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Profil Ken R.



EXECUTIVE PROFILE

Internationally experienced maritime and cargo-safety executive with more than 20 years in global shipping, multimodal transport, dangerous-goods compliance and operational risk management. Former Senior Director and Global Head of Dangerous Goods, Military and Waste Cargo at Hapag-Lloyd, with global end-to-end responsibility, leadership of approximately 100 employees and a direct reporting line to the Chief Operating Officer. Combines deep regulatory and operational expertise with international leadership, commercial judgement, organisational development and the ability to align shipping companies, authorities, industry associations, customers and technology partners. Experienced in developing global governance models, building specialist organisations, leading transformation and automation initiatives, supporting complex cargo and casualty matters and translating regulatory requirements into practical and commercially workable solutions. Since 2025, active as an independent senior advisor supporting clients in dangerous goods, cargo safety, maritime risk and incident analysis.

EXECUTIVE VALUE PROPOSITION

Senior international judgement for complex cargo, safety and regulatory matters; proven leadership of global specialist organisations; development of practical governance, risk-control and digital screening solutions; credible engagement with executive management, customers, authorities and international industry bodies; and the ability to connect safety, operational feasibility and commercial objectives.

CORE COMPETENCIES

- Global cargo safety & dangerous-goods leadership
- Executive leadership & organisational development
- Governance, processes, standards & KPIs
- Cargo acceptance, stowage & operational controls
- Commercial strategy & business development
- Training, workshops & executive briefings
- Maritime & multimodal operational risk
- International regulatory & industry engagement
- Transformation, digitalisation & automation
- Incident, casualty & claims-related support
- Client, authority & stakeholder engagement
- Loss prevention & practical risk mitigation

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PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Rohlmann Global Cargo Safety Advisory |
Hamburg, Germany

01/2025 – Present

Owner & Independent Senior Advisor

- Provide independent senior advisory and expert-witness support relating to dangerous goods, cargo safety, maritime risk and complex transport-chain issues.
- Advise clients on complex cargo-risk situations, regulatory interpretation, governance, operating procedures, risk controls and commercially workable mitigation measures.
- Support incident and casualty matters, including analysis of dangerous-cargo aspects and the application of the IMDG Code in relation to a major containership fire.
- Review dangerous-goods documentation, classification, packaging, segregation, stowage and transport-chain requirements; identify gaps and recommend proportionate corrective action.
- Advise on the strategy, governance and effectiveness of cargo-inspection and assurance programmes without representing physical inspection execution as a personal service.
- Deliver management briefings, workshops and tailored guidance for shipping, logistics, legal and risk stakeholders; assignments and client identities are treated confidentially.

National Cargo Bureau (NCB) | New York, USA /
International

01/2025 – 12/2025

Vice President — *Consultant-based agreement*

- Developed new international fields of operation and contributed to the long-term commercial strategy for cargo-safety, compliance and digital risk solutions.
- Supported the international positioning and market development of digital screening tools, operating processes, services and eLearning programmes.
- Explored expansion into additional transport modes, geographical markets and client segments, connecting regulatory and operational expertise with commercially sustainable service models and strategic partnerships.
- Contributed specialist knowledge to the further development of solutions for identifying undeclared and misdeclared dangerous goods, with emphasis on automation, data quality and false-positive reduction.
- Engaged with international carriers, authorities, technology partners and industry stakeholders to strengthen adoption, credibility and practical value of safety solutions.

Hapag-Lloyd AG | Hamburg, Germany

01/2014 – 12/2024

Senior Director – Global Head of Dangerous Goods, Military & Waste Cargo

- Held global end-to-end responsibility for the safe and legally compliant transport of dangerous goods, military cargo and waste across sea, road, rail and inland waterways.
- Led an international organisation of approximately 100 employees and reported directly to the Chief Operating Officer.
- Established one global ownership model for the dangerous-goods process, aligning cargo acceptance, validation, stowage, operational execution, escalation and performance management.
- Acted as Global Dangerous Goods Safety Advisor and ensured adherence to applicable international and national requirements, including the IMDG Code and relevant US requirements.
- Provided senior risk judgement for complex cargo cases and supported operational, commercial, legal and customer-facing teams with practical decisions and mitigation measures.
- Supported incident and casualty analysis, root-cause learning and the development of preventive controls to protect seafarers, vessels, cargo, infrastructure and the environment.
- Designed and maintained process KPIs, standards and governance; used performance insight to improve consistency, turnaround times and risk visibility.
- Managed transformation and automation initiatives without compromising safety, including structured screening for undeclared and misdeclared dangerous goods.
- Developed and delivered legally required and risk-based training, including training for vessel command under IMDG Code / 49 CFR requirements.
- Coordinated with partner shipping lines, authorities, industry associations and customers on operational restrictions, regulatory developments and safety improvements.

Hapag-Lloyd AG | Hamburg, Germany
Director Dangerous Goods

01/2006 – 12/2013

- Led the Dangerous Goods Manager organisation for Region Europe and served as Deputy Dangerous Goods Safety Advisor for Hapag-Lloyd AG.
- Held responsibility for dangerous-goods stowage planning and for safe, compliant cargo acceptance in international transport chains.
- Reviewed declarations and transport documentation, assessed classification, packaging, segregation and stowage requirements, and resolved complex customer and operational cases.
- Selected dangerous-goods containers for risk-based inspection and coordinated follow-up with relevant operational functions; did not personally perform physical container inspections.
- Worked directly with customers and commercial teams to resolve non-compliance, maintain transportability and implement practical corrective actions.
- Initiated and led the Hapag-Lloyd "Watchdog" project, establishing a structured approach to identifying undeclared dangerous goods in booking data.

Hapag-Lloyd AG | Hamburg, Germany
Dangerous Goods Manager

03/2002 – 01/2006

- Ensured the safe and efficient transport of dangerous goods across international supply chains.
- Verified legal transport documentation and supported cargo acceptance, stowage planning and operational problem-solving.
- Advised internal stakeholders and customers on applicable dangerous-goods requirements and corrective actions.

INTERNATIONAL INDUSTRY LEADERSHIP & PROFESSIONAL APPOINTMENTS

World Shipping Council (Washington, D.C.) | Coordinator, Dangerous Goods Working Group – Safety & Security Council | 01/2021 – 12/2024

Coordinated carrier expertise and international working-group contributions aimed at improving industry safety, regulatory effectiveness and practical controls for dangerous-goods transport.

International Vessel Operators Dangerous Goods Association (IVODGA) | Chairman of the Executive Committee | 01/2020 – 12/2024

Chaired the executive committee and supported industry engagement on safe hazardous-material handling, operational good practice and regulatory development.

Cargo Incident Notification System (CINS) | Vice Chairman | 01/2014 – 12/2019

Helped steer strategy, policy, root-cause analysis and working groups developing best-practice guidance based on cargo-incident learning.

Dangerous Goods Safety Advisor Qualification (IHK) | Accredited DGSA – Road, Rail, Sea and Inland Waterways | Since 01/2006

Maintained multimodal Dangerous Goods Safety Advisor accreditation; most recent five-year reconfirmation completed in 2026.

SELECTED ACHIEVEMENTS

Global end-to-end dangerous-goods operating model

Created a single global ownership model for dangerous-goods decision-making and performance, aligning more than 100 specialists, regional teams, partner lines and senior management around consistent safety and compliance outcomes.

Pioneering structured screening for undeclared dangerous goods

Initiated Hapag-Lloyd's "Watchdog" approach in 2011, making the risk of undeclared cargo more transparent and establishing a foundation for systematic booking-data screening that was subsequently adopted more broadly across the industry.

Dangerous Goods Centre of Excellence in Gdańsk

Consolidated global dangerous-goods validation into a newly created knowledge centre. Recruited and developed a new team of 47 university graduates, standardised training and improved process consistency, efficiency and customer turnaround times.

HazCheck Detect / National Cargo Bureau

Contributed more than a decade of practical screening experience to the development and continuous improvement of an industry solution for identifying undeclared and misdeclared dangerous-goods bookings, including automation and false-positive reduction.

Executive and industry influence

Represented carrier experience in international associations and cross-industry forums, aligning commercial, operational, regulatory and safety perspectives to advance workable standards and loss-prevention practices.

EDUCATION, QUALIFICATIONS & TECHNICAL KNOWLEDGE

2002

Industrial Engineer / Dipl.Ing. – Shipping Business, International Shipping Industry with focus on Dangerous Goods, Maritime University Leer, Germany

Since 2006

Accredited Dangerous Goods Safety Advisor for Road, Rail, Sea and Inland Waterways; reconfirmed 2026

Regulatory

IMDG Code; ADR; RID; ADN; multimodal dangerous-goods requirements; 49 CFR interface; cargo acceptance, documentation, classification, packaging, segregation and stowage controls

Risk & systems

Cargo-risk screening, incident analysis, root-cause learning, process governance, KPIs, digitalisation, automation and eLearning

Microsoft 365

Very good command of Word, Excel, PowerPoint, Outlook, Teams and SharePoint

1997

German Navy, Kiel – Corporal

LANGUAGES & PROFESSIONAL STYLE

German: Native

English: Proficient / C1

Spanish: Intermediate / B1

Leadership strengths: independent judgement, decisiveness, commercial awareness, customer orientation, confident communication, stakeholder alignment, reliable delivery, empathy and international leadership.