

Press release:

Animal welfare – top priority when transporting live seafood between ecosystems

Shellfish welfare and food safety is a focus point with the new ocean freight options offered by Danish company Aqualife Logistics. In cooperation with the container shipping company Maersk Line live shellfish now can reach markets all over the world. "The system also protects local ecosystems," says CEO Lars Nannerup.

Factors such as health of livestock, food safety and the protection of local ecosystems are vital elements in the future of freight systems for live shellfish. This is why the Danish company Aqualife Logistics have spent significant research and development resources on addressing these issues during the design of their innovative transport technology where 40 feet containers containing 20 tanks have been developed for the ocean freight transportation of live shellfish.

"We have all heard of mad cows, but not of mad shellfish, however shellfish populations can in fact be impacted by diseases that can wipe out whole stocks," says CEO Lars Nannerup, Aqualife Logistics.

In order to avoid the spread of dangerous shellfish diseases Aqualife Logistics invested in a long, intensive research and development phase before launching the world's most advanced freight system for living shellfish.

"The solution has been through comprehensive tests at the producers to ensure we only allow healthy stocks into our tanks. We also insisted upon materials for the tanks that are easy to disinfect and clean completely," said Nannerup

The use of special water filtration technologies means that Aqualife can emit water from the shellfish tanks without the risk of spreading disease or pollution. The waste water goes through a special process where all remaining cells are decomposed, to eliminate the risk that pathogens such as bacteria, viruses or pathogens, or other unwanted elements escape into the local waters and damage ecosystems.

"We have also developed membrane filtering to eliminate any chemicals, paint and oil from entering the water," says Nannerup.

Travelling in own ecosystem

Aqualife freight lobster, snow crabs, mussels and clams in a close-to-natural conditions. In this way waste is reduced dramatically.

"Traditionally shellfish are air freighted as "dry cargo". This stresses the shellfish and they suffocate slowly during the flight. Our system puts shellfish into a state of hibernation which reduces stress. For the consumer, this is a plus not only for taste, but also for conscience," Lars Nannerup says.



“By providing the distributors with the tank storage system for delivery to their daily market, they are able to sell almost 100 percent of each shipment they purchase, a benefit which is passed on to the consumers as they get even better and even more stable prices.”

Focus on food safety

When the delivery has taken place and the shellfish have been sold by the distributors, Aqualife take responsibility for the filtering and safe disposal of the wastewater and debris.

“Organisms and particles from one ecosystem, such as a Canadian, must never be released into a different ecosystem, such as a South European, as it could cause all kinds of ecological devastation. Therefore we strictly filter our waste water and remove all types of waste in a closed system.”

Further information:

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