



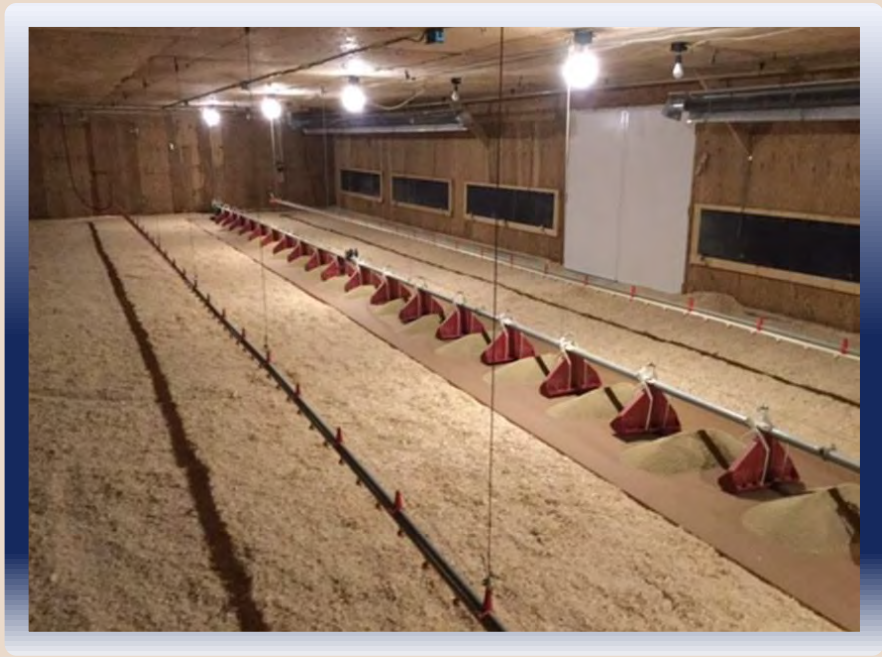
# La stratégie ontarienne en matière de bâtiment

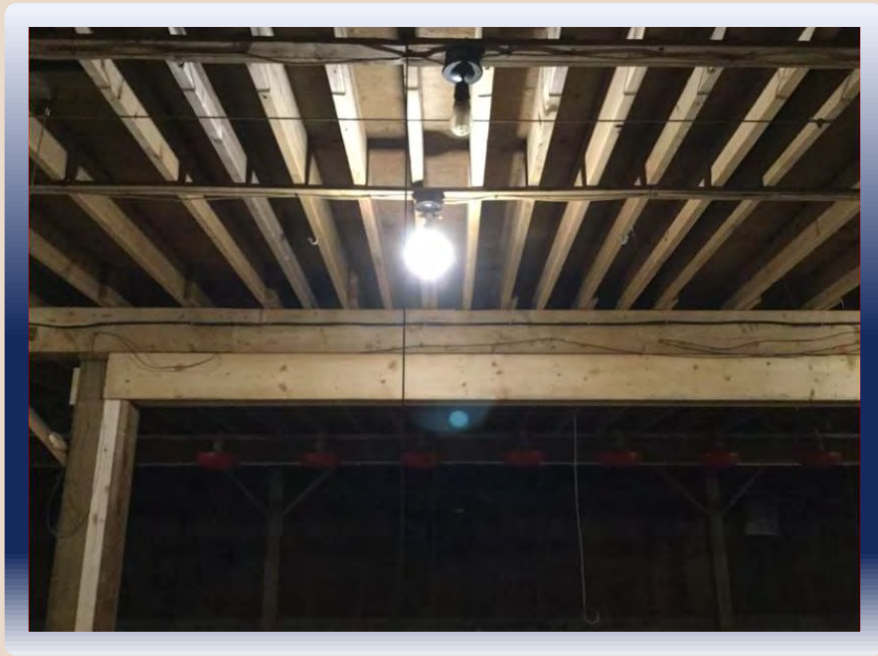
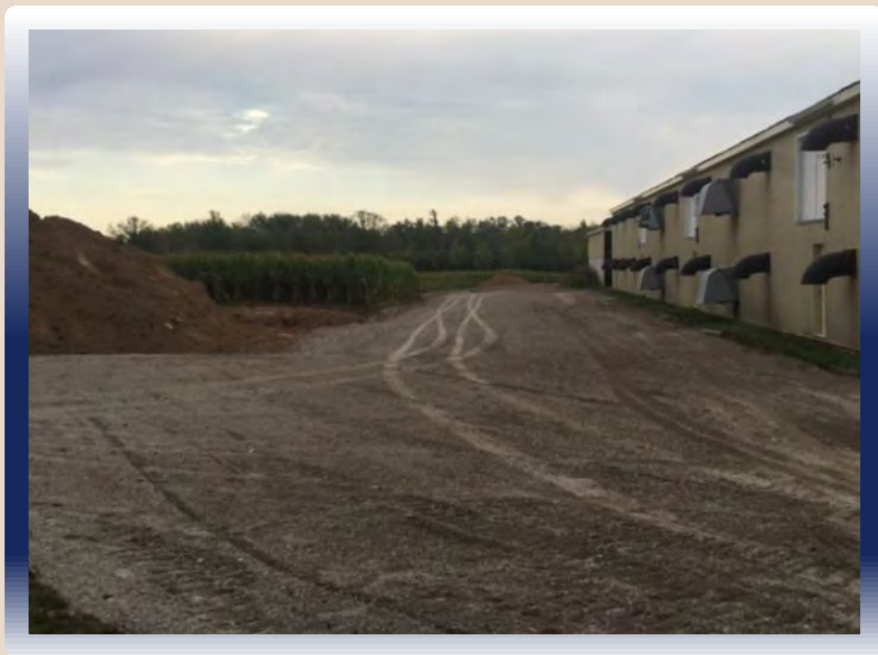
Robert Laplante, propriétaire  
Laplante Poultry Farms

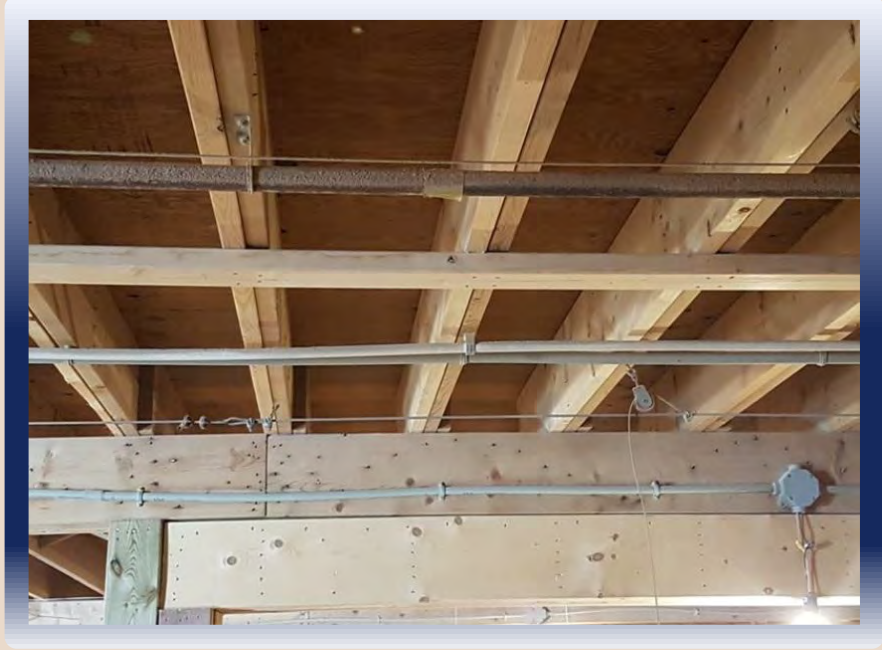
# Chicken Farmers of Ontario

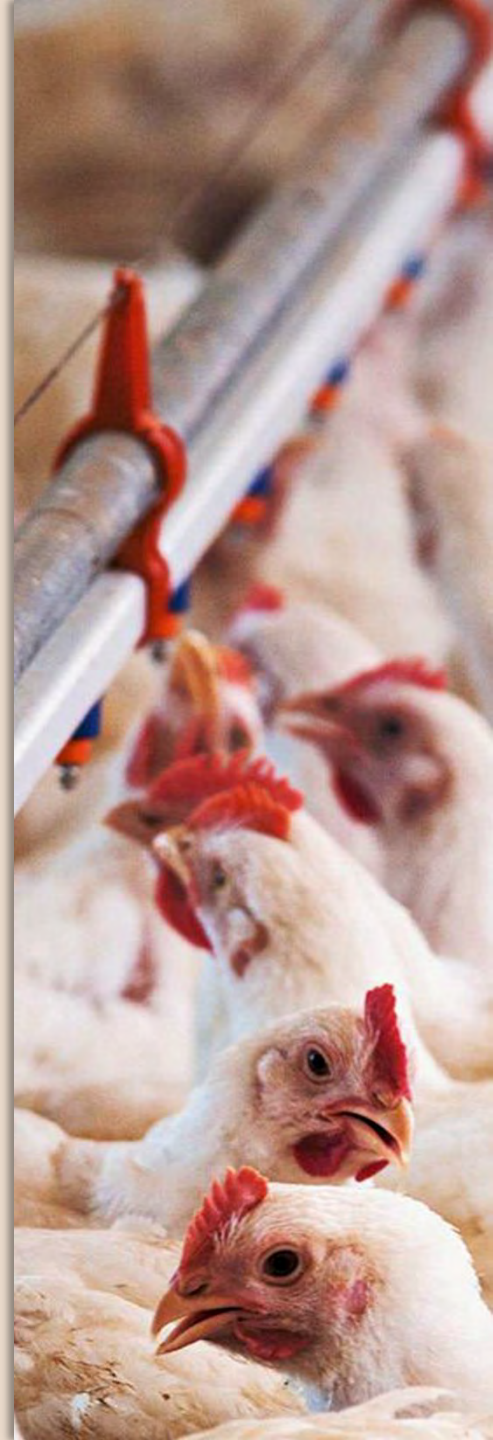
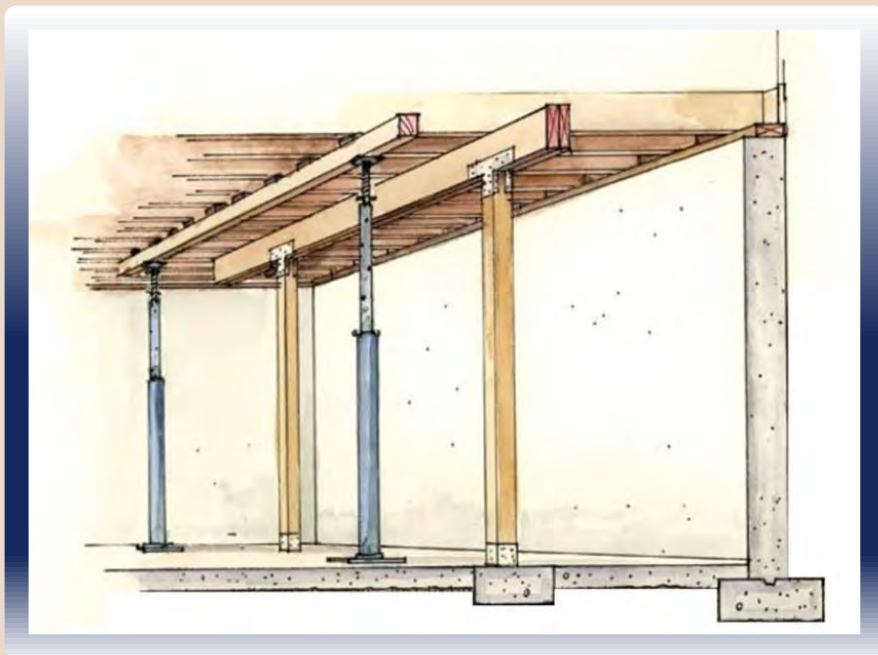












# Are some barns better suited to modular loading than others?

- One-storey barns are best suited to modular loading because poultry health and welfare benefits and loading efficiency are maximized when loading birds off the first floor.





# Will all processors use the same modular loading system?

- Processors will not necessarily use the same modular loading system, however, the modules from different systems have approximately the same dimensions. Door heights and widths and ceiling clearances identified in the new and existing barn standards will accommodate modules from different systems



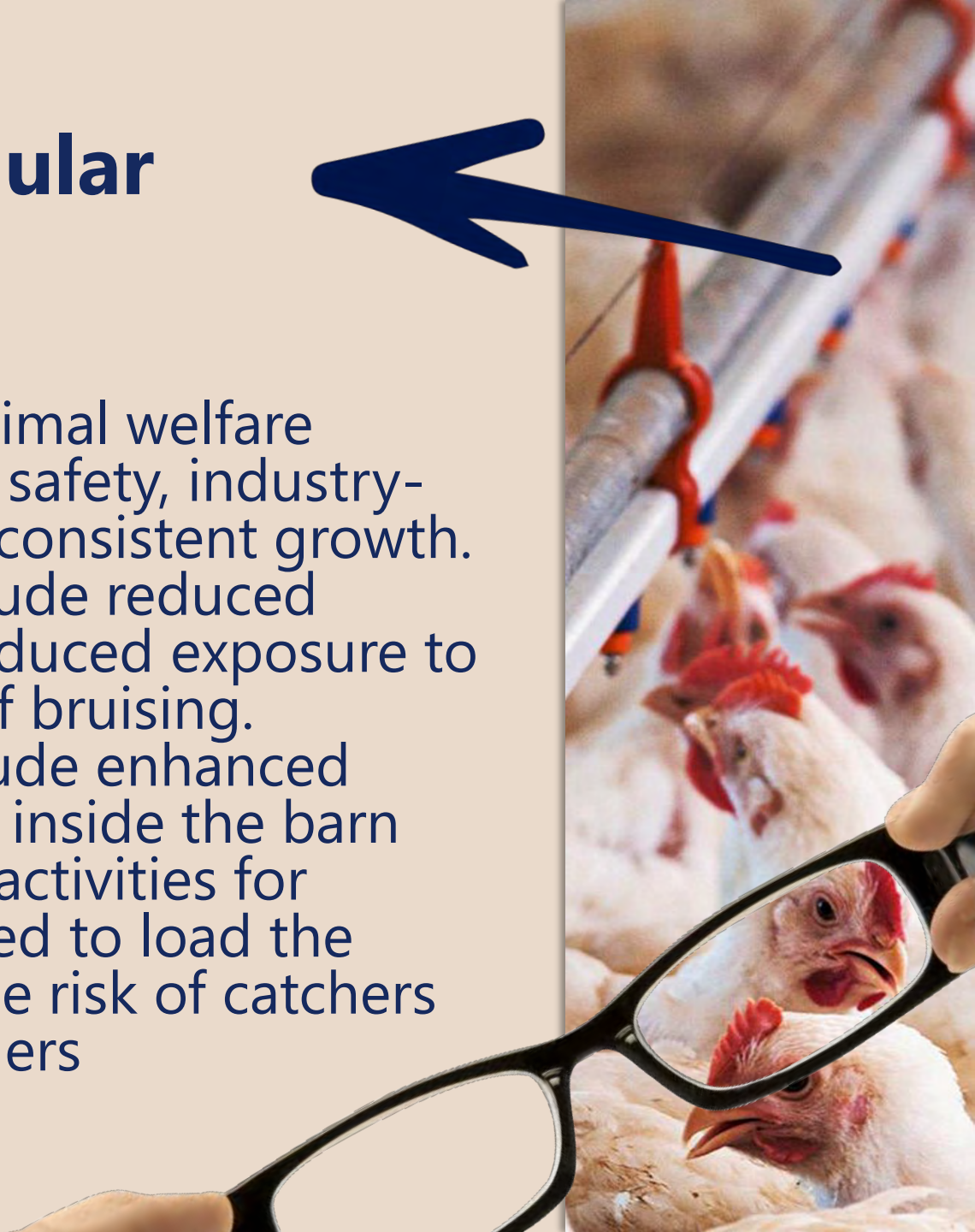
# Why is the Ontario industry transitioning to modular loading?

- The Ontario chicken industry is currently transitioning to modular loading in response to heightened public expectations regarding animal welfare.



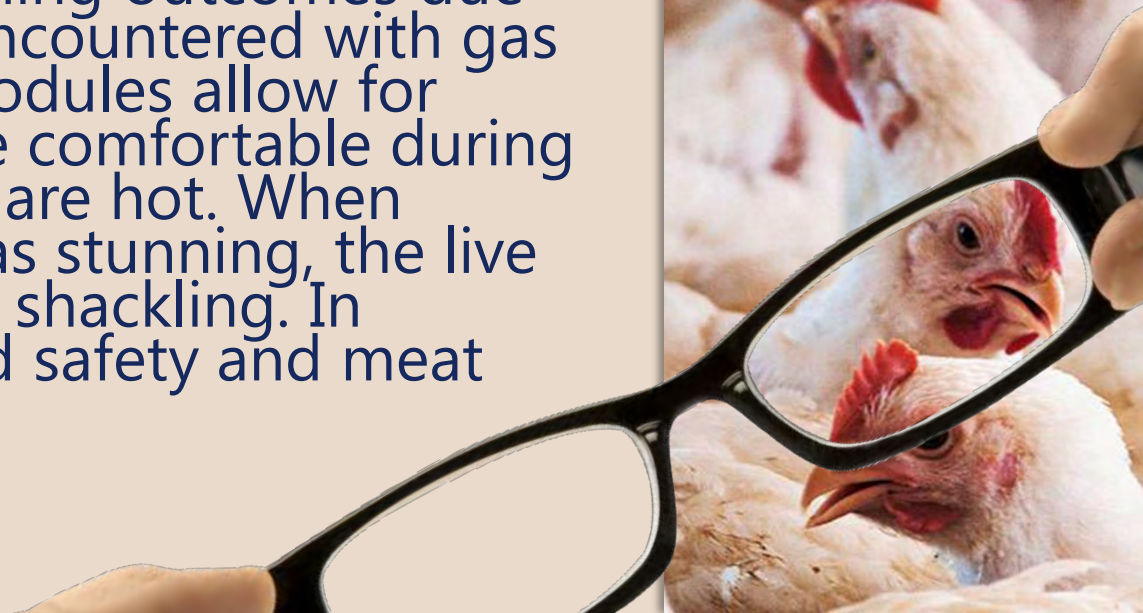
# What are the benefits of modular loading at the farm?

- Modular loading enhances responsible animal welfare practices, worker occupational health and safety, industry-wide efficiencies and supports profitable, consistent growth. More specifically, the welfare benefits include reduced handling of birds, shorter loading time, reduced exposure to weather conditions and lower incidence of bruising. Workplace health and safety benefits include enhanced worker comfort and safety due to loading inside the barn and reduced walking, carrying and lifting activities for catchers. More importantly, a forklift is used to load the modules on the trailer, thus eliminating the risk of catchers falling from heights when loading the trailers



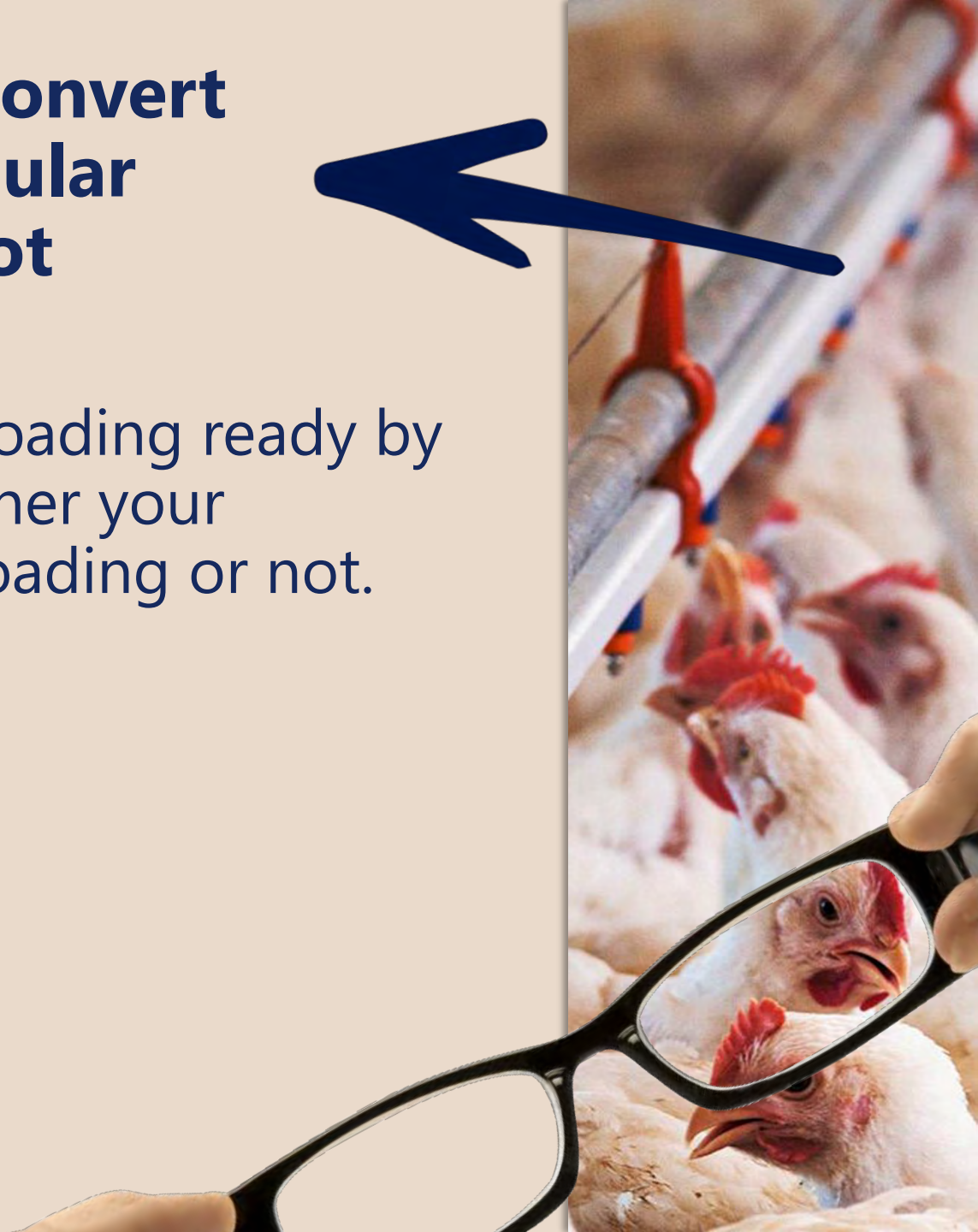
# What are the benefits of modular loading at the processing plant?

- Modular loading systems also have significant welfare benefits at the processing plant. In most cases, modular loading systems are coupled with Controlled Atmospheric Stunning (CAS) or gas stunning at the processing plant. Gas stunning renders the birds insensible prior to shackling thus it is more humane than the live shackling of birds that accompanies electrical stunning. Electrical stunning may also result in inconsistent stunning outcomes due to variation in bird size, an issue that is not encountered with gas stunning. Additionally, trailers loaded with modules allow for more air flow than crates, thus birds are more comfortable during lairage at the plant when weather conditions are hot. When modular loading systems are coupled with gas stunning, the live birds are only handled once from catching to shackling. In addition to the obvious welfare benefits, food safety and meat quality are also improved.



# **Do all farmer-members have to convert their barns and/or yards for modular loading if their processor does not implement modular loading?**

- All barns in Ontario must be modular loading ready by December 31, 2024 regardless of whether your processor has implemented modular loading or not.



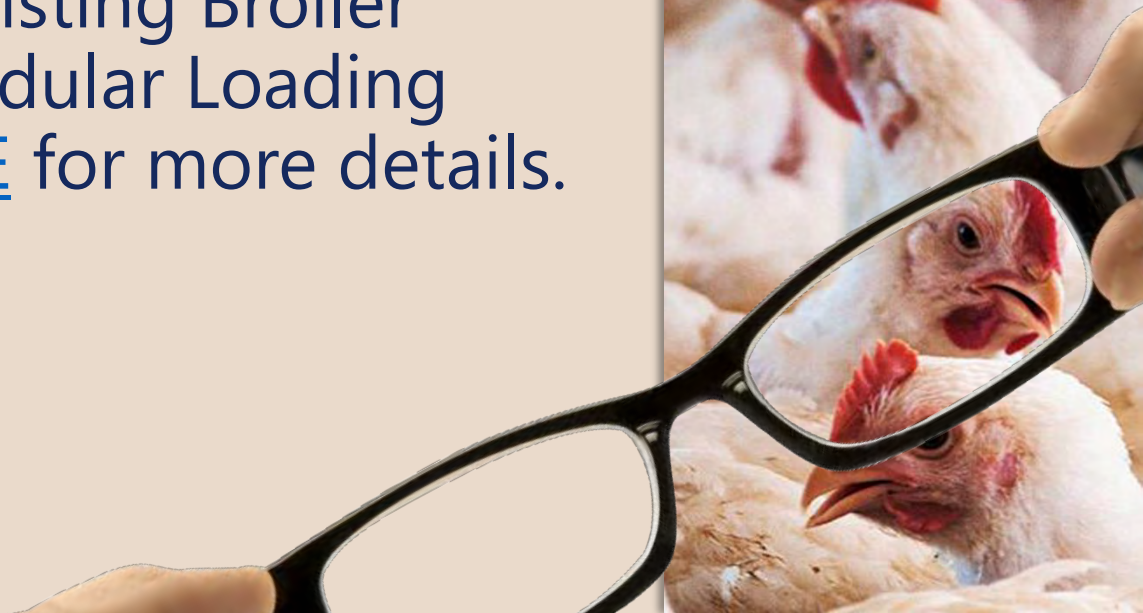
# If a chicken barn has been out of production for a period of time and is brought back into production is it considered a “new” or “existing” barn?

- A chicken barn being brought back into production is considered an “existing” barn. Existing barn standards (Schedule 2 to Modular Loading Regulation No. 2568-2017) will apply. [CLICK HERE](#) for more details.



# What are the changes that need to be considered when renovating an existing barn for modular loading?

- The main considerations when renovating existing barns for modular loading are laneways, hard surface loading areas, loading door heights and widths, ceiling clearance heights and weight-bearing requirements for second floors. Recommended Standards for Existing Broiler Barns are detailed in Schedule 2 to Modular Loading Regulation No. 2568-2017. [CLICK HERE](#) for more details.



# Can all barns be renovated for modular loading?

- It is possible that some multi-storey barns may not be able to be renovated to accommodate modular loading.





# Do I need to have an engineer do a structural assessment of my barn?

- Multi-storey barns will require a structural assessment by a certified Engineer or Architectural Technologist prior to loading modules on the second floor. It is probable that structural reinforcement of second floors will be necessary to support the additional weight bearing requirements of the loaded modules. Your processor and catching company will request a copy of the final engineering report for their files to confirm that the necessary barn renovations were completed and that the weight-bearing requirements have been met.



# Who is going to pay for the renovations?

- Farmers are responsible for the cost of renovations to their barns, however, effective A-145, farmers will receive 1.2 cents per kilo in addition to the live price for approximately 7 years to offset their costs. This is an interim amount that will be "trued up" once a critical mass of barns have become modular loading compliant.



# Will I require more than 1 door for modular loading on the first floor of my barn?

- If your barn is more than 300' long you will require more than one loading door. If you cannot put the additional door on the opposite end of your barn due to equipment restrictions such as tunnel ventilation, the additional door can be installed on the side of barn to minimize distance travelled (300' or less) by the forklift or telehandler.



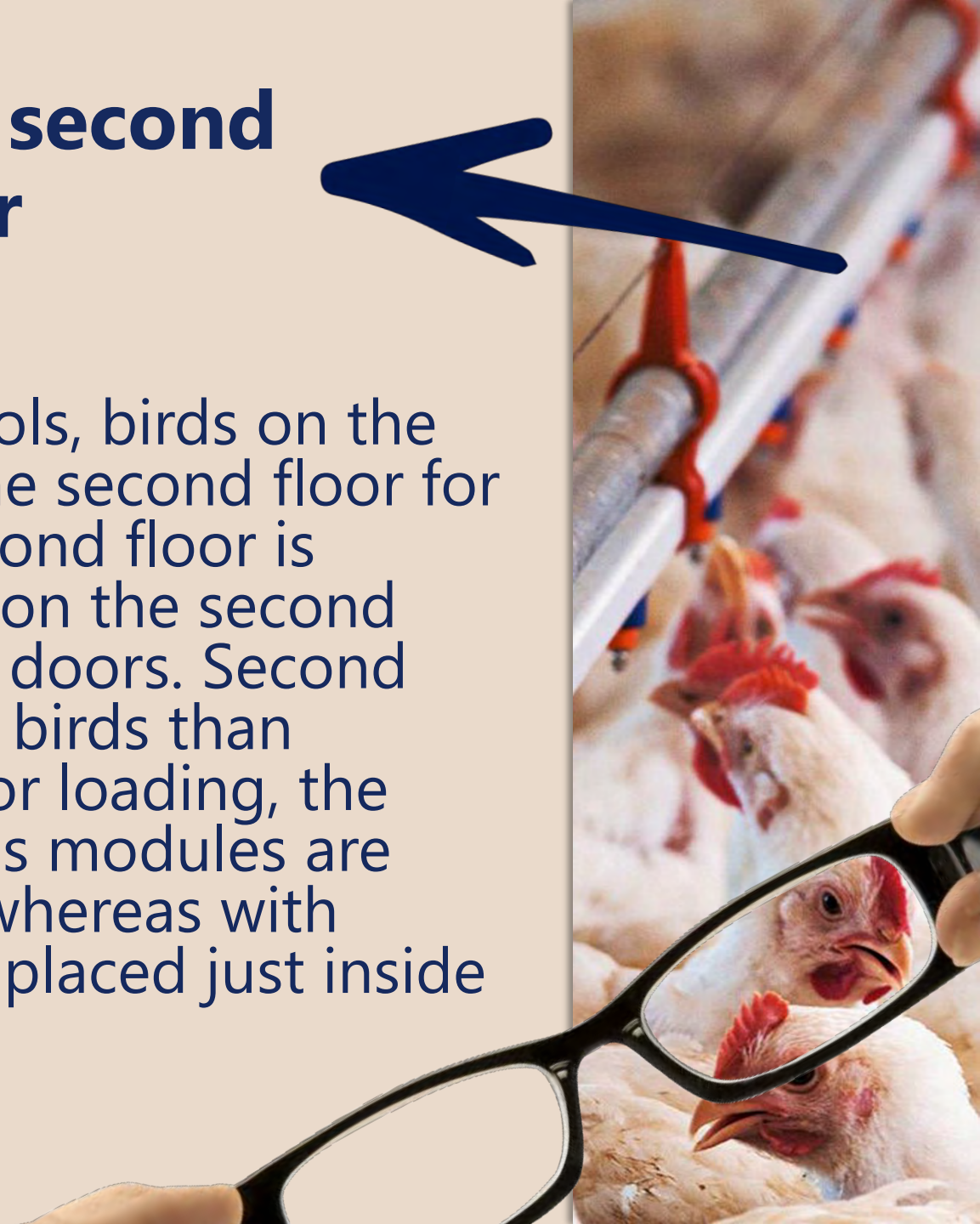
# How do I place chicks on the second floor of my barn when I have removed all my ramps and railings?

- It is recommended that you leave one door with ramps and railings intact for placement of chicks.



# How are birds loaded off the second and third floors with modular loading?

- Similar to current crate loading protocols, birds on the third floor must be handed down to the second floor for loading. Modular loading from the second floor is accomplished by placing the modules on the second floor through a series of enlarged side doors. Second floor loading requires more walking of birds than loading off the first floor. With first floor loading, the telehandler/forklift enters the barn thus modules are placed in close proximity to the birds whereas with second floor loading, the modules are placed just inside the doors by the telehandler/forklift.



# Can birds be loaded outside with modules?

- Birds cannot be loaded outside with modules. The modules must be placed in the barn for loading.



# What safety measures are taken during loading to ensure that the forklift/telehandler can be operated safely?

- All catchers are required to wear a reflective vest during loading and are trained to always stay in front of the telehandler/forklift so they are visible to the driver. Farmer-members are also required to adhere to these guidelines during the loading process



# How is modular loading more efficient than crate loading?

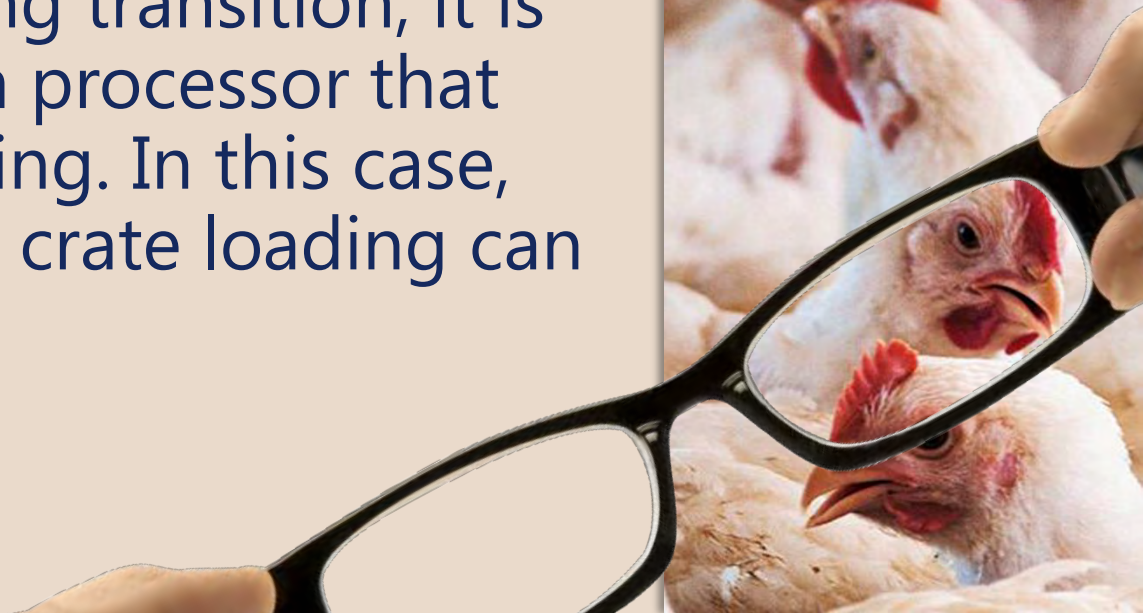
- Modular loading off the first floor of a barn is very efficient because the module can be placed in close proximity to the birds thus virtually eliminating walking of the birds to the module. On average, first floor loading takes approximately 45 minutes per trailer. Loading off the second and third floors is not as efficient as first floor loading as birds must be walked to the module that is placed just inside the second floor doors.





# What happens if I change processors after converting my barn to modular loading?

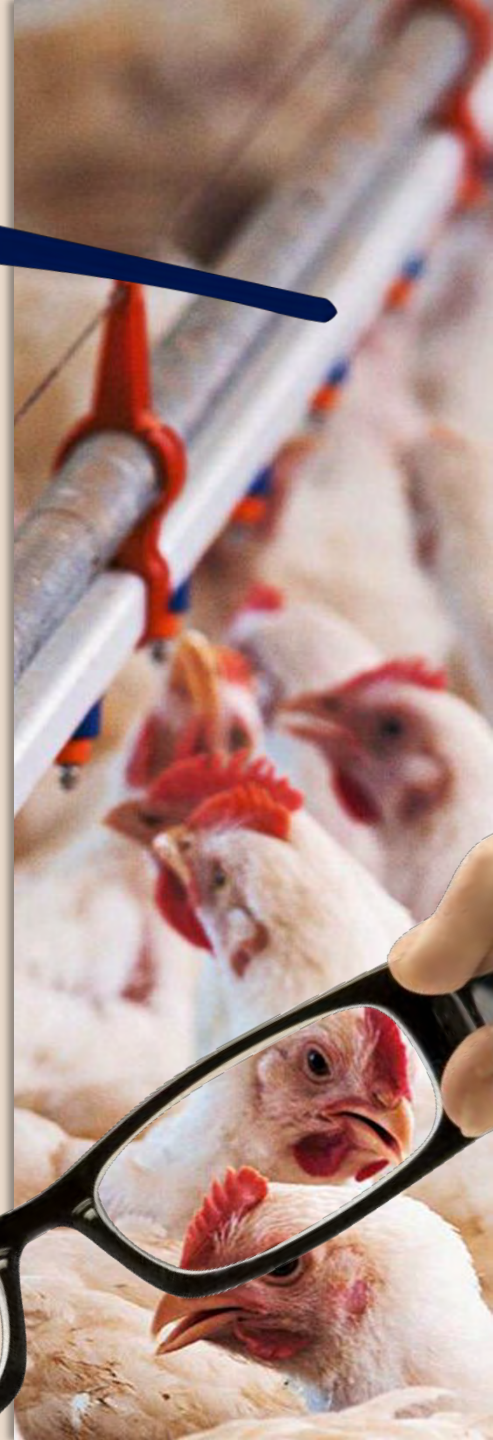
- Over time, the majority of processors will convert to modular loading so moving from one processor to another may have little or no impact from the perspective of modular loading. However, in the early phases of the industry's modular loading transition, it is possible you could end up moving to a processor that has not yet converted to modular loading. In this case, you will need to ensure that traditional crate loading can be accommodated at your farm



# Are any Ontario processors currently using modular loading?



- Two Ontario processors are currently using modular loading – Farm Fresh Poultry and Maple Lodge (for end-of-lay poultry). Farm Fresh began using modular loading for broilers in May of 2016. Maple Lodge implemented the system for end-of-lay poultry in February of 2012. Two other processors (Cargill and Maple Lodge) will implement modular loading systems in 2018.



# When will I be required to have my barn ready for modular loading?

- Your barn(s) will need to be modular-compliant (ready for loading with modules) no later than 56 weeks (7 quota periods) after your processor formally declares their intention to implement a modular loading system.



# What is the distinction between a “new” barn and an “existing” barn?

- Definitions of “new” and “existing” barns are provided in CFO Modular Loading Regulation No. 2568-2017. A “new” barn means a barn that completed construction on a registered premises after January 1, 2017. An “existing” barn is a barn that completed construction on or before December 31, 2016 and is located on a registered premises that is in use for the production of chicken.



# If I add on to an existing barn, is the addition considered subject to “new” or “existing” barn standards?

- Existing barn standards (Schedule 2 to Modular Loading Regulation No. 2568-2017) apply to additions made to existing barns.



# Règlement

- <https://www.ontariochicken.ca/getattachment/4a4a70ba-f3bc-43c3-b6d2-e77f84269e3a/Modular-Loading-Regulation.aspx>

