Commodity Groups' Support of the ADAPT Conversion Framework

October 11, 2016

David Black, Chairman, AgGateway Board of Directors

Dear Mr. Black:

Over the last decade, the most consistent concern raised by farmers using precision ag is that "different systems won't work together." Farm data is collected by the equipment farmers use to plant, harvest, spray, irrigate and manage their farming operation, as well as manage their equipment. Each piece of software, each monitor and each equipment manufacturer has its own unique file format.

An AgGateway survey confirmed this frustration when 80% of responders answered "moderately difficult" or "very difficult" when asked, "How easy or difficult do you find it to compile and analyze data from various sources?"

The farm and commodity groups are pleased that AgGateway member companies worked collectively to solve this problem by creating ADAPT. ADAPT will eliminate the major pain points to the broad use of precision ag data by easily enabling interoperability between different software and hardware applications.

We understand that the ADAPT solution allows each equipment manufacturer to keep its own proprietary software and technology in the cab and monitor, but allows participating companies to "export to" and "import from" a common, open-source ADAPT file format. This will allow Farm Management Information Software (FMIS) companies to program once and be able to receive data from all companies using the ADAPT format, including other FMIS companies. It also will allow an FMIS to export a prescription to any monitor that is using ADAPT.

Several major original equipment manufacturers (OEMs) have made formal commitments to release plug-ins for many of their proprietary data formats to convert those proprietary formats to the ADAPT format. Companies that have made that commitment to date include AGCO Corporation, Ag Leader Technology, CLAAS, CNH Industrial, Deere & Co., Praxidyn, Raven Industries, Topcon Precision Agriculture and Trimble Navigation.

Having these major ag tech providers supporting the initiative should drive others also to make such a commitment. We hope so. As organizations representing producers of all commodities and in all 50 states, we offer our support to encourage FMIS companies to formally commit to integrating the ADAPT framework in the near future.

Sincerely,

American Farm Bureau Federation	National Barley Growers	National Sorghum Producers
American Soybean Association	Association	National Sunflower Association
National Association of Wheat	National Corn Growers Association	US Canola Association
Growers	National Cotton Council	US Dry Bean Council
	National Farmers Union	USA Rice