In December 2013 the European Commission presented to both Parliament and Counsel a report on various stunning methods for poultry.

The report compared the water bath, Controlled Atmosphere, ‘Head-only’ & Low Atmosphere Stunning and calculated which was the most cost effective way for stunning poultry.

It is no surprise that the use of a water bath is by far the most cost effective way but the stunning efficiency is extremely low which was the main reason for the implementation of EU1099.

Basis calculations for the cost of stunning with different methods for a throughput of 12,000 bph,

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Choose for reversible ‘Head-only’ electrical stunning with an accuracy of 99.4%, safe €. 0.01 per chicken and move far beyond EU1099
Water bath stunning vs ‘Head-only’ electrical stunning
Science, research and numbers

1 Woolley (et al., 1986a,b) claimed that, under slaughterhouse conditions;

• ¹/³ of birds are effectively stunned
• ¹/³ are inadequately stunned and the remaining
• ¹/³ undergo cardiac arrest

2 Hindle (et al., 2010) states that variations in resistance can influence the quality of the stun to such a degree that some birds receive too much while others receive insufficient current. Ultimately, this can lead to problems with;

• animal welfare (failure to lose consciousness or rapid recovery)
• product quality (haemorrhaging, bone fractures)

3 In Livestock Research Report 442 “Efficacy of the Dutch Vision ‘Head-only’ poultry stunner” Gerritzen (et al., 2015) tested, under slaughterhouse conditions at 13500bph, an efficiency of;

• 0.5% dead product
• 96.4% accurate stunning
• 3.1% inaccurate stunning (missed birds, empty shackles)

Dutch Vision solutions developed the Kill Line Shackle splitter to increase the amount of accurate stunning even further. The KLS splitter select all birds known to be stunned correctly and pushes them along the far side of a guide. Missed birds and/or empty shackles remain where they are and will be lead towards the installed water bath stunner.

Combining ‘Head-only’ & water bath stunning with the KLS splitter gives you a unprecedented 99.4% stunning accuracy at 14000bph!

Choose for reversible ‘Head-only’ electrical stunning with an accuracy of 99.4% and go far beyond EU1099 with an installed operational back-up stunner.

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