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Contact: Drew Ryder
360-325-0175
dryder@feedlogic.com

Kansas State University and New Horizon Farms Commit To Real-Time Nutrition Management Technology

ABBOTSFORD, British Columbia — November 11, 2003 — Feedlogic Systems, Inc. has entered into an agreement with Kansas State University and its research partner New Horizon Farms to supply and support new swine nutrition management technology.

Four robotic feed systems and associated communications networks are being installed in 48-pen hog finishing barns owned by New Horizon Farms in Pipestone, Minn., which K-State partners with to conduct feed trials. The technology will allow K-State to feed specific diets to individual feeders and monitor feed intake in real time from remote locations. Researchers at K-State's Manhattan, Kan. campus will be able to "watch" the systems in operation live, providing valuable data and feedback for the university's world-leading swine nutrition research efforts.

The Feedlogic system consists of a self-propelled feed delivery unit which travels on a rail and dispenses feed automatically into individual feeders located in each pen. The weight and time of each delivery is recorded and transmitted live via a wireless network to an off-board computer. Each system can be monitored and managed remotely via a landline connection.

Software included with the systems provides users with a simple "virtual barn" view customized to the pen layout and feed bin contents of each barn. Users can obtain instant reports on feed intake by pen over specified time periods. Diets can be changed by simply clicking on-screen icons.

"Feedlogic's technology will allow us to complete feed trials more accurately and more cost-effectively," said Mike Tokach, swine nutrition specialist for K-State. "We tested one of Feedlogic's systems for six months in Pipestone and we were impressed with the weighing accuracy and overall performance. With this level of automation in the barns, we will realize savings in labor costs and be able to conduct more trials in a shorter period of time."

Feedlogic Systems president Drew Ryder said Feedlogic's technology has application in commercial hog operations, where consistency and flexibility in managing nutrition is a growing need. "There's tremendous potential for these types of feed systems in the hog industry," he said. "Industry research has shown that feed conversion will vary from one farm to the next, even with consistent genetics, housing and diets. With rapid access to feed intake data and pen-specific diet control, producers will have greater ability to manipulate diets to suit actual nutritional needs. This kind of dynamic nutrition optimization is difficult or impossible with current commercial feed systems."

Ryder said the Feedlogic technology provides a payback in lower feed costs and the ability to manage nutrition strategies so that sweet spots on packer grids are hit more frequently. "Reducing overfeeding also will benefit producers needing better control over nutrient content in manure to comply with nutrient management plans," he said.

About Feedlogic Systems, Inc.

Founded in 2001, Feedlogic Systems, Inc. supplies on-farm feed system technology designed to enhance business intelligence, improve management capabilities, and help cut production costs. Headquartered in Abbotsford, British Columbia, the company is a pioneer in the development of hardware and software which can provide hog producers with real-time monitoring and management of feeding. It was a recipient of the 2003 Dr. F.X. Aherne Prize for Innovative Pork Production and was rated one of the top three emerging technology companies in British Columbia in 2002 by New Ventures BC.

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