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58th ICoMST
MONTRÉAL CANADA 2012
International Congress of Meat Science and Technology

Traceability system for slaughter of unmarked pigs

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Objectives

To establish a full proof IT and traceability solution, by which unmarked pigs (without slap mark totoo) can be delivered from a farm in full truck loads, and kept in an intact group from farm collection until they are identified by RF-ID tags on the killing and slaughter line.

Materials and methods

Untill recently tatoo slap marking of Danish pigs delivery was the main marking method for slaughter pigs according to EU directive 2008/71.
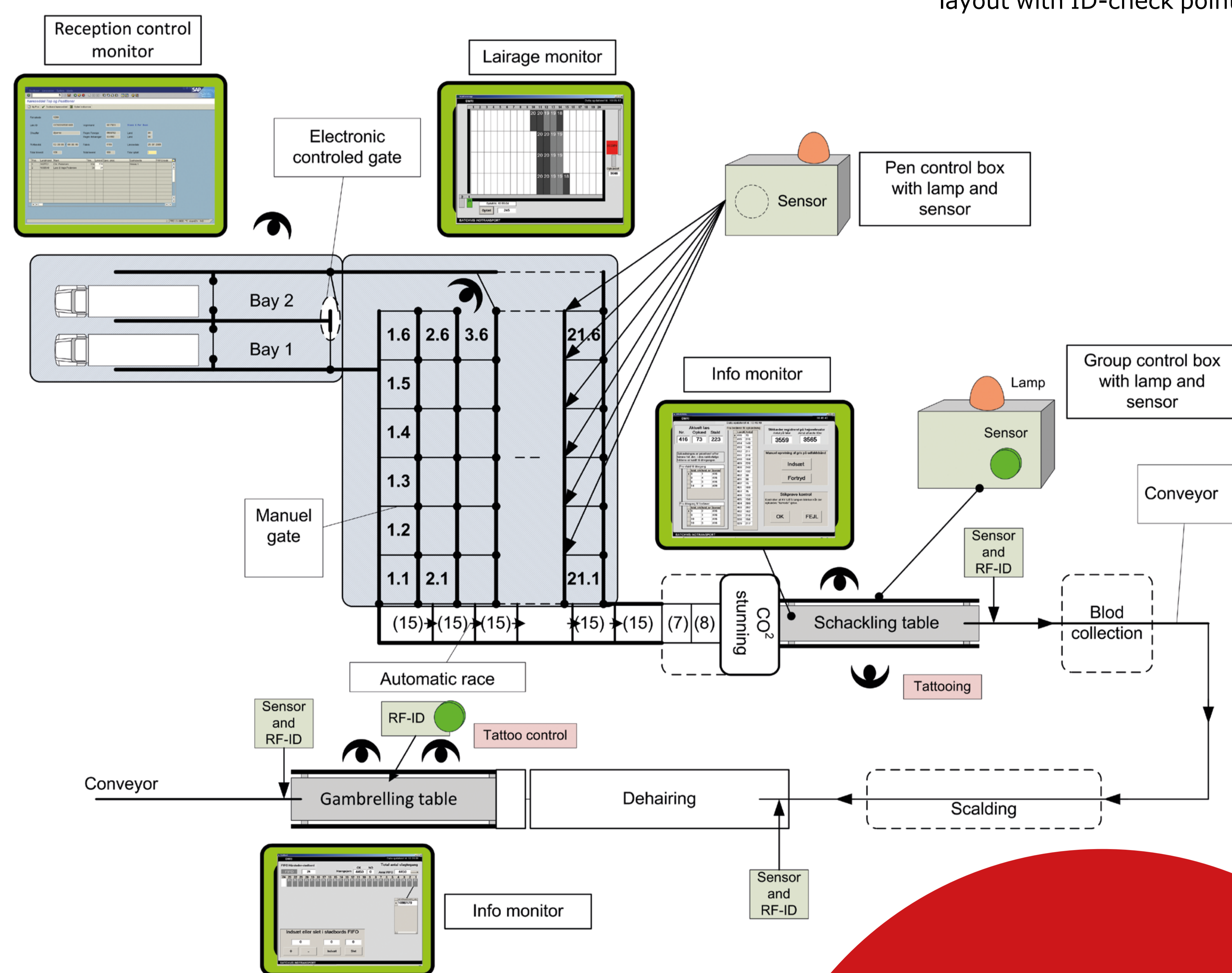
With the new IT solution and Danish order 1078 of 28th November 2011 it is possible for farmers to deliver unmarked pigs which is less stressfull.

The full system requires:
• Approved farms
• GPS monitored trucks
• Approved slaughterhouse
• IT systems in unloading area, lairage and different slaughter line segments untill pigs are on RF ID schackles/gambrels
• Trained staff and own check system
• Fall back procedures for all proces steps

Results

▼ **Figure 1.** Slaughterhouse system layout with ID-check points

Conclusion

• Approved IT and traceability system is in daily use for delivery of pigs without marking
• The system maintains traceability but requires own check systems, trained operators and management focus
• Resources are saved with less stress at the farm, with a marginal extra cost at the slaughterhouse