



Martin H. ATOCK

Peden Bloodstock GmbH

“Equine Update: Groom Scheme”

Since its inception in 2000 the AATA/NPTC grooms program has in excess of 50 assessed grooms worldwide. One of the main changes in the program is that from the 1st January 2004 all applicants applying for registration must submit to independent assessment through NPTC assessors before they can qualify as AATA Animal Attendants on our professional registry.

The revised program is as comprehensive as it could be made allowing for the developing situation in the world of aviation and the repercussions of 911. From March 2004 the program is fully available online. It should be noted that not all applicants passed the assessment, which reaffirms the high standards of the curriculum.

The next stage will be to create an Ethics committee to deal with professional misconduct and to adapt the template of the equine program to other species.

Martin Atock was born and raised in Dublin, Ireland and educated in Columbus collage. He started riding at an early age and competed successfully until an accident promptly stopped his potential eventing career.

Having successfully completed the stud management course at the Irish National Stud he spent some years travelling, working in various areas of the equine industry including 2 years at Dr. Peter Cronau's equine veterinary clinic in Germany prior to joining Peden Bloodstock in 1988 after assisting with the Seoul Olympics and acting as road manager for the RCMP European tour the same year.

Since then he set up the Peden office in Germany and was responsible for handling all horses for the Den Haag World Equestrian Games and for the shipment of horses to the Barcelona, Atlanta and Sydney Olympic Games and most recently the World Equestrian Games in Jerez. Additionally he shipped some 172 horses from 46 countries to the Endurance World Championships in the UAE in 1998, an event that is in the Guinness Book of records as the largest championships ever held.

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