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ANTI-BRIBERY AND CORRUPTION POLICY

1.0 Purpose

Leask Marine Ltd is committed to upholding responsible and fair business practices together with promoting and maintaining the highest level of ethical standards in relation to all its business activities. Its reputation for maintaining lawful business practices is of paramount importance and this Policy is designed to preserve these values. The Company therefore has a zero tolerance policy towards bribery and corruption and is committed to acting fairly and with integrity in all of its business dealings and relationships and implementing and enforcing effective systems to counter bribery.

2.0 Scope

This Policy sets out the Company's position on any form of bribery and corruption and provides guidelines aimed at:



-  Ensuring compliance with anti-bribery laws, rules and regulations, not just within the UK but in any other country within which the Company carries out its business or in relation to which its business may be connected
-  Enabling employees of the Company to understand the risks associated with bribery and to encourage them to be vigilant and effectively recognise, prevent and report any wrongdoing, whether by themselves or others
-  Providing suitable reporting and communication channels and ensuring that any information that is reported is properly and effectively dealt with
-  Creating and maintaining a rigorous and effective framework for dealing with any suspected instances of bribery or corruption.

This Policy applies to all permanent and temporary employees of the Company and applies to any individual associated with the Company's activities. All employees and associated persons are expected to adhere to the principles set out in this Policy.

3.0 Responsibilities and Requirements

The UK legislation on which this Policy is based is the Bribery Act 2010 and it applies to the Company's conduct both in the UK and abroad. A bribe is an inducement or reward offered, promised or provided in order to gain any commercial, contractual, regulatory or personal advantage.

It is an offence in the UK to:

-  Offer, promise, or give a financial or other advantage to another person (i.e., bribe a person), whether within the UK or abroad, with the intention of inducing or rewarding improper conduct
-  Request, agree to receive or accept a financial or other advantage (i.e., receive a bribe) for or in relation to improper conduct

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PUBLIC

Bribe a foreign public official.

You can be held personally liable for any such offence.

It is also an offence in the UK for an employee or an associated person to bribe another person in the course of doing business intending either to obtain or retain business, or to obtain or retain an advantage in the conduct of business, for the Company. The Company can be liable for this offence where it has failed to prevent such bribery by associated persons. As well as an unlimited fine, it could suffer substantial reputational damage.

Any payment or gift to a public official or other person to secure or accelerate the prompt or proper performance of a routine government procedure or process, otherwise known as a “facilitation payment”, is also strictly prohibited. Facilitation payments are not commonly paid in the UK but they are common in some other jurisdictions.

RESPONSIBILITIES AND REPORTING PROCEDURE

It is the contractual duty and responsibility of all employees and associated persons to take whatever reasonable steps are necessary to ensure compliance with this Policy and to prevent, detect and report any suspected bribery or corruption. You must immediately disclose to the Company any knowledge or suspicion you may have that you, or any other employee or associated person, has plans to offer, promise or give a bribe or to request, agree to receive or accept a bribe in connection with the business of the Company. For the avoidance of doubt, this includes reporting your own wrongdoing. The duty to prevent, detect and report any incident of bribery and any potential risks rests not only with the directors of the Company but equally to all employees and associated persons.

The Company encourages all employees and associated persons to be vigilant and to report any unlawful conduct, suspicions or concerns promptly and without undue delay so that investigation may proceed and any action can be taken expeditiously. In the event that you wish to report an instance or suspected instance of bribery, you should report immediately to the Managing Director. Confidentiality will be maintained during the investigation to the extent that this is practical and appropriate in the circumstances. The Company is committed to taking appropriate action against bribery and corruption. This could include either reporting the matter to an appropriate external government department, regulatory agency or the police and/or taking internal disciplinary action against relevant employees and/or terminating contracts with associated persons.

The Company will support anyone who raises genuine concerns in good faith under this Policy, even if they turn out to be mistaken. It is also committed to ensuring nobody suffers any detrimental treatment as a result of refusing to take part in bribery or corruption, or because of reporting in good faith their suspicion that an actual or potential bribery or corruption offence has taken place or may take place in the future.

Record keeping

All accounts, receipts, invoices and other documents and records relating to dealings with third parties must be prepared and maintained with strict accuracy and completeness. No accounts must be kept “off the record” to facilitate or conceal improper payments.

SANCTIONS FOR BREACH

A breach of any of the provisions of this Policy will constitute a disciplinary offence and will be dealt with in accordance with the Company's disciplinary procedure. Depending on the gravity of the offence, it may be treated as gross misconduct and could render the employee liable to summary dismissal.

As far as associated persons are concerned, a breach of this Policy could lead to the suspension or termination of any relevant contract, sub-contract or other agreement.

MONITORING COMPLIANCE

The Commercial & HSEQ Director has lead responsibility for ensuring compliance with this Policy and will review its contents on a regular basis. They will be responsible for monitoring its effectiveness and will provide regular reports in this regard to the Managing Director who has overall responsibility for ensuring this Policy complies with the Company's legal and ethical obligations.

TRAINING

The Company will provide training to all employees to help them understand their duties and responsibilities under this Policy. The Company's zero tolerance approach to bribery will also be communicated to all business partners at the outset of the business relationship with them and as appropriate thereafter

4.0 Review and Monitoring

This procedure will be reviewed as part of the Company's internal audit programme and reviewed annually.

5.0 References

Bribery Act 2010

Signed: 

Name: Douglas Leask, Managing Director

Date: 1st January 2024