



“After a 6 month pilot...we fully implemented the technology for all of our locations.”



Read what **Dr. Karine Talbot, Hylife Ltd.** says about Farm Health Guardian in the 2023 Allen D. Leman Swine Conference Proceedings.

[Click here to read full conference proceedings.](#)

As many other things we now do in our production system, it seems a lot started due to PEDV... We have always done a certain level of disease outbreak investigation; however, disease outbreaks were a rare occurrence and would not spread further than a few barns, usually from the same flow... This changed significantly when PEDV entered our system in 2017, again in 2019 and more recently in 2021-22.

Disease outbreak investigation requires time, effort, and to obtain as much accurate information as possible! These are three things we rarely have during a large-scale outbreak... We knew we had to do investigations much faster, not only to learn from our mistakes and how PEDV was entering the barns, but most importantly to prevent the next outbreak by stopping the spread and implementing proper biocontainment in farms at risk.

After a 6-month pilot project trying a geofencing and biosecurity software (Farm Health Guardian), we fully implemented the technology in spring of 2022 for all

our locations (farms, feed mills, wash bays, slaughter plant, etc.) and enrolled our equipment and people; and that has been an incredible journey for our biosecurity and biocontainment. But what is a geofencing software and what does it do? A geofence is a virtual fence around a property. In this case, the software records movement of registered devices (ex: GPS in vehicles, a smartphone with the software app, etc.). The software then allows people with a certain level of user access to see who visited their sites and run various reports, including trace-in / trace-out reports and maps.

For us, the implementation of this software drastically helped to get accurate and timely contact tracing during disease outbreaks (from hours to minutes!);

increases employee engagement by giving them a sense of ownership and knowledge about who is at their site; gives us a tool to easily practice, train and audit disease outbreak scenarios using real data; gives us a visual tool to biosecurity processes and breaches; and it greatly improves our communication of an outbreak or barn under biocontainment (ex: phone banner).

The original objective of implementing this software in our production system was to help us with outbreak investigation and trace-in and out. But the use of this software has offered us so much more!

Our biosecurity downtime chart is now included, and people can easily access it and quickly find how much downtime is required to visit sites. The app will “deny” people entry to certain site if they do not have the proper downtime (and send an alert to the vet team); the app provides a very useful map of all our sites (only available with proper user access); we can now add certain “rules” to only access certain sites (for example, specific truck can be allocated to high health sites and an alert is sent if they are detected on a site not listed as “approved”), and so much more!

BOOST YOUR BIOSECURITY WITH FARM HEALTH GUARDIAN

Contact us to learn more.