (and record) trucks to monitor density.	MINOR
S5	Waterfowl shall be unloaded and slaughtered within two hours, unless the slaughterhouse has a waiting area with appropriate facilities.		MINOR
S6	In an industrialized slaughterhouse, waterfowl should be unloaded in a dimly lit room preventing stress and fear as much as possible. In case of open air slaughtering, other stress reducing measures should be implemented.	In any type of slaughter site, steps should be taken to prevent waterfowl from seeing other waterfowl get killed. This requirement is fulfilled if sufficient measures are taken to minimize stress of waterfowl from arriving to the slaughter site up to the moment of killing. The following stress reducing methods should be applied: planned arrival time at the slaughter facility so birds do not have to wait for long periods on transport vehicles; careful loading and unloading of birds; handling birds one at a time; minimizing the time between inversion and stunning; adjusting the water-bath height to fit the size of the birds.	RECOMMENDATION

Slaughter Module - Stunning

NUMBER	REQUIREMENT	GUIDANCE	LEVEL
S7	In an <i>industrialized slaughterhouse</i> , waterfowl shall be stunned then killed before they can regain consciousness.	Available best practice shall be utilized.	MINOR
S8	If electrical stunning applied; when using a 50 Hz AC frequency stun setting, a minimum of 130 mA per bird should be applied.		RECOMMENDATION
S9	Stunning frequency should be checked 3 times per day and results recorded.	Adjustments to be made when frequency is too low. Results should be recorded.	RECOMMENDATION

- *Industrialized slaughterhouses*, potentially those processing more than 50,000 birds per year
- Where stunning is used, perhaps introduce stronger guidelines for checking the voltage
- We should also control the power of the stunning
- Ensure the safety of workers during this

Reminders

- Have you signed the RDS IWG Charter?
- Do we have your permission to be publically listed?
- Any other questions or feedback:
ResponsibleDown@TextileExchange.org

Publically Listed IWG Members

- Humane Society International
- Pro Down Alliance
- Culver Duck Farms

THANK YOU!