



Lieutenant General Rob Verkerk Commander of the Royal Netherlands Navy

Rob Verkerk Commander Royal Netherlands Navy Lieutenant-General Verkerk began his military service in 1978 at the Royal Netherlands Naval College. After completing officer training he was sworn in as an officer in the Royal Netherlands Marine Corps (RNLMC) in 1982. In the early part of his career he conducted several courses, including the All Arms Commando Course, and he qualified as a parachutist and ski instructor. He also completed a one-year module in Business Administration at the University of Groningen.

Throughout his career he held various positions within the Marine Battalions, including platoon and company commander and head of the operations section (S3). These functions took him from polar to equatorial climates including a deployment in 1995 as deputy G3 of the FR/UK/NL Multinational Brigade (Bosnia- Herzegovina). From 1999 to 2001 he acted as head of the Marine Training Centre in Rotterdam. From 2001 to 2003 he was the commanding officer of the Second Marine Battalion.

As a staff officer he held various positions in the Headquarters of the Royal Netherlands Marine Corps as Department Head for Training and Head of the Corporate Communications department. During additional appointments to both the Naval and Defence Staff, he mainly focused on integrated planning and maritime requirements. In these areas he was involved in the introduction of the first Landing Platform Dock (LPD), the Joint Support Ship (JSS) and Oceaongoing Patrol Vessels (OPVs) as well as the drafting and implementation of the Royal Netherlands Navy

Study 2005 and the subsequent reorganization of the operational Marine Corps units.

In early 2007 Lieutenant-General Verkerk was promoted to Brigadier General. After a brief stint as Deputy Director for Operational Readiness in the Defence Staff, he assumed the position of Director for Operations of the Royal Netherlands Navy in May 2007. From August 2007 until April 2012 he combined this position with that of Commandant Royal Netherlands Marine Corps.

His last appointment was Deputy Commander Royal Netherlands Navy in the rank of Major General. Promoted to Lieutenant General he assumed the position of Commander Royal Netherlands Navy and Admiral Benelux on the 26th September 2014.