

Lessons learned from running an online conference

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Overview

- Introduction
- Why have an online conference?
- Planning
- Administrative functions and challenges Fiona
- How the conference went
- Lessons learned and advice for others

Introduction

- Meat Retail Trainers Conference
 - Aimed at trainers delivering meat retail training
 - Annual event
 - Fluctuations in attendance
- For 2017 MINTRAC decided to make the Meat Retail Trainers Conference an online event

Why have an online conference?

- Cost factors
- Travel restrictions
- Exploring use of technology



Planning







Planning

- Research
- Proposal and budget
- Decide on a platform
- Develop program tailor it
- Practice, practice, practice
- Educate presenters
- Anticipate technical difficulties and try to resolve ahead of time
- Ask lots of questions
- Will it be recorded?



Administration

- Invitations
- Advertising
- Payments
- Speakers and delegate management
- Conference bags
- Overall communication



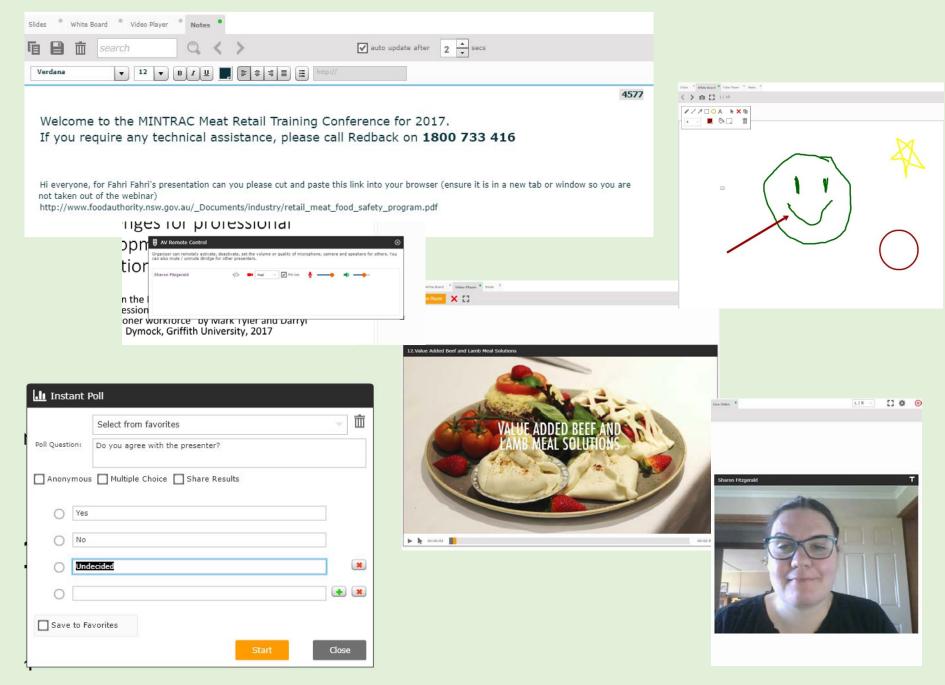
How did it go?



- Great!
- Some technical difficulties we expected this
- Great support from Redback Conferencing
- Small number of attendees 16
- Positive attitude of attendees
- Positive feedback







Providing highly-valued education and training products and services to the Australian meat industry

The program

MEAT RETAIL TRAINING CONFERENCE PROGRAM

9:30-10.00	Sharon Fitzgerald MINTRAC
Welcome and overview	The state of the s
10.00-11.00	Malcolm Bartlett and Dr Phillip Mitchell
	National Trade Measurement Institute
Trade measurement compliance	
Current regulatory requirements	
Review of national measurement legislation – guiding principles	and development of options
11.00-11.30	Paul Saunders
	Chisholm Institute
Overview of Australian VET Sector, new trends and development	its
11.30-12.00	Sharon Fitzgerald MINTRAC
Social media and the meat industry	
Uses for training and development	
Case studies	
How to avoid/deal with negative feedback on social media	
Review of Interesting apps for trainers and retailers	
12.00-12.30	Fahri Fahri,
	NSW Department of Primary Industries
Meat retail food safety compliance in NSW and how to maintain high rates of compliance	
12.30-1.00 BREAK FOR LUNCH	

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The program

1.00-1.15	Victorinox
Sponsor presentation	
1.15-1.45	Sharon Fitzgerald MINTRAC
Presentation and discussion	
• NCVER paper - Continuing professional development for a diverse VET practitioner workforce. Implications for trainers	
and assessors in the meat industry	
1.45-2.15	Jenny Kroonstuiver
	MINTRAC
 Using YouTube films to demonstrate skills – advantages and pitf 	alls
2.15-2.45	Rob Mollison
	Australian Meat Industry Council
 AMIC Adding Value to Meat Retailers Business, 	
Developing Better Business Owners	
2.45-3.00	Luke Moody
	Leabrook Quality Meats
Video presentation	
3.00-3.30	MINTRAC
Feedback, questions and answer opportunity. Closing remarks and thankyou	
CONFERENCE CLOSE	

What worked well?

- Conference bags kept something 'tangible' there
- Having most presenters in a central location MINTRAC office
- Planning ahead uploading presentations ahead of time
- MINTRAC support staff
- Length of presentations and types
- 'Bugging' Redback with constant questions beforehand



Lessons learned and advice for others

- Platform familiarity is key organisers especially, but presenters also
- Use a platform you are comfortable with, look at support provided
- Be prepared for some resistance
- Plan the program carefully and be prepared to adjust
- Encourage presenters to speak slowly and clearly online relies on voice
- Remember timezones!
- Expect issues, and remain calm

Acknowledgements

- 2017 Meat Retail Conference attendees and speakers
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