



Horse Long Distance Transportation from Bulgaria to Italy Research

(Data collection report for CIWF)

I. Scope of Research:

Goal:

The goal of this research was to collect the existent public information on horse long distance transportation in Bulgaria and more specifically the intracommunity transportation of horses for slaughter from Bulgaria to Italy. The data presented in this report cover 18 months period, from January 2008 to July 2009.

The long distance transportation of horses as all types of animal transportation is accepted to be of public concern thus legislatively regulated and strictly supervised by state authorities. The state observation over the process is performed by:

- producing and transposing legislative norms, such as European directives and national regulations;
- implementing the legislative norms by explicitly defining a state authority supervising the transportation process – Bulgarian National Veterinary Service plus Regional Branches of the State Veterinary Service.
- performing check-ups on a regular base via state officials on the spot or by sudden check-up;
- producing reports on check-ups' data and overall data estimations;
- providing information to society via web based resources and media;
- intracommunity information system for exchange of data at the customs of the EU – the EU TRACES
- providing license and authorization to business entities.

Data collection channels:

The official communication channels are public however quite dispersed. Thus this report collects all the existent public information and puts it in a concise manner. The following resources were used for this report:

- Bulgarian State Official Gazette
- Official public websites: www.nvms-gvc.com; <http://www.mzh.government.bg/>
- Official communication between IWNS and the National Veterinary Service based on two consequent letters: from 28.07.2008 and from 21.07.2009;
- Media publications on horse meat and business: novinar.bg, investor.bg, econ.bg, others;

Apart from the official data an independent monitoring on behalf of AW groups could be done under cover. However this report does not cover such attempts.

Fields of information in this report:



- Current legislative base in Bulgaria regulating long distance transportation of animals from and across Bulgaria to other countries;
- Key approved points in Bulgaria for intracommunity trade: assembly centers, control posts, customs points;
- Bulgarian Companies related to horse trade: trading companies with horses for slaughter, transporters.

II. Legislative base:

The following legislative texts regulate animal long distance transportation in Bulgaria including horses:

- Council Regulation (EC) 1/2005 Protection of animals during transport and related operations from 22 December 2004 amending Directive 64/432/EEC, Directive 93/119/EC, and Regulation 1255/97
- National Regulation #26 from 28 February 2006 for the standards of animal welfare during transportation issued by the Ministry of Agriculture and Forest, published at State Gazette number 23 from 17 March 2006;
- National Veterinary Service's Order from January 25, 2008, issued by the Chief Director of the National Veterinary Services, promulgating Instruction for Check-up for Transported Animals at the Customs;

III. Key approved points in Bulgaria for intracommunity trade

1. Assembly centers for horses on the territory of Bulgaria:
 - total number of: 11
 - regionally focused in: Gabrovo, Lovetch, Sliven, Razgrad, Pazardjik and Sofia
 - mostly concentrated in Sofia and Central North Bulgaria

Table 1: Assembly Centers for Horses on the Territory of Bulgaria Approved for Intracommunity Trade and for Export Third Countries of Animals (NVS data)

Name	Address	Contacts
Alfakentavar Ltd	Village of Lovnidol, municipality of Sevlievo, Gabrovo region	Tel /fax: +359 675/3 08 86; fax: +359 48/969 170; mobile: +359 888 211163
Alfa Kentavar Ltd	village of Spantzi, municipality of Gabrovo, Gabrovo region	Tel /fax: +359 675/3 08 86; fax: +359 48/969 170; mobile: +359 888 211163
“Aris Bulls”Ltd	Town of Sofia, res.quarter Obelya	Tel: +359 886333222 +359 885064526



“AlexVMA”Ltd	Town of Sofia, res.quarter Ilienci	Tel: +359 888666440 +359 2 8380515
“MPC”Ltd	Town of Ichtiman, municipality of Sofia region	Tel/fax: +359 29461358 Mobile: +359 8978327464
“Georgi Tsvekov” Ltd.	Village of Hrabarsko, municipality of Bojurishte, Sofia region	Tel/fax: +359 295222834 Mobile: +359 88924181
“Litex Comers”Ltd.	Village of Sokolovo, municipality of Lovech, region Lovech	Fax: +359 2 8162040
“Ital komercho-91”Ltd.	Village of Chernogorovo, Pazarjik region, veterinary approval.	Tel: +359 34456224 Fax: +35934450014
ET “Tami-Milen Markov”	Town of. Razgrad, Razgrad region	
“Demet”	Village of Ticha, municipality of Kotel, Sliven region	Tel: +359 888605557
Studena	Village of Studena, municipality of Svilengrad, administrative district of Haskovo	+359 888 985276

2. Assembly centers for horses on the territory of Bulgaria trading with Italy: **3**

- ”Ital Komercho - 91” Ltd - Village of Chernogorovo, Pazardjik region, veterinary approval;
- “AlexVMA”Ltd - Town of Sofia, res.quarter Ilienci;
- “Aris Bulls”Ltd - Town of Sofia, res.quarter Obelya

III. Transporters and Traders

3. Authorized Transporters of animals during long journeys under article 165 of Law for Veterinary Activity (LVA)

- total number of transporters: 16
- total number of transporters authorized only for horses: 11 - Litex Commerce Ltd., “Budasten Service” ltd, Mototehnika Sofia Ltd, PETRO-G Ltd, Bulgarian Federation of Horse Sport, “Feritrans” ltd, Milen Conev Markov, Alfa Kentavar Ltd, Elin Pelin Trans, Ltd, ”Ital Komercho - 91” Ltd , ET “Vibo-71 – Vasil Borisov”
- total number of vehicles: 27
- regionally focused in: Stara Zagora, Peshtera, Shoumen, Razgrad, Pazardjik and Sofia



- mostly concentrated in Sofia, Central North and Central South Regions of Bulgaria

Table 2: Transporters Authorized for Transport of Animals on Long Distance (NVS data)

Name (transporter Identification)	Address	Identification of Transport Vehicle
Litex Commerce” JSC, town Sofia	Town of Sofia, 10 “Banat” str	1. Mercedes 1528L, 14m ² reg.N C7285XC 2. MAN 10-225 ЛЛЛЦ, 10m ² reg.N C7284XC
“Vladimir Alexov-Alex” Ltd, Sofia	Town of Sofia, quarter “Iliantsi”, 30	1. MAN, 15,50m ² Reg.N C5050MC 2. MERCEDES218m ² reg.N C5666XH 3. MERCEDES, 18m ² , reg.N CA3060AA 4. Specialized trailer “Erenshventrer”, 18m ² reg.N C0330EM 5. Specialized trailer “Krone”, 21m ² , reg.N C0303EM 6. Specialized trailer “Krone”, 18m ² , reg.N C0660EM 7. Specialized trailer, 32m ² , reg.N C2552EM
“Rodopa Shoumen 1884” JSC	Town of Shoumen, industrial zone	MERCEDES, reg.N PB9901XH and specialized trailer, per.N PB3367EM, total area of truck and trailer
“Balkan commerce - 95” ltd	Town of Shoumen, 16 “Industrial zone” str	1. VOLVO F12 6x2, 54,75m ² reg.N H3651AK 2. Specialized trailer “Kupars”, 133m ² , per. N H3453EE
“Budasten Service” ltd	town of Stara Zagora, 17 “Gen. Dragomirov” str.	Mercedes 814, 12m ² reg. N PB4030AM
“Mototehnika - Sofia” ltd	town of Sofia, quarter “Lulin”, bl. 122, 80 app.	1. Specialized trailer “Kramer”, 5m ² reg.N C0745EM 2. Specialized trailer “Hochedlinger”, 14,4 m ² reg.N WL -211CJ
“PETRO - G” ltd	village of Levochevo, Region Smolyan	Specialized trailer “Humbaur HP 2000”, 5,44 m ² , reg. N CM2021EE
Bulgarian Federation of Horse Sport	Sofia town, 75 “Vasil Livski” bld.	Specialized trailer, 39 m ² , per. N C7402EH



“Feritrans” ltd	Village of Titcha, Region of Sliven, 95 “G. Dimitrov” str.	Mercedes 817, 26,4 м2, reg. N CH6302HC
ET “Grimi – Hyusein Hyusein”	Peshtera town, 31 “Petar Goranov” str.	veco Stralis, reg. N PA6600AT and Specialized trailer reg.. N PA4848EE, total area of truck and trailer 105,8м2
Milen Conev Markov	Razgrad town, 9 “Neofit Rilski” str., app.5	Renault Master, 8м2, reg. N 34RK273
”Alfa Kentavar” Ltd	Region of Sofia city, village of Pancharevo, an area zoned for summer-houses of Gradishte , 6 “Mladezhka” str	1. Specialized trailer “Thiel Delux”, 6,5м2, reg. N C5953EM; 2. Specialized trailer “Renault S 135”, 15м2, reg. N CO9642CB; 3. Specialized trailer “Fautrax, Oblic4”, 11м2, reg. N C2018EP
”Elin Pelin Trans” Ltd	Elin Pelin town, 101 “Novoselci” str.	Renault S 135, 15м2, reg. N CO9642CB
”Ital Komercho - 91” Ltd	Pazardzhik town, 4 “sv. sv. Kiril i Metodiy” str.	Iveco, reg. N CA8321BH and Specialized trailer reg. N PA4149EE, 34,5м2
ET “Vibo-71 – Vasil Borisov”	Sofia town, quarter “Krasno selo”, bl. 12, entrance “A”, fl.6, app. 18	Mercedes 814, 15,5м ² , reg. N C9659KX
ET “Velichko Ivanov - Venecya” - ET “Audi 94 – Vanya Ivanova” contract	Levski town, 16 “Al. Stambolyiski” str.	MAN 13463, 19м ² , per. N EH0010BB

4. Companies that trade with horses for slaughter in Italy:

- ”Ital Komercho - 91” Ltd - Village of Chernogorovo, Pazardjik region, veterinary approval;
- “AlexVMA”Ltd - Town of Sofia, res.quarter Ilienci;
- “Aris Buls”Ltd - Town of Sofia, res.quarter Obelya

Note: only ‘Ital Comercho – 91 Ltd’ has licenses both for assembling center and transporter. Thus ‘Alex VMA Ltd’ and ‘Aris Buls Ltd’ contract licensed transporters from Table 2.

5. Customs points used for transportation of horses for slaughter from Bulgaria to Italy:

- Kalotina



6. Total number of horses transported from Bulgaria to Italy by periods:

- Total number for the whole 18 months period: **770** – 615 for 2008, 155 till July 2009
- Biggest trader for the whole period: Aris Buls with total number of transported horses: 390 for 2008 and 113 till July 2009
- Key months when horses are mostly transported: June and October for 2008
- Comparison in total numbers between January-July 2008 and January – July 2009 – in 2009 a drop off transported horses with 59%

Table 3: Total Number of Traded Horses for Slaughter from Bulgaria to Italy for the Period January 2008 - July 2009, per trader and per month (source: NVS official data)

2008	Horses in Numbers			Total
	<i>Ital Komercho - 91</i>	<i>AlexVMA</i>	<i>Aris Buls</i>	
January	23		44	67
February	22			22
March	20			20
April	49	20		69
May			42	42
June	48	20	41	109
July			45	45
August			45	45
September			68	68
October	23		61	84
November			23	23
December			21	21
Total	185	40	390	615

2009	Horses in Numbers			Total
	<i>Ital Komercho - 91</i>	<i>AlexVMA</i>	<i>Aris Buls</i>	
January		20	23	43
February				
March				
April				
May	22		22	44
June			22	22
July			46	46
Total	22	20	113	155

7. End Points in Italy:

- Siciliani Spa. 70032 Bitonto
- Mirabella acatino, 95 030, Catania Fontanarossa
- Macello Intercarni , 73 020 Botrugno
- Ciavarela & Saponaro S.N.C. 70 016 Niocattaro
- Mattatoio Fin. Sud. S.R.L., 70 014 Conversano
- Marcello Zerbini Ragazzi SVS, Corregio 42100
- Zerbini E Ragazzi, via Fosfondo, 42100 Corregio;



- Marcello Pantano – Carni, Solchiello 20, 35 100 Padova;
- Soca Best Sre, via C. Batisti. 11 72 100, Brindisi
- Emegi SRS, Vaip. Bembo 160, Padova

8. Any problems reported by state veterinary inspections related to the animal welfare of horses:

According to an official letter of the NVS from July 2008, no problems with animals (including horses) transported on a long distance were reported by veterinarian inspectors.

Sofia, 14 Sep. 09
Intimate With Nature Society
Bulgaria