

A farmer named Sam was overseeing his herd in a remote hilly pasture in Hereford when suddenly a brand-new BMW advanced toward him out of a cloud of dust.

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> The driver, a young man in a Brioni® suit, Gucci® shoes, RayBan® sunglasses and YSL® tie, leaned out the window and asked the farmer, "If I tell you exactly how many cows and calves you have in your herd, will you give me a calf?"

> Sam looks at the man, who obviously is a yuppie, then looks at his peacefully grazing animals and calmly answers, "Sure, why not?"

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> The yuppie parks his car, whips out his Dell® notebook computer, connects it to his Cingular RAZR V3® cell phone, and surfs to a NASA page on the Internet, where he

calls up a GPS satellite to get an exact fix on his location which he then feeds to another NASA satellite that scans the area in an ultra-high-resolution photo.

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> The young man then opens the digital photo in Adobe Photoshop® and exports it to an image processing facility in Hamburg, Germany ...

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> Within seconds, he receives an email on his Palm Pilot® that the image has been processed and the data stored. He then accesses an MS-SQL®

> database through an ODBC connected Excel® spreadsheet with email on his Blackberry® and, after a few minutes, receives a response.

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> Finally, he prints out a full-colour, 150-page report on his hi-tech, miniaturized HP LaserJet® printer, turns to the Farmer and says, "You have exactly 1,586 cows and calves."

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> "That's right. Well, I guess you can take one of my calves," says Sam.

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> He watches the young man select one of the animals and looks on with amusement as the young man stuffs it into the trunk of his car.

> Then Sam says to the young man, "Hey, if I can tell you exactly what your business is, will you give me back my calf?"

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> The young man thinks about it for a second and then says, "Okay, why not?"

> *"You're a Member of the European Parliament", says Sam.*

> *"Wow! That's correct," says the yuppie, "but how did you guess that?"*

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> *"No guessing required." answered Sam. "You showed up here even though nobody called you; you want to get paid for an answer I already knew, to a question I never asked. You used millions of pounds worth of equipment trying to show me how much smarter than me you are; and you don't know a thing about how working people make a living - or about cows, for that matter. This is a herd of sheep.*

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> *Now give me back my dog.*

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> **AND THAT Friends IS**
WHAT THE PROBLEM IS
WITH THE EU