



September 5, 2018

Gilles Begue
SMAG
Pépinère Technologizue Mont Bernard
18 rue Dom Perignon
Chalons-en-Champagne
51000 France

Dear Gilles:

Welcome to AgGateway! Thank you for your interest in joining and participating in the Precision Ag Council (PAC). My name is Ben Craker and I'm the current PAC Chair.

The mission of the PAC is to facilitate the adoption of precision ag industry standards, guidelines and implementation protocols to enhance the ability of end users to capture and use the valuable information generated through precision technologies, systems, and data.

The PAC is completing the third phase of the Standardized Precision Agricultural Data Exchange (SPADE) project on interoperability in field operations. Teams have documented planting, harvest (mechanical & non-mechanical), crop nutrition, and crop protection field operations user stories and data requirements as a basis for proposing modifications to existing standards like ISO11783 or AgXML. As the SPADE3 project wraps up, PAC working groups continue to focus on traceability, field operations reference data API, regulatory reporting, imagery standardization and remote sensing, scouting, telematics and asset management, with a key focus on implementation guidelines. Our Precision Agricultural Irrigation Language (PAIL) project team submitted the new irrigation standard to the standards organization American Society of Agricultural and Biological Engineers (ASABE) and will soon submit to the International Organization for Standardization (ISO), with the third iteration of PAIL project work anticipated to begin soon. The Agricultural Data Application Programming Toolkit (ADAPT) Committee is moving forward with a minimum viable product, and several data service companies are now piloting and implementing ADAPT.

Each Working Group meets on an as-needed basis. Working Group meetings are scheduled by the Working Group leader, with meetings announced via email to all PAC participants who have indicated interest in that working Group. Please provide AgGateway Member Services (member.services@aggateway.org) the email addresses of your staff members who should receive these notices.

To keep PAC members up to date on Working Group efforts, we have monthly PAC webinar meetings. The meeting schedule is on the AgGateway website, under the [Events Calendar](#). PAC monthly meetings are generally **the first Thursday** (*after the first Wednesday*) of each month

from 10:00 – 11:00 a.m. (Central). I will email to you the invitations for the currently-scheduled PAC meetings.

In addition to regular meetings, the PAC wiki stores detailed meeting notes, presentations/documents, and other informational resources. To access these materials, you must log into the AgGateway wiki. If you haven't already done so, you can register for wiki access by visiting the [User Registration page](#). AgGateway Member Services can assist you with registration questions (member.services@aggateway.org).

To ensure timely PAC communication, be sure you and your key staff are subscribed to the PAC email distribution list. If you have not yet received email from pa@aggateway.org but want to be on the PAC list, contact AgGateway Member Services (member.services@aggateway.org).

It's important for all our members to participate in AgGateway meetings. There are two important in-person meetings you should plan on attending: the annual Mid-Year Meeting, last held June 11-14, 2018 (watch for news about the June 2019 session), and the Annual Conference, scheduled for November 12-14, 2018 in Austin, TX (<http://www.aggateway.org/Events/2018AnnualConference.aspx>). These meetings include beneficial work sessions, project updates, educational keynote speakers, and provide an excellent opportunity to brainstorm and network with other business and technical ag industry colleagues. Each AgGateway membership tier 1-8 company that has paid a full year of membership dues receives one free registration to the November Annual Conference. Don't let that registration go unused!

AgGateway Mentor Program: You or anyone from your company can have a current AgGateway member mentor you for a few months. Your mentor is someone who can answer question and help you navigate the many councils, committees, groups, projects and activities of AgGateway. If you're interested in a mentor, please email member.services@aggateway.org.

AgGateway is a volunteer organization so "we," as its members, **are** the organization. As you learn more about AgGateway and its benefits, please talk to us: AgGateway staff and your fellow members are here to answer questions and help you connect on topics of interest to you. Contact me if you have additional questions about the PAC or how to get involved with the various PAC activities. And if you're interested, AgGateway will partner your company with an existing AgGateway member to help you gain the greatest benefit from your AgGateway membership.

Current PAC leadership:

- PAC Chair: Ben Craker – ben@craker.us
- PAC Vice Chair: Jessica Trites Rolle - jessicaTR@ag-risk.org
- PAC Vice Chair Elect: Scott Nieman - stnieman@landolakes.com
- Field Operations Working Group Leader: Ben Craker – ben@craker.us
- Insurance, Regulation and Government Relations Working Group Leader: Dennis Daggett - ddaggett@proag.com

- Remote Sensing Working Group Leader: Nathan Stein - nathan.stein@sensefly.com
- Telematics and Asset Management Working Group Leader: Ben Craker - ben@craker.us
- Water Management Working Group Leader: Aaron Berger – aberger@agsense.net

Again, congratulations on your decision to become involved in the Precision Ag Council. It's a decision that will benefit you, your company, and our industry.

Sincerely,

Ben Craker – Chair
Precision Ag Council
ben@craker.us