RESOLUTION NUMBER: 3 Approved

SOURCE: COMMITTEE ON ANIMAL HEALTH SURVEILLANCE AND INFORMATION SYSTEMS

SUBJECT MATTER: Allow Integration of Accredited Veterinarian Data from the National Veterinary Accreditation Program System to State Animal Health Office Database Systems

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

Most state animal health officials (SAHOs) have electronic database systems for managing animal health information, including certificates of veterinary inspection, accession, and vaccination records, and other registration, licensing, and surveillance program records that require accredited veterinarian involvement and/or signature. SAHOs must identify and verify the accreditation status of submitting veterinarians. Furthermore, state offices must have a reliable list of accredited veterinarians to contact for important state regulatory and disease updates.

Although SAHOs are granted access to the National Veterinary Accreditation Program system, there is no convenient way to integrate that data electronically into their database systems. Therefore, many states keep a separate data set within their own systems for veterinary data management. This process is duplicative, creating unnecessary data entry and management work as well as decreased accuracy.

RESOLUTION:

The United States Animal Health Association requests that the United States Department of Agriculture, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, Veterinary Services provide access to data from the National Veterinary Accreditation Program system in real-time for state animal health officials and their electronic database systems that would support system-to-system integration. Accessible data should include full name, address, contact information (email, phone), and accreditation status information (national accreditation number, Level I or II, states accredited in, and expiration date).

INTERIM RESPONSE:

The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS), Veterinary Services (VS) recognizes the concerns of the United States Animal Health Association (USAHA) and appreciates the opportunity to respond.

APHIS VS currently releases accreditation data to state animal health officials (SAHOs), within 1-2 days from request through the National Veterinary Accreditation Program Coordinators page. The information is delivered in an Excel file within 1-2 days of the
request. However, APHIS VS acknowledges that the resolution is requesting system-to-system integration, which does not currently exist.

The Veterinary Services Process Streamlining (VSPS) system, which houses the National Veterinary Accreditation Module containing the data at issue, is scheduled for modernization in the near future. APHIS is planning to include an automated mechanism to deliver the information requested in a system-to-system manner in that modernization effort. In the meantime, APHIS will work with SAHOs to evaluate potential shorter-term solutions.