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**Inside A Pig Barn - Video Series**

*This video series was made possible by the Illinois Pork Producers Association. Before pigs arrived at Sandy Creek Lane sow farm, we took the opportunity to make a video showing viewers inside the barns.*

*This is a unique chance to see inside a modern pig barn full of innovative technology!*

***Consider this a virtual field trip to a pig farm.***

**Sow Farm Tour, full video**

* This is a 20-min video that takes viewers through an entire sow farm, start to finish. Dr. Nicolas Rippel, the narrator, explains each location inside the barn and its purpose. Each of the 14 short segments listed below are taken out of this full-length video.

**01 – Bio Security**

* Pig farmers take special precautions to keep their barns clean and their pigs healthy

**02 – UV Room**

* Much like hospitals and water treatment plants, modern pig barns have a UV light room to disinfect incoming supplies. This keeps the barn free from outside germs and disease.

**03 – Farrowing Room**

* This is the location in the barn where mother pigs give birth to their piglets

**04 – Feeding System**

* Pigs have access to food and water 24/7 thanks to these automatic feeding systems

**05 – Vaccination**

* Just like humans need vaccinations to stay healthy and prevent disease outbreaks, so do pigs. We take care of them as if they were our own children.

**06 – Breeding room**

* This part of the barn is where sows go to get bred for another liter of piglets.

**07 – Ventilation**

* Pigs are kept indoors to give them the most comfortable environment possible. The ventilation system in a barn controls the air coming in and out to make it clean and cool.

**08 – Controller Room**

* This special room has computers and control panels that regulate all the fans, feeding systems, and more within the barn.

**09 – Individual Gestation**

* Pigs who have just been bred live here for the beginning of their pregnancy. During this fragile time, they are kept at ease away from other aggressive sows.

**10 – Sow Feeding**

* New feeding systems, called Electronic Sow Feeders (ESF), are used to efficiently feed all sows on an individual basis. They have an ear tag that contains their needs for each day.

**11 – Manure Cycle**

* An area below the barn called a pit catches the waste from the animals. It is high in nutrient content and is applied to fields of crops as an organic fertilizer.

**12 – Gilt Barn**

* Young gilts begin in the nursery here and grow until they are old enough to be bred.

**13 – Pre-Training Room**

* In this section, the gilts begin to learn how to use the ESF systems

**14 – Training Room**

* Training is in full swing for the ESF. Once they can easily use them, they move on to breeding.