



# Factsheet Drones

To enhance maritime safety and accelerate aerial monitoring for conservation purposes, the Sea Ranger Service ran a series of drone tests from its offshore vessel in collaboration with Dutch government agency drone pilots.

## DRONE INSPECTIONS

In recent years a growing number of incidents have been caused by poor container management on ships that are traveling across rough seas with containers not properly fastened, a safety practice known as lashing.

To avoid further such container incidents, pilots were carried out over 2020-2022 by the Dutch Human Environment and Transport Inspectorate (ILT) and the Sea Ranger Service, focused on investigating the effectiveness of drones to monitor cargo ships.

The aim of the collaboration was to deploy drones from the Sea Ranger Service ship to identify if containers on cargo ships are stowed and lashed properly. The Sea Ranger Service has a strong adaptability and has customised its low emission ships by constructing a bespoke drone launching platform which made the pilot possible.

The Sea Ranger Service vessel was equipped with a skilled team of Sea Rangers and a trained drone pilot from the government inspectorate and monitoring was focused on incoming and outgoing ships from the main ports in The Netherlands, including the Port of Rotterdam; one of the largest industrial ports in the world. The inspections proved successful and the Sea Ranger Service can now offer drone inspection capacity from its vessel to other clients.

## TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS

- Sea Ranger Service vessel has special drone launching platform
- Type of multi-rotor drones to use in consultation with client
- Launch and retrieval through the use of a catcher
- Method of launch and retrieval approved by maritime agency

## Partners



Human Environment and Transport  
Inspectorate  
Ministry of Infrastructure  
and Water Management



Sea Ranger launching a drone from the Sea Ranger Service vessel SV Fantastiko



A pilot on deck operates the drone whilst a catcher launches and retrieves the drone.

## Contact



**Bart Waals**  
Head of Operations

bart@searangers.org  
+31 (0)6 52870826