

## **ROTRA LOGISTICS**

**Statement of the company's chief executive (CEO or equivalent) expressing continued support for the Global Compact and renewing the company's ongoing commitment to the initiative and its principles.**

Dear stakeholders,

I am pleased to confirm that Rotra Logistics reaffirms its support of the Principles of the United Nations Global Compact in the areas of Human Rights, Labour, Environment and Anti-Corruption.

In this Communication on Progress, we describe our actions to continually improve the integration of the Global Compact and its principles into our business strategy, culture and daily operations. We also commit to share this information with our stakeholders using our primary channels of communication.

Sincerely yours,

Mr. Machiel Roelofsen  
Vice President/CEO



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## **Royal Rotra: digital forwarder; worldwide logistics since 1909**

Established in 1909, the Dutch family business Rotra has recently transformed into a digital forwarder working with Air and Ocean offices in the Netherlands and Belgium.

Rotra was founded in Doesburg by Hermanus Roelofsen in 1909. Four generations have worked or are still working in the family business. In the early days the goods were still carried by horse and cart, a situation that we can scarcely imagine now.

In recent years Rotra has transformed into a **digital forwarder**. In 2020, Rotra decided to fully focus on expanding sea and air freight activities as a digital forwarder. With the development of digital platform rotraNext, Rotra has digitized the entire shipping process for worldwide sea and air freight shipments, thereby providing cost and time savings and full transparency in the logistics chain.

### **Rotra transforms into a digital freight forwarder**

Rotra's strategy envisions a transformation to a digital freight forwarder in which it brings together 'the best of both worlds': more than 110 years of expertise in transport and logistics combined with the latest technologies of today's startups. A substantial part of the costs in transport and logistics is not in physical transport, but in administrative handling and communication. Rotra recognizes this like no other and has automated and digitized activities and processes. The focus is on smart use of data so that we can make better decisions even faster and we can serve our customers even better.

### **Continuity through sustainability and innovation**

As a family business, Rotra strives not only to work for its customers, but rather with its customers to be able to develop logistics solutions and concepts that are 100% in line with the shipper's needs. Rotra stands for long-term continuity. As a family business, we have a clear identity that is characterized by passion and loyalty. The culture of involvement and responsibility is firmly anchored in our DNA. Above all, we stand for a sustainable and innovative business strategy with which we anticipate the long term. In a rapidly changing sector, we are constantly looking for sustainable innovative solutions for the transport sector.

Please feel free to visit our website [www.rotra.eu](http://www.rotra.eu)



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## Human Rights

- Assessment, policy and goals.
- *Description of the relevance of human rights for the company (i.e. human rights risk-assessment). Description of policies, public commitments and company goals on Human Rights.*
- Royal Rotra respects and supports the Universal Declaration of Human Rights; Rotra is committed to respecting human rights as stated in the human declaration of human rights in both internal and external operations. We endeavor to ensure that we do not infringe on human rights and comply with the laws of the countries in which we operate. Rotra does not tolerate any type of discrimination or harassment.
- Implementation
- *Description of concrete actions to implement Human Rights policies, address Human Rights risks and respond to Human Rights violations.*
- Rotra has drawn up internal rules and guidelines which describe rights and obligations of employees and management. This Code of Conduct is provided to every employee and can be consulted 24/7 (Rotra Intranet webportal). Every new employee receives this document with guidelines at his/her careerstart at Rotra.

Furthermore (a selection of) our employees are represented in a periodical meeting with Rotra's board of directors (employee board). These employees are elected in our Works Council and represent all employees within our company. All ideas, remarks etc. are communicated via this platform. Externally Rotra screens suppliers and agrees on contracts and quality management in order to maintain human rights and correct behavior. Besides that, as a socially committed organization we support charities like Friends of Senegal support inhabitants Senegal - medical care) Tristan Hofmann challenge and Alpe d'HuZes (both Cancer foundation). We also support local sportclubs in order to enable our employees to stay in good physical and mental shape. We also have an agreement with a fitness center where all employees can work on their physical shape at discounted tariff and we offer 'stop-smoking' courses.

- Measurement of outcomes
- *Description of how the company monitors and evaluates performance.*
- Royal Rotra has not ever received any complaint from any stakeholder in relation to any human rights violations. Neither has Rotra been subject to any incident regarding human rights.

Royal Rotra has had the honor having met all standards and requirements of SMETA and successfully completed the audit! SMETA stands for Sedex Members Ethical Trade Audit: an assessment aimed at ensuring ethical entrepreneurship in companies. The areas considered were labor, health & safety, environment and business ethics. Above all Rotra has had the honor at its 100th Anniversary of being granted the royal status by her Majesty the Queen: Royal Rotra (in 2009).

## **Labour**

- Assessment, policy and goals
- *Description of the relevance of labour rights for the company (i.e. labour rights-related risks and opportunities). Description of written policies, public commitments and company goals on labour rights.*
- Rotra's Human Resource policy and contracts with employees describe required rights and employer obligations (e.g. safety and health, non-discrimination/equal chances, working hours, wages etc.). This according to Dutch/Belgian Law. Besides that CAO (logistics Union in the Netherlands) is applicable to working activities regarding working hours, health and safety etc. We continually strive to assess our employees' skills and goals. In order to maintain a high-quality service and give all our employees the opportunity to develop and gain knowledge we have our own Rotra Academy. We also introduced e-learning for all employees in 2019. There is a portfolio of courses we offer of which our colleagues can choose from.
- Implementation
- *Description of concrete actions taken by the company to implement labour policies, address labour risks and respond to labour violations.*
- Working area for all our employees meet the strictest requirements; both office staff and our drivers/Warehouse employees. We renew our trucks periodically > meet the strictest, most recent requirements in relation to safety and environment and are subject to strict maintenance programs.

We also introduced our own Rotra Academy. Professional teachers train all our well-educated employees at the Rotra Academy (drivers, Warehouse-employees, office staff and management) in order to increase quality as well as in favor of health and safety. We want to enable our personnel to improve their skills. All this info is shared and documented in our webportal. Labour rules and Code of Conduct are written at wallsheets throughout all our premises.

In 2015 we relocated 2 of our premises in order to facilitate further growth and enable our employees to work in a well-equipped new environment which meets the space we need with our larger amount of Rotra employees. Furthermore we have taken in use new WHS facilities in 2017. In 2019 we have taken in use a new Warehouse (Wijchen) to enable further growth. In 2020 we will be working on our plans to expand our Doesburg premises in coming years. We also want to expand our Container Terminal in order to boost sustainable container transport by water (modal shift from road to water).

- *Measurement of outcomes*
- *Description of how the company monitors and evaluates performance.*
- Rotra has never been involved in any incident or investigation in relation to the Global Compact labour principles. Furthermore as stated in the Human Rights section Rotra successfully completed the SMETA audit > SMETA stands for Sedex Members Ethical Trade Audit: an assessment aimed at ensuring ethical entrepreneurship in companies. The areas considered were labor, health & safety, environment and business ethics. Above all we are considering/preparing an employee-satisfaction survey within our company in order to be sure the employees are as satisfied as we think they are and enable us to change/adapt things whenever necessary.

## **Environment**

- *Assessment, policy and goals*
- *Description of the relevance of environmental protection for the company (i.e. environmental risks and opportunities). Description of policies, public commitments and company goals on environmental protection.*
- Rotra uses its key position by converting its policy into concrete actions and results and in doing so actively contributes to a sustainable society in which people, planet and profit go together. Rotra is strongly committed to providing sustainable service and by means of its Rotra Academy and our Narrowcast-platform, communicates this awareness to all its employees and externally by our Rotra Newsletter, social media and our website.
- *Implementation*

- *Description of concrete actions to implement environmental policies, address environmental risks and respond to environmental incidents.*
- Rotra's green policy dates right back to the 80s of the past century. Rotra developed its first trailers for train transport (Hupac Transport) to Southern Europe; currently still hundreds of trailers are leaving by train on a monthly basis. In the early 80s Rotra developed the first volume combinations; the first vehicle to pass the LZV (Long Heavy Vehicle)-test in the Netherlands in 2004 was a Rotra-roadtrain! In 2016 we added 2 new roadtrains (i.e. Ecocombi's) to our fleet. In recent years Rotra has fulfilled its pioneering role in sustainable logistics by introducing trucks running on alternative fuels. After taking into use Europe's first truck on ethanol in 2007, the first clean Econic natural gas truck was introduced in the Benelux in the summer of 2009. In 2011 Rotra introduces trucks on CNG (Compressed Natural Gas) and LNG (Liquefied Natural Gas). In 2016 we have taken in use 4 new trucks on LNG especially for the distribution activities within the Netherlands and Belgium. In 2018 Rotra buys 14 extra trucks on LNG in order to make the supply chain even more sustainable. In 2019 we have taken 14 new vehicles on LNG in use. This has led to a total of 22 ('sustainable') trucks on LNG within the Rotra truckfleet.

In the summer of 2010 Rotra provides its 5000m<sup>2</sup> large Automatic Bicycle Warehouse (ABW) in Doesburg with solar cells. By using this renewable, environmental friendly, energy Rotra establishes an annual emission-reduction of over 48.000 kgs CO<sub>2</sub>!

In 2014 Rotra starts the construction of its own container terminal at its premises in Doesburg. Rotra expects to handle 10.000 containers yearly and therefore saves up to 194 truck-loads from Rotterdam/Antwerp to Doesburg v.v. by road weekly. The terminal has been taken in use January 2017. In 2018 we start with our own 2<sup>nd</sup> ship which enables us to offer a daily departure. In 2019 we expect to handle 22.000 containers after having handled 16.000 containers in 2018. With this environment-friendly alternative for the increasing congestion by road Rotra establishes, besides extra service to our customers, a substantial CO<sub>2</sub>-emission reduction. Within this project Rotra has built a filling station at its terminal, which will be used for the filling of LNG (Liquefied Natural Gas) for both trucks and barges as clean and quiet alternative for fuels such as diesel. The first multimodal inland LNG-station in Europe. Rotra believes in LNG as the clean, quiet and safe fuel for the future and supports with this initiative the sustainable use of the multimodal transport chain. The project is supported by the European Union with a contribution from its TEN-T program.

At the moment Rotra is working on the development of AGV's (Automatic Guided Vehicles) together with various organizations (DAF Trucks, Twente University, TNO, Port of Rotterdam etc.) in order to make transport more sustainable, efficient and safe.

However, as it is impossible to reduce the CO2-emission to zero and Rotra's ambition is 100% climate neutral transport, we would like to tackle the residual emission with our clients. Therefore, we offer our clients the possibility to transport 100% climateneutral together with Rotra. With our product Rotra Green Footprint we collect shipments worldwide 100% CO2-neutral and deliver them at their destination. We can do this by compensating the CO2-emission, in cooperation with the Climate Neutral Group ([www.climateneutralgroup.com](http://www.climateneutralgroup.com)), with investments in sustainable energy projects.

In 2019 we have had the honor of donating 1000,- Euro to the Eijkelkamp Foundation's Water Entrepreneur Project. This foundation, established by our customer Eijkelkamp, is committed to helping residents in Benin to safe drinking water. An example of Rotra's corporate social responsibility in cooperation with our stakeholders/relations.

In 2021 we have the ambition to become the first climate neutral forwarder worldwide. By digitizing the complete supply chain for all our customers for air and sea shipments we already contribute to a more sustainable supply chain. Furthermore we will together with the Climate Neutral Group (CNG) determine our footprint, set new reduction goals and compensate emissions by investing in sustainable projects coordinated by CNG.

- *Measurement of outcomes*
- *Description of how the company monitors and evaluates environmental performance.*
- Rotra has been awarded the Lean&Green Award for its sustainable strategy. The environmental performance is measured by the objectives stated by the organization of this award > 20% CO2 reduction in 5 years of time.

The Rotra Group compensated more than 900.000kgs CO2 in 2019 with our product 'Rotra Green Footprint'. We hope we can continue this positive trend in cooperation with our well esteemed clients and partners.

### **Anti-Corruption**

- *Assessment, policy and goals*
- *Description of the relevance of anti-corruption for the company (i.e. anti-corruption risk-assessment). Description of policies, public commitments and company goals on anti-corruption.*
- Rotra does not accept any form of bribery and corruption; neither employees, nor Rotra's management nor our partners/suppliers worldwide. We select our partners according to strict criteria (I.e. manipulation, moneylaundering, bribery,

charitable benefits/gifts, market abuse or manipulation). We don't tolerate and/or provide any unreasonable benefit of any type.

- Implementation
- *Description of concrete actions to implement anti-corruption policies, address anti-corruption risks and respond to incidents.*
- Rotra maintains strict guidelines for employees how to act in case of bribery. Integrity is an important part of our policy and stated in our Code of Conduct. We also publish them on our Intranet and wallsheets throughout all offices; everyone is any moment of the day aware of our people, planet, profit statement. New personnel is strictly screened by our HRM in order to eliminate any chance of corruption.
- Measurement of outcomes
- *Description of how the company monitors and evaluates anti-corruption performance.*
- Rotra has never been involved in any incident or investigation in relation to corruption and/or bribery. Our predicate "Royal" is a big honour and ultimate proof of anti-corruption. We monitor regulations and act accordingly. We have an agreement with Dutch government to only have limited tax- monitoring because of proven mutual trust. We are also AEO certified and 'known shipper' for the benefit of our customs- and Air&Ocean activities.