



PO Box 252  
BRIDGEWATER TAS 7030  
Phone 0414 726935

Fax: (03) 6249 7726  
Email [suzannecass@iprimus.com.au](mailto:suzannecass@iprimus.com.au)  
[www.liveexportshame.com](http://www.liveexportshame.com)

**NEWSFLASH**

**NEWSFLASH**

**NEWSFLASH**

31 July 2006

## "World leader" in export animals' welfare shown up by Brazil

Despite claims by Minister McGauran, LiveCorp and Meat and Livestock Australia that Australia leads the world in animal welfare in its live export trade, Australia has been shown up by competitor Brazil, claims Live Export Shame Tasmania. Spokesperson Suzanne Cass said today:

"Animal advocates have been appealing to the Minister and to exporters to stop sending animals to the Middle East as hostilities escalate. Now a Brazilian exporter has done just that, and the Minister's claims are proving to be not just empty, but false and misleading".

A Brazilian exporter last week announced that it was stopping its shipments of live cattle to Lebanon while hostilities continue in the region.

"It is unconscionable that Australian exporters are continuing to send animals to this volatile region, where other countries might join the hostilities at any time", continued Ms Cass. "The Minister is trying to congratulate himself on his propagandist reports about the contribution that this evil industry makes to the Australian economy, and that Australia's animal welfare standards are the best in the world. He claims that animal welfare in importing countries would suffer if Australia were to leave that market, and we have Brazil demonstrating a far higher standard"

Agriculture Minister McGauran released a report by Hassall and Associates two weeks ago, which claimed that the live export trade supported 12,000 jobs, and listed about 30 industries which it claimed depended on the trade.

"We have read the "independent" economic report by Hassall and Associates, an organization which has as a Director the former Chair of LiveCorp, and it is as flawed as its report of 2000, which was discredited by leading agricultural economists at the time. This report is no different; in fact, it goes so far as to claim that among the industries that rely on the trade are the banking and insurance industries. It is simply ludicrous to suggest that these industries depend on the trade. They, and many of the "12,000 jobs" quoted would continue to exist without the export element".

"Now the industry's claims of the highest standards in animal welfare have once again been found to fall far short of the reality. This is a trade whose own desperate efforts at self-justification are failing, and we think they know it", concluded Ms Cass.