



Universal Pet Microchip Lookup Tool Announced by AAHA

A microchip increases the likelihood of a lost pet being safely reunited with its owner. However, even with a microchip scanner, identifying the correct pet recovery registry to contact can be challenging.

To alleviate the guesswork for veterinary hospitals, animal control facilities, and shelter staff members, the American Animal Hospital Association (AAHA) has created the Universal Pet Microchip Lookup Tool. This is a free, internet-based resource that assists with microchip identification by helping reunite pets and owners. The system checks participating pet recovery service registries to determine which registry should be contacted. The AAHA Universal Pet Microchip Lookup Tool can be accessed online at www.petmicrochiplookup.org.

The Association has been working with microchipping and pet recovery industry leaders for the past year on the development of this new tool. The participating companies include HomeAgain and partner Microchip ID Systems, Inc., Petlink by Datamars, resQ by Bayer and AKC CAR.

The AAHA Universal Pet Microchip Lookup Tool works by checking the databases of participating pet recovery services to determine which has owner registration information available for a microchip. Once a microchip identification number is entered into the tool, within seconds a list of all the registries with microchip registration information available, along with the registries' contact information, will appear in chronological order; the registry with the most recent update appears first. If the microchip has not been registered with any participating pet recovery service, the result returned will default to the microchip's manufacturer or distributor. The tool maintains the privacy of the owner and will not return the pet owner information contained in the registries' databases. It will identify which registries should be contacted when a lost pet is scanned and a microchip is found.

AAHA and the Coalition for Reuniting Pets and Families encourage all veterinary practices, shelters, and animal control facilities to bookmark www.petmicrochiplookup.org, and use it every time a lost pet is scanned.



Microchip ID Systems, Inc. October 3, 2009
www.microchipIDsystems.com
(800) 434-2843