Construction RV *Anna Weber-van Bosse*

Progress report #17: August 2024

@ResearchFleetNL

INTRODUCTION

When it is complete, the RV *Anna Weber-van Bosse* will serve as the ocean-going research vessel for the Netherlands' 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 Anna Weber-van Bosse will be built by Astilleros Armon in Vigo, Spain as hull number 147. Delivery is scheduled for late 2025.

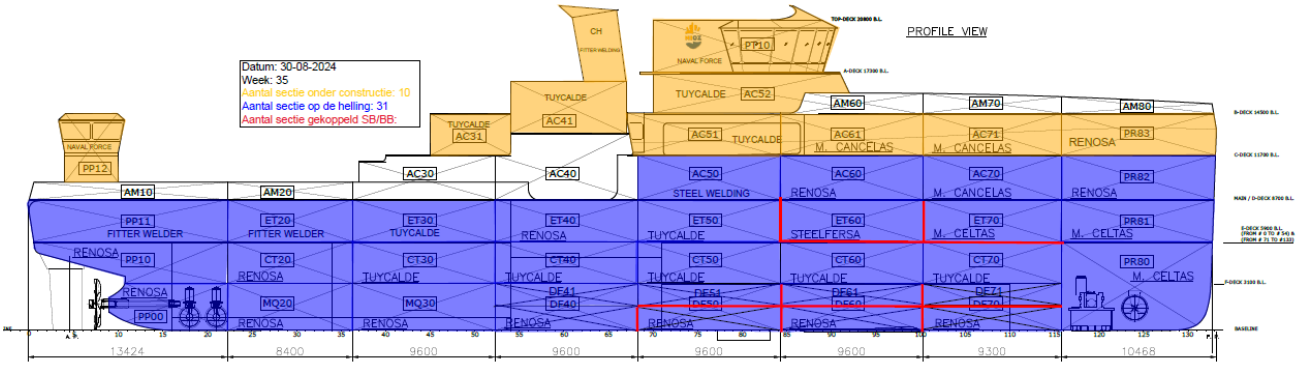
A LOOK BACK OVER THE PAST MONTH

The month of August featured many interruptions due to the summer holidays. Production remained generally on schedule, however, and the yard scaled up operations significantly over the last few weeks. A team from the NIOZ visited the shipyard again in the week of 12 August for an update on the current state of affairs. During the recent visit, the team also spoke with the yard management regarding progress on the work and general expectations for the launch on 18 October. Although there are still some supplier challenges, and much work remains to be done on the outer hull, the yard is positive about the likelihood of meeting the scheduled launch date. The shipyard added extra staff to the project, with tangible results.

With regard to the blueprints, the yard is working hard to complete all of the items that can influence the launch, such as hull markings, plugs, details regarding the drop keel and gondola, etc.

PROJECT STATUS

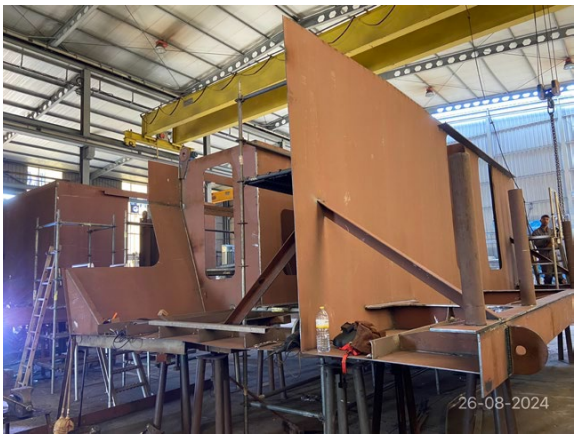
The shipyard is hard at work on manufacturing the sections, and the sections highlighted in yellow below are currently in production throughout the yard. Most of the sections are now under construction, with a few minor exceptions. The lower three layers of sections (highlighted in purple) have been accepted by the NIOZ and placed on the slipway, bringing the vessel to its full length.

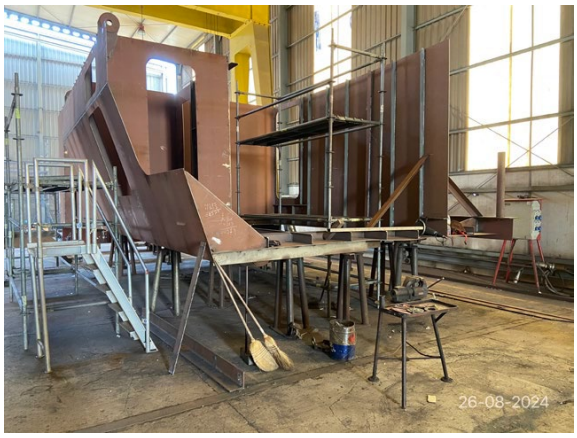


The entire hull under the waterline is now under construction. Only the wheelhouse section (PP10) and the quarterdeck (AC52) need to be installed before the launch. The rest of the superstructure will be built after the hull is in the water. The forward bulwarks will be assembled on location, because the production facility is not tall enough to fit the entire hull.

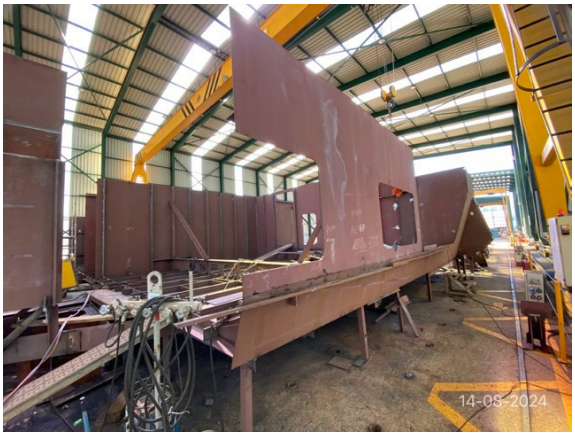
The photos below show some of the sections currently under construction and a general overview of the production facility.

AC 31. This is where the emergency generator will be located.



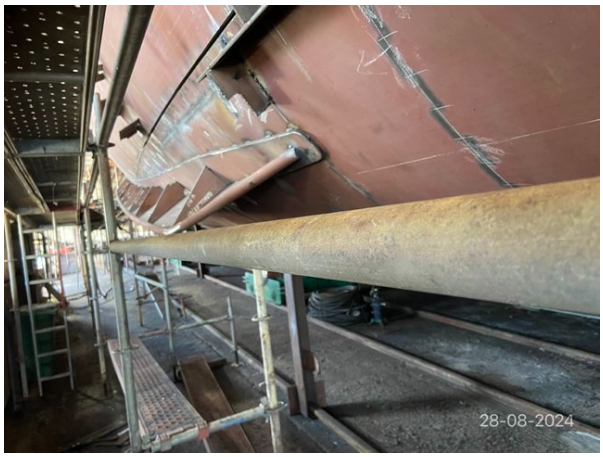


AC 41. This is the section housing the CTD operator station.

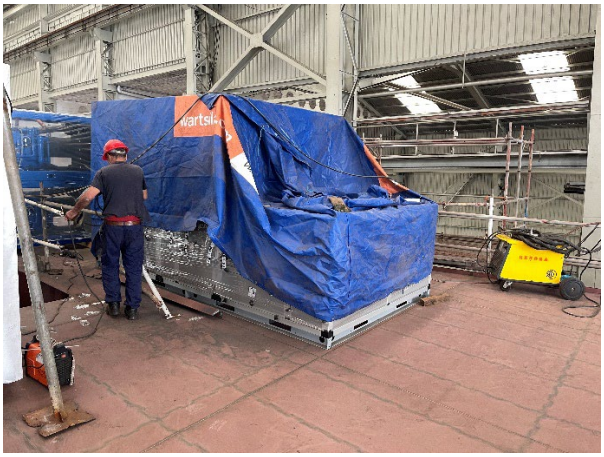


AC51. This is the section housing the A-frame control station.

Drop keel

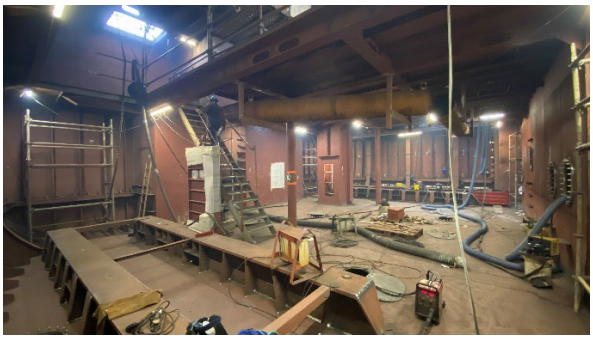


Installation of the bilge keel



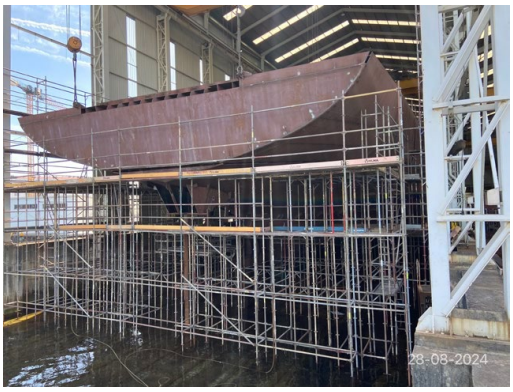
AC unit / chiller

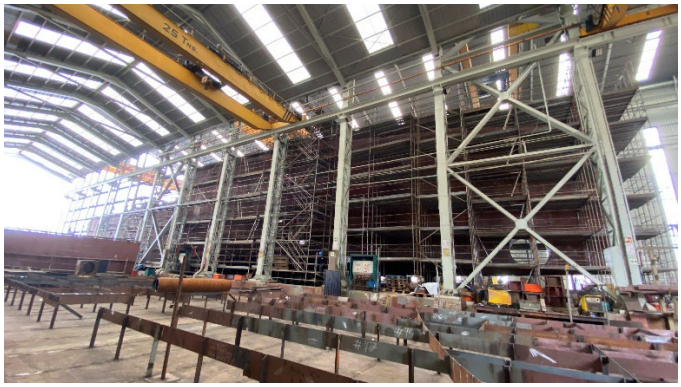
Bow thruster with air injection



Engine room

Cabins





Front and rear views of the production facility.

We have discussed the last items on the agenda with the scientific community, and things are moving in the right direction. We have communicated our preferred layout to the shipyard, so they can work out the details.

The finishing details will be determined later on in the process. A permanent finishing coordinator has been brought onboard to concentrate on the finishing work and serve as our point of contact. The shipyard has since begun installing the cableways and ladderways on the cabin decks. The cabins are also the spaces that are closest to completion.

Current status of the 3D model

SCHEDULE FOR THE MONTH AHEAD

An evaluation of the methanol HAZID study conducted by Altum will be conducted in the near future. The fundamentals should be in order, and our goal is to hold a HAZID meeting with all the stakeholders to identify all of the risks and decide how they can be mitigated.

A team from the NIOZ will visit the shipyard again in week 36 to evaluate the progress so far and to discuss a variety of electrical issues. The team will also visit SOLEM again to discuss the lighting plans and inspect the 230 Volt distribution board.

In the meantime, the yard will finish work on the outer hull and start painting.

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