

Von: Christine Hafner | Animals' Angels [mailto:christine@animals-angels.de]
Gesendet: Dienstag, 21. Juli 2009 11:18
An: 'Andrea.Gavinelli@ec.europa.eu'
Cc: 'laura.perez-alvarez@ec.europa.eu'
Betreff: Request for formal opinion - Minimum space requirements for horses

Dear Andrea,

I am writing to you regarding the minimum space requirements for young horses on journeys over 48 hours.

1. Calculation of journey time in connection with determining the minimum space for young horses

Council Regulation (EC) No. 1/2005 (Annex I, chapter VII) requires a minimum space of 2,4m² for young horses (6-24 months) for journeys over 48 hours.

The definition of "journey" (Art. 2, letter j) of Reg. 1/2005 is the following:

"Journey means the entire transport operation from the place of departure to the place of destination, including any unloading, accommodation and loading occurring at intermediate points in the journey."

A control post in an intermediate point in the journey.

I understand that consequently when calculating if the journey exceeds 48 hours the time the animals are unloaded at a control post (24 hours) has to be included.

The FVO shares this view as it becomes obvious on page 9 of the attached mission report to Poland. (The FVO states that for a 60 hour journey to Italy the young horses should have been granted a space of 2,4m² - the mentioned 60 hour journey certainly included 24 hours of unloading at a control post). I asked an official of the FVO for confirmation, which I received.

2. Minimum measurements (length and width) for size of individual stall

In addition to the minimum space requirements Regulation (EC) No 1/2005 indicates the required width and length (in the case of young horses on journeys over 48 hours 1,2m x 2m are required – see extract from the Regulation above).

I understand that these two measurements are also to be regarded as minimum measurements; in other words, if the length of the stall is, for example 2,5m, the width of the stall must still be at least 1,2m.

I kindly ask you to let me know, if you consider my viewpoint on these two aspects to be correct.

With best regards,

Christine

Animals' Angels