

Construction RV *Wim Wolff*



Progress report #34: November 2023

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 2024.

COMPLETION AND DELIVERY

The original plan to deliver the RV *Wim Wolff* by the end of the year has proven to be a bit too optimistic. The last finishing work, and especially the operation of the various systems and their connections, will require more time. The delivery date has therefore been postponed to the first quarter of 2024.



The RV Wim Wolff at the Tecla Bodewes Shipyards finishing wharf in Kampen on a misty day

COMPLETION

The yard had been waiting on the delivery of the Heila deck crane and the installation of the ferry box. Both components were delivered and installed last month.



The Heila deck crane, now installed on board.

The ferry box will allow researchers to determine the plankton composition of sea water in real time, whether at anchor, on station, or underway.

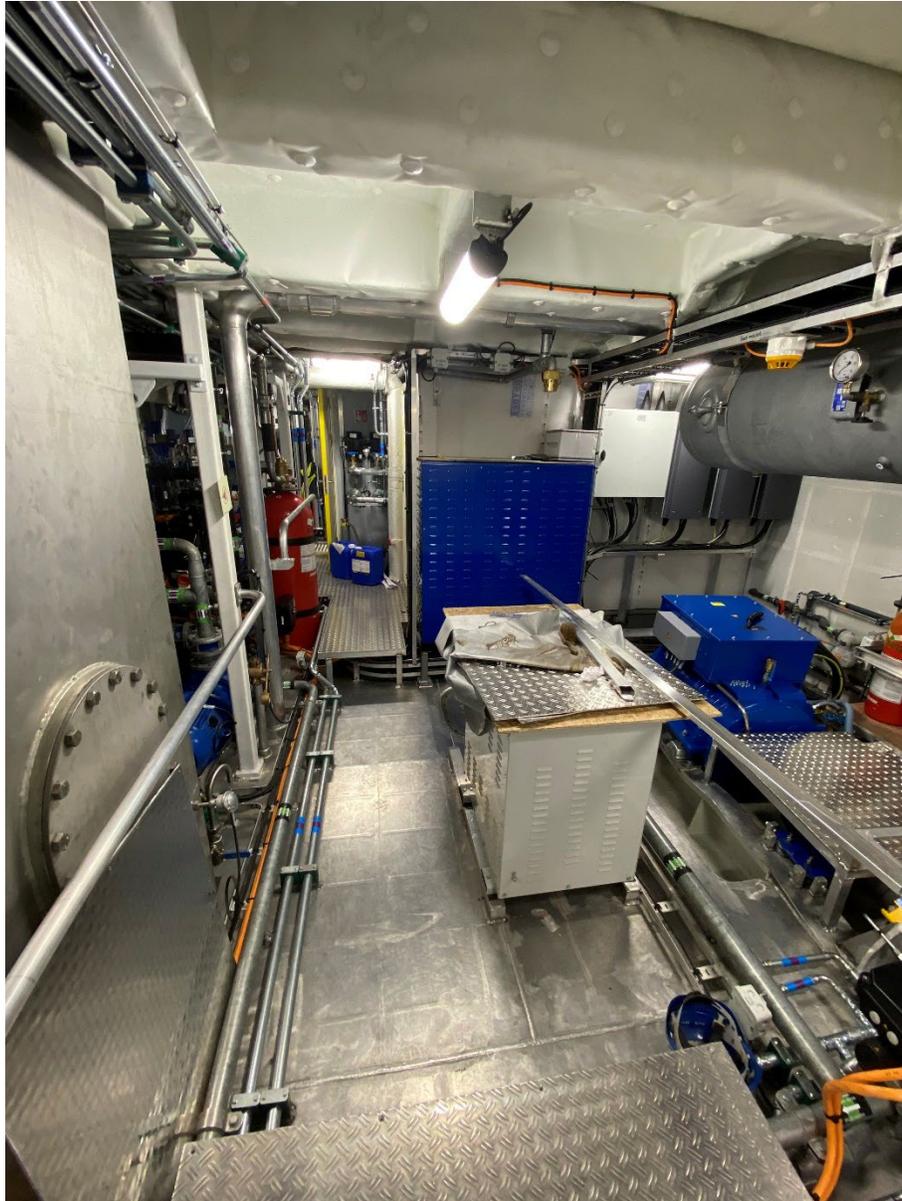


Ferry box installed in the wet lab.

Most of the important components for the operation of the various systems and their connections have been installed in the wheelhouse and engine room. The engine room is largely complete, as the batteries have been installed and connected and the deck frames and panels are in place.

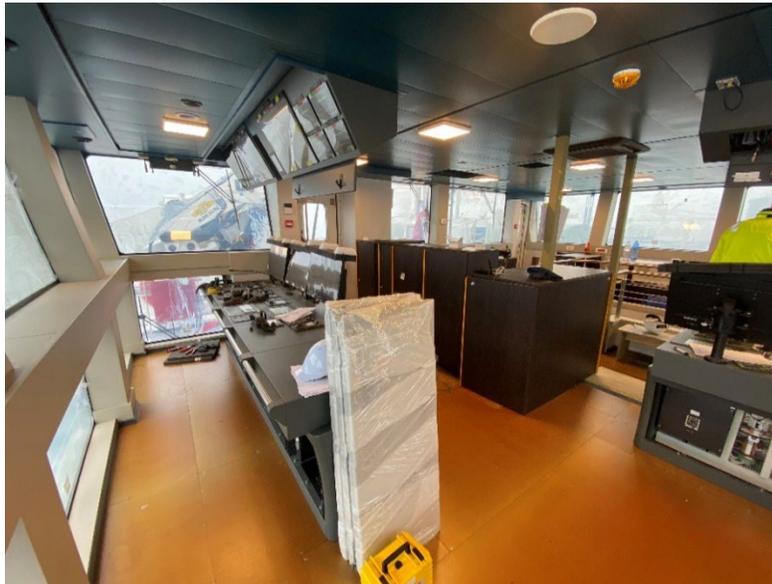


The batteries can power the vessel at night while it is on station and not underway.



Installation of the deck panels in the engine room.

The wooden deck panels have been installed in the wheelhouse, and the framing work is largely complete. Several components have already been connected, tested and received.



The wheelhouse with a view abaft (top) and towards the port bow (bottom).

Below deck, the cabins and heads have been furnished and completed. Several sensitive parts will remain covered by a protective film until delivery.



Gangway below deck, with cabins and heads to port and starboard.



View of a one-person cabin, with entrance to the head on the right.



Desk and multi-functional screen in a one-person cabin.



Head in a one-person cabin.

Most of the other accommodations will be completed over the next month.
For more information, please visit the [website](#).

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