

VALE COMMENTS on Report 44 Rahmeh to China, December 2018

Loading

IO SUMMARY: After adjustments, at least 50% of cattle could lie down in each pen. In some pens, all cattle could lay down at once.

VALE COMMENT: contrary to OIE recommendations, all animals cannot lie down at one time on Australian cattle export ships.

Ventilation

IO SUMMARY: Radiated heat from the engine room on middle decks was noticeable but not excessive.

VALE COMMENT: this could be an issue on hotter voyages or with *Bos taurus* cattle

Health and Welfare

IO SUMMARY: Other causes of death included unresponsive recumbency or injury.

VALE COMMENT: unresponsive recumbency is not a cause but an effect. No reason is provided as to why only 3 of the 6 dead cattle were necropsied.

Discharge

The cattle were discharged with minimal slipping or stress. Ramps used for discharge were suitable. Sawdust was used to minimise risk of slipping. No significant injuries to the cattle were observed.

Representative Photos

IO SUMMARY: no issues

VALE COMMENT: space allowances adequate. It is not acceptable that only 50% of cattle can lie down in one pen for a voyage of 12 days. It is contrary to OIE recommendations.