



National Agricultural Traceability Grants Program – Regulatory Technology Research and Insights Grant Round: Venturenauts Pty Ltd grantee summary

This summary was prepared by Peter McKenna, Co-CEO of Venturenauts Pty Ltd. Venturenauts, in partnership with Smart Trade Networks, gratefully acknowledges the support of the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry throughout this project. The consortium stays committed to advancing research and innovation in digital supply chains, recognising it as a vital pathway to enhancing Australia's resilience and global trade competitiveness.

Project outcome summary

Halal markets are amongst the fastest growing consumer markets in the world, creating enormous opportunities for Australian businesses along global supply chains.

The agricultural sector faces growing demand for halal certification, digital processes, and stronger food safety standards, along with a focus on the authenticity of halal certificates and expanding market access for Australian businesses.

Australian company Venturenauts and tech partner Smart Trade Networks led the Halal Beef Traceability Pilot Project funded under the National Agriculture Traceability Regulatory Technology Research and Insights Grant program.

The project trialled the use of a proven blockchain traceability platform to facilitate sharing and tracking of halal certificates within the beef export supply chain by embedding halal certificates into the traceability system, with real-time verification using digital tokens and QR code scanning capabilities.

The trial complemented the Australian Government's certification processes, providing a business-to-business (B2B) service following certificate issuance (by halal certifiers) and government certification processes. A halal industry advisory group supported the project to ensure key supply chain stakeholders informed and guided the trial.

Outcomes

<u>Halal Secure</u> is a digital platform that connects stakeholders in the halal beef export supply chain. It integrates and streamlines B2B halal beef export processes and documentation, enabling faster, more competitive and reliable supply chains.

Designed for processors, certifiers, exporters and importers, Halal Secure aims to save time, reduce costs, and help future-proof business in adapting to evolving global markets.

The platform is intuitive and user friendly to stakeholders in the process, increasing the likelihood of future adoption of a commercial platform. It delivers savings of up to 80%, faster transactions, instant notifications, different user permissions, secure data sharing and digital documentation. Digital solutions future proofs business in an increasingly global digital world.

Halal Secure is a practical, innovative, industry-focused solution that supports export consignment processes by reducing paperwork and improving efficiency to meet evolving market requirements. It

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links the halal certification and consignment management systems, sharing and tracking documents with relevant stakeholders along the supply chain.

Development of the digital platform leveraged industry knowledge, including a team of halal industry advisors – processors, exporters, halal certifiers, etc – who are experts in this field.

What industry says

'Faster processing and approval of consignment documents results in faster payment, which is so important to our company's global competitiveness when dealing with consignments that are worth millions of dollars. Halal Secure will help us achieve that.' (Australian Halal Beef Exporter 1)

'The reduction in time and steps to finalise the halal certification process through Halal Secure will transform our supply chain. We can be faster, more transparent, and compliant with global halal standards.' (Australian Halal Beef Exporter 2)

'We have been involved in the development and testing of Halal Secure and think it is essential to future-proofing the Australian halal beef industry.' (Australian Halal Certifier 1)

'More and more people want proof that products are genuinely halal and halal certificates are authentic, and this platform helps make that process straightforward. The traceability features, like timestamps, unique user access and secure data sharing are a great step forward for global halal certification.' (Halal Certification Director)

Halal certifiers and industry experts confirm that Halal Secure can be similarly used in the global export of different Australian halal products and sharing and tracking of different Australian product credentials along global supply chains.

Reflecting on the project's significance, Peter McKenna, Co-CEO of Venturenauts stated that "Digital traceability isn't just about technology – it's about building trust, transparency and global competitiveness into every step of our supply chains."

Acknowledgement of Country

We acknowledge the continuous connection of First Nations Traditional Owners and Custodians to the lands, seas and waters of Australia. We recognise their care for and cultivation of Country. We pay respect to Elders past and present, and recognise their knowledge and contribution to the productivity, innovation and sustainability of Australia's agriculture, fisheries and forestry industries.

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