Staying Connected with your Dairy Business

How can you make the best use of your cow information, and have it available in the right places at the right times to get the daily jobs done most efficiently?

Keeping up with your dairy business is challenging. You need to stay in touch with the management and performance of your cows. And, perhaps more importantly on larger dairies, your *employees* need to stay in touch with the management and performance of the cows.

Many dairies have on-farm computer systems to keep the data compiled in one place where it is easily accessible and where employees can look up and enter information. This is the first step in what is becoming an increasingly broad concept we call "Farm Connectivity". Valley Agricultural Software, the development company for Dairy Comp 305, are the leaders in handling herd management data on large dairies. They have been working on several Dairy Comp related products to provide more options for managing information flow and connectivity in modern dairy businesses.

Perhaps you want another copy of Dairy Comp for the house, or you want a "look only" copy in the herdsperson's office. Or, you find yourself with heifers and dry cows a couple miles away and want to be able to enter data into the main Dairy Comp computer from there. Perhaps you have several locations and would like to enter data and retrieve lists from many sites. How many people are involved in directly making cow decisions daily? Do they often need to run back or radio back to someone to check on a cow in Dairy Comp? Can those people make better, faster decisions if they have a hand held computer in their pocket with current data? What about pen changes, vet checks and breedings - would it be more efficient to enter these into a handheld PC and then just synchronize the data back to your main copy of Dairy Comp 305?

These are the questions and issues that are becoming increasingly important. They all involve "connectivity" and improving data access and flow for the entire dairy operation. Below is a brief description of products.

Dairy Comp 305 – complete herd management software. It provides the flexibility to make work lists for all your major cow management tasks from entering fresh cows, to breedings to health events to the most sophisticated hoof trim, vaccination and ovsynch lists. Dairy Comp is also widely recognized for its ability to analyze production, reproduction, health events, and many other parameters to help identify opportunity and growth areas for your business.

Dairy Comp 305 Shadow version – This is a full version of Dairy Comp with "look only" capability. Shadow copies can run and print the same work lists and reports as the main copy of Dairy Comp. Data can be transferred via pen drive, network or dial-up connection.

Dairy Comp 305 Client (DCClient) – DCClient is a full networked version of Dairy Comp. Multiple "clients" can be set up while maintaining the main copy of Dairy Comp as the "server". This allows data entry at multiple sites.

Dairy Comp 305 Pocket Cowcard (PCC) – Pocket Cow Card is a separate software program, purchased in addition to Dairy Comp 305. It is specifically designed for pocket PC's such as the Dell Axim or HP IPAQ.

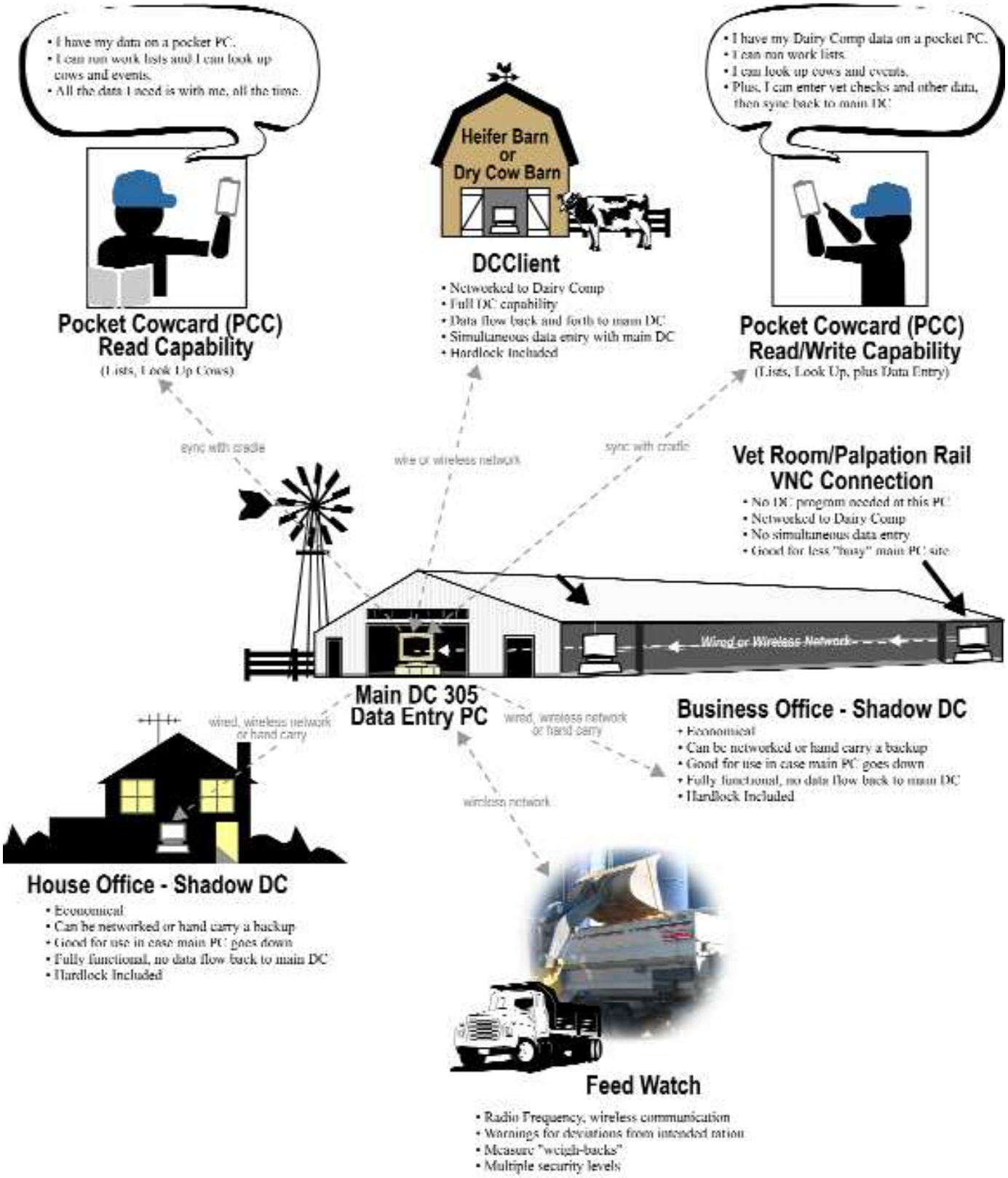
Pocket Cowcard Package Special until April 30, 2008

includes
PCC Read license through 2008 Ipaq Pocket PC Otterbox, waterproof case
Up to 2.5 hours on site service

For more details, call 800.344.2697, extension 3
or e-mail: dmr@dairyone.com

Virtual Network Computing (VNC) – This is a free software program that allows access to main Dairy Comp from another computer. With VNC, it is not necessary to actually load Dairy Comp on another computer. Rather, you log into Dairy Comp through VNC from the second site. This is most useful in situations where the main copy of DC is less busy, and where a strong internet or dial up connection can be secured.

Connectivity off the farm-bringing your data from the outside in – In addition to specific products on the farm to improve Farm Connectivity, we can incorporate information from outside the dairy as well. This includes automatically retrieving somatic cell counts, milk, fat, protein or MUN results from your DHI test, milk culture results from your vet or QMPS, and the event data available from your heifer grower. Farm connectivity tools will continue to evolve, and Dairy One will continue to help you decide which ones are right for your business.

Dairy Comp 305

Information ***where*** you need it, ***when*** you need it.