

AUS-MEAT INDUSTRY INFORMATION

AUS-MEAT ACCREDITATION – ABATTOIRS / BONING ROOMS

AUS-MEAT Limited is an industry owned company operating as a joint venture between Meat & Livestock Australia (MLA) and the Australian Meat Processor Corporation (AMPC). AUS-MEAT runs efficient, disciplined business practices operating under internationally recognised ISO 9001 Quality Management Systems.

AUS-MEAT Accreditation – Why?

Under the *Australian Meat and Live-Stock Industry Act 1997* all Export Abattoirs and Export Boning Rooms must hold AUS-MEAT Accreditation. Domestic Abattoirs and Boning Rooms licensed by State Regulatory authorities may consider AUS-MEAT accreditation as this will add some value to their operation and in some cases provide access to Tender procurement. Domestic operations voluntarily accept the requirements (and benefits) of being AUS-MEAT Accredited.

AUS-MEAT Limited is cited as the 'Standards Body' responsible for setting standards for meat for export under Regulation 3 (1) of the Australian Meat and Livestock Industry (Export Licensing) Regulations 1998. A Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) confirms the arrangements between The Department of Agriculture and AUS-MEAT for the verification of trade description requirements under the *Export Control Act 1982* and the *Export Control (Meat and Meat Products) Orders 2005* (Orders).

The principal objectives of AUS-MEAT relevant to this Memorandum are the management of Industry Standards for trade description through the Australian Meat Industry Classification System (AUS-MEAT Language) and the AUS-MEAT National Accreditation Standards for AUS-MEAT Accredited Enterprises. The National Accreditation Standards are designed to protect the integrity of the AUS-MEAT Language and the interests of the Australian Industry in relation to the sale, distribution and export of Australian Meat and the reputation of AUS-MEAT Limited.

Use of the AUS-MEAT Language

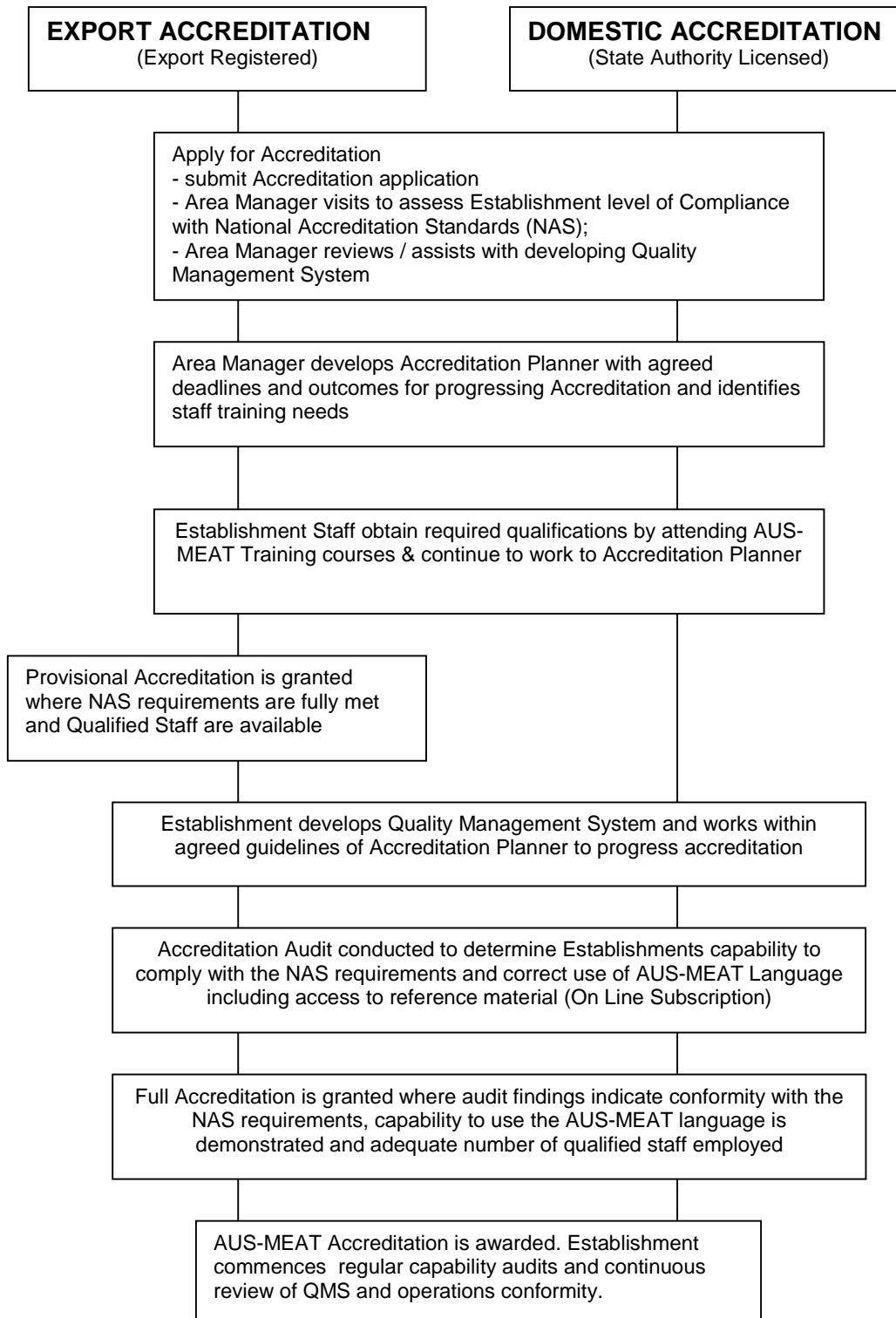
The AUS-MEAT Language is a common language which uses objective descriptions to describe meat products accurately to meet market requirements both nationally and internationally. A trade description that conforms to the AUS-MEAT Language is taken to be accurate for the purposes of compliance with export legislation and the AUS-MEAT Approved Quality System forms the trade description component of a registered establishment's Approved Arrangement with The Department of Agriculture.

Quality Management System and Qualified Personnel

Abattoirs / Boning Rooms wishing to be accredited by AUS-MEAT must implement an AUS-MEAT approved quality management system designed to ensure consistency of quality and accurate product description. Training is an integral part of AUS-MEAT Accreditation and AUS-MEAT Training services are provided to facilitate compliance with industry standards and ensure trained personnel implement the correct use of the AUS-MEAT Language and that accurate product description terminology is applied to all meat products.

AUS-MEAT's status as a Registered Training Organisation (RTO) ensures Training courses comply with Training and Assessment Standards under the Australian Quality Training Framework (AQTF).

AUS-MEAT Accreditation Process



Further Information