Live Cattle Exports To Vietnam One Step Closer

Primary Industry and Fisheries Minister Chris Natt today said live cattle exports to Vietnam are one step closer following several productive meetings in Hanoi and Nha Trang yesterday.

“The Vietnamese are keen to explore the possibility of importing live cattle from the Territory,” Mr Natt said.

“The live cattle export industry employs more than 1000 Territorians and is worth more than $180 million to our economy.

“Importing live cattle from the Territory will provide the Vietnamese an opportunity to value add to this industry through feedlots and cheap, locally-sourced food by-products for cattle fattening.

“Yesterday I met with Vietnam’s Minister for Agriculture and Rural Development, the Hon Mr Cao Duc Phat and the Minister for Industry and Trade, the Hon Mr Vu Huy Hoang.

“Both gentlemen said importing live cattle from the Territory could boost jobs and our respective economies.

“Our talks focused on how the live export trade works from an Australian perspective and what is required to feedlot cattle in Asia.

“We are keen to pass on our knowledge of the live export trade to the Vietnamese so their feedlotters have every chance of success.”

Mr Natt is in Vietnam with representatives from the Northern Territory Cattlemen’s Association (NTCA) and the Northern Territory Livestock Exporters Association (NTLEA).

“The NTCA, NTLEA and Northern Territory Government are holding seminars on the live cattle trade while in Vietnam, including one this morning in Nha Trang,” Mr Natt said.

“This trip to Vietnam is yet another example of this Government working in partnership with industry to develop new markets for Territory producers.

“I believe there is significant opportunity for the establishment of a live cattle trade between the Northern Territory and Vietnam that will benefit both our economies.”

Tomorrow Mr Natt will meet with Mr Le Hoang Quan, chairman of the People’s Committee of Ho Chi Minh City before flying back to Darwin later that night.

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