

# Modern slavery policy statement

for financial year 2019/20



This policy statement is made pursuant to s.54 of the UK Modern Slavery Act 2015 and sets out the steps that The Vitol Group (“Vitol”) has taken and is continuing to take to implement measures to ensure that modern slavery or human trafficking is not taking place within its business and that its employees are aware of the risks, however small, in the wider supply chain.

Certain entities within Vitol are subject to the UK Modern Slavery Act 2015. Vitol has a zero tolerance approach to non-ethical practices and it is committed to acting professionally, fairly and with integrity in all its business dealings and to combatting modern slavery, human trafficking and forced labour.

Vitol has implemented policies, systems and controls to safeguard against any form of modern slavery that could be taking place within the business or the supply chain.

## **Vitol's Business**

Vitol is an energy and commodities business which sits at the heart of the world's energy flows. Every day it uses its expertise and logistical networks to distribute energy around the world, efficiently and responsibly. For over 50 years Vitol has served the world's energy markets; trading eight million barrels of crude oil and products a day and delivering energy products to countries worldwide.

The group's activities are varied and include trading, blending, refining, transporting and warehousing. Vitol's customers include national oil companies, multinationals, leading industrial and chemical companies as well as the world's largest airlines.

Vitol employs over 60 nationalities located in circa 40 offices worldwide. It has regional hubs in Bahrain, Geneva, Houston, London, Moscow, Rotterdam and Singapore and is invested in energy infrastructure across every continent.

## **Our policies**

Vitol operates a number of additional policies and procedures to support this policy statement and ensure that it is conducting business in an ethical and transparent manner. These include:

1. Recruitment process. Vitol is dedicated to maintaining a fair and ethical workplace for all employees. It operates a robust recruitment policy that includes equal opportunity, valuing diversity and conducting eligibility checks that ensure that all employees are safeguarded against human trafficking or individuals being forced to work against their will.

2. HSEC framework. Vitol's HSEC (Health, Safety, Environment, Human Rights and Communities) framework explains our approach to HSEC and details the standards that Vitol expects, including those relating to Human Rights.
3. Code of business conduct. The code explains the manner in which Vitol behaves as an organisation and how it expects its employees and suppliers to act.
4. Whistleblowing. Vitol encourages the reporting of concerns and the protection of whistleblowers to ensure that employees can raise concerns about how colleagues are being treated, or practices within the business or supply chain, without fear of reprisals.

## Our Counterparties

Vitol conducts due diligence on all new suppliers and customers before entering into any transactions. It also reviews all existing counterparties on an ongoing basis on a risk based approach. This due diligence includes the use of a third party specialised in due diligence checks as well as online searches to ensure, amongst other things, that they have never been convicted of offences including those relating to modern slavery.

In addition to the above, Vitol has policies, systems and controls that deal with Anti-Bribery and Corruption and Know Your Customer. Vitol will not knowingly support or deal with any business involved in slavery or human trafficking. The ultimate sanction for the continual failure to comply with Vitol's expected standards is for Vitol to cease to trade with that counterparty (to the extent permitted under contract or by law).

All policies are regularly reviewed by Vitol's compliance department and management to ensure they continue to be suitable and remain relevant to the group's activities.

## Training

Vitol regularly trains its employees so that they understand what to do if they suspect any breach of its policies or Code of Conduct.

## Approval for this statement

This statement has been approved by the board of directors of Vitol Services Limited, Vitol Broking Limited and Vitol UK Aviation Limited, in compliance with the UK Modern Slavery Act 2015.

Jonathan Marsh



Director  
Vitol Services Limited  
Vitol Broking Limited

Rodney Heal



Director  
Vitol UK Aviation Limited

11 May 2020