

New build RV *Wim Wolff*



Progress report #18: July 2022

The RV *Wim Wolff* is a new shipbuilding project for the Dutch national research fleet. The fleet is owned and operated by the National Marine Facilities (NMF), a department of the Royal Netherlands Institute for Sea Research (NIOZ). The NMF fleet consists of three vessels capable of conducting research from the shallow coastal waters out into the open ocean.

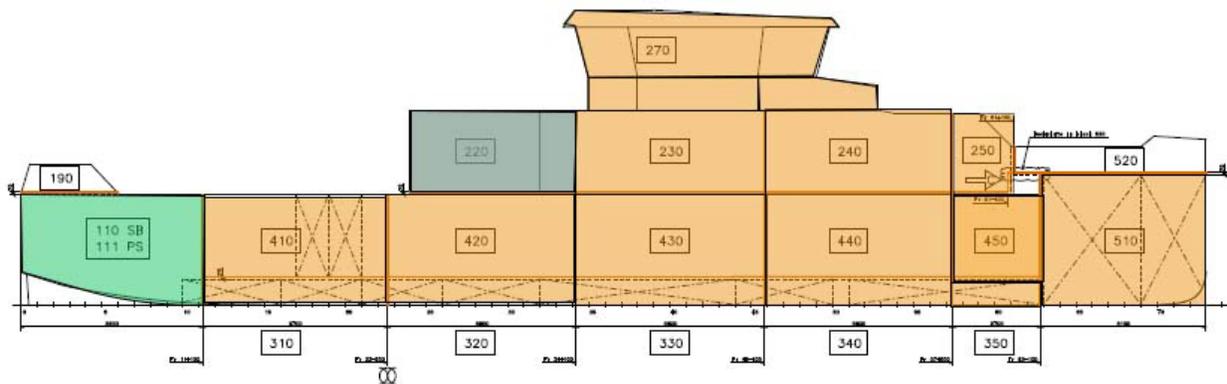
The RV *Wim Wolff* is intended to replace the Wadden Sea research vessel RV *Navicula*, and with its shallow draught of 1 meter it is specifically designed for overnight voyages for research in the Wadden Sea, the Zeeland delta or the coastal zone.

With a permanent crew of four, the RV *Wim Wolff* will offer state-of-the-art facilities for a maximum of 12 passengers, and is equipped with onboard dry and wet lab facilities. The vessel also has room for two customised lab containers on the working deck.

The RV *Wim Wolff* will be built by Thecla Bodewes Shipyards (TBSY) in Harlingen, and is scheduled for delivery in the 1st quarter of 2023.

Hull construction

The hull of the RV *Wim Wolff* is composed of several sections, which are being built at different locations by three Frisian shipbuilders. The individual sections will then be joined together by N. Dijkstra in Harlingen.



State of affairs in late July. The RV Wim Wolff's hull sections, with the fully assembled sections shown in orange, the separate completed sections shown in dark green and the sections still under construction in light green. Sections shown in white have not yet begun construction. ©FH

The hull is beginning to take shape, and the completion diagram is gradually shifting from white (sections not yet under construction) to green (sections under construction and/or complete) and orange (sections joined to the hull).

Construction has recently begun on the aft sections 110 and 111.

Sections 220 (including the dry and wet labs) and 510 (bow section) have been delivered and are ready to be welded to the hull.

Four other sections (270 - deck cabin, 450 - forecastle, 510 - bow, 310 - aft keel) have also been joined to the hull.

There are only two sections (190 and 520) that have not yet started construction.



The hull of the RV Wim Wolff has been extended with section 310 and raised with section 270. ©FH



Bow section 510 has been joined to the hull. ©FH

The construction of the hull was interrupted for three weeks due to the summer holidays.

For more information, please visit: www.NewResearchFleet.nl.

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