



Australian Government

# Independent Observer summary report on *MV Girolando Express*

## Cattle exported to Vietnam in June 2022

December 2022

### Voyage summary

Livestock: 2,679 cattle.

Vessel: *MV Girolando Express*.

Loading location and date: Darwin, 23 June 2022.

Vessel departure date: Darwin, 23 June 2022.

Discharge location and dates: Hon La, Vietnam, from 1 to 2 July 2022.

Voyage length: 10 days.

Independent Observer: Boarded at Darwin and remained onboard until completion of discharge.

Voyage mortality rate: 0.04% (1 mortality). This mortality is unlikely to be linked to any systemic failure by the exporter.

Notifiable mortality rate required to trigger a full investigation: 0.5% or 3 animals (whichever is greater).

### Summary of observations

This report summarises key observations of the implementation and effectiveness of exporter arrangements to ensure the health and welfare of livestock. The report has been approved by the observer who accompanied the voyage.

#### Exporter documentation

The observer reported no issues regarding exporter documentation.

#### Loading

Based on observations made during this voyage, the exporter arrangements during loading were appropriate and effective in managing livestock health and welfare.

#### Personnel

Based on observations made during this voyage, the exporter arrangements relating to personnel were appropriate and effective in managing livestock health and welfare.

### **Daily routine**

Based on observations made during this voyage, the exporter arrangements relating to daily routine were appropriate and effective in managing livestock health and welfare.

### **Feed and water**

Based on observations made during this voyage, the exporter arrangements relating to feed and water were appropriate and effective in managing livestock health and welfare.

### **Ventilation**

Based on observations made during this voyage, the exporter arrangements relating to ventilation were appropriate and effective in managing livestock health and welfare.

### **Pen conditions**

Based on observations made during this voyage, the exporter arrangements relating to pen conditions were appropriate and effective in managing livestock health and welfare.

### **Health and welfare**

- 1) Four cattle were placed in hospital pens during the voyage for treatment. The stockperson reported treating for lameness, bloat, nasal discharge and difficulty breathing.
- 2) On 30 June 2022, a bull previously treated for breathing difficulties was found deceased.

### **Discharge**

Based on observations made during this voyage, the exporter arrangements during discharge were appropriate and effective in managing livestock health and welfare.

### **Department actions**

No adverse animal health and welfare outcomes arising from exporter arrangements were observed. No regulatory action was taken.

**Representative photographs of voyage**

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



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



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



**Day 6 Cattle in pen — no issues identified**



**Day 8 Cattle in pen — no issues identified**



**Day 9 Cattle in pen — no issues identified**



**Acknowledgement of Country**

We acknowledge the Traditional Custodians of Australia and their continuing connection to land and sea, waters, environment and community. We pay our respects to the Traditional Custodians of the lands we live and work on, their culture, and their Elders past and present.

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