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## **LIVEXchange 2017 sets out path to build adaptability, sustainability and accountability**

THE Australian livestock export industry's national conference, LIVEXchange 2017, has been declared a huge success following two busy days of discussion and debate focussed on the future of Australia's live trade.

LiveCorp CEO Sam Brown said this year's event built on the success of previous LIVEXchange conferences, which commenced in Townsville in 2013.

"LIVEXchange has established itself as event which challenges our thinking and invites broader views, supporting discussion across the key issues before the livestock export industry," Mr Brown said.

"This year's theme of 'taking stock' around the important areas of business adaptability, industry sustainability and community accountability has been very timely given the different challenges and opportunities currently in front of our industry.

"The live animal export industry prides itself on being progressive and we strive to continually improve our trade.

"As such, we sought to hear perspectives from speakers beyond the live trade, to gain an understanding of how they have approached challenges and made advancements."

Highlights of the conference included keynotes addresses by Mareterram Limited managing director David Lock and former Australian Ambassador to China, Dr Geoff Raby.

Federal Assistant Minister for Agriculture, Hon Luke Hartsuyker and WA Agriculture Minister, Hon Alannah MacTiernan also spoke at the conference, outlining ways government is engaging with and supporting the livestock export industry.

Other speakers included RSPCA NSW CEO Steve Coleman, Islamic law and halal slaughter expert Professor Kristen Stilt and the CSIRO's Dr Chris Chilcott.

Mr Brown said the event also gave the industry to farewell outgoing LiveCorp Chairman David Galvin.

"We sincerely thank David for his leadership and dedication to our industry, and on behalf of all live trade stakeholders, I wish him all the success in the future.

LIVEXchange 2017 culminated in the industry's annual Gala Dinner featuring legendary Western Australian cricketer Brad Hogg as guest speaker. The dinner's charity auction tonight was another great success, with \$53,200 raised for Ronald McDonald House Perth and St John Ambulance WA.

The next LIVEXchange conference will be held in Townsville in 2019. Further information about LIVEXchange 2017 can be found at: <https://livexchangeconference.com.au>