

VALE COMMENTS on Report 35 MV Rahmeh Darwin to Indonesia Nov 2018

Daily routine

IO SUMMARY: "At the beginning of the voyage the standard of cleaning of water troughs was not satisfactory as the observer noted between three and five dirty troughs per aisle"

VALE COMMENT: would this have been noticed/recorded/rectified on a routine voyage with a stockperson and no veterinarian? VALE believe that a veterinarian should accompany every voyage.

Ventilation

IO SUMMARY: " Temperature readings were taken on each deck once a day between 11.00am and noon each day. During the voyage, the observer noted that one thermometer was not functioning appropriately and was replaced.

VALE COMMENT: the recorded temperatures are unlikely to be representative. More frequent monitoring is routine on other vessels. Again, a problem was noted by the IO: would this have been noted or fixed had the IO not been on board?

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VALE COMMENT: Again, a problem was noted by the IO: would this have been noted or fixed had the IO not been on board?

IO SUMMARY: "The part of Deck 4 near the engine appeared warmer. However, the exporter was aware of this and loaded the warmer area with cattle more likely to cope with heat at a lower stocking density that was less than the ASEL."

VALE COMMENT: commendable that the exporter was proactive. However, this does highlight the significant issues of setting standards that will alleviate heat stress – with ships, decks and even pens performing differently.

Photos

VALE COMMENT: The IO noted that on occasion, nearly all the cattle were observed to be lying down. From photos that it would appear that it was not possible for all the cattle in each pen to have laid down together. This is contrary to OIE recommendations.