

PRESS RELEASE

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More than 1100 ISOBUS tests at AEF US Plugfest

With a total of almost 160 engineers present the Agricultural Industry Electronics Foundation (AEF) celebrated another successful spring Plugfest in Lincoln, NE, USA. Traditionally hosted by the National Tractor Test Laboratory at the Embassy Suites Lincoln, this spring Plugfest attracted even more attendees than last year's.



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The event attracted 36 companies from 10 countries and as far away as Korea. Their testing of 68 products including 3 Farm management information systems (FMIS) at 32 Stations added up to more than 1100 individual ISOBUS terminal/implement combinations.

AEF chairman Peter van der Vlugt, who attended the event, states: "The increased number of Universal Terminals tested in the event clearly indicates the growing relevance ISOBUS products will soon have for the profitability of agriculture worldwide. The rapidly growing membership of the AEF – more than 190 companies now – also underlines the significant role that the AEF plays in Ag electronics. And the AEF ISOBUS Database (www.aef-isobus-database.org) is providing information on ISOBUS compatibility for the benefit of manufacturers, dealers and the general public."

Plugfests take place every spring and fall, alternately in the USA and Europe. They provide the industry with the opportunity to test their own ISOBUS product developments in combination with those from other manufacturers using the test protocol defined in the standards. Real-time adjustments are often made by the Plugfest participants to ensure compatibility, while other situations require more work back at the company to complete the necessary changes. Plugfest activities are used prior to submitting products to AEF ISOBUS Test Laboratories like NTTL for final certification and uploading to the Database.

The US AEF Plugfest has been held in cooperation with the Nebraska Tractor Test Lab (NTTL), one of the five AEF ISOBUS Test Laboratories selected by the AEF so far. The event took place from May 12 to 14. The next AEF Plugfest is scheduled for Sept. 29 to Oct. 01, 2015, in Wörth am Main, near Frankfurt, Germany, and will be hosted by the Deutsche Landwirtschaftsgesellschaft (DLG).



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About the AEF

The Agricultural Industry Electronics Foundation (AEF) has been established as a "Round Table" of the ag industry by seven leading companies and two trade associations. The AEF makes the ISOBUS technology defined in ISO 11783 come to life. ISOBUS preferentially standardizes the communication between tractors and implements but also the data transfer between those mobile systems and farm management systems ensuring compatibility.

The voluntary association of today more than 190 companies from the ag industry and their suppliers has recently introduced a Conformance Test for the AEF ISOBUS Certification of tractors and implements. The results of the tests will be stored in the freely accessible AEF ISOBUS Database, www.aef-isobus-database.org, that can be used by customers and dealers to check compatibility of machinery. Also a certification label has been issued, which since Agritechnica 2013 marks AEF certified products. The AEF's success with ISOBUS has led to submission of additional subject areas to the association because it serves as a neutral "Round Table". Examples of these additional subject areas requiring certification are "Electric drives", "Camera systems" and "Farm Management Information Systems (FMIS)".

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