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<b>SENT TO:</b>					
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## **1.- OBJECT AND SCOPE**

This policy establishes the Railway Operational Safety Policy that the **BILBAO PORT AUTHORITY** (hereinafter, APB) applies in the management of the Port of Bilbao's General Interest Railway Network (hereinafter, RFIG).

It formally express the significance and importance of railway operational safety throughout the organisation, reinforcing the internal commitment to compliance with the national and European regulatory framework, by establishing the organisational requirements and standards for the management of its network.

It promotes a safety culture at both organisational and individual levels, based on prevention, understood as one that emphasises the development of people's strengths, making the prevention of errors a strategic objective so that reporting them has a positive influence, highlights individual vitality and growth, and increases the sense of belonging to the organisation.

The Railway Operational Safety Policy applies to all functional areas, to all in-house and external staff, and to activities related to the APB's railway operational safety, which must be carried out with the lowest possible risk of significant harm resulting from them, all managed in accordance with the provisions of the Railway Safety Management System (hereinafter, SGSF).

## **2.- SAFETY POLICY AND CULTURE**

### **2.1.- SAFETY POLICY**

APB's safety policy constitutes the set of principles and criteria governing operational safety guidelines, taking into account APB's Mission and Vision, as well as its strategic guidelines, and assigning the highest priority to the safety of people and property. All of this is underpinned by a commitment to carrying out activities safely and efficiently, with the primary objective being to prevent any accidents or incidents, and where this is not possible, to minimise their consequences.

To achieve this objective, the Safety Policy is built upon the following fundamental pillars:

- Ensure the implementation and dissemination of a safety culture at all levels of the APB, based on prevention, proactivity and staff participation.
- Adopt a systematic approach to encourage staff participation and manage human and organisational factors within the safety management system.
- Manage the risks associated with activities and operations, engaging all areas of the APB in improving accident and incident rates.
- Improve through learning from experience, fostering a culture of trust, positive safety and continuous learning, which encourages all staff to contribute to the development of safety.

The Safety Policy is underpinned by the following general safety principles:

- Identify, assess and minimise the risks affecting rail traffic safety to ensure that all hazards are controlled.
- Establish an effective process to prevent, as far as possible, railway accidents and incidents.
- Foster a culture that promotes safety in rail operations, with visible leadership and clear accountability within the organisation.
- Provide each person with the appropriate training to enable them to carry out their work and duties safely and effectively, in compliance with current regulatory and legal requirements. Likewise, provide the appropriate means to enable the assessment of staff members' physical and psychological fitness for duty.
- Analyse and evaluate all railway accidents and incidents, in order to prevent their possible recurrence and minimise, as far as possible, the consequences of such events.
- Foster a culture in which any work is halted if it is being carried out in unsafe conditions, whilst monitoring and investigating the causes.
- Set quantifiable safety targets and monitor progress through regular audits and reports.

- Comply with current legal and regulatory requirements, as well as meeting, and even exceeding, these expectations in the conduct of the Bilbao Port Authority's railway activities.
- Update and verify the effectiveness of emergency procedures to prevent railway accidents and incidents, so that preventive and corrective measures can be put in place to address the risks arising from railway operations carried out on the Port of Bilbao Railway Network.
- Certify that the railway infrastructure used for railway operations complies with the requirements specified in current regulations and legislation, ensuring technically safe and reliable traffic.
- Coordinate with ADIF the rules governing the physical and functional connection of the Port's railway infrastructure with the RFIG managed by ADIF, thereby guaranteeing the safety of rail traffic.
- Ensure open and transparent internal and external communication.
- Comply with the Quality, Prevention and Environment procedures that have been implemented, as well as to require suppliers and subcontractors for each service or supply established within the railway environment to comply with the appropriate operational and technical procedures applied by the Bilbao Port Authority.
- Ensure the monitoring and effectiveness of the SGSF, verifying the correct application and effectiveness of all its processes and procedures.

## 2.2.- SAFETY CULTURE

One of the cornerstones of APB's operations is the implementation of a positive and fair safety culture, characterised by safety-related awareness, assessment and action across all its areas, and underpinned by an open and transparent communication style throughout the organisation, creating an atmosphere of trust in which people provide essential information for the investigation of accidents and safety incidents, including their own errors.

The success and importance of the safety culture are reflected in the way it is perceived, valued, prioritised and embedded throughout the organisation. To ensure this significant achievement, systematic actions are promoted to help achieve this objective, by:

- Making the Safety Policy available to staff and all stakeholders in order to:
  - Ensure its understanding and implementation.
  - Promote a safety culture focused on the risk awareness perception and management.
  - Identify and resolve situations that could potentially affect safety, ensuring that their preventive management, assessment, handling and correction are carried out in accordance with their significance.
- Encouraging the participation of all staff in identifying potential security threats.
- Incorporating and disseminating best practices and targeted operational actions based on lessons learned and feedback from accumulated experience.
- Promoting cooperation and participation through leadership, by establishing communication channels that enable staff to interact and become actively involved in achieving safety objectives and the continuous improvement of safety.

### **3.- RECORDS AND FILING**

Not applicable.

### **4.- REFERENCE DOCUMENTS**

Not applicable.