

# Independent Observer summary report on *MV Jawan*

## Cattle exported to Indonesia in January 2019

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Report 68, September 2019

### Voyage summary

A consignment of 5,400 cattle were loaded on the *MV Jawan* at Fremantle on 21 January 2019 and departed on the same day. The vessel discharged the cattle in Panjang, Indonesia on 27 and 28 January 2019, making this an 8 day voyage.

An Independent Observer (observer) boarded the vessel in Fremantle and remained on board until discharge.

The mortality rate for the cattle was 0.02% (1 mortality). This does not exceed the reportable mortality rate. The cause of this mortality was not considered to be linked to any systemic failure by the exporter.

The following comments represent a summary of key observations from the observer. The summary has been approved by the observer who accompanied this voyage.

### Implementation of procedures to ensure health and welfare of livestock

#### Exporter Documentation

Exporter arrangements were available to address procedures relating to livestock management from loading through to discharge and contingencies.

#### Loading

Cattle were not precisely loaded in accordance with the load plan. The number of cattle in some pens were loosened up in the first 24 hours of the voyage and some gates between pens were removed to provide additional space for the cattle to move and rest.

#### Personnel

A LiveCorp Accredited Stockperson (stockperson) and an additional experienced stockperson accompanied the voyage. The observer noted the stockpersons were competent and had the welfare of the cattle as their highest priority.

The master was responsible for the vessel, personnel and livestock. The master was observed on multiple occasions in the cargo holds inspecting conditions and the cattle. The bosun supervised the crew and responded to any concerns regarding feeding and cleanliness of feed and water in a timely manner. The master interacted very well with the stockpersons and the observer.

## **Daily routine**

A meeting was held each day at 10:00am and involved the master, Chief Officer (CO), stockperson bosun, and the observer. The meeting covered feeding schedules, overnight issues, feed and water consumption and temperature observations and any other relevant issues.

The stockperson routinely worked from 6:00am until 5:00pm each day and were on call at night.

The crew commenced their morning feeding, watering and cleaning routine at around 7:00am each day and usually took 3-4 hours. The crew undertook these duties with minimal supervision.

Night watch duties were assigned to two crew members that worked from 4:00pm until 8:00am in 4 hour shifts. The role of the night watch persons was to ensure feed and water were clean, sick and injured animals are monitored and reported to the stockpersons as they were identified.

The observer witnessed the CO directing a large number of crew to rectify water leaking down through the decks. The origin of the water was sea spray coming aboard due to the rough seas.

## **Feed and water**

The feeding routine commenced at 7:00am and the cattle were fed pellets and chaff.

Water was tested daily for salinity. There were two automatically filling water troughs in each pen.

The cattle did not feed very well for the first few days and this was attributed to the rough seas.

## **Ventilation**

The vents ensured a constant flow of air throughout each deck. In addition there were grates on each level which allowed hot air to dissipate.

The temperature readings were taken once per day on each of the 8 decks at approximately 9:00am. Temperatures recorded were well below maximum allowable levels throughout the voyage.

## **Pen conditions**

As the voyage was relatively short duration, there was no washing of decks. The pads were generally dry and provided good cushioning for the cattle. The stockperson added sawdust to pens that became wet, in addition, maintenance of dry pens was assisted by emptying uneaten pellets into the pens.

The observer noted some pens became wet due to water leaks from sea spray caused by rough weather early in the voyage. When this occurred the CO quickly had all available crew assisting in rectifying the issue. Excess water was cleared away and sufficient sawdust administered to soak up any remaining water. Plastic sheeting was also put in place to prevent sea spray coming on board. The situation was dealt with in a timely manner and without any animal welfare issues observed.

## **Health and welfare**

The observer noted treatments were given in a timely manner during the voyage. Cattle were treated for mild lameness with all treated animals recovered and discharged without an issue.

The observer noted that the stockpersons were competent and had the welfare of the cattle as their highest priority. The stockpersons performed their tasks in a manner that caused minimal disturbance to the cattle.

There was 1 mortality during the voyage. A post mortem examination was not conducted and the cause of death was undetermined. No animal welfare issues were observed.

## **Discharge**

Discharge of the cattle at the destination port was observed and appeared to be performed with minimal stress and animal welfare as a priority. The ramps were not slippery and had sawdust laid. The cattle continued have adequate feed and water for the duration of the discharge.

## **Conclusion**

The stockpersons were professional and were very vigilant in ensuring that the crew were informed of the requirements and that they performed their tasks to an appropriate standard on the vessel.

Overall, the voyage was successful, the exporter arrangements were observed to be implemented during the voyage and to be compliant with *Australian Standards for the Export of Livestock (Version 2.3) 2011* ([ASEL](#)) requirements and no animal welfare issues were observed.

## Representative photographs of the voyage

**Wet conditions – due to rough weather**



**Dry conditions after crew remediation**



**Day 2 Cattle in pen - no issues identified**



**Day 2 Cattle in pen – no issues identified**



**Day 3 Cattle in pen – no issues identified**



**Day 5 Cattle in pen – no issues identified**

