



### ***Haygain Solutions for Healthier Horses.***

*by Kim F. Miller*

Lauren Hough, Debbie McDonald, Mark Todd, William Fox-Pitt, Ben Maher and Andrew Hoy are just a few of the Olympic equestrians who rely on Haygain to keep their equine partners in medal-winning form. It's not just the elite, however, who consider the company's products critical to a mission that unites horse owners across all disciplines and breeds. The "rest of us" also are discovering that science-based Haygain products help our horses to live healthier lives.

"Without our horses we are nowhere," says California native and 2000 Olympic show jumper Lauren Hough. "We want to give our horses the best that we can." That sentiment is shared with owners of racing Thoroughbreds and barrel horses, cross-country crusaders, backyard buddies and every type of steed in between. Olympians often cite the competitive edge of using Haygain® steamed hay and the ComfortStall® orthopedic padded and sealed flooring system, while everyday horse owners describe horses breathing easier, moving better, and thriving.

For Lauren's equine athletes, providing "the best" includes Haygain steamed hay at her U.K. and Wellington, FL, training bases and anywhere their globe-trotting international itinerary takes them. "With all the travelling we do, they don't always get the same hay," Lauren explains. "Steaming it takes away the risk: there's nothing problematic left in there, so it greatly reduces the risk of respiratory problems or coughs, infections, etc. It's a really valuable tool."

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Fellow American Olympian, and dressage rider and prominent coach, Debbie McDonald, was among the first to embrace Haygain's products. Debbie's famous Olympic partner Brentina recovered from a major colic bout with help from Haygain's steamed hay and lived on ComfortStall's unique flooring system at home in Hailey, ID, before her retirement. The mare even travelled on it during the by-land legs of her many journeys. "We highly recommend ComfortStall for all performance horses' stalls and trailer floors!" say Debbie and her husband and fellow top horseman Bob McDonald.

### Healthy Solutions

Solving horse health problems is the core of Haygain's origin story. The hay steaming process resulted from a quest for forage that's free of respiratory particles, irritants, bacteria and spores that are, to many people's surprise, prevalent in even the finest quality, most expensive hay. ComfortStall was developed to provide unprecedented cushion and support, whether the horse is standing or lying down for a long, restorative REM snooze, and to solve the bacteria-laden "petri-dish" that can exist below traditional stall mats.

Both were developed in conjunction with top veterinary hospitals and research facilities. Haygain's hay steaming came about in conjunction with the Royal Agricultural University, Cirencester, England. Cornell University Veterinary Hospital's Surgery and Anesthesia Department was the staging ground for extensive testing of ComfortStall's material components, where it has been in daily use in the recovery stalls since its 2007 installation. Problem-free use since then includes holding up to bio-security disinfection between as many as six horses a day. In addition, independent lab testing of ComfortStall materials included loading a simulated horse's leg with 400 pounds, and pounding it over 100,000 times onto the same spot. The only result was extremely minimal compaction.



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