

Issued January, 2014

Dubbo Regional Livestock Markets, Dubbo, NSW



Before Installation of the SureFoot® Mat – The Saleyard flooring was scored concrete which becomes slippery and a hazard for stock.

With a strong focus on OH&S and Animal Welfare, the Dubbo Regional Livestock Market stands out as a market leader and were one of the first saleyards in Australia to achieve Quality Assurance status under the National Saleyards Quality Assurance Program.

In 2012, a \$4 million proposal was put forward to upgrade the site facilities **in order to meet the higher expectations of buyers, to attract and retain large food chain buyers and to improve the safety and conditions** for animals and staff onsite. Approximately \$800K of the total figure was allocated to the installation of new soft flooring in the form of Rubber Matting.



After Installation

Situated on 29.74 hectares in regional NSW, **Dubbo Regional Livestock Market** represents the largest throughput saleyard for combined sheep and cattle sales within Australia and is currently ranked #1 nationally. Operating for over 60 years the yards contribute approximately \$47.7 million to the local regional economy annually and support the equivalent of around 245 full time jobs.

The Saleyards are owned by the Dubbo Shire Council and operated by a core group of licenced Stock Agents. **The average throughput value lies in the vicinity of \$250 million per annum equating to approximately 1.3 million sheep and over 200,000 head of cattle.**



After Installation

In 2013 and after a period of consultation, RPS Industries were commissioned to install approximately **10,000 square metres of rubber matting into the sale yard pens and this project** was completed in October. The rubber matting provides a number of significant benefits over traditionally used 'loose' soft flooring material and the product exceeded the expectations of the project organisers.

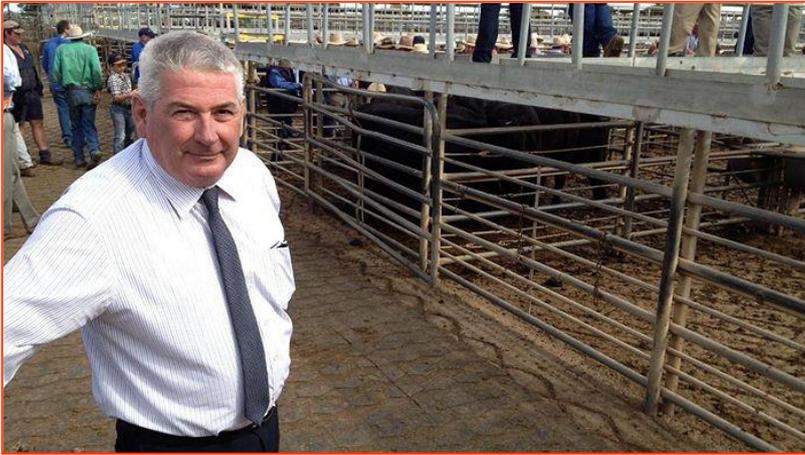
Installation of the SureFoot® Mat provides an ALFA approved 'soft-flooring' surface benefiting stock, handlers and buyers.

Sales Hotline: 1800 255 943
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Case Study

Quieter cattle – safer operations...



“A trial has been carried out and to watch the stock move as compared to the way they move on the concrete is amazing... they won't be standing around on hard concrete, they'll have a decent cushioning under their feet which can only be good for them, *it can only be good for safety – quieter cattle, safer operations.*”

Ken Rogers – Dubbo City
Council Corporate Development

Dubbo Saleyards – at a glance ...

Dubbo Saleyards – Statistical Overview	
Cattle Throughput	Approx 200,000 head p.a
Sheep Throughput	Approx 1.3 million head p.a
Average Throughput Value	Approx \$250 million p.a
Local Economy Contribution	Approx \$47.7 million p.a
Project Scope	Approx 10,000m ² - SureFoot® Mat
Project Value	Approx \$800K

The challenge to remain competitive in a demanding and rapidly changing market ...

In order to attain premium meat grading and Meat Standards Australia (MSA) endorsement, meat processors must now comply with new MSA guidelines (see Section 3.6 below) requiring a minimum standard for livestock handling throughout the entire meat processing life of the beast.

As a result, large food chain buyers are now only buying from saleyards that comply with the animal welfare standards as set out in the MSA guidelines. This, coupled with an increased animal welfare and OH&S awareness has been a catalyst for saleyards throughout Australia to improve their facilities in order to remain competitive and attractive to buyers.

Extract from the MSA Audit Requirement for Saleyards: Section 3.6

“Flooring must not be slippery and livestock must be held on soft standing ground.

Failure to supply soft standing pens results in a **MAJOR non-conformance.**”

- MSA® Standards Manual for Saleyard Consignment – July 2007 -

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