

OFEG

What is the Ocean Facilities Exchange Group?

History of OFEG

In 1996 an agreement was signed between NERC, IFREMER and BMBF with the primary objective of bartering ship time and major marine equipment without the need to charter or exchange money.

In 2002, the NIOZ became a member with CSIC and IMR joining in 2006.

With these expansions, the group was re-named the Ocean Facilities Exchange Group (OFEG).



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Benefits of OFEG

Wider access for scientists

- OFEG provides scientists wider access to facilities and equipment than would otherwise be possible from within their home national capabilities.
- This includes **20** research ships and other facilities such as manned submersibles, remotely operated vehicles, towed arrays and shipboard surveying systems.
- By looking at the geographical location of OFEG ships as a whole, we can increase efficiency of fleet movements, reducing passage times, and therefore costs, allowing scientists access to a wider range of geographical areas in a given year.



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What ships are involved?

Dutch research ship

- PELAGIA

French research ships

- L'ATALANTE
- POURQUOI PAS?
- THALASSA
- LE SUROIT

German research ships

- ALKOR
- HEINCKE
- MERIAN
- METEOR
- POSEIDON
- SONNE

Norwegian research ships

- JAN MAYEN
- G.O. SARS
- JOHAN HJORT
- HAKON MOSBY

Spanish research ships

- HESPERIDES
- SARMIENTO DE GAMBOA

UK research ships

- DISCOVERY
- JAMES COOK
- JAMES CLARK ROSS



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How does the points system work?

Points Per Day	IFREMER	BMBF	NERC	NIOZ
RESEARCH VESSELS				
15		<i>Polarstern*</i> .	<i>James Clark Ross.</i>	
12	<i>Pourquoi Pas?</i>			
11			<i>James Cook.</i>	
10	<i>L'Atalante.</i>	<i>Maria S. Merian. Meteor. Sonne.</i>	<i>Discovery.</i>	
8	<i>Thalassa.</i>			
7				<i>Pelagia.</i>
6		<i>Poseidon.</i>		
5	<i>Le Suroit.</i>	<i>Alkor. Heincke.</i>		

* Currently available for joint cruises but not for exchange of ship time



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How does the points system work?

OTHER MARINE SERVICES & FACILITIES				
Point	IFREMER	BMBF	NERC	NIOZ
9	<i>Nautilé**</i> <i>ROV Victor**</i>		ROV <i>ISIS**</i>	
4		ROV <i>QUEST**</i>		
3	Digital Multichannel seismics		TOBI**	
2	Multibeam SAR	Multibeam Multichannel Seismics	Multibeam Multichannel Seismics	Multichannel Seismics
1	Mobile Compressors Mobile Laboratories	Mobile Compressors Mobile Laboratories	Mobile Compressors Mobile Laboratories	Mobile Compressors Mobile Laboratories

** Includes technician support



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What are the objective's of OFEG-TECH?

- As the OFEG concept has matured and expanded, the opportunity for barter of major equipment has increased.
- To assist the development of major equipment barter within OFEG the right people at the right level in each organization need to be engaged.
- OFEG-TECH was set up to develop communication and networking to support major equipment barter and improve cooperation between OFEG partners.
- Improving knowledge of each others organizations also allows each organization to benefit from new experience and knowledge which can be used to develop our own internal technical capabilities.



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Further key objectives of OFEG-TECH

- To develop an understanding of each others organization, structure and contacts.
- To identify and develop the opportunity for exchange of knowledge and experience.
- To investigate the potential for 'bilateral training' and technician exchange
- To identify common problems and elevate them to the OFEG/European level



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