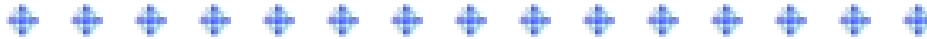




Medication — Walking the Tightrope

“Out of Competition Testing – The Ontario Experience”



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Some Ontario Statistics

- ➔ Over **\$1.1 billion Wagered** in Ontario - 65% of Canadian horse racing wager
- ➔ **18 racetracks** - 1736 Race dates
- ➔ 10 Horsepeople interest groups
- ➔ **30,000 Licensees**
- ➔ Over 2,000 Rulings, Over 4,000 Investigations



The Ontario experience...

The majority

play by the rules

and care passionately

about the horse

The Ontario Experience

- ➔ A **decline** in wagering / reduction in customer base
- ➔ The bettor turned away from standardbred
- ➔ Why?
- ➔ **Abnormal** changes in performance
- ➔ **Unpredictable** results
- ➔ And the use of **illegal** medications...



The Ontario Experience

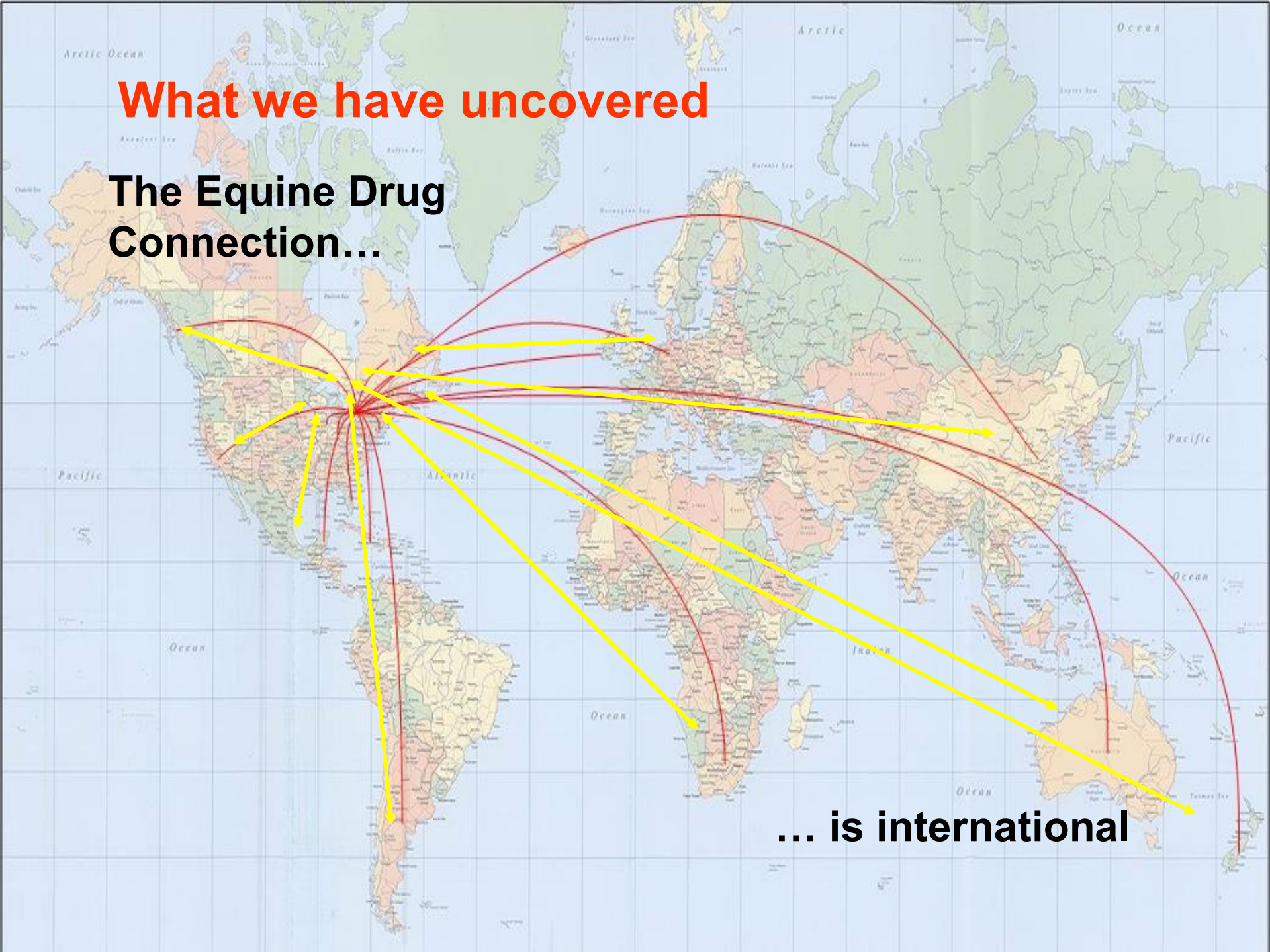
The racing community felt **powerless...**

And with good reason:

What we uncovered

What we have uncovered

The Equine Drug Connection...

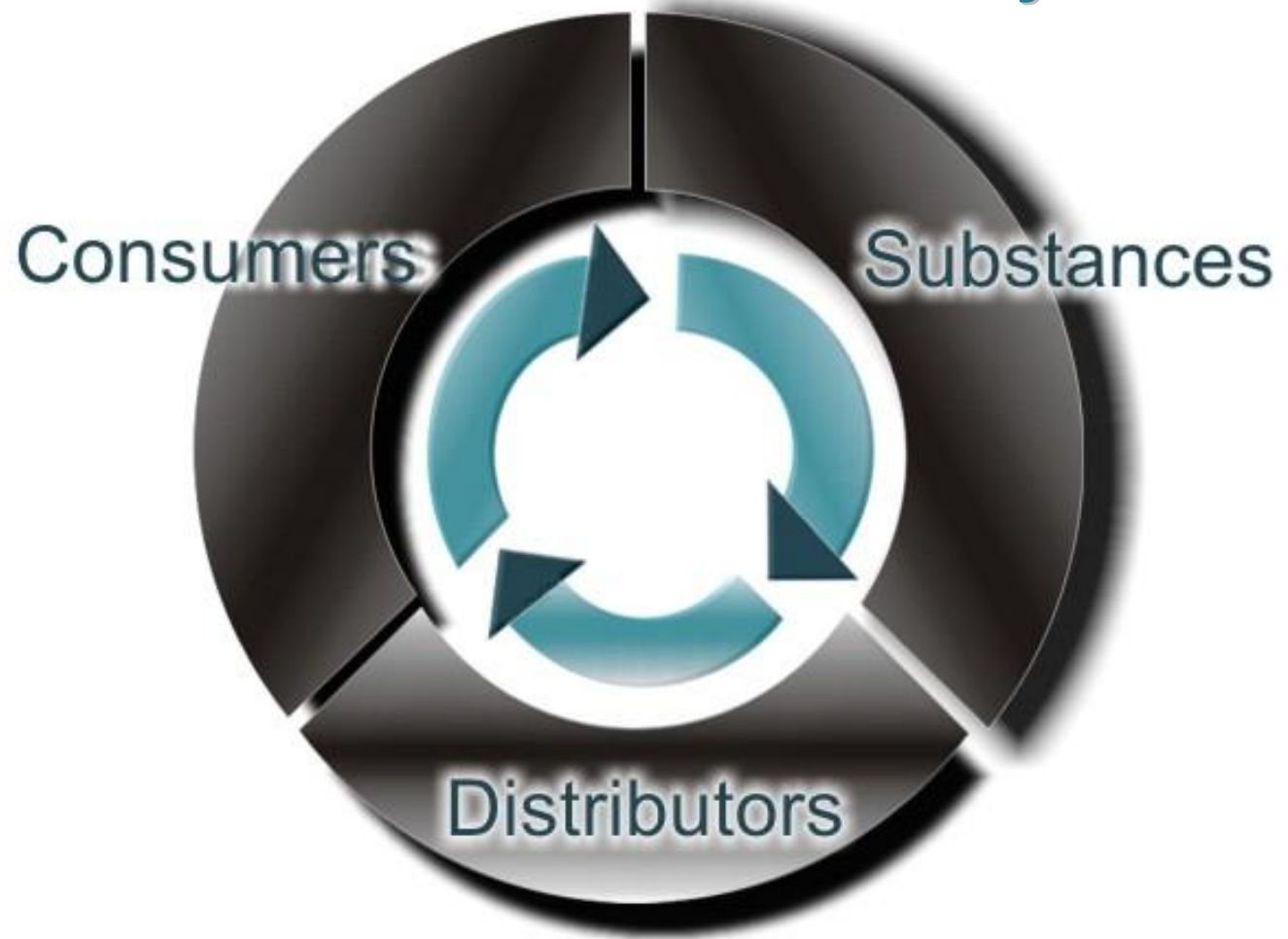


... is international



What we have learned

The Substance Abuse Cycle





What we have learned

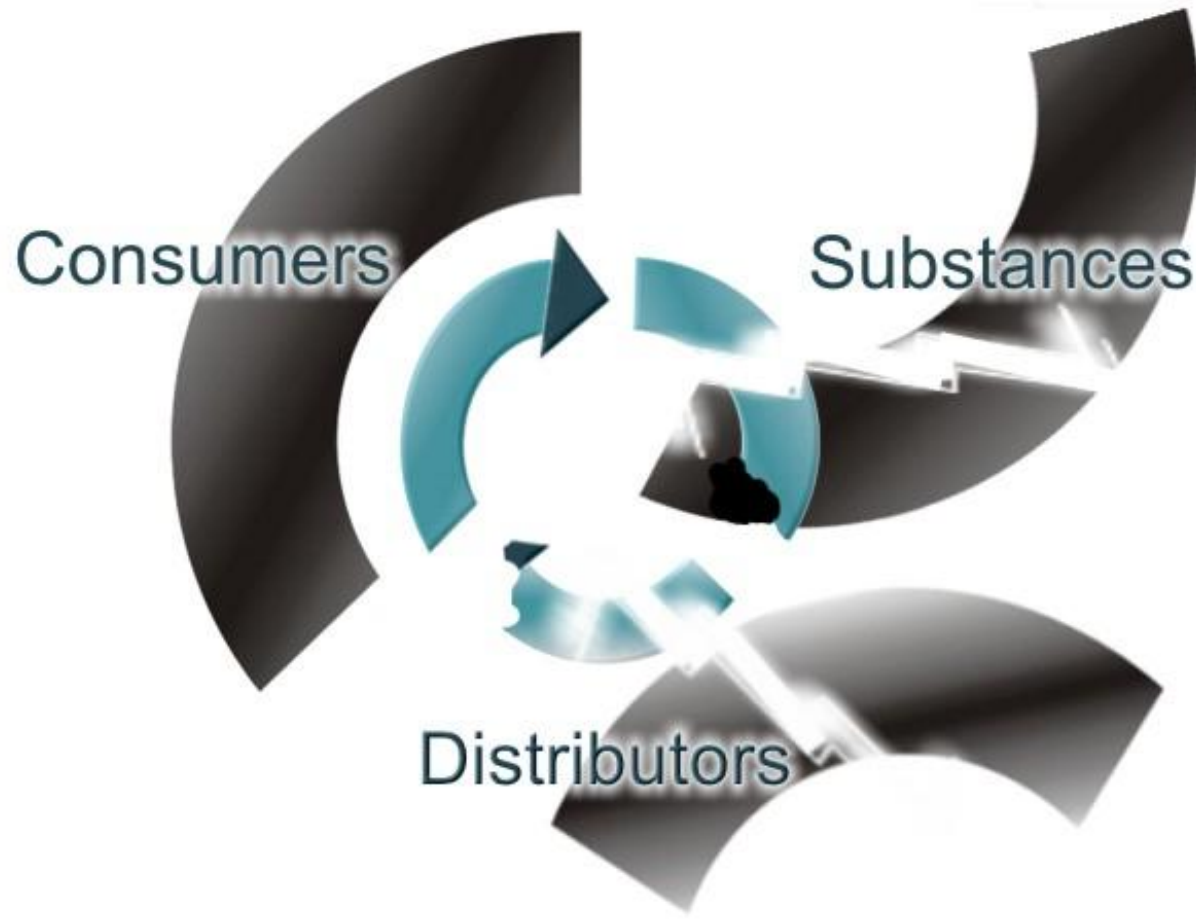
The Substance Abuse Cycle





What we have learned

Break The Substance Abuse





Breaking the Cycle

- ➔ Identify and Reduce Substances
- ➔ Prosecute Criminals
- ➔ Regulate Industry
- ➔ Prevent and Proactively Enforce

What we have learned

We recognized that we needed to look at these challenges...



A New Tool: Out of Competition Testing

- ▶ Conducted on basis of “change of performance” and “probable cause”**
- ▶ Commitment made to industry that only trainers that fit within these two categories would be tested**
- ▶ Issued Directive requiring trainer to produce horses for testing on demand**



New Medication Control Directive

- ➔ “Effective immediately, the Ontario Racing Commission hereby orders that any owner and/or trainer identified as trainer of record with respect to any horse racing in the Province of Ontario shall be required, at any time or place and without prior notice, to make the horse available to have a biological sample taken.
- ➔ Biological samples **include, but are not limited to blood, urine, and hair**. The sample shall be taken by an Official Veterinarian or any other delegated authority. ..”



New Medication Control Directive

- ➔ “....Failure of any owner and/or trainer or delegate to make the horse(s) available to have the biological sample drawn or taken on demand shall result in any or all of the following:
- ➔ a) The horse(s) being scratched;
- ➔ b) The trainer being refused the right to enter horse(s) in future races at Ontario racetracks; and/or
- ➔ c) The owner being refused the right to enter horse(s) in future races at Ontario racetracks.”



A New Tool: Out of Competition Testing

- 2006 – 217 horses tested – 18 trainers**
- 4 confirmed positives for EPO – and a serious breach of conduct**
- Successful prosecution**
- To date in 2007 – 262 horses – 30 trainers**
- 1 confirmed positive for EPO**



The Science... What we have learned about the science of Out of Competition Testing (sometimes the hard way)



The Science of Out of Competition Testing

➔ What we have learned

- 1. You can't test for everything**
- 2. A choice must be made – blood or urine**
- 3. Blood is preferable choice because urine too time consuming**
- 4. Choose a lab that can do the testing you desire -- and most importantly you must be able to work with them**

The Science of Out of Competition Testing

➔ Aranesp/EPO

- ▶ Work with your lab to source best Elisa for program
- ▶ The R&D Elisa kit has given the greatest reliability
- ▶ The antibody Elisa has not proven to work for our purposes

The Science of Out of Competition Testing

➔ Aranesp/EPO

- ▶ Suspect sample on R&D kit sent to *Pennsylvania Equine Toxicology and Research Laboratory* for confirmatory testing
- ▶ No action taken until confirmatory result received
- ▶ Pennsylvania is presently the only lab in the world that is capable of doing this
- ▶ The confirmatory test is expensive - but according to our labs, the price is reasonable

The Science of Out of Competition Testing

➡ Aranesp/EPO – Non Therapeutic Drugs

- ▶ Once again, you have to use your best information to select the drugs that you will test for – you can't test for everything
- ▶ Timing is everything – especially with EPO due to the narrow window of opportunity for detection
- ▶ This is essentially strategic testing



The international experience...

The response?

An international response

- ➔ International efforts in **science and research**
- ➔ International efforts in shared **investigations and intelligence**
- ➔ **International standards**



Thank you.



Questions?

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