

4 September 2014

AWEX to trial Buyer Code masking

The Australian Wool Exchange (AWEX) Board has approved a 6-month trial to selectively mask buyer code details from AWEX viewing and data services.

During the trial period the buyer code will only be visible to a:

- a. Seller – on lots offered in their catalogue (if a seller subscriber), and to a
- b. Buyer – if the last bidder on a lot (if a buyer subscriber)

This trial is applicable only to data and viewer subscribers via AWEX Services – AWEX Online and e2. The trial does not apply to data requested from the EDI Network or the sale room display boards.

Some buyers had expressed concern that detailed auction results, including buyer code, is readily accessible in the wider wool industry. Buyers regard the buyer code as commercially sensitive information that should only be available to the seller and buyer of each lot in the sale room.

The issue had been brought to the attention of the AWEX Board by AWEX Members and the Board immediately agreed to conduct a survey to receive firsthand feedback on the extent of the concerns and where the information was being used/accessed. The survey results indicated a range of views amongst members and not all members held the same level of concern about the access of data.

In considering the results of the survey, the AWEX Board has agreed to conduct a trial by making modifications to AWEX Online and e2 viewer services to ensure that only the seller and buyer of each lot have access to the buyer code through AWEX services.

Approval for the modifications has been given and AWEX is currently working with the software supplier to ensure that the trial can commence as soon as possible.

At the conclusion of the trial AWEX Members will again be surveyed to assess the impact of the trial. The trial results will be tabled for the consideration of the AWEX Board.

Further details of the trial will be announced closer to the date.

AWEX and the AWEX Board are committed to Members and improving services to the Australian wool industry.

For further information contact:

Mark Grave, AWEX CEO p: 02 9428 6100 e: mgrave@awex.com.au