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## **Real-Time Nutrition Management Technology Tackles Overfeeding Problem**

**ABBOTSFORD, British Columbia — January 2, 2004** — Feedlogic Systems, Inc. has developed swine nutrition management technology which allows unprecedented levels of feeding precision and can reduce nutrient levels in manure.

The technology incorporates robotic feed delivery units with communication systems and software so that specific diets can be fed to individual animals or groups of animals. Through real-time monitoring of feed intake, diets can be changed to more closely match the actual needs of the animals.

“Overfeeding of nutrients is very common in hog finisher barns using the stepped feeding approach,” said Drew Ryder, Feedlogic president. “When you’re only changing the diet three or four times in a 5-month finishing cycle, it’s impossible to stay close to the animals’ ideal feed curve and they will be overfed a significant percentage of the time. All the excess nutrients not consumed by the animals will go straight into the manure.”

The Feedlogic system reduces overfeeding through frequent diet changes over the growing cycle so that the animals stay closer to their ideal feed curve. Using patent-pending dispensing technology and software, producers can monitor feeding from outside barns and make weekly or even daily changes to diets with a few simple mouse clicks.

With its ability to feed different diets to specific feeders, the technology also benefits producers with continuous flow housing. “If you’re continuous flow, it’s even more difficult to feed to ideal curves,” said Ryder. “The age range and sex of the animals in your barn will vary tremendously and with centralized feeding systems the diets fed will be a compromise. With the Feedlogic system, the diets can easily be targeted to the needs of each pen and producers should see a big reduction in overfeeding.”

Ryder said the need for precision feeding systems is growing as hog producers face increasing pressure to monitor and manage nutrient levels in manure. “In many jurisdictions, producers must limit the

amount of hogs they raise based on the land they have available to spread manure,” he said. “By reducing nutrient levels through more precise feeding, they have an opportunity to raise more hogs. They also will benefit from lower feed costs because they’ll be able to use less expensive feed formulations without sacrificing growth rates and meat quality.”

Feedlogic systems are currently operating in finisher barns in British Columbia, Saskatchewan, and Minnesota. Each 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.

#### **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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