



# RRS Discovery Replacement

E.B. Cooper, Natural Environment Research Council,  
Project Officer RRS Discovery Replacement  
National Oceanography Centre, European Way, Southampton, SO14 3ZH  
United Kingdom

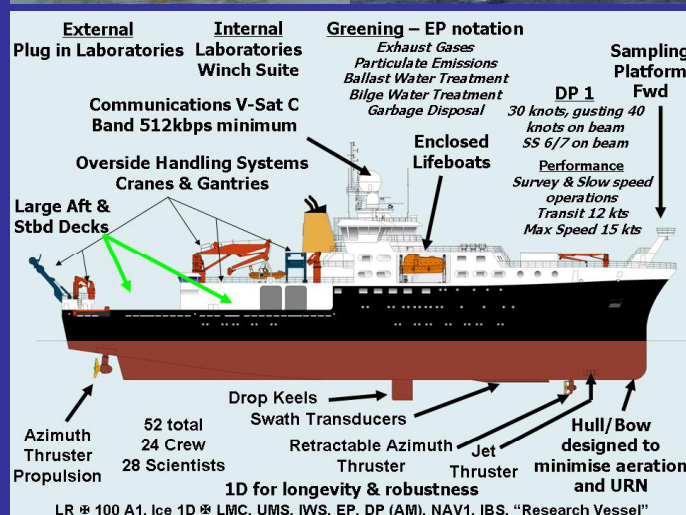
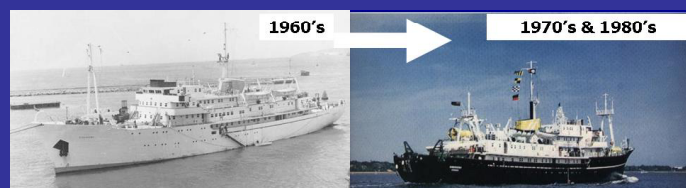


## Aim & Funding

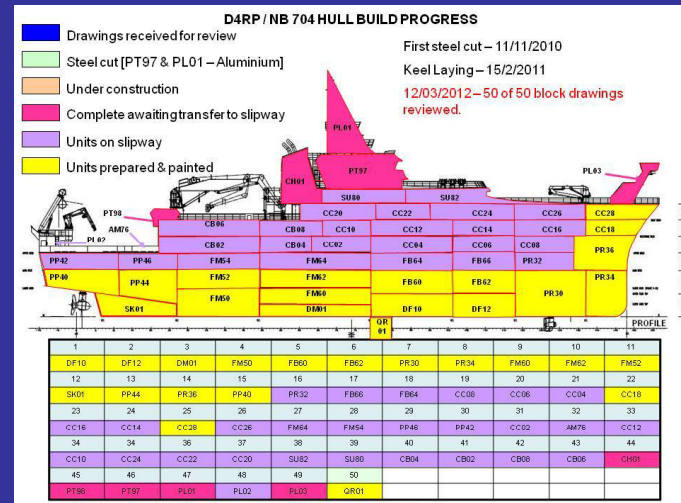
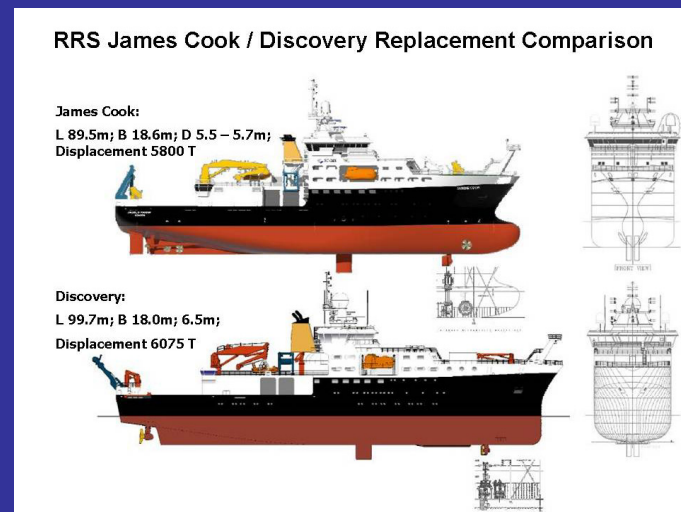
The project aim is to provide a multi-role oceanographic research vessel comprising state of the art facilities and capable of operating worldwide (tropics to ice edge) in support of leading edge multi-disciplinary research. The vessel will be primarily for deep ocean research but is also capable of conducting continental margin studies.

The new vessel will complement the RRS James Cook which was brought into service in March 2007. Lessons have been learnt from the James Cook Project which are being taken forward in the development of the Discovery replacement.

Funding for the project is being provided by NERC and a capital allocation of £48M from the Science Budget via the Large Facilities Capital Fund administered by the Department for Business, Innovation & Skills (BIS).



- ### Expected Outcome
- 50 days endurance (L 99.7m, B 18m, D 6.5m)
  - Scientific Transit Speed – 12 knots maximum
  - 24 Officers & Crew (includes 1 Training Berth)
  - 28 Scientists & Technicians
  - DP Capable (DP1) SS6/7
  - Multidisciplinary
  - Seismic capability
  - Multibeam(s) & Sub Bottom profiler
  - Minimal Ice Class – for hull life (Lloyds 1D)
  - Overside/overstern lifting – 20 tonnes (JC 30 tonnes)
  - Drop Keels
  - Low URN but not ICES209
  - Propulsion – 2 x Azimuthing Units Aft  
Azimuthing Thruster Fwd, Manoeuvring Thruster Fwd
  - Oceanographic Winch Suite including Metal Free CTD Winch



Main Suppliers @ 26/4/2011

Construcciones Navales Paulino Freire S.A. – Shipbuilder  
Skipsteknisk AS – Designer  
Classification Society Lloyd's Register & Regulator MCA  
Integrated, power generation/propulsion package – Wärtsilä Finland Oy  
Navigation & DP Equipment – Kongsberg Maritime  
Scientific Hydrographic (Bathymetry) Equipment – Kongsberg Maritime  
Scientific Winches and Overside Gantries – Rolls Royce Odim  
Electrical Installation – Emesasa Montajes Navales S.A.  
HVAC Systems – Aeron AS  
Aft & Midship Cranes – Sormec Marine Cranes  
Fwd Provision & Main Midship Cranes – Industrias Ferri S.A.  
Container Laboratories – Merit Process Engineering Ltd  
Structural Steel – Arcelor Mittel  
Acoustics and Vibration consultant – DnV  
EMC consultant – Applica AS

## Future Timescales

April 2012 Hull Launch  
2012 Outfitting  
2013 Equipment Run Up & Sea trials  
June 2013 Delivery to NERC  
June – Nov 2013 Commissioning, Familiarisation and Deep Water Trials Science Equipment  
End 2013 Available for Science Programmes

For further details on the project in general please refer to:  
[http://www.noc.soton.ac.uk/nmf/discovery\\_replacement\\_project/d4rpintroduction.html](http://www.noc.soton.ac.uk/nmf/discovery_replacement_project/d4rpintroduction.html)