



American MicroChip Advisory Council For Animals

June 2007

Comments and Viewpoints from Industry Leaders

Re: Microchip Council Recovery Call Center

I can't be more pleased with the development of this process for getting pets back to their owners. Since the AIMSusa microchip committee, the issue has been the accessibility to databases so the return of pets can be expeditious. With new companies coming in to the market place this type of an umbrella is an absolute necessity. The confidentiality of names in the databases of owners, veterinarians, should be an encouragement for microchip manufactures to participate.

Coy Willis, Director
City of Midland Animal Services
432-685-7424

I would like to volunteer some time for this (AMACA Call Center) if you need me. This is a huge issue that is very much needed.

Thanks,

Chris Dunn, Treasurer, Habitat for Horses, Inc.
409-682-6619 cdunn@habitatforhorses.org <http://www.habitatforhorses.org/>

Regarding the Recovery Call Center:

I commend the efforts by all who work to further assist the recovery of lost microchipped pets. This recovery addition effort can only enhance our American Standards infrastructure. I am unable to suggest any further improvements to Draft v1.

Pauline White
Administrator, San Diego County Veterinary Medical Association

Dear AMACA,

I am more than happy to volunteer for the Task Force. Please let me know how I can be of assistance.

Dan Morrison
Executive Director SEAACA
director@seaaca.org
562-803-1629 X226
www.seaaca.org

Dear AMACA,

Thanks for sending the Emergency Management Guidelines proposal. I've had a chance to review the document, and it looks very comprehensive. I would suggest adding the following wording in the section entitled "microchips" on page 7:

Only microchips of the 125 kHz frequency type should be used in disaster preparation efforts and during a disaster as inventory control. These 125 kHz microchips comply with the American standard, meaning that they can be read by the installed base of readers in U.S. animal shelters.

The idea of sending it to the Department of Homeland Security is an excellent one.

Best regards,

Barbara Masin
EID Ltd. (Trovan)
Tel 805-565-1288 Fax 805-565-1127

To AMACA: *Regarding the Emergency Management Guide*

The information is well presented and covers important areas of proactive preparatory and post-disaster microchipping. Having worked several hurricane disasters and being put in charge of all companion animal issues for the State of Mississippi for 2 weeks following Katrina, the mandatory microchipping of pets upon rescue from a disaster is a mission we are dedicated to here in Florida. I have even brought up the discussion of mandatory microchipping for all Florida pets due to the high risk of disaster - now including even inland counties. A goal should be 100% microchip Id'd pets in areas of highest risk for natural or man-made disasters.

I would agree that a few additional areas of reinforcing the use of 125kHz chips and the widespread scanner availability is warranted and a good idea. [To give you a personal reference from the shelter I run, we have Fifty-three (53) 125kHz scanners in use including one with every person in the field. We only have 2 of the other scanners - which at times have proven unreliable in detecting chips.]

Emphasis on scanning is CRITICAL even in remote and poor areas of the coastal Mississippi counties we found microchips that were registered. When we arrived we brought 8 scanners with 4 people to the area. There were no scanners at Hattiesburg before we arrived. HSUS did eventually get more scanners, and we left ours with local animal control agencies before we left. There should be no apathy in looking for, verifying and tracing microchips.

I think that an encouragement of local governments to offer the microchip with prepaid registration before disasters AT COST or FREE would be a great civic action. We provide free chips and registrations to all animals passing through our shelter, free chips to people on assistance, and chips at our cost (always with registration - that we mail in for the pet owner after it is filled out in our presence) at cost. Microchip IDs should be seen as a public safety/service not a profit item for government agencies.

Once produced I would like to see wide distribution of this tool. For those not informed on the issues it covers them in a fair and easily understood manner.

Scott Trebatoski, MBA, ACO, CET
Director, Lee County Animal Services
President, Florida Animal Control Association

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Dear AMACA,

I would be happy to participate in the Task Force. Please advise what you would like me to do.

Hannis L. Stoddard III, DVM
President, Avid Identification Systems, Inc.
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Hi,

Mr. Keith Myhre, from our organization, volunteers his assistance to the Task Force. Keith has almost 20 years experience directed toward the challenges faced by the Task Force.

Keith's direct e-mail address is: VantroSystems@TDS.net

Wayne Culberth
CEO, InfoPET

Dear AMACA,

I would like to commend the AMACA organization on a job well done on the first run of the "Umbrella" program. The plan should be able to be implemented quite easily as the concept appears to be surprisingly simple.

On a slightly different but important note:

I have a concern as a result of some microchips being used in pets that operate at frequencies (other than 125 kHz) that are completely undetectable by the vast majority of scanners in use by shelters, rescues, and/or disaster response organizations in the US today. I would suggest that AMACA publish an informational piece to alert all microchip users of this situation. I would also suggest that AMACA members use their resources to get this information out to those who need to know it. It would be appropriate for this Advisory Council to keep microchip users informed.

Thank you

John Wade, DVM