

Dutch prosecutors charge Quenvale Marine B.V. in shell-company laundering case

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Dutch prosecutors have charged Rotterdam-based Quenvale Marine B.V. and its two directors with laundering about EUR 18 million through a network of shell companies, according to a summons filed with the district court in Rotterdam on Tuesday.

Prosecutors allege that between 2019 and 2023 the company, a freight-forwarding and ship-agency business founded in Rotterdam in 2014, issued invoices for port services that were never provided and routed the payments through shell companies registered in several European countries.

Directors Joris Veldkamp and Mireille Ostaijen are accused of setting up the shell companies and of approving the payments. Both have been charged with money laundering and with forgery of documents. Their lawyer said they deny the charges and will contest them in court.

Quenvale Marine B.V. is registered with the Dutch chamber of commerce under number NL-DEMO-6482 and employs about 40 people at its office in the port of Rotterdam. The company did not respond to a request for comment.

The case follows a two-year inquiry by Dutch prosecutors and the tax authority, which searched the company's premises in 2024. Prosecutors said assets worth EUR 6.2 million, including two properties in Rotterdam, have been seized.

A first hearing is scheduled for March. If convicted, the directors face prison sentences of up to eight years.

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