New Trade Doors Opening for the Territory

A new agreement signed today to export live cattle to Vietnam will be a boost for the Territory pastoral industry, exports and the economy.

Chief Minister Paul Henderson and Minister for Primary Industry Kon Vatskalis said the Northern Territory Government, pastoral industry and exporters had been working hard to expand the live export trade into Vietnam for the past two years.

“The purchase agreement signed today is great news – with a shipment of nearly 1000 head set to leave for Vietnam as early as next month,” Mr Henderson said.

“The new export industry will boost the Territory economy by over $1 million in its first year.

“Over the last two years we have launched a concerted effort to expand our export industries in Vietnam with trade delegations and negotiations centred on live cattle, tourism and international education.

“Expanding our export industries has been a key focus of my Government and is one of the reasons the Territory has been able to withstand the impact of the global financial crisis better than other jurisdictions.

“I am also pleased to see expanding trade and cultural ties between the Territory and Vietnam – which has been a focus of this Government.”

The Agreement to Purchase was signed today by the Khanh Hoa Trading and Investment Company and the North Australian Cattle Company.

“I would like to congratulate the vision of these two companies and recognise the work of the NT Cattlemen’s Association, the livestock Exporters Association and the Department of Chief Minister and the Department of Regional Development, Primary Industries, Fisheries and Resources in bringing about this agreement,” Mr Henderson said.

Mr Vatskalis said the NT was well placed to provide cattle and after market technical support, advice on feedlot management, handling and nutrition.

“We have done the necessary work to ensure we’ll have a successful shipment,” he said.

“The benefits of this expansion of our live export trade will flow into regional and rural parts of the Territory – bringing economic activity and employment.”

Media contact: Geoff Fraser 0407 360 256, Gino Luglietti 0401 119 794