



**siba ships**  
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**Wellard**

MEDIA RELEASE  
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## MV BECRUX REACHES CARGO MILESTONE

The MV Becrux, the world's most technologically advanced livestock carrier, has celebrated a milestone, successfully transporting its 3,000,000<sup>th</sup> sheep.

The vessel unloaded its milestone sheep in Doha, Qatar, last night, and is now returning to Perth to load another consignment for the Middle East.

The sheep milestone comes only two months after the vessel's 500,000<sup>th</sup> cattle milestone was achieved.

The MV Becrux entered the Siba Ships livestock fleet in 2002 and has completed 77 voyages since its launch. Its speed and animal welfare advances have cemented its position as the flagship of the world's livestock fleet.

"With its superior feed, water and ventilation systems, the MV Becrux has been a resounding success for Siba Ships and Australian sheep and cattle producers," Siba Ships Chairman Mauro Balzarini said.

"It was that success which prompted Siba and Wellard to place our recently announced US\$250 million order for two new sister vessels to the Becrux."

The bulk of the cattle and sheep on the MV Becrux's voyages have been supplied by Australia's largest livestock exporter Wellard Rural Exports, which enjoys priority access to the MV Becrux.

"The Becrux doesn't just exceed the industry standard in terms of voyage success rates, the sheep and cattle on-board the Becrux arrive at their destination in better condition than aboard any other vessel," Wellard Rural Exports Managing Director Steve Meerwald said.

"That ability enables Australian producers to retain their competitive advantage in the global live export trade."

**For further information please contact:**

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### **Background – Wellard Rural Exports**

Wellard Rural Exports is Australia's largest livestock exporter. It has supplied quality Australian dairy and beef cattle and sheep and goats to the world for more almost 30 years. Based in Fremantle, the company's operations cover every aspect of the export chain, including feed and high fibre milling, road transport, feedlot facilities and modern shipping.

Wellard has priority access to the most modern fleet of livestock carriers on the ocean through its association with Siba Ships. The company's flagship carrier, the MV Becrux, is a purpose-built livestock carrier capable of carrying 75,000 sheep or 18,000 cattle from Australia to major markets around the globe. She was commissioned in 2002.

For more information visit: [www.wellardgroup.com.au](http://www.wellardgroup.com.au)

### **Background – Siba Ships**

SIBA currently operates three livestock carriers, one tanker and fourteen Panamax, Kamsarmax and handy bulkers and has a further 15 bulk newbuildings for delivery between now and 2011. These include post Panamax, Kamsarmax, and handy size tonnage either owned or on long term charter.

Siba Ships is the Italian shipowning arm of the Balzarini group which specialises in the trading and transportation of livestock. For more than forty years the company has transported livestock, mainly from Australia to the Middle East, South East Asia and South America.

Siba Ships also operates a growing fleet of bulk carriers, a product tanker and a mining resources fund, and is expanding into other areas of shipping.

For more information on Siba Ships and its fleet, please visit [www.sibaships.com](http://www.sibaships.com)