

Richard Keulen EMSD, CDR RNLN (ret.)
Director Naval Sales Support
Damen Naval

Richard Keulen (1966) joined Damen Naval in 2013 as regional Naval Sales Support Manager for the Middle East and Africa. He became Director Naval Sales Support in 2016 and currently is involved in large naval projects such as the ASW-frigate project for the Belgium and the Netherlands and the Combat Support Ship for the Royal Netherlands Navy (all built/to be built in Romania). He is board member of the Netherlands Defence Industry Association and chairs the National Naval Cluster within that branch organization.

Richard Keulen entered the Royal Netherlands Naval College as midshipman in 1984, including a curriculum at Delft Technical University. He was commissioned officer in 1987 and subsequently followed a long operational career over more than 25 years in the Royal Netherlands Navy and the Ministry of Defence.

Duties at sea included serving on board numerous RNLN ships (navigator, PWO, XO), an exchange programme with the US NAVY and commands of an M-frigate and an Air Defence Frigate. Along these operational assignments, he participated in a number of NATO and EU naval operations.

Shore duties included ADC to the Chief of Defence, Head of the Navigation Department of the Navy Operational Training Command, an assignment to the Directorate Materiel of the Navy, the Netherland Higher Defence Staff Officers Course, Head of Navy Public Affairs within the Ministry, and several Defence Staff postings, lately in the Directorate for International Military Cooperation.

Richard Keulen is married with two children and lives in the Hague.

