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EQUIPASS TO REDEFINE HORSE IDENTIFICATION, BIOSECURITY, AND GLOBAL MOBILITY

At its General Assembly Sessions Day in Hong Kong, China, the FEI introduced *Equipass*, the first digital passport of its kind for horses, designed to centralise essential information and integrate seamlessly with existing systems.

• The Digital Passport: A global solution for equine identification, biosecurity & traceability

Created to address the equestrian industry's pressing need for accurate health records, regulatory compliance, and improved disease control, *Equipass* marks a decisive step toward a secure, efficient, and fully connected system for horse sport. By streamlining documentation and ensuring verification, it also facilitates the smooth and safe international movement of horses, reducing administrative complexities while strengthening biosecurity across borders.

Equipass complements the physical passport by providing a single, accessible platform for a horse's identification, medical history, vaccination records, location, and travel documentation.

The system allows owners, athletes, grooms, veterinarians, officials and authorities to access all essential data in one app, making it easier and faster to manage multiple horses, track vaccinations, and handle cross-border travel, while keeping the information secure and readily available.

Equipass was developed by the FEI Veterinary and Technology Operations departments as part of a public-private partnership with the World Organisation for Animal Health (WOAH), following an International Horse Sport Confederation (IHSC) agreement that tasked the FEI with creating the tool.

"Equipass represents a milestone for our sport, combining technological innovation, international reach, and multi-stakeholder collaboration in a way that has never been achieved before," FEI Veterinary Director Göran Akerström said.

"By consolidating critical information into a single digital platform, it streamlines logistics, strengthens biosecurity, and enhances equine welfare across the global community. Importantly, it also serves as a powerful safeguard against gene doping, reinforcing the integrity of horse sport at every level."

Another key feature of *Equipass* is that it draws automatically on existing FEI data from multiple sources, so owners do not need to recreate records. This eliminates duplicate entries and ensures consistency across systems. By streamlining data management and providing accurate, up-to-date information, *Equipass* makes adoption simple and reliable for owners, athletes, grooms, vets, and officials alike.

"This is the first platform of its kind to integrate horse identification, health records, vaccination tracking, travel documentation, and microchip scanning in a single, unified system, for lifetime traceability," FEI Director of Technology Operations Gaspard Dufour said.

"Equipass gives every horse a verifiable digital identity, simplifying cross-border movement and supporting the increasingly stringent biosecurity requirements we face today. We are particularly proud of the thermal microchip scanning, which allows simultaneous verification of identity, location, and body temperature — a first in equestrian sport, with huge potential for automated biosecurity monitoring and real-time welfare oversight. "This project is a perfect example of technical expertise meeting the real-world demands of the equestrian industry, all in the service of improving the welfare of horses worldwide. With multi-device access and real-time updates, *Equipass* is both practical and scalable. This is a tool that we believe will make a genuine difference for everyone who works with horses."

Equipass will be introduced in three stages:

- Phase 1 (Release date: 26 January 2026): mobile app and administration tools for all FEI-registered horses.
- Phase 2 (End 2027 / Early 2028): Expansion to national horse populations, with the integration of interested National Federations.
- **Phase 3:** Opening of the system to interested studbooks and other stakeholders, with potential partnership and revenue-sharing models.

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