

**MERCHANT SHIPPING ACT**  
**(CHAPTER 179, SECTION 237)**  
**MERCHANT SHIPPING (TRANSIT OF CATTLE BY SEA)**  
**RULES 2004/27.**

[4th November 1927]

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**MERCHANT SHIPPING ACT**  
**(CHAPTER 179, SECTION 237)**  
**MERCHANT SHIPPING (TRANSIT OF CATTLE BY SEA) RULES**  
**2004/27.**

## PRELIMINARY

### **Citation.**

1. These Rules may be cited as the Merchant Shipping (Transit of Cattle by Sea) Rules.

### **Definitions.**

2.—(1) In these Rules, unless the context otherwise requires —

"master" includes the person in charge of a vessel.

"tongkang" includes any boat, barge, lighter, or other vessel, propelled by oars only or by sail only or by oars and sail.

"vessel" includes steamers, sailing vessels and tongkangs.

"cattle" includes horned cattle, deer, horses, ponies, mules and asses.

(2) For the purposes of these Rules 3 pigs (not being enclosed in baskets) or 4 sheep or 4 goats shall be deemed to be equivalent to one head of cattle.

## GENERAL RULES RELATING TO ALL VESSELS

### **Long voyages.**

3. When Cattle are carried on board a vessel for a voyage which on an average takes more than 8 hours, the master and the chin chew shall cause to be provided for such cattle a sufficient amount of food, and water, and proper accommodation for the storage of food so that food and water shall not be unduly exposed to the weather at sea.

### **Protection of cattle and livestock.**

4. Cattle and all other live stock shall be protected against injury and against unnecessary suffering from undue exposure to the weather by proper awnings, permanent or otherwise, to the satisfaction of the Inspector, and shall not be carried on iron decks unless such iron decks are overlaid with wood or some other suitable covering.

### **Fittings to be fenced off.**

5. Ships' fittings likely to cause injury or unnecessary suffering shall be properly and securely fenced off.

### **Treatment of livestock.**

6.—(1) Horned cattle shall not be slung by the horns and all livestock shall be shipped and landed in such manner as to avoid injuring the animals or causing them unnecessary suffering and, if necessary, with proper slings or other appliances.

(2) Where necessary live stock shall be lifted by means of slings, and the slings shall be constructed in the manner shown in the diagram hereunder and shall consist of a canvas belly band or belt 3 feet in length and 2½ feet in width, the ends of which shall be fitted with round wooden stretchers over which the ends of the canvas sling or belt shall be securely sewn, and of two ropes, each of which shall be 9 feet in length and not less than 3½ inches in circumference, which shall be sewn along the length of the canvas band on both its sides and the ends of the ropes spliced together and fitted with an iron eye or thimble at each end. If one rope is used it shall be 18 feet in length and not less than 3½ inches in circumference and shall be arranged in the manner shown in the diagram.

(3) No livestock shall be shipped or landed, if by reason of the inclemency of the weather, the state of the tide or the draught of the ship injury or unnecessary suffering is likely to be caused to the livestock.

### **Destruction of injured animal.**

7. The master of a vessel shall destroy or cause to be destroyed forthwith any animal that is maimed or seriously injured, or has sustained a broken limb.

**Pig baskets.**

**8.**—(1) All baskets for the carriage of pigs by sea shall be of a pattern approved by the Inspector. Each basket shall be of a size large enough completely to contain one pig but not so large as to allow the pig such freedom of movement as may enable it to cause injury to itself or to other pigs. Each basket shall be constructed in such a manner that the legs of the pig cannot protrude.

(2) Not more than one pig shall be carried in one basket. For the carriage of a pig from Singapore by sea the basket, if any, in which it is carried shall be made of round rattan. Baskets for the carriage of pigs by sea into Singapore may be constructed of split bamboo if their edges are so smoothed that they cannot cause injury.

(3) When loading or unloading pigs in baskets each basket shall be lifted by a pair of iron hooks fitted with wire or rope legs of equal length. The hooks shall be hooked securely, one at each end of the basket, in such a manner as to keep the basket in a horizontal position. Not more than two baskets shall be lifted together.

**Stacking of pig baskets.**

**9.** Baskets in which pigs are carried shall not be stacked in such manner as to cause injury or suffering to the pigs.

**Carriage of poultry.**

**10.** Poultry shall not be carried in baskets or crates in such manner as to cause them injury or unnecessary suffering.

## **RULES RELATING TO VESSELS OTHER THAN TONGKANGS**

**Cattle to be carried in proper manner.**

**11.** Cattle shall not be carried in any part of the vessel where in ordinary course of navigation they would interfere with the proper management or ventilation of the vessel or with the efficient working of the boats.

**Cattle not to be carried on hatch.**

**12.** Cattle shall not be carried on any hatch above a compartment where other cattle are carried.

**Pens.**

**13.** Cattle shall be carried in pens, and shall not in any case be overcrowded so as to cause injury or discomfort.

**Cattle to be secured.**

**14.** Cattle on board shall be separately and securely tied by the head by ropes passed through eye bolts in the pen frames.

**Construction of pens.**

**15.**—(1) Pens shall be constructed to the satisfaction of the Inspector, and shall not exceed 10 feet in length and nine feet in breadth. The stanchions of each pen shall be securely fastened to the deck or floor by means of iron sockets or otherwise.

(2) The materials used in the construction of the pens shall be of a substantial character, sufficient to withstand the action of the weather and to resist the weight of the cattle thrown against them.

**Floor of pens.**

**16.** The floor of each pen shall be a flat surface, and in order to prevent slipping shall be fitted with suitable battens or other proper footholds, securely fastened to the deck or floor, and the floors shall be strewn with a proper quantity of sand or other suitable material.

**Accessibility of pens.**

**17.** In all enclosed portions of a vessel in which cattle are carried the arrangements shall permit of each pen being accessible to the cattle attendants.

**Ventilations.**

**18.** All parts of the vessel on which cattle are carried shall be sufficiently and suitably ventilated.

**Passengers on board steamer carrying cattle.**

**19.**When cattle are carried on board a steamer carrying passengers the provisions of the Merchant Shipping (Survey of Passenger Steamers) Rules relating to such cases shall be complied with.

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**Attendants**

**20.**When cattle are carried attendants to the number of one to every 20 heads of cattle carried shall be provided in addition to the crew. Proper accommodation shall be provided for these attendants, and they shall be required to sign the ship articles.

**Special pens or boxes.**

**21.**Horses, ponies, mules, asses and other animals shall, if the Inspector so requires be carried in single pens or boxes of suitable dimensions, and such pens shall be padded to the satisfaction of the Inspector.

## **RULES RELATING TO TONGKANGS ONLY**

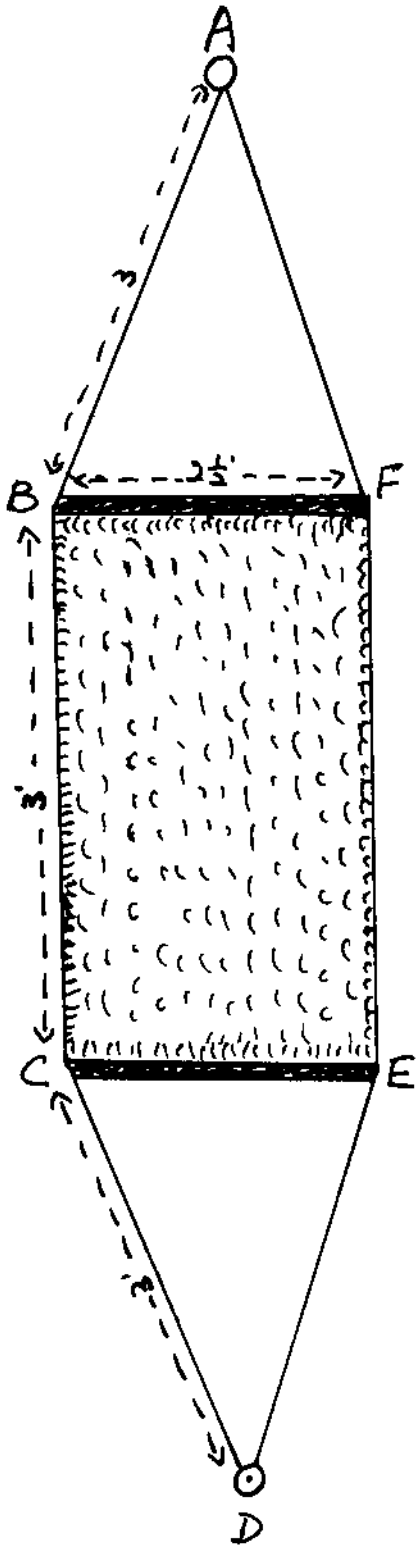
**Carriage within port limits.**

**22.**When cattle are carried within the limits of the port in Singapore pens need not be fitted, but the vessel shall be of such a character as in the opinion of the Inspector sufficiently precludes risk of injury or of unnecessary suffering to the cattle.

**Carriage beyond port limits.**

**23.**When cattle are carried in a tongkang beyond the limits of a port they shall be carried in pens of a substantial character and suitable size fitted to the satisfaction of the Inspector, and the cattle shall be separately and securely tied by the head by ropes passed through eye bolts in the pen frames, and shall not be crowded together in such a way as to cause injury or discomfort. Rule 16 shall apply to such pens.

## DIAGRAM



ABCD = Ropes 9 feet in length  
AFED (each)

{ BF = Round Wooden  
CE Stretchers.

BCEF = Canvas Belly-Band; 3 feet  
in length and  $2\frac{1}{2}$  feet  
in width.

{ A = Iron eye or thimble.  
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