

PROJECT TITLE

Australian Meat Processor Global Technology adoption awareness – Plant visits and IFFA 2019 in Europe

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Project Description

The Australian meat industry has been progressive in developing strategies for the adoption of new automation. The AMPC has supported this project to support the Processors to become updated with international developments. The initiative, as a global technology awareness (GTA) activity has supported the industry by inviting participation at senior levels to take part in an international tour of operating plants in Europe and attend focused presentations of relevant technologies visiting leading international companies, exhibiting at IFFA 2019. BMC has been engaged to execute the project, establishing a programme of visits based on its international Food Automation networks. The programme for the tour has also been established based on overall requirements of the individuals participating from the organisations that responded to the AMPC Expression of Interest. Independent and self-funded participation was also facilitated by the project.

During 2018, BMC concluded a project relating to the management of change (AMPC Project 2018-1112). As an accompanying action, this AMPC project was proposed to invite processing companies to participate in a tour involving attendance at IFFA and visits to international companies in Europe.

The preparation of the tour included direct communication with and consideration of each Processors expectations in advance of the detailed planning.

Project Content

At the start of the project, Processors were invited to take part on the tour on the AMPC Expression of Interest Portal. The AMPC project funding supported one candidate from each organisation and, BMC has been able to include other participants at a reduced rate, taking advantage of the economies of scale, with approval of AMPC on a case by case basis. The Processors that took part included:

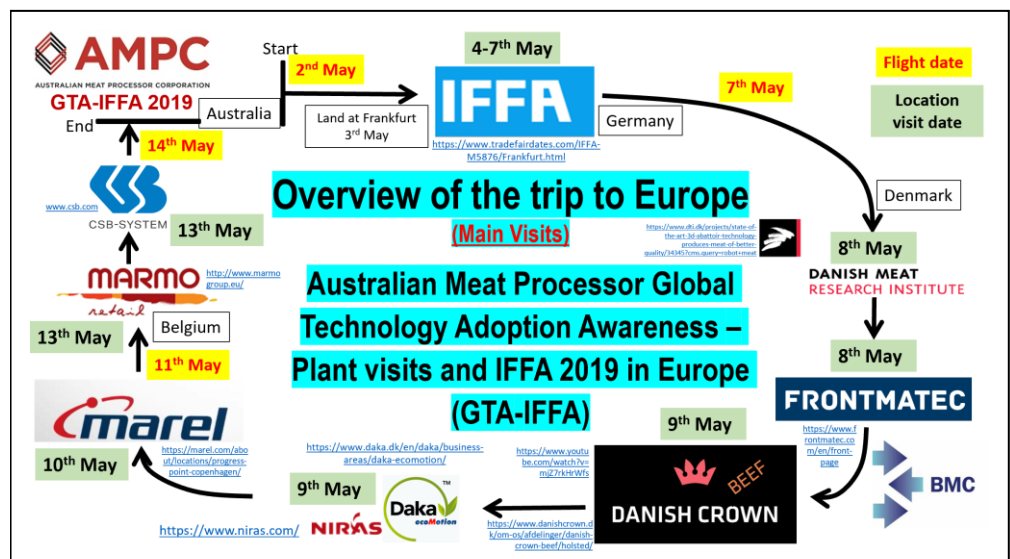
B.E Campbell
Bindaree Beef
Fletcher International
G. A. Gathercole
Gundagai Meat Processors
JBS Australia

Kilcoy Pastoral Company
 Northern Co-Operative Meat Company (NCMC)
 Teys Australia
 Thomas Foods International (TFI)
 V&V Walsh Meat Processors & Exporters

University of Southern Queensland (USQ), currently in the process of establishing a meat automation laboratory in support of the red meat sector in Australia, participated on the full tour with representatives from the Centre for Agricultural Engineering, funded by the University.

Project outcome

The tour overview as concluded is given below:



Benefit for Industry and recommendations

The feedback from the tour is summarised below.



Overall Technical Content	85%
Overall: Planning and Organisation	88%
Overall: Accommodation & beverage	86%
Overall: Travel and transfers	89%
Likelihood of participating in a similar future AMPC tour	92%

AMPC Project 2019-1013 GTA and IFFA Tour	
The scores are averages of the participants figures that were provided	%
Process to apply to be on the tour if applicable	84
<i>General arrangements: exhibition information, tickets, etc</i>	88
<i>Flights overall</i>	85
<i>Hotels overall</i>	84
<i>Food and restaurants overall</i>	88
Overall 5th May AMPC - MLA session and workshop	77
6th May 10 AM session at Frontmatec	63
Visit to DMRI 8th May 2019 morning	88
Visit to Frontmatec 8th May 2019 afternoon	74
Visit to DC Holsted 9th May 2019 morning	88
Visit to EcoMotion 9th May 2019 afternoon	74
Visit to NIRAS 9th May 2019 afternoon	81
Visit to Marel 10th May	97
Visit to Marmo - 13th May 2019 morning	89
Visit to CSB 13th May 2019 afternoon	90

The tour achieved all its objectives and provided a balanced overview of the different topics of interest to the Processors.

It is recommended that in 2020 a similar tour, focusing on developed technologies and plants that are using them around the world is planned for a focused group of participants from the Australian red meat sector.