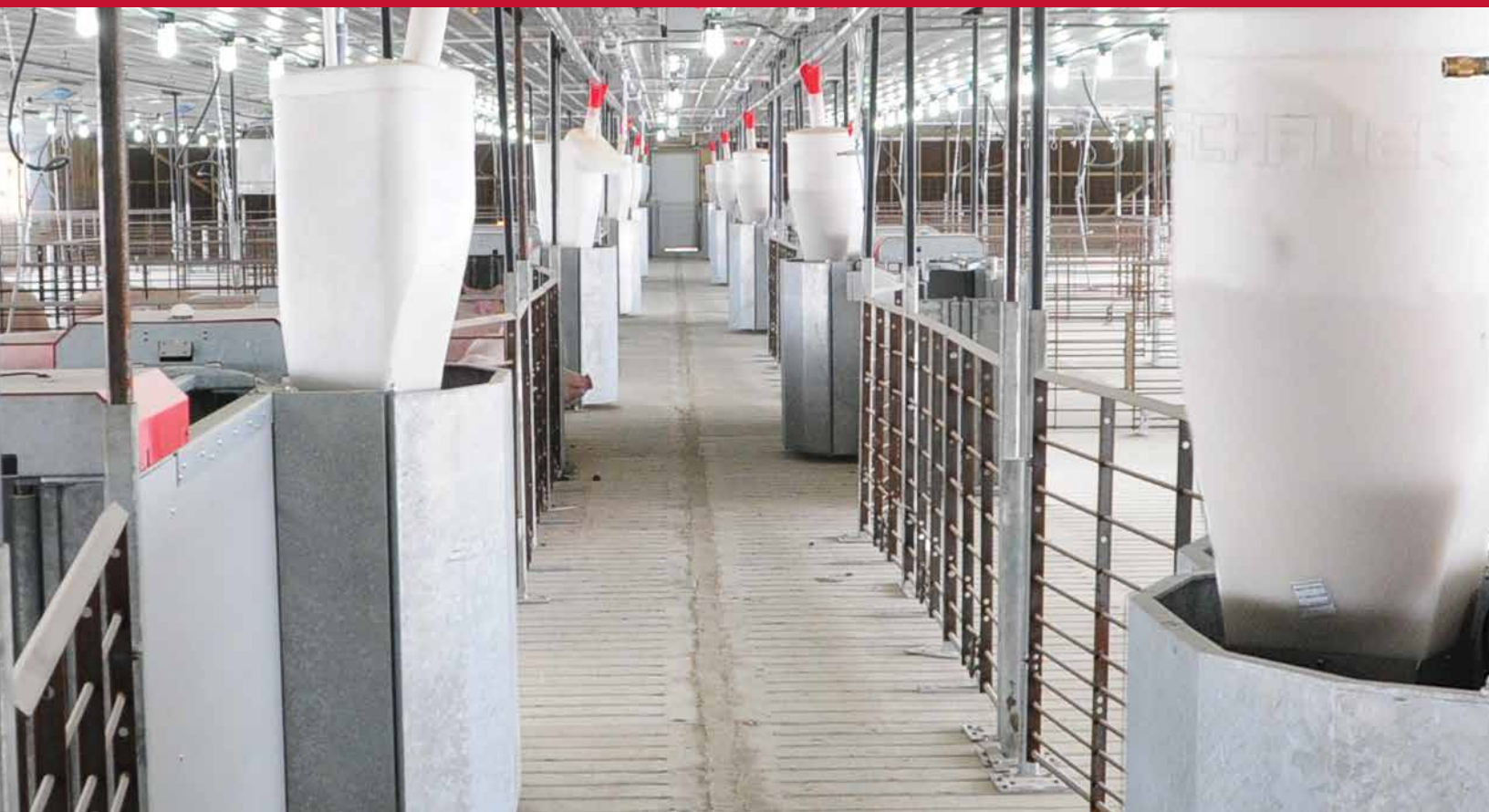




COMPIDENT SOW MANAGEMENT

# ELECTRONIC SOW FEEDING



# ELECTRONIC SOW FEEDING

## AP and Schauer Partner

AP and Schauer have partnered to bring you Electronic Sow Feeding - the better way to feed sows. With a variety of new management options that target vaccination, heat detection, reproductive efficiency, nutritional supplementation and animal movement, ESF is a versatile staple for any operation. Whether a single feeder operation, 10,000 sow farm, or any size in between, AP ESF can be customized to meet your needs.

- Schauer is the world's leading manufacturer of ESF systems
- Thousands of units currently in use around the world
- Expertise in system design and technical support
- New TOPO: user-friendly computer interface system
- Hand-held units enable paperless barn management
- Feeds up to 80 sows per Compident ESF unit
- Straight-ahead exit and retractable feed bowl maximize animal throughput



### YOUR DEDICATED TEAM

With the experience of feeding more than 150,000 sows on 60 different farms, AP has a dedicated team that works solely with the ESF system to provide technical support and training to assist your employees in the transition from crates to pen gestation.

## TOPO: COMPIDENT SOW FEEDING SOFTWARE AND HARDWARE

The TOPO Windows CE based system is straightforward and intuitive. Its displays provide a clear overview of the feed strategy and current status. External data backup is easy with the use of a USB stick. As with previous models, a backup battery ensures that data is stored reliably in the event of a power outage. The key data and input menus link up to Pig Manager Mobile, offering a "paperless" sow and feeding management system.

### Discon/Telecon Remote Operators

- Manual control of all feed station functions
- Local adjustment of station feeding parameters, such as calibration, timings, and activation of sensors
- Current event status of station
- Transponder test mode
- Diagnostic tool



### Pig Manager Mobile IV

- Feed Management software that runs on either commercially available PDAs or a specialized heavy-duty hand-held device with RFID reader
- Interfaces with Compident controlling software
- Compatible with other applications and management software



PSION HAND HELD UNIT



TOPO UNIT



DISCON/TELECON



RFID TAG (RADIO FREQUENCY IDENTIFICATION)



The TOPO system, combined with Pig Manager IV mobile units, promotes "paperless barn management".



# ELECTRONIC SOW FEEDING

## TOPO: COMPIDENT SOW FEEDING DISPLAY

Point and click navigation makes the TOPO system a simple yet technologically advanced pig management solution. TOPO provides a clear overview of the feed strategy and current feeding status.



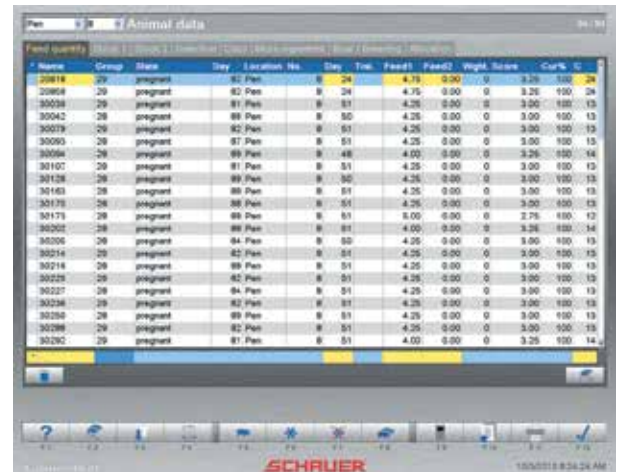
### HOME SCREEN

Shows status of feeders, number of sows per pen and current activity in the feeder



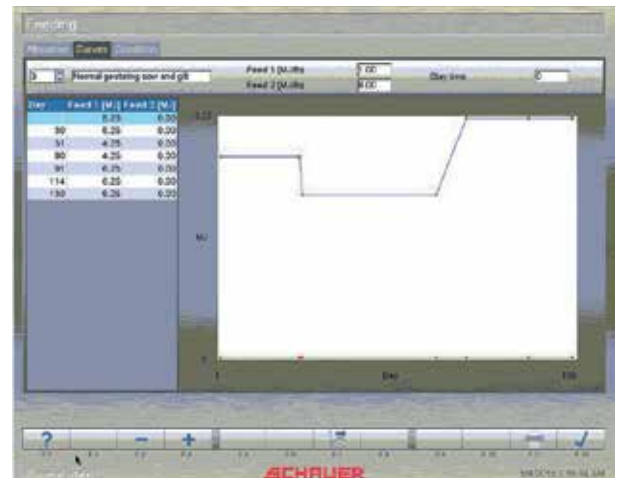
### DAILY FEEDER ACTIVITY

Shows when the feeders are feeding sows during the feeding period



### SOW HERD DATA

Shows data on status, feed curve, body condition score, pen number, and daily feed quantity



### FEED CURVE MANAGEMENT

The correct amount of feed for an individual sow throughout pregnancy



### FEEDER USAGE HISTORY

Shows number of sows visiting each feeder



*The Compident ESF system manages the daily feed allowances of each sow with computer controlled supplementation options.*



### FEEDING STATION FUNCTIONALITY

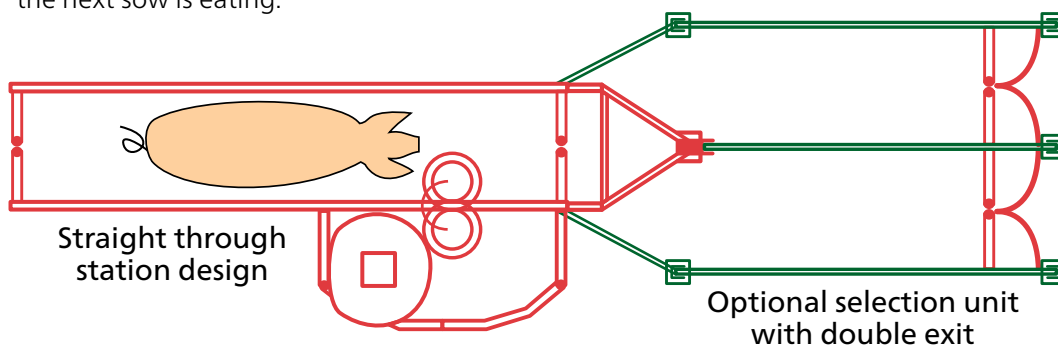
- Feed station recognizes sow through RFID tag
- Trough extends if sow has not consumed daily allowance
- Feed is mixed with water to improve palatability and allow sows to eat more efficiently
- Micro-doser allows for computer control supplementation of diets
- Sow can enter station even after she has eaten; therefore no negative reinforcement is displayed
- Station can be programmed to sort animals based on production criteria
- Up to two different color marking options available
- Extremely durable feeder with years of proven reliability
- Superior feeder design allows up to 80 sows to be fed per day per feeder
- Exit chutes allow timid sows to time their exit while the next sow is eating.

### COMPIDENT TRAINING STATION

- Specialized feeder built to the dimensions of a gilt
- Training mode accommodates learning of naive animals
- Available for training of replacement gilts
- Compident trainee allows developing gilts to familiarize themselves with the basics of ESF

### HEAT DETECTION

- Boar station records females interest in the boar
- Aids in identifying females in estrus



# ELECTRONIC SOW FEEDING

## Simple Design, Easy Maintenance

Keeping it simple and convenient for the user and the animal has advantages in cost savings and reduced stress. From technologically advanced control to easy access designs, the AP ESF is an easy choice.



SYSTEM LIGHT PROVIDES AN EASY VISUAL OF OPERATION



COLOR CODING (2 PER FEED STATION)



SWIVEL TROUGH



SWIVEL TROUGH FEEDING POSITION







*With optional double exit gates, stations can be programmed to sort animals based on production criteria.*



DURABLE PVC HOPPERS



STANDARD EXIT GATE



OPTIONAL DOUBLE  
EXIT GATES



OPTIONAL PNEUMATIC  
FEED DISPENSER



# Barn Design and Animal Flow

The AP/Schauer team has experience with a variety of pen housing options from total slatted confinement barns, to partially slatted sow barns, to deep bedded barns to extensive pasture-based systems.

The ESF system is totally flexible in its implementation and readily applicable to retrofitting existing facilities. Our expert team will provide concept designs for your ESF initiatives that include recommendations on pen size, shape and detail to help minimize the untoward effects of social hierarchy in group housing. We will also meet with your management to help identify the best combination of animal flow and grouping strategies that promise maximum productivity and ease of use (e.g. static vs. dynamic or pre- vs. post-implantation crating). There is no substitute for success as over 50,000 sows are being fed by Compident ESF stations in AP Schauer designed pen gestation barns across the US.

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### GROUP FORMATION

#### Pre-Implantation

Sows are crated after weaning and bred in the stalls. Groups are constituted as soon as animals are out of standing heat. This spares sows the potential of injury if they were allowed to ride each other while in heat. Fertilized eggs are still free floating as they migrate down the fallopian tubes into the uterus prior to the onset of implantation. Any physical skirmishes that might be expected during the formation of a new group do not negatively impact the free floating embryos prior to implantation. This also minimizes the number of gestation stalls in the barn which can be important to markets concerned about animal welfare. It also allows for the most nutritionally challenged animals in the herd, those coming from farrowing to get maximum exposure to the best nutritional tool we have to feed sows, the ESF station. Herd productivity as good or better than gestation stalls can be achieved with this system.



#### Post-Implantation

Sows are crated after weaning and bred. Groups are constituted only after being confirmed pregnant between 28 and 35 days post-breeding. Implantation is complete before mixing sows and thus pregnancy loss associated with the establishment of social hierarchy during implantation is avoided. This approach most resembles the basic reproductive management of a sow herd housed in crates. Certain routines such as heat check and pregnancy check are not changed in a post implantation barn therefore less training may be required of farm personnel. Once sows are confirmed pregnant fallout is minimized and space utilization is easier to manage.



**"Let the Experts at AP and Schauer assist you in designing a system ideally suited to your facilities, animal flow and management style."**





## Group Structures

The AP/Schauer team has experience with a variety of pen housing options from total slatted confinement barns, to partially slatted sow barns, to deep bedded barns to extensive pasture-based systems.

### STATIC GROUPS

Group is constituted once, social hierarchy stabilizes, and the group is left intact for the duration of gestation. The goal would be to have one weeks breeding or a fraction of that weeks breeding in a larger sow unit be used to constitute a static group. The approach has the advantage that the breeding group stays physically in tact much as it would in a crated facility. However, static groups can create challenges in space utilization which can result in increased facility cost or decreased sow inventory. Static groups are an “all in / all out” system that requires additional barn spaces in reserve to allow for animal movement. In reality, very few gestation groups are truly static as some sows will drop out due to loss pregnancy, injury or death. This leads to suboptimal utilization of pen space by the end of the gestation period because sows removed from the group cannot be replaced. Alternatively, one can attempt to anticipate this fall out by over stocking the pen initially which can result in a less than ideal per sow space allotment.

### DYNAMIC GROUPS

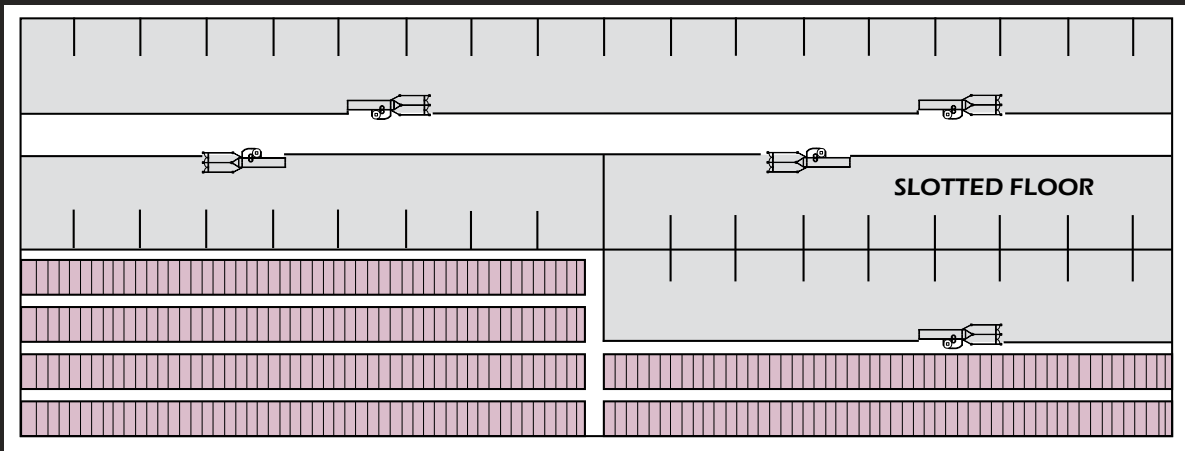
Group constituency is constantly changing. Dynamic groups are essentially a “continuous flow” system which allows space utilization to be optimized in each pen. Weekly breeding groups are subdivided with animals being introduced into a number of different pens optimizing the space utilization in each pen. This approach works well with large group sizes and can also be used to optimize feed station utilization in sow units with smaller breeding groups. Social disruption and associated fighting is minimal in large groups and any repeat breeders can simply be re-bred and left in the same pen. It is not necessary to maintain the integrity of the breeding group because the computer system will track the location and monitor the status of animals regardless of their location. The feeding station can be used to sort or mark the sows for scheduled management activities as a group regardless of which pen the sows are located in. The flexibility in animal movement and the ability to achieve optimum space utilization in all pens makes dynamic groups an attractive solution for many herds.



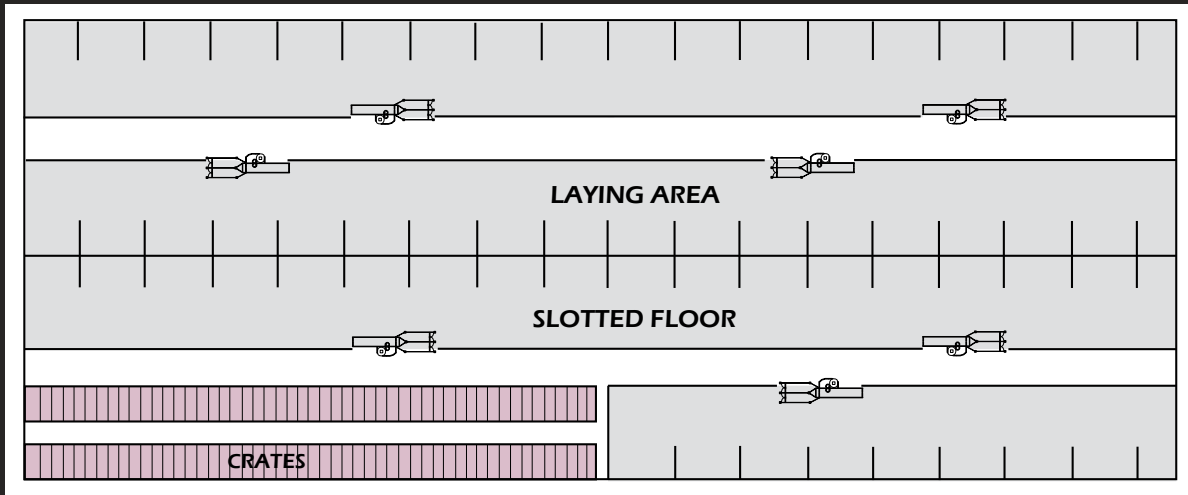
Positioning Compident ESF stations on walkways simplifies sow introduction and registration and provides access to the units for service.



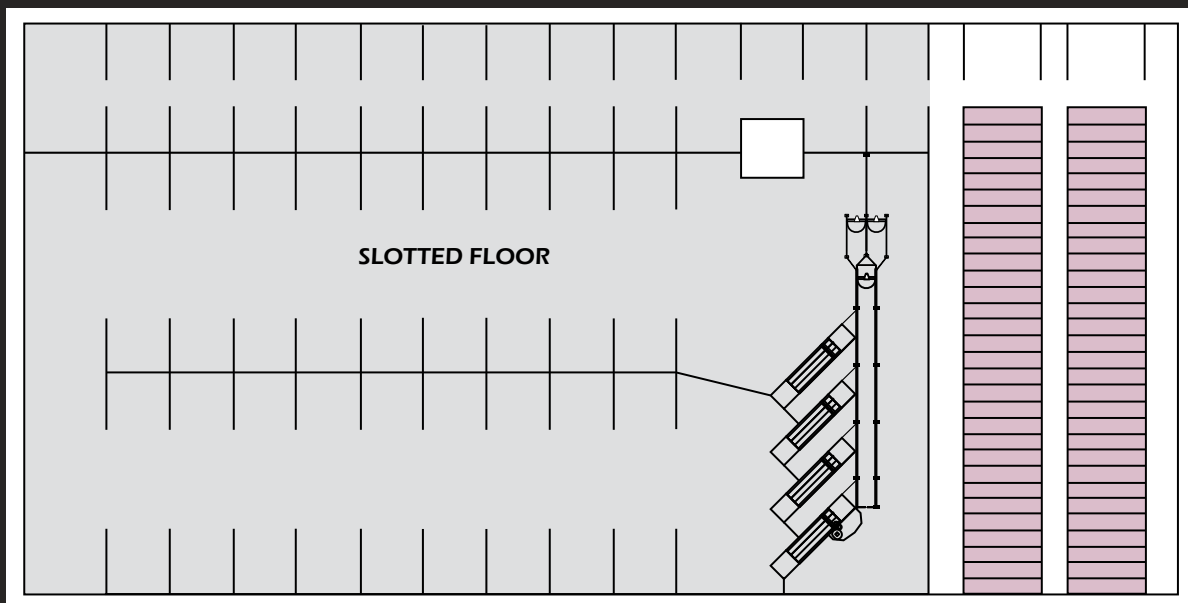
Laying areas divided by partitions provide sow comfort and protection, decreasing aggression and promoting a stable group hierarchy.



Typical post-implantation layout with static groups



Typical pre-implantation layout with large dynamic groups  
(Shown with solid sleeping areas)



Optional layout for large dynamic groups



# PROVEN & DEPENDABLE™

In today's competitive market place, it is essential to maximize the efficiency and performance of your swine production facilities. AP is the industry leader in the manufacture of proven and dependable swine production equipment designed to help you meet these goals.

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The Experts at AP are ready to assist you in implementing the latest technologies in monitoring, feeding, ventilation and housing backed by industry leading warranty, service and technical support.

Automated Production Systems is a division of the GSI Group, LLC. a world class manufacturer of grain storage, drying and handling equipment, poultry production equipment, and swine production equipment based in Assumption, IL. The main manufacturing of swine equipment is centralized in Taylorville, IL with other manufacturing and warehouse facilities located in Africa, Brasil, Canada, China, Malaysia and Mexico.



AP Manufacturing Plant  
Taylorville, Illinois USA

Schauer Agtronics of Prambachkirchen, Austria has over 30 years of experience in the engineering, manufacturing and support of electronic feeding systems for gestating sows. Schauer is the world leader in ESF with thousands of units currently in use

around the globe. Schauer's "Compident" line of electronic sow feeding systems provides software and hardware systems refined by experience to provide reliability and performance.



Schauer Manufacturing Plant  
Prambachkirchen, Austria



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