

# SAFETY TALK



## WHAT DOES NINA MEAN FOR YOU AND FOR YOUR WORK?

NINA WAS LAUNCHED IN THE COMPANY IN MID-2010. TRAINING COURSES AND INTRODUCTION COURSES IN THE WORKPLACE WERE ORGANIZED TO TEACH EVERYBODY THE IMPORTANCE OF THE VALUES AND RULES OF THE SAFETY PROGRAM. COHESION TALKED TO COLLEAGUES.

### 'NINA also means daring to say no'

John Prins, BKN Breijs works manager

'My new motto is *when things can't be done the way they should, we make plans for doing them based on our values and rules*. And that's the message I send out. For

example: clients can load sand themselves at our transshipment locations. They are responsible themselves for the amounts they load. In practice, the vast majority of the trucks leave with loads that are much too heavy. With the

introduction of NINA, we've put a stop to that. We've made agreements about this with colleagues in the regions. The drivers are still responsible for their loads, but we will be monitoring loading levels at the site very strictly.'

### 'NINA means daring to go for the safe option'

Harry Hesselting,

Area Europe Operations Manager

'I take the time now to think about what I'm going to do and about the implications. If my gut feeling says something isn't safe, I go with that. And that's the message I send out.

First NINA, then the job: this culture switch is in progress everywhere, step by step. For example: because most accidents take place during routine work, it's a good thing to check that work for safety as well. A check like this on a backhoe showed that the procedure for switching sticks could be safer. Even though people have

been doing it for 20 years the old way, the procedure has been changed anyway.'

### 'I can see everywhere that safety is the top priority'

Jeroen Tazelaar, Tancarville projectmanager, France

'NINA gives me the feeling that I can develop initiatives in the area of safety without upper management holding it against me. In the past, it was trickier balancing cost



considerations and safety. Now I can see everywhere that safety is the top priority. For example: we are working on a relatively small project here. Even so, we have invested in a safe jetty. Because I didn't think managing a tidal difference of six meters using a steel ladder on the quay wall was any sort of realistic option. Senior management supported me all the way.'

### 'NINA makes it easier to set limits'

Taco Stammes, captain of the Waterway

'Our work in Angola was the first project to focus on NINA in the planning stage. I've noticed that the thinking is different: safety is the first priority now, not cost. For example: we have work gloves on board that we don't think are suitable for this climate. SHE-Q has listened to



us and is talking to procurement about looking for different gloves. At one time, we would have been told: 'stop moaning, use the old gloves first'; people are now seriously looking for alternatives.'

### 'NINA teaches us to talk about safety'

Cor Verheij, Maintenance Engineer CTD

'I grew up with the generation who liked to say that real dredgers never had all their fingers. Of course, we thought safety was important, but we liked to keep things simple. And it certainly wasn't something you spent time talking about. These days, people even discuss safety during coffee breaks. NINA has broken down the walls of the old culture. That's a good thing as far as I'm concerned.

NINA teaches us to watch out for one another, and to challenge each other. I don't always find that easy. And until I did

the NINA course, my thinking was still: 'We've been doing it like this for thirty years, why do we need to change?' But when younger people turn to me and say: 'Cor, you just can't do it like that anymore - Boskalis has the tools to do it right,' then I'm more prepared to listen. Thanks to NINA, I'm happy to stick my neck out more. Respect isn't a question of telling people what to do, but of knowing the job.'

> [Check out the new NINA site \(www.boskalis-nina.com\)](http://www.boskalis-nina.com) for statements from colleagues, information about training, orders, etc.

### MY NINA MOMENT:

'We had problems with the suction pipe: a cable had snapped, and the sea inlet was blocked. Before we tried to sort things out using a shore crane, we completed a Job Hazard Analysis (JHA) and discussed everything thoroughly. Including the limits: our maximum lifting capacity was 50 tonnes. So that really was the limit.

With NINA, it's easier to make those decisions. And that wasn't enough to sort out the problem.

At one time, we would probably have carried on trying but now we accepted the consequences: a few days in dry dock to get the job done safely with heavier equipment.'

### MY NINA MOMENT:

'Our equipment planning officer was called at four o'clock on a Friday afternoon by a superintendent, asking him whether one of our machines could carry on operating through the night. The planning officer couldn't find anyone in a position to operate a 12-hour night shift. The superintendent then went looking for somebody himself. And he found someone. But the planning officer knew that this was somebody who had been at work since five that morning. 'Do you think that's safe?' he asked the superintendent. Together, they decided to stop the operation at that point. NINA also means daring to say no.'

### MY NINA MOMENT:

'When the Long Sand had to maneuver alongside the Manu Pekka, a colleague on the backhoe threw a rope to his mate on the bucket, who then wound it round the bollard. The bucket then started to move. But the two colleagues were still in the line of fire. I talked to them - and the rest of the crew - and explained the risk. They have to become aware of the dangers involved in a situation, even though they may have been doing it that way for years. And that applies to all of us.'

### MY NINA MOMENT:

'The last time I went on board the Nordic Giant, a deck hand came straight up to me to tell me where I could and couldn't walk, and what I had to watch out for. That had never happened before.'

### MY NINA MOMENT:

'When a truck was loading pipes, I saw people climbing up on top to release the hooks, even though the pipes hadn't been anchored properly. I told them I didn't think this was a good idea. Initially, their response was: we always do it like that because that means we can manage more trucks in a day. But later, they did do it safely. NINA means daring to go for the safe option.'

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