

VMS IN LIVESTOCK PROCESSING OPERATIONS

LEGAL REQUIREMENTS CHECKLIST

March 2024

Use the checklist below to understand and comply with your obligations in respect of a Video Monitoring System (VMS) under Tasmanian animal welfare laws.

Operation and placement of VMS:

- VMS is installed and always operating while livestock are being handled on the premises.
- VMS cameras are to cover all critical animal welfare points to record clear surveillance of the movement of animals from arrival at the processing premises, through to stunning and slaughter.

Technical requirements for VMS equipment:

- Recordings are embedded with the recording time and date.
- VMS equipment can produce a digital copy of recordings.
- Daily VMS equipment checks are performed before processing commences.
- Checks and malfunctions are recorded.
- Malfunctions are reported and repaired.

Privacy and VMS recordings:

- Only the livestock processor and authorised staff are permitted to operate and access VMS equipment and data.
- A VMS is not to be used to record private conversations.
- Persons must be alerted through signage and other means that a VMS is in operation and that they can be filmed.
- Authorised officers must comply with legal requirements concerning privacy and identity protection when handling VMS data.

Storage and retention of VMS recordings:

- VMS data and recordings are to be stored securely in an electronic form that is accessible by an authorised officer and auditor upon request.
- VMS data (recorded footage) is to be kept for a minimum of 30 calendar days after the day the recording was made.