

Statement from Emanuel Exports' Director Nicholas Daws:

The footage televised by *60 Minutes* is simply devastating and Emanuel Exports apologises to farmers and the broader community for these absolutely unacceptable outcomes

Animal welfare failures resulting in high mortalities, like the footage we've seen from the August 2017 *Awassi Express* shipment in which 2400 sheep died, are heartbreaking for our company and the producers whose livestock we export.

Over more than seven months since that shipment, Emanuel Exports has consulted closely with Australian Government Accredited Veterinarians and professionally accredited stockpersons who have worked on the *Awassi Express* and other livestock vessels servicing the Arabian Gulf, gaining their first-hand insights.

Based on their suggestions, we've taken important practical steps above ASEL's regulatory standards to prevent the extraordinary circumstances of August 2017 reoccurring in the future.

This work has coincided with extensive consultation over the past seven months with the Federal Department of Agriculture and Water Resources as the industry regulator – an important collaboration which has helped secure improved animal welfare outcomes over subsequent voyages.

We know more needs to be done, which is why our company has instigated with DAWR substantial risk mitigation measures to be adopted for the forthcoming 2018 Northern Hemisphere summer.

It is also why we've accepted the special conditions DAWR has placed on the *Awassi Express* shipment which is due to load at the Port of Fremantle this week.

These conditions include a 17.5 per cent reduction in loading volumes compared to regulatory standards and the presence of a Federal Government observer on the voyage (in addition to an Australian Government Accredited Veterinarian, as required for all voyages to the Arabian Gulf).

We have also agreed to employ extra accredited stockpersons for the shipment and to adjust the voyage schedule so that Kuwait will now be the first port of discharge, ahead of Qatar.

The ship is due to unload approximately 24,000 sheep in Kuwait approximately 14 days after its departure from Fremantle, and will then discharge the remaining 33,000 sheep in Qatar approximately three days later.

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