What is Pig Pass

PigPass is a national tracking system which provides real time information on the movements of all pigs in Australia. This enables authorities to quickly determine the source of a disease outbreak and notify people with pigs in the affected area to stop the spread of disease.

A PigPass National Vendor Declaration (PigPass NVD) form must be completed when you move pigs from your property. This applies to all pig owners and producers, regardless of the numbers of the pigs moved.

From 1 February 2018, state and territory governments will be introducing mandatory reporting of all pig movements to the PigPass database. Failure to comply with the reporting requirements may result in a penalty notice.

When transporting pigs off the property owners must complete a PigPass NVD ensuring all information has been completed in full, including the destination PIC. The receiver must 'close the loop' by reporting the movement online using the originating sender's serial number from the PigPass NVD. A receiver could be an abattoir, a pig producer, a pet pig owner, a saleyard, a knackery, a show or event or a livestock agent.

PigPass is designed to link pigs to a property of origin using a Property Identification Code (PIC), registered pig identification (ear tags and tattoos), and pig movement documentation (the PigPass NVD).

Whether you have one pig, 20 pigs, a pet pig or a Christmas pig - you must register with PigPass.

PigPass helps to ensure that the transport of pigs meets agreed industry and government standards relating to food safety, animal disease control and animal welfare. Don't wait until 1 February – register with PigPass – start recording movements now to protect your pigs and be ready to meet your obligations.
APL will from time to time make PigPass system improvements and changes to facilitate industry compliance with government regulations, and to improve traceability outcomes for the industry. Please contact the PigPass Helpdesk if you have any questions or require assistance.

ABOUT:

Australia is lucky to be free of many of the diseases that threaten the pork industry overseas. Australian pork is regarded as a premium product in domestic and international markets, revered for its safe, clean and green attributes. This valuable export market relies on our herd remaining disease-free, so we need effective bio-security measures in place to maintain consumer confidence in Australian pork.

To help protect our industry, PigPass was developed. PigPass is a tracking system used to track the movement of all pigs in Australia. Through this system a clear picture of all pig movements is known. This is extremely important in the event of a disease outbreak or food safety emergency. PigPass also provides assurance to consumers of the safety, integrity and traceability of pork products. Buyers and processors rely on this information to ensure only the safest food enters the supply chain.

Who needs to register?

Whether you have one pig, 20 pigs, a pet pig or a Christmas pig – if you are moving pigs off your property or you are receiving pigs onto your property, show, abattoir, knackery, export depot etc, you must register with PigPass.

PigPass is designed to link pigs to a property of origin using a Property Identification Code (PIC), registered pig identification (ear tags and tattoos), and PigPass NVD. For those who do not already have a PIC there is a legal requirement for you to obtain a PIC.

From 1 February 2018, state and territory governments will be introducing mandatory reporting via PigPass for every time a pig is brought onto or leaves your property. Failure to use PigPass places your own pigs, your neighbour's animals and the entire livestock industry at risk if your pig contracts a disease.

How the system works?

PigPass is designed to protect the Australian pork industry which employs more than 36,000 people in Australia, and contributes approximately A$5.2 billion in gross domestic product to the Australian economy.

Using PigPass is quick, easy and FREE. The PigPass NVD is a form you complete online. Alternatively, you can purchase PigPass NVD book via the PigPass portal.

To complete a PigPass NVD, you must first register with PigPass. Have your PIC details and pig tattoo number handy. Once you have completed your registration, it will need to be activated. Please allow two business days for this to occur. When the account is active you can create a PigPass NVD online. This is completely free and can be made up to five days ahead of time. Alternatively you can purchase a PigPass NVD book online.

Pigs require a PigPass every time they are transported. Hand two copies to the person transporting the pigs, one of which is retained by the transporter. The other is given by the transporter to the receiver of the pigs, including shows and events, abattoirs, schools, knackeries, producers, pet pig owners, export depots and livestock agents. A pig may have a number of different types of journeys and several parts to that journey. For example,

- Property to saleyard - vendor completes PigPass NVD > vendor provide PigPass NVD to transporter > transporter provides a copy to saleyards > saleyard provides copy to purchaser > saleyard reports the movement to the PigPass database.

- Property to property - vendor completes PigPass NVD > vendor provide PigPass NVD to transporter > transporter provides a copy to purchaser > purchaser reports the movement to the PigPass database.

- Property to abattoir - owner completes PigPass NVD > owner provide PigPass NVD to transporter > transporter provides a copy to the abattoir (or the owner carries the PigPass NVD if transporting themselves) > abattoir reports the movement to the PigPass database.

When you receive pigs, you must ensure they have a PigPass NVD and you must report the movement of the pigs on your Property Identification Code (PIC) online using the originating sender's serial number which can be found on the PigPass NVD.

1 PIG   **20 PIGS**   **PET PIG**   **XMAS PIG**

OR

IT DOESN'T MATTER – THE PIGPASS SYSTEM STILL APPLIES TO YOU IF YOU OWN PIGS

GETTING STARTED WITH PIGPASS

TO REGISTER FOR THE PIGPASS SYSTEM YOU WILL NEED

1 PROPERTY IDENTIFICATION CODE
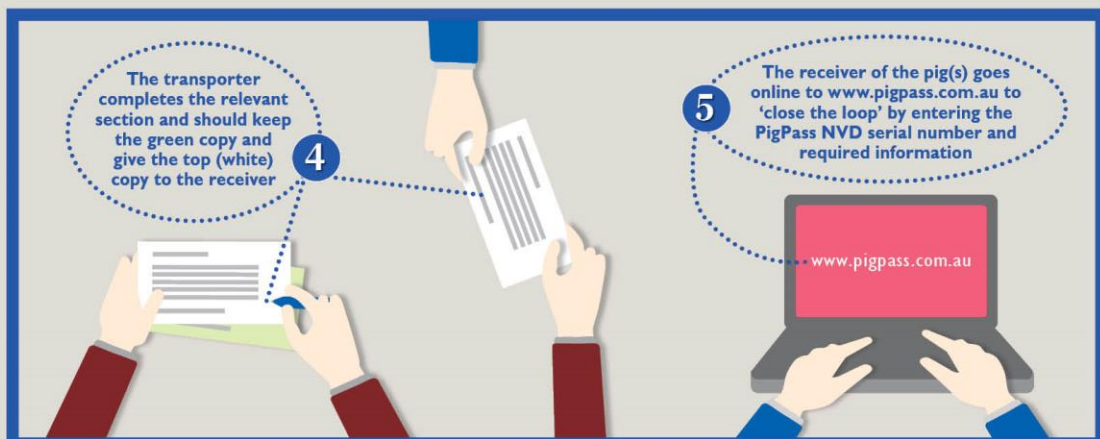
2 TATTOO NUMBER

3 ABN (IF APPLICABLE)

4 VISIT PIGPASS.COM.AU

UNDERSTANDING THE PIGPASS SYSTEM

1 When moving pigs, the owner completes a new national vendor declaration (NVD) slip

2 The pig owner keeps the pink carbon copy

3 And hands the top two copies (white and green) to the transporter

4 The transporter completes the relevant section and should keep the green copy and give the top (white) copy to the receiver

5 The receiver of the pig(s) goes online to www.pigpass.com.au to 'close the loop' by entering the PigPass NVD serial number and required information

www.pigpass.com.au

VISIT WWW.PIGPASS.COM.AU OR CALL 1800 001 458 FOR MORE INFORMATION

Register

To obtain a PigPass NVD you must register on the PigPass database. To register you will need the following information:

1. Property Identification Code (PIC)

A Property Identification Code or PIC is a unique identifier for land used for keeping livestock. PICs are assigned to individual properties by the Department of Primary Industries in your state or territory, or by the Local DAF in QLD.

To obtain a PIC, please check the legal requirements in your state. PICs are always eight characters long, and are made of letters and numbers.

2. Pig Identification (tattoo/brand number or NLIS accredited pig tag)

In all states, pigs must be identified before being moved off your property. This includes movements to another property (but only where a change of ownership takes place), to the saleyards and to the abattoirs. The specific requirements vary depending on your state or territory.

Pigs under 30 kg must be identified with a NLIS accredited pig tag. Pigs over 30 kg may be identified with either a NLIS accredited pig tag or a brand (also called a tattoo). When registering on PigPass, you must indicate whether you are using the registered brand or a pig tag in order for the account to be approved.

In Queensland, South Australia, Tasmania, Victoria, and Western Australia your brand number will be issued to you by the relevant state authority (usually the DAF). In NSW, you must register your brand number, which is the last six digits of your PIC, with Local Land Services.

In NSW only, if you only need to move a small number of pigs - for instance, a pet pig - then please ask your Local Land Services to brand this pig with a **crown brand** before registering for PigPass. You will need to let us know that this has happened when registering.

If you are in Queensland and own two pigs or less, you won't need to provide a brand number to register.

Once your Registration has been approved (this may take up to two business days), you can download and print an electronic PigPass NVD. This can be completed up to 5 days before pigs are due to be moved, and it is free. Alternatively, you can purchase a PigPass NVD book – a discount is offered to producers who order online. To learn more about how the system works visit the 'About' section.

Pig Identification

In Australia, all pigs must be identified with brands or NLIS approved ear tags before being moved from your PIC. This applies to movements to another property where a change of ownership takes place, to saleyards, to abattoirs and to shows or events.
Click here to download the Pig Identification Fact Sheet

Brand or Tattoo

Brands are applied to pigs using a "slap brand". This is a striker dipped in a carbon based ink, and leaving the tattoo or impression of the brand on the pig. For this reason, brands are often referred to as "tattoos" or "tattoo numbers". It is best to brand pigs just before they are due to be moved.

Branding is done so that pigs can be linked back to the property that they came from. The PigPass system records which brand(s) are being used on each property, as well as each mob of pigs being moved. In many cases properties use more than one brand, but these brands are all linked back to that property.

In Queensland, South Australia, Tasmania, Victoria, and Western Australia your brand number will be issued to you by the relevant state authority (usually the DPI). In NSW, you must register your brand number, which is the last six digits of your PIC, with Local Land Services. More information can be found in the table below:

Queensland:

Who do I need to contact?
Department of Agriculture, Industry Development and Fisheries
Ph: 13 25 23 or Boonah DAF : 5469 0201

What are the tattoo/brand requirements?
Pigs 30kg or over must be identified with a slap brand registered to the property before travelling to another property where a change of ownership takes place, to saleyards, or to abattoirs.

For more information see Pigs-brand tattoos, Moving Pigs and Rearing Small Numbers. You can search the Queensland brands database here.

Correct PIC Format
Four letters beginning with Q, followed by four numbers

Correct Tattoo/Brand Format
One number followed by three letters

Once I've been issued with a brand number, how do I apply it to my pigs?

You need to tattoo your pigs using a "slap brand" or "striker". This is a tool for applying the brand to the pig's shoulder, and is unique to your brand number.

- Pigs departing from the property of birth must be branded on the left shoulder with the tattoo assigned by the state or territory authority for that property.

- All pigs introduced, and those of unknown origin, before leaving the property, must be branded on the right shoulder with the tattoo registered to that property. For subsequent movements, the pigs must be branded on the right rump and left rump in that order

You can purchase a slap brand from many rural suppliers. APL maintains a [list of suppliers here](#). If you are a supplier who makes or sells slap brands, and you would like to be included on this list, then please let us know by calling 1800 001 458.

Visual Ear Tags

APL expects that producers using tattoos will continue to do so. However, visual ear tags are now approved as an alternative for producers who do not use a tattoos.

The requirements for using ear tags for pigs must comply with the [NLIS Pigs Standards](#) as approved by Agriculture Ministers on 26 July 2017. As required by state and territory legislation, NLIS Ltd has approved the use of four visual ear tags. The NLIS brochure outlining the ear tags and contact information to order tags can be [downloaded here](#).

Approved NLIS pig identification ear tags will be printed with the NLIS logo, the letter "P" in a circle, and the Property Identification Code (PIC) once ordered. These are **NOT** to be hand written on. A yellow tag (see example below) must be applied to pigs on their property of birth – this is known as a "breeder tag". An orange tag (see example below) is to be applied to a pig that has moved and is no longer on the property of birth – this is known as a "post breeder tag".

Yellow breeder tag   Orange post breeder tag

Producers should always consider the welfare of the pig when choosing an appropriate ear tag. Apply the tag just before you want to move the pigs to minimise time in which tags can be lost. It is recommended that a tattoo/brand is used to identify pigs over 25kg. The main reason that brands are preferred over ear tags is that they are able to be read from the carcass of a pig.

You can use the forms below to purchase NLIS Approved visual ear tags from various supplier. Please read carefully and follow the instruction given in the forms.

- Leader Products **Leader Products Order Form**

- Allflex   **Allflex Order Form**

- **NOTE: For Allflex, you have to complete the order form and then take it to your preferred rural merchant near you.**

- **Property Identification**

A Property Identification Code (PIC) is a unique identifier issued by state and territory government to identify property keeping livestock. PICs are assigned to individual properties by Local Land Services in NSW and by the department of primary industries or equivalent in other states. Contact details can be found in the drop down boxes above.