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Vaassen, November 13, the Netherlands

Ref. request

Sir, madam,

Heering is a body builder company, specialised in the construction of trucks for transport of day old chickens. My job as a poultry expert is innovation and development of the trucks, and sales support such as training of customers and presentations.

In the recent years I have made use of the research publications of the Prof. Mitchell and P. Kettlewell, whom I regard as experts in the field of animal transport, where poultry is obvious our main interest. The combination of technical expertise and skills and physiological background makes their achievements very useful for the industry. In 2011, we have organised a seminar in the UK, where Peter Kettlewell was an invited speaker. This has led to further contacts and a cooperation proposal for the development of an improved live bird trailer, with attention to climate control and improved animal welfare. The profit margins in this type of transport are limited, resulting in a standard for transport that is compromising meat quality and animal welfare, at least in the more difficult climate periods of the year. The previous research and development of a prototype trailer gives us the starting position to continue on a solid basis of research and proven practises. The reason our project is not yet further proceeded is due to several factors, but certainly not in the cooperation with the Scottish Agricultural College, more specific Prof. M. Mitchell. We hope to cooperate with him in the near future, and make use of his expertise.

Kind regards,

Heering BV


Gerrit van der Linde MSc,