

Navigation policy

Barges managed by BFT are responsible for a safe, reliable and efficient inland navigation. With these responsibilities in mind, BFT has drawn up a navigation policy which is designed to manage, control and where possible reduce the impact of the activities of BFT on the reliability and the efficiency of the transports. The navigation policy is an integral part of the day-to-day management of the organization.

The BFT navigational policy is based on following points:

1. Legal requirements

- All barges shall follow the legal requirements and guidelines described in the following publications: Rhine Police Regulation, Inland shipping Police Regulation, ADN, Local regulations, Instruction Manual of BFT.
- These publications are available on all barges and understood by all personnel involved in navigation and ship handling.

2. Safety

- All personnel involved in navigation and shipping shall intend to take initiative to ensure that navigation practices and navigation procedures are maintained in accordance with BFT and best industry requirements.
- These are established through good communications, BFT procedures and Captains standing orders.
- BFT ensures that all personnel involved in navigation and ship handling are qualified and well trained.
- BFT will provide the possibility to participate in training activities to increase the safety needs of the personnel involved in navigation and ship handling.
- BFT provide all barges the proper procedures regarding minimum navigational standards, sailing and rest times, poor visibility, heavy weather, exceptional weather, clearance under keel restrictions, restricted rivers and canals, etc...

3. Essential equipment

- Prior to departure from any port, the captain shall ensure that the barge complies with all legal requirements concerning the equipment. All navigation equipment is in good condition and working order. They shall be tested before each departure.
- All barges managed by BFT shall ensure that they are provided with the latest editions of nautical maps,
- BFT provide all barges the proper procedures regarding navigational equipment and maintenance of these equipment

4. Incidents

- BFT aim to have zero incidents regarding navigation and inland shipping.
- An investigation into the causes of an incident (collision, grounding, etc...) will always take place to prevent the repetition of a similar incident.

5. New business activities

- When new business activities are initiated, consideration of the possible consequences for the navigation (restricted dimensions, new sailing routes, etc...) in combination with the fleet will be an integral part of the decision process.

6. Consultation and inspection

- Consultation concerning navigation issues within the umbrella organization and with clients is considered to be of utmost importance. Good communication with regional and national governments and organizations is also considered to be important.
- BFT will inspect all barges to ensure that they shall comply with the policy.
- A navigational audit shall be conducted as a sailing visit.

General manager

Mr. M. Freriks

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Quality manager

Mr. K. van Cauter

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'K. van Cauter', written over a light blue background.