

AMSA Consultation on Live Export Marine Order

Across national and international media, photographs of dead, dying and distressed livestock were not so long ago the headline and front page. The public are in outcry while the industry demands perspective. In light of the continuing public distress over the fate of livestock exported by ship there are presently two bills before parliament.



Minister for Agriculture David Littleproud introduced the *Export Legislation Amendment (Live-stock) Bill 2018* that does nothing to improve conditions, but provides stronger penalties for contraventions of existing standards.

While Liberal MP Sussan Ley introduced a private member's bill, *Live Sheep Long Haul Export Prohibition Bill 2018*, that has the effect of banning live export of sheep in the Northern Hemisphere summer months to the Persian Gulf and Red Sea, and a further entire ban of live exports within five years. However, it does not address regulation or standards for cattle, pigs, goats or other livestock.

Neither bill is receiving sufficient support in parliament and neither bill sufficiently addresses the issues on hand.

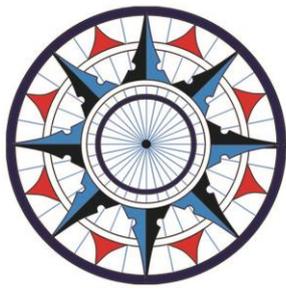
However, unbeknown to the media the Australian Maritime Safety Authority (AMSA) presently has a draft marine order amendment published for consultation, *Marine Order 43 (Cargo and cargo handling – livestock) 2018* ("Marine Order 43 2018"). AMSA conducted a review in 2016, consulting stakeholders including farmers, exporters, ship operators and owners.

While the bills before parliament are both important for consideration, the proposed Marine Order 43 2018 is taking practical steps toward improved conditions, **right now**.

While the proposed Marine Order 43 2018 makes several improvements on the previous Marine Order 43 2006, it does not implement the full complement of recommendations made for safe shipping of livestock.

Marine Order 43 2018 is presently open for consultation through AMSA. The following is a summary of the changes that Marine Order 43 2018 will make. If you have





anything to contribute in relation to the Marine Order and the following changes then make your opinions known before **8 June 2018**.

<https://www.amsa.gov.au/news-community/consultations/have-your-say-make-submission>

Single-tiered livestock carriage

Marine Order 43 2018 will phase out double tiered carriage of livestock. Proposed paragraph 43 provides that livestock must not be carrier on more than 1 tier. There is a sunset subparagraph that provides that double tiers may be used for sheep, pigs or goats until 31 December 2019 for vessels that use double tiers prior to 1 July 2018.

Foreign vessels

All vessels carrying livestock have been required to obtain an Australia Certificate for the Carriage of Livestock (ACCL). This requirement continues under the proposed new Marine Order 43 2018. However, according to the proposed paragraph 28 the ACCL for foreign vessel will cease to in force if any of the following occur;

- a) condition of certificate has been breached;
- b) livestock operator of vessel changes;
- c) vessel is sold or scrapped;
- d) vessel changes flag;
- e) vessel's classification society changes.

This provision applies also to interim licences held by foreign vessel. However, this strict condition does not apply to Australian vessels.

Access and egress

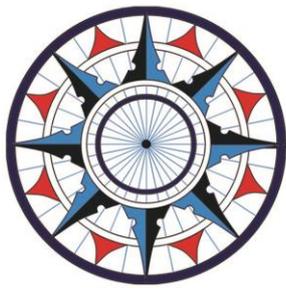
Paragraphs 48, 49, and 52 provide for additional, safety, space, security and strength of ramps or other means of access. This includes provision for;

- Protective fencing separating access for people from livestock access,
- Minimum widths of access passageways,
- Railings for pens, stalls and passageways,
- Treads of ramps and passageways.

Camel shipping

Previously Marine Order 43 did not provide for the shipping of camels specifically. Specific paragraphs relating to camels have been inserted relating to the following;





- Access to and from the vessel,
- Ramps installed on vessels,
- Use of harnesses when loading camels,
- Design and strength of pens and passageways for camels,

General protective changes

Paragraph 57: Protection of pens and stalls for livestock from sea spray and seawater.

Paragraph 78: Additional requirements for the construction, design and placement of portable equipment containing livestock.

Paragraph 85: Types of incidents that are classed as notifiable incidents has been broadened, increasing the reporting requirements.

Schedule 2: Table 2.2 Increased ventilation is required on older vessels



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