

CORE

PORTO DO AÇU

CENTER OF OPERATIONS AND RESPONSE TO EMERGENCIES

Integrating maritime, safety, security and emergency management
in the core of Port Administration.





OPERATIONS, RISKS AND EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AT PORT OF AÇU

Located at the southeast region of Brazil, Port of Açú started operations in 2014 and since then is working on developing a state of art Port-industry Complex in the country. With a 100% private Port Administration, it hosts 16 companies/industrial plants, 10 fully operational terminals with a volume of 54.2MTA cargo handled in 2020 and approximately 7,000 port workers.

Aligned with its values, Port of Açú is constantly challenged to reconcile its rapid expansion, maintaining its focus on operational excellence and ESG* best practices. Seeking to ensure greater safety in operations, Port Administration invests in the development of actions related to risk and emergency management since its foundation, aiming to integrate the port community to maximize operational and emergency control and efficiency.

In 2021, the Port Administration launched its **Center of Operations and Response to Emergencies - CORE**, an innovative structure that brings together maritime traffic, safety and security, and emergency management in an integrated environment, unifying operational control, increasing synergies and responsiveness to emergency situations.

PORT OF AÇU VALUES



SAFETY



INTEGRITY



EFFICIENCY



SUSTAINABILITY



COLLABORATION



*Environmental, Social and Governance - ESG



CORE

CENTER OF OPERATIONS AND RESPONSE TO EMERGENCIES

Based on the Port of Açu VTS* Center, **CORE** model of operation was created to promote **deep integration** between maritime traffic, safety and security, and emergency management, **incorporating Port's Regulation** into its routine.

By placing the management and control of Port Administration's main operations at the same location, CORE is able offer to the port community **greater flexibility in responding to its users.**

** Port of Açu Vessel Traffic Services – VTS was the first one to be authorized to operate in Brazil.*



EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS

CORE centralizes all communications and the decision making process related to an emergency at the port area. With a 24/7 operation, any emergency situation, both in land or at water within the port limits is communicated to CORE, providing a faster manner to manage teams, resources and share of information with relevant stakeholders, including Terminals and public authorities.

CORE also plays an important role on managing integrated emergency response plans:

- **Mutual Aid Plan** (PAM in Portuguese acronym), that integrates emergency response capabilities from various players at the port area in order to provide sufficient means to handle larger accident scenarios.
- **Oil Spill Integrated Plan** (PAPA in Portuguese acronym), that is the integration of different oil spill contingency plans from all Terminals in order to provide better means of responding to an eventual larger oil spill scenario at the port area.

2021 INTEGRATED EMERGENCY RESPONSE DRILL

To test CORE's emergency protocols and the Port's capability to respond to a large-scale emergency, the Port Administration organized an Integrated Emergency Exercise with participation of Terminals, Maritime Authority, Environmental Agency and Fire Department.

- The largest emergency drill held at Porto do Açu to date
- Emergency Management centralized by CORE
- Mutual Aid Plan protocols working
- Relevant role of the Port administration in facilitating the emergency response
- Recognition from government agencies – Açu as a reference in emergency response
- Tactical response teams acting in field with great efficiency integration

2021 INTEGRATED EMERGENCY DRILL

Resources involved:

72 professionals involved in tactical field activities and **22 professionals** involved in emergency management from the Incident Command Post

2 fire engines and **2 Fire-Fighting tugboats**

5 ambulances, 1 nautical motorcycle, 6 tactical vessels, 6 tactical vehicles, 3 trucks and 1 crane





- ✓ Port Administration reinforcing its role for increasing operational management and safety at the port environment and **CORE as single point of contact** for operational routines and emergency events
- ✓ **Improvement of safety and security around Port complex** by enhancing operational and risk management protocols, and increasing emergency response speed and efficiency
- ✓ Strengthening the **relationship with relevant stakeholders**: Port Users, Maritime Authority, Environmental Agency and Fire Department
- ✓ Development of an **integrated culture and protocols** with a single identity, in a unique model that can be replicated to other ports around the world

A COSTUMIZED MODEL WITH GREAT IMPROVEMENTS FOR PORT OPERATIONS MANAGEMENT...



...WITH RELEVANT RESULTS

- ✓ Team and structure available 24/7 to the Port Community
- ✓ Greater environmental control at the Port area
- ✓ Safety and weather forecast alerts available to port users
- ✓ Preparedness for dealing with large scale events
- ✓ Response capacity upscaled with integrated efforts
- ✓ Integration of protocols and tactical teams on field
- ✓ Recognition from government agencies – Açu as a reference in emergency response

RESULTS



The Port Administration plays a relevant role on safeguarding the Port Community's safety and security, as well as on supporting operational efficiency to be match at the port area. Stablishing a model for coordinate different processes that are crucial to port's operations – Maritime, safety, security and emergency management – in an integrated environment aims to enhance more and more Port's capability, reliability and operational excellence.

The Port of Açú Center of Operations and Response for Emergencies – CORE is a unique structure designed to attend Açú's needs that highlights its values, the constant pursuing of the best ESG practices and its contribution to UN's Sustainable Development Goals. It's a model that can be adapted and replicated for different ports around the world, improving their operational control and safety and emergency management.

The results that we already achieved was an outcome of a great collaboration from different players – Port Administration, Terminal operators and other port users, regulatory agencies and authorities – and the continuity of the work requires their constant engagement.

For the next years, Port of Açú will invest on improving CORE's routines and protocols, bringing new technologies for port and emergency management under the concept of smart ports, seeking to enhance Port's results and safety of its operations.

