

Following the conclusive formal adoption of these criteria, the supplementary decisions and interpretations below have been drafted in conjunction with the Dutch Society for the Protection of Animals. These decisions/interpretations have not yet been formally adopted and, in the event of exceptional circumstances, are subject to change before being included in the established BLL criteria. In anticipation thereof, certification will be carried out on the basis of these supplementary decisions and interpretations.

Date	Norm no. or topic	Question	Supplementary decision or interpretation
24-11-17	Processor supplementary BLL certificate	When must a BLL abattoir also hold a BLL certificate for its meat cutting plant/processor?	This depends on the BLL activities that are carried out at the location in question. If the location only slaughters the BLL animals and does not cut the meat, and thus supplies them as BLL carcasses or carcass parts, a BLL certificate for the abattoir alone is sufficient. A location is a processor as well as an abattoir if the BLL carcasses and carcass parts are processed further at the location, including boning, cutting and processing into meat parts or making into composite products. In this case, the location must be certified as a BLL processor as well as a BLL abattoir.
16-10-18	SR020 Animal welfare training	Can the BLL criterion that all abattoir personnel must be trained before they start working with live animals be reviewed? In practice, this leads to problems: - Training is provided by SVO but only at certain times of the year - We want new personnel to work first so that it becomes clear to them whether or not the work suits them before there is any investment in external training - Without practical experience in an abattoir, the SVO certificate is difficult to obtain - Under Council Regulation (EC) No 1099/2009, the NVWA (Netherlands Food and Consumer Product Safety Authority) will issue approval for a maximum of three months	The Dutch Society for the Protection of Animals has decided to allow personnel who work with live animals (unloading to bleeding) to temporarily work without a certificate under certain conditions. Out of the total number of personnel working with live animals at any given time in an abattoir, the maximum number working without a certificate of competence for slaughter operations is one person OR 10%, provided the following conditions are satisfied: 1. These personnel must be enrolled on a training course to obtain a certificate of competence for slaughter operations that has been approved by the competent authority within the meaning of Regulation (EC) No. 1099/2009 before they start working with live animals. 2. The competent authority (the NVWA in the Netherlands) has authorised personnel who are not yet in possession of a certificate of competence to work with live animals. One of way of demonstrating this is by means of a 'provisional certificate' valid for a maximum of three months. 3. Such personnel may work with live animals without a certificate of competence for slaughter operations for a maximum of three months. 4. Before they can begin working with live animals, the personnel must undergo internal training to provide them with sufficient knowledge of the internal work instructions for working with live animals. This must be recorded in the training register. 5. The personnel must be under the direct and continuous supervision of a member of staff who is in possession of the requisite certificate of competence.

27-05-21	SR035c Transport time	<p>The BLL Abattoir Cattle criteria state that when receiving BLL cattle, the abattoir checks whether the cattle have not been transported for more than 4 hours and 250 km.</p> <p>Assuming an average speed of 70 km per hour, a transport distance of up to 280 km can be achieved within a maximum transport time of 4 hours. What transport time and distance should be observed for transport to the abattoir?</p>	<p>The Dutch Society for the Protection of Animals has decided that the transport to the abattoir must comply with a maximum transport distance of 280 km.</p> <p>The maximum transport distance of 280 km corresponds to a maximum transport time of 4 hours, assuming an average speed of 70 km per hour based on the EFSA (European Food Safety Authority) guidelines for livestock transport.</p> <p>The transport distance between the livestock farm and the abattoir must be checked on the basis of Routenet.nl with a 40T truck selected as the vehicle.</p>
19-09-13	SR055 Use of rotating crates (inversion)	<p>Can a rotating crate be used in a Better Life-certified cattle abattoir? Does this introduce additional stress?</p>	<p>Rotating crates are not permitted in Better Life-certified cattle abattoirs. SR055 states that cattle must be restrained in an upright position.</p> <p>Inversion is extremely stressful to cattle.</p> <p>The rotating crate was developed to allow the throats of unstunned/non-anaesthetised cattle to be cut, which is difficult when cows are upright. Unstunned/non-anaesthetised slaughter and consequently rotating crates are not permitted at Better Life-certified cattle abattoirs.</p>