GOVERNMENT OF RAS AL KHAIMAH
RAK PORTS
MARINE DEPARTMENT

NAVIGATIONAL SAFETY POLICY

RAK Ports has a primary responsibility to facilitate the safety of navigation in its ports and approaches. This policy commits RAK Ports to managing marine operations within its jurisdiction and authority in a manner that safeguards users of the ports, infrastructure, and the marine environment.

To this end, the Port shall:

1. Establish and maintain robust Governance, Risk, and Compliance frameworks

- Maintain an effective Marine Safety Management System (MSMS), structured in line with the UK Port Marine Safety Code (PMSC).
- Ensure MSMS is independently audited and compliant with the PMSC while adhering to UAE maritime laws and standards.
- Implement the MSMS through a Marine Safety Plan published every three years, reflecting best practice and continuous improvement.
- Conduct formal risk assessments for all marine activities to ensure risks are reduced to ALARP (as low as reasonably practicable).
- Consult port users regularly to inform risk management and operational decisions.
- Periodically review and, where necessary, amend legal powers, local laws, and Directions to uphold navigational safety.
- Fulfil all statutory duties for vessel traffic regulation and navigational safety under UAE law and applicable international conventions.

2. Implement and enforce Operational Safety and Services

- Promote safe navigation through proactive engagement with port users and stakeholders.
- Support commercial operations while safeguarding the rights of Masters, ship owners, and marine interests.
- Ensure reliable provision of pilotage, traffic management, towage, mooring, and conservancy services.
- Maintain a competent and authorised pilotage service with clearly defined compulsory requirements and vessel applicability.
- Provide transparent procedures for assessing Pilotage Exemption Certificate (PEC) applicants, with published standards.
- Monitor and manage vessel traffic 24/7 within port limits and approaches, in accordance with IALA standards.
- Conduct and publish hydrographic surveys; maintain conservancy functions including seabed monitoring, dredging, and navigational aids.

3. Develop and maintain effective Incident Management and Reporting

- Operate a structured system for incident reporting and investigation to prevent recurrence.
- Report major incidents, wrecks, and abandoned vessels to relevant authorities.
- Liaise with Port State Authorities regarding serious vessel defects and abandoned seafarers.
- Issue timely Notices to Mariners and Marine Safety Notices regarding hazards, obstructions, or marine safety concerns.

4. Promote Information, Awareness, and Emergency Preparedness

- Share navigational, tidal, and safety-related information with all port users.
- Promote safety and environmental awareness across the port community.
- Maintain emergency response plans for risks to life, property, and the environment.
- Ensure scalable oil spill response capability, including coordination with Tier 2 providers or national authorities as required.
- Conduct regular exercises to validate emergency readiness and escalation protocols.
- Train and certify marine staff, ensuring role-specific competency and revalidation.
- Coordinate marine emergency responses effectively within port jurisdiction.
- Embrace modern practices, including digital technologies and AI, to enhance navigational safety.

The policy shall be reviewed on an annual basis or as necessary, ensuring that navigational safety practices are maintained in the best possible manner.

Roy Cummins	**Captain Michael Magee**
Chief Executive Officer	**Group Harbour Master**
RAK Ports	**RAK Ports**