



## Confinement Barn Safety Building and Equipment

A safe confinement operation starts with a properly constructed building and well-maintained equipment. It's also essential to use monitoring devices, such as temperature sensors, that can notify the owner when there's an emergency or when equipment isn't functioning properly.

### Maintenance

When planning for maintenance of the building and equipment, include the following tasks:

#### **Complete periodic inspections and maintenance of electrical equipment.**

This will help ensure that vital power sources are functioning and available for your operation.

#### **Use contracted professionals to perform annual service work on the backup generator.**

The backup generator is vital for ensuring that agitation systems can function and animals will have proper ventilation during power outages.

#### **Ensure ventilation systems are properly maintained.**

A ventilation system malfunction can result in severe animal stress or death, particularly on hot, still days when no natural drafts occur to replace the air in animal areas.

#### **Frequently check anchor points, chains and gas lines on heaters.**

Carbon monoxide can rise to toxic levels when heating units malfunction or are not properly maintained. Check heaters often to make sure that they're in good condition and the associated gas lines are securely attached to prevent potential accidents, injuries or fires.

#### **Perform periodic inspections of gusset plates on trusses.**

The presence of corrosive gasses in the confinement building will contribute to the corrosion and weakening of gusset plates. Regular inspections will assist in identifying gusset plates in need of repair or replacement.



## Other Safety Considerations

**Contact your local fire department to allow them to become familiar with your operation, facility and buildings.**

This will help the fire department respond more efficiently in the event of a fire or other emergency.

**Create a data sheet with the type of flooring (e.g., plastic, concrete, metal), depth of pits and generator location. Also include signage indicating generator fuel storage.**

This information is very helpful for the fire department and others who may need to step in during an emergency.

**Use brooder anchors and check them regularly.**

If brooders are used for temporary heating, it's important to secure the heat lamps in multiple locations to ensure that they won't come into contact with a flammable surface in the event of failure.

The material provided in this document is for general information purposes only. Nothing in this document should be construed as legal advice or the provision of professional consulting services. Reasonable care has been utilized to compile this information. However, no warranty or representation is made regarding the accuracy or completeness of the information. Distribution of this information does not constitute an assumption by us of your obligations to provide a safe workplace. We make no representation or warranty that our activities or recommendations will place you in compliance with law, relieve you of potential liability or ensure your premises or operations are safe. We exercise no control over your premises or operations and have no responsibility or authority to implement loss prevention practices or procedures. Maintaining a safe workplace in accordance with all laws is your responsibility.