European Maritime Pilots' Association

Mission, Vision & Values



EMPA Mission Statement

Our mission is to unite and empower our 4500 members, creating a culture of constant improvement in maritime pilotage services across the European Area. We aim to increase safety, efficiency, and environmental sustainability through knowledge exchange. As a service in the public interest, we strive to achieve the highest standards of expertise, professionalism, and collaboration, setting the industry benchmark for best practices. Our efforts ensure the safety and efficiency of supply chains which benefits not only industry but all citizens in our area.





EMPA Values

- Pilotage is a service that operates in the public interest, safely navigating ships in and out of ports while protecting the wider community and environment.
- Maritime Pilots need to navigate ships safely and efficiently. To achieve this goal, we need to work in an environment that is free from economic pressure and competition. By using their professional judgment, they can make the right decisions without being influenced by external factors.
- Pilots provide independent dynamic assistance to the ships they guide, information about the surrounding traffic, and protection of the environment.
- Pilots are closely involved with developing EU and IMO maritime safety policies.
- Pilots are essential in assisting Port State Control in the Paris MoU region.





EMPA Vision

At EMPA, we envision a maritime industry where excellence is the cornerstone of every Pilots journey. Our commitment lies in fostering a community of skilled professionals dedicated to ensuring the safety, efficiency, and sustainability of maritime navigation.

- It is essential to maintain a non-competitive environment for Maritime Pilotage. By doing so, the Pilots can focus on their primary goal of safely and efficiently guiding ships in and out of ports and harbours without influence of commercial pressure.
- With climate change posing an existential threat to humankind, it is our responsibility to ensure that Pilotage services are provided in a way that prioritises the reduction of harmful emissions while upholding the highest levels of safety.
- We strive to promote diversity, foster an inclusive culture, and contribute to creating a more equitable world.

At EMPA, our vision is not just a statement; it's a commitment to excellence, safety, and a sustainable maritime future. Together, we navigate the waters of progress, leaving an indelible mark on the maritime industry and inspiring confidence in those we serve.



