

## **Merck Animal Health to acquire rights to Whisper Veterinary Stethoscope System**

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Merck Animal Health (known as MSD Animal Health outside the United States and Canada) has announced plans to acquire worldwide rights for the Whisper Veterinary Stethoscope System from Minnesota-based Geissler Companies.

The Whisper Veterinary Stethoscope System is a Bovine Respiratory Disease (BRD) detection system which is used to determine the severity of an animal's lung condition so that the appropriate treatment regimen can be started to protect the health of the animal.

Bovine Respiratory Disease is the most common disease affecting cattle in North America. This complex, multi-factorial infection affects the upper and lower respiratory tracts and can often be fatal, causing billions of dollars in economic losses for farmers. Identifying the cause of the disease and appropriate treatment pathways is vital to maintain an infected herd.

"We are pleased to add the Whisper Veterinary Stethoscope System to our comprehensive portfolio of vaccines and pharmaceutical products for the cattle industry," said Mr Rick DeLuca, President, Merck Animal Health. "It is important to provide our customers with the most innovative solutions available today that will meet their needs to maintain healthy stock and advance animal well-being."

"We are excited about Merck Animal Health acquiring this technology," said Mr Randolph K. Geissler, CEO, Geissler Companies. "We believe Merck Animal Health's wide commercial reach and expertise in Bovine Respiratory Disease will help bring the Whisper Veterinary Stethoscope System to more producers, and will result in improvements to animal health and well-being."

The terms of the acquisition were not disclosed.