
Overview

This standard covers maintaining the health and welfare of animals during transportation. NB It does not cover the driving of transport vehicles. It is essential that during the transportation of animals, steps are taken to monitor the health and general well-being of the animals. Monitoring will include checking and responding to any signs in the animals of stress, ill-health or injury.

The behaviour, appearance and bodily functions of the animals will provide an indication of their well-being. When transporting animals you should be trained and hold current certification, where required. When carrying out your work you must consider the impact it will have on the environment. This standard is suitable for those who maintain the health and welfare of animals during transportation.

Performance criteria

You must be able to:

1. assess the risks associated with the activity to be carried out
2. wear suitable clothing and personal protective equipment (PPE)
3. maintain the health and welfare of the animals at optimal levels throughout the journey, in accordance with relevant legislation
4. monitor the health and welfare of the animals at the required times during transportation to identify any causes for concern
5. recognise changes in animal health and welfare that might signify stress, ill-health or injury, and take the required action
6. make sure that the journey does not exceed the maximum allowed journey times/distances in accordance with relevant legislation
7. maintain the transport environment in a manner and at a level appropriate to the animals concerned
8. maintain the safety and security of the animals at all times during transportation
9. maintain communication with colleagues and others involved in, or affected by, your work
10. maintain hygiene and bio-security in accordance with business practices
11. carry out your work in accordance with relevant environmental and health and safety legislation, animal health and welfare legislation, risk assessment requirements, codes of practice and business policies
12. complete records as required by relevant legislation and the business

Knowledge and understanding

You need to know and understand:

1. how to identify hazards and assess risks
2. the type of clothing and personal protective equipment (PPE) suitable for the activity
3. when to monitor the health and welfare of the animals being transported, in accordance with relevant legislation and the method of transportation being used
4. how the appearance, body functions and behaviour of the animals provides an indication of their health and welfare
5. the factors that cause stress to the animals
6. how to assess the significance of signs of stress, ill-health or injury, in order to determine the actions to be taken and their urgency
7. how to maintain the health and welfare of the animals being transported by the provision of feed, water or breaks from travelling
8. the methods of maintaining the transportation environment for the animals being transported, and the levels to which it needs to be maintained
9. the circumstances in which animals can be left and how safety and security can be maintained
10. the problems that could occur when transporting animals and the actions that should be taken
11. the importance of maintaining communication with those involved in, or affected by, your work and how this should be done
12. the importance of maintaining hygiene and bio-security during transportation and the methods for achieving this
13. your responsibilities for the welfare of animals under relevant animal health and welfare legislation, animal transport legislation, codes of practice and business policies
14. the legal requirements for training and certification when transporting animals
15. your responsibilities under relevant environmental and health and safety legislation, codes of practice and business policies
16. the records that need to be kept and the importance of completing them

Glossary

Legal requirements for training and certification:

Transporting animals over 65km and up to eight hours:

- Drivers and attendants responsible for the transport of cattle, sheep, pigs, goats, domestic equidae or poultry must hold a valid certificate of competence.

Transporting animals over eight hours:

- Anyone transporting cattle, sheep, pigs, goats, domestic equidae or poultry over 65km must be competent to do so.
- Drivers and attendants must hold a valid certificate of competence.
- Drivers must also hold the relevant licence to drive the vehicle, including a trailer, where used.

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Maintain the health and welfare of animals during transportation



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