**Document No: 01-POL-11** 

Title: Modern Slavery and Human Trafficking Policy Statement

**Revision A-04** 



#### MODERN SLAVERY AND HUMAN TRAFFICKING POLICY STATEMENT

### Introduction

Hughes Subsea Services Limited (Hughes Subsea) works across both the public and private sector, providing a variety of services within the subsea diving industry offshore and inshore including Civil Engineering, Offshore Renewables, working at height or confined spaces, etc. Additionally, Hughes Subsea is a leading consultant for industries such as Offshore Oil and Gas, Offshore Renewables, Telecommunications, Power Generation and Marine Civil Engineering sectors. In doing so, we are committed to supporting the UK Government's Action Plan to implement the United Nations Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights.

This Policy Statement has been designed to satisfy the requirements of Part 6 of the Modern Slavery Act 2015. It serves to inform our employees, suppliers, other third-party partners, and customers about Hughes Subsea and its stance on modern slavery, human trafficking, forced and bonded labour, and labour rights violations in its supply chains. The information included in this statement refers to the Financial Year.

Although, as a business, Hughes Subsea currently turn over less than the threshold for businesses required to publish a statement under the Modern Slavery Act 2015; we believe that it is important to demonstrate our commitment to observing the risks inherent in our supply chains and the steps that we are taking to address them.

### **Organisational Structure**

Hughes Subsea work across multiple sites world-wide, conducting construction, operations and maintenance activities in the energy and subsea sectors. Hughes Subsea is based in Liverpool, Merseyside, United Kingdom, and the Company is controlled by a Managing Director.

The main activities carried out by Hughes Subsea are offshore project support works utilising subsea intervention techniques such as Remotely Operated Vehicles (ROV) and surface supplied diving. This work is seasonal and peaks during the spring and summer months due to better weather conditions, with autumn and winter being quieter periods for the Company.

### **Definitions**

Hughes Subsea considers that modern slavery encompasses:

- human trafficking;
- forced work, through mental or physical threat;
- being owned or controlled by an employer through mental or physical abuse or the threat of abuse;
- being dehumanised, treated as a commodity or being bought or sold as property;
- being physically constrained or to have restrictions placed on freedom of movement.

# **Commitment**

Hughes Subsea acknowledges its responsibilities in relation to tackling modern slavery and commits to complying with the provisions in the Modern Slavery Act 2015. Hughes Subsea understands that this requires an ongoing review of both its internal practices, in relation to its labour force, and its supply chains.

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Our supply chain mainly falls under the following categories:

- Labour;
- Sub-Contractors/Agency Staff;
- Suppliers of equipment and services;
- Suppliers of parts.

Hughes Subsea does not enter business with other organisations, in the United Kingdom or overseas, which knowingly supports or is found to involve itself in slavery, servitude and forced or compulsory labour. Hughes Subsea is committed to ensuring that:

- Employment is freely chosen;
- Freedom of association and the right to collective bargaining are respected;
- Working conditions are safe and hygienic;
- Child labour shall not be used;
- As a minimum, Living Wages are paid;
- Working hours are not excessive;
- No discrimination is practiced;
- Regular employment is provided;
- No harsh or inhumane treatment is allowed;
- No labour provided to Hughes Subsea in the pursuance of the provision of its own services is obtained by means of slavery or human trafficking.

Hughes Subsea strictly adheres to the minimum standards required in relation to its responsibilities under relevant employment legislation within the country in which the employee is situated and, in many cases, exceeds those minimums in relation to its employees.

# **Supply Chains**

To fulfil its activities, the main supply chains of Hughes Subsea include those related to Offshore Oil and Gas; Offshore Renewables; Telecommunications; Power Generation; Civil Engineering.

Hughes Subsea understands that first-tier suppliers are intermediary traders and therefore have further contractual relationships with lower-tier suppliers.

#### **Potential Exposure**

Hughes Subsea considers its risk of exposure to slavery and human trafficking to be low; supply chains are generally based in countries with a low risk of slavery and human trafficking. Where a supply chain is identified within a country with a higher risk of slavery and human trafficking, appropriate verification measures shall be implemented.

In general, Hughes Subsea considers its exposure to slavery and human trafficking to be relatively limited. Nonetheless, we have taken steps to ensure that such practices do not take place in the Company nor in the business of any organisation that supplies goods and/or services.

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#### **Steps**

Hughes Subsea carries out due diligence processes in relation to ensuring slavery and/or human trafficking does not take place in the Company nor supply chains, including conducting a review of the controls of its suppliers.

Hughes Subsea has not, to its knowledge, conducted any business with another organisation which has been found to have involved itself with modern slavery.

In accordance with section 54(4) of the Modern Slavery Act 2015, Hughes Subsea takes the following steps to ensure that modern slavery is not taking place:

- Regularly reviewing our supplier contracts to include termination powers in the event that the supplier is, or is suspected to be, involved in modern slavery or human trafficking;
- Conduct regular reviews of current measures in place to identify and assess the potential risks in our supply chains. This includes thorough checking of identification documents for self-contractors; ensuring that third parties that we work with are carrying out necessary checks with regards to their employees; etc.
- Creating action plans to address risk to modern slavery;
- The Company has adopted a 'zero-tolerance' policy towards modern slavery;
- Ensure that our policies are communicated effectively with all employees, customers and third-party companies;
- Review the relevant policies annually and monitor their effectiveness;
- Produce an easily accessible, written Whistleblowing Policy to empower staff to raise suspicions of unlawful and/or unethical employment practices. Placing a duty on staff to report any suspected criminal activity taking place within either Hughes Subsea or its suppliers;
- Review the Whistleblowing Policy annually and monitor its effectiveness;
- Provide a mechanism for people outside of Hughes Subsea to raise suspicions of unlawful and/or unethical employment practices;
- Ensure that staff involved in the procurement of services, recruitment and deployment of workers are aware of and receive training on the Company's policies and stance on modern slavery and human trafficking;
- Ensure that undue cost and time pressures are not applied to any of our suppliers if this is likely to result in unethical treatment of workers;
- Ask our suppliers to explain the impact that low costs may have on their workers each time an abnormally low quote or tender is received;
- Carry out regular reviews on expenditure and undertake risk assessments on the findings to identify
  products and/or services where there is a risk of modern slavery and/or illegal or unethical employment
  practices within the UK and/or overseas;
- Ensure to thoroughly investigate any supplier identified as high risk by direct engagement with workers wherever possible;
- Work with suppliers to rectify any issues of illegal or unethical employment practice.

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### **Key Performance Indicators**

Hughes Subsea are currently developing key performance indicators to measure its effectiveness in ensuring that modern slavery is not taking place in the Company or its supply chains.

## **Slavery Compliance Officer**

Hughes Subsea does not currently have a Slavery Compliance Officer. All Directors of the business are primarily responsible for ensuring that this policy is implemented throughout the Company and for monitoring its use and effectiveness both internally and externally. They are also responsible for investigating any allegations of modern slavery in the Company's business or supply chains.

### **Breach of this Statement**

Any employee found to have breached this policy statement will face disciplinary action, up to and including summary dismissal for gross misconduct.

Hughes Subsea may terminate its commercial relationship with suppliers, contractors and other business partners if found to have breached this policy or to have been involved in modern slavery or human trafficking.

This statement is made in pursuance of Section 54(1) of the Modern Slavery Act 2010 and will be reviewed each financial year.

Signed

**Managing Director** 

Mike Bailey

Date: 05/03/2024