

VALE COMMENTS on Report 42 Anna Marra, Darwin to Indonesia Nov 2018

NOTE: Anna Marra was formerly Awassi Express.

Crew

IO SUMMARY: "An Australian Government Accredited Veterinarian (AAV) was present on the voyage and had been on the vessel during two recent long haul voyages."

VALE COMMENT: AAVs are not usually a requirement for shorthaul voyages. Is this vessel is still a cause of concern for the Department?

Ventilation

IO SUMMARY: "Six large ventilators supplied air to all ten decks. Auxiliary fans and ducting had been installed on decks to improve air flow further. Stuffy air pockets were detected at stationary times during discharge.

VALE COMMENT: These arrangements were presumably in response to High Mortality Voyage 69 and the footage from Animals Australia that was later broadcast by 60 Minutes. The industry blamed malicious disabling of ventilation by the whistleblower in claims that have now been investigated and demonstrated to have been false.

IO SUMMARY: "Temperature readings were taken on each deck at least twice daily. The maximum recorded temperature and relative humidity was included in the daily reports. Wet bulb temperatures were generally in the range of 29 – 31 degrees Celsius with relative humidity of 86 – 90%. Increased temperature was recorded when stationary and humidity increased during wash down.

VALE COMMENT: interesting observations re lack of ship movement and washdowns..

IO SUMMARY: "The observer noted a less ventilated area on Deck D. The recorded pen temperatures on this deck were not excessive.

VALE COMMENT: A cross-check with high Mortality Voyage Report 69 does not show Deck D to have been particularly problematic so this is an interesting observation (is it a new finding evident now because ventilation has been improved in other problem areas?)

IO SUMMARY: The tropical cattle appeared unaffected by the hot and humid conditions.

VALE COMMENT: given the past history of this ship with sheep (High Mortality Voyage; 60 Minutes Report) and the still persisting heat and ventilation issues, VALE believe that this vessel should be restricted to carrying only tropical cattle if it is allowed to continue exporting livestock.

Health and welfare

IO SUMMARY: The Bos indicus cattle appeared unaffected by the hot and humid conditions. The majority of the cattle gained weight on the voyage but a relatively small number of poorer cattle were evident. The cause of some of the cattle performing less favourably was not clear."

VALE COMMENT: only healthy cattle are to be loaded under ASEL; given the short voyage, it is possible that not all loaded cattle were health.

IO SUMMARY: “ at the end of the voyage, one animal showing signs of ill thrift that had not been previously detected was euthanased because it was injured during the discharge process.

VALE COMMENT: this again highlights why individual animals are not protected by the processes. Neither AAV, stockperson, IO or crew noted this animal during the voyage