

Your Country Hedging Energy Team

Country Hedging Inc. is a full-service commodity brokerage offering expert market intelligence, innovative educational services and proven price risk management programs. Through a highly specialized energy team, Country Hedging delivers customized marketing strategies and plans that address such areas as inventory and position price risk management, business growth and market share.

Supported by insight built over nearly three decades of market analyses, Country Hedging offers programs that manage price risk through a variety of trading products such as futures and options, or the CHI Compass® contracts, which are basically over-the-counter derivatives. Educational programs geared toward helping commercial energy businesses better understand and establish long-term price risk management are also delivered by this team.

Phyllis Nystrom is the energy department manager for Country Hedging, having started her career in 1981 as a grain merchandiser and elevator manager for Continental Grain. She served as senior grain merchandiser for The Andersons and for Consolidated Grain and Barge before joining Country Hedging in 1993. She moved into her current position in 2006. A native of Illinois, Phyllis holds a B.S. degree in agricultural economics from the University of Illinois.

Jason Holthaus is an energy market analyst for Country Hedging. He joined the company in 2008 as a commodity analyst focusing on corn, beans and wheat. Jason started his career in the merchandiser/manager trainee program at Bunge, and worked as an export wheat and milo trader at its St. Louis office. He moved from there to trade rail corn and beans for Agri-Bunge. He also worked for CoBank just prior to joining Country Hedging. A native of Iowa, Jason holds an MBA from the Carlson School of Management, University of Minnesota. He also earned a Bachelor of Science degree with a double major in agricultural business and agronomy at Iowa State University.

Les Klukas is an energy market analyst for Country Hedging, providing daily guidance on energy markets through technical analysis and fundamental data. He also delivers risk management training for current and prospective customer accounts. Prior to joining Country Hedging in 2008, Les was an account manager in the propane division of CHS Inc., where he was responsible for the marketing and distribution of wholesale propane. He also assisted customers in managing price risk through a variety of strategies. He started his career as a certified energy specialist for CHS and then spent time as the petroleum department manager for Western Iowa Cooperative before returning to CHS. Les holds a B.S. degree in business management with a human resources emphasis from St. Cloud State University in Minnesota.

A subsidiary of CHS Inc., Country Hedging provides focused market intelligence, insight and individualized price risk management strategies for farmers, ranchers and commercial businesses across the U.S. Country Hedging is a registered Futures Commission Merchant with the National Futures Association. There is a risk of loss when trading futures and options.



Phyllis Nystrom



Jason Holthaus



Les Klukas

