



Ocean Facilities Exchange Group

Roadmap of Renewal of European Research Vessels: Ocean and Global Class

The Ocean Research Fleets Working Group of the European Science Foundation's Marine Board in its report (ESF, 2007) has presented basic arguments when and how it is necessary to replace the European fleet of academic research vessels in order to keep Europe's leading role in academic marine research. Basic assumptions are that a research vessel typically can be used for about 30 years, where it will need permanent improvement of all installations or at least a major refit after half lifetime, i.e. ca. 15 years. While for the global class the need of timely renewal generally is accepted in the public and in politics, the rapidly aging ocean and regional classes need stronger attention in the future.

In view of the above, and representing 90% of the global and over 50 % of the ocean class European academic research vessels, the OFEG with its members BMBF, CSIC, IFREMER, IMR, NERC and NIOZ feels competent, to offer with this document a reminder and a 'state of the process' of the renewal of the OFEG fleet of academic research vessels of global and ocean class within Europe. While depending totally on the flow of information coming from the national institutions, this document does not aim to prejudice any national decisions. Instead, it intends to deliver the complete and *up-to-date* status of renewal time scales and its status according to the ongoing process in modernizing the European research fleet. It will be published on the OFEG web site, www.ofeg.org.

References:

ESF (2007): *European Ocean Research Fleets*, European Science Foundation, Marine Board, Position Paper No. 10, 60 pp, March 2007, www.esf.org/marineboard

DFG and KDM (2008): *Die Deutsche Forschungsflotte – Anforderungen in den nächsten Dekaden*, Strategiepapier, Hrsg. Senatskommission für Ozeanographie der DFG und KDM, 68 pp., Wiley-VCH, 2008

Roadmap of Renewal of OFEG Ocean and Global class RV fleet

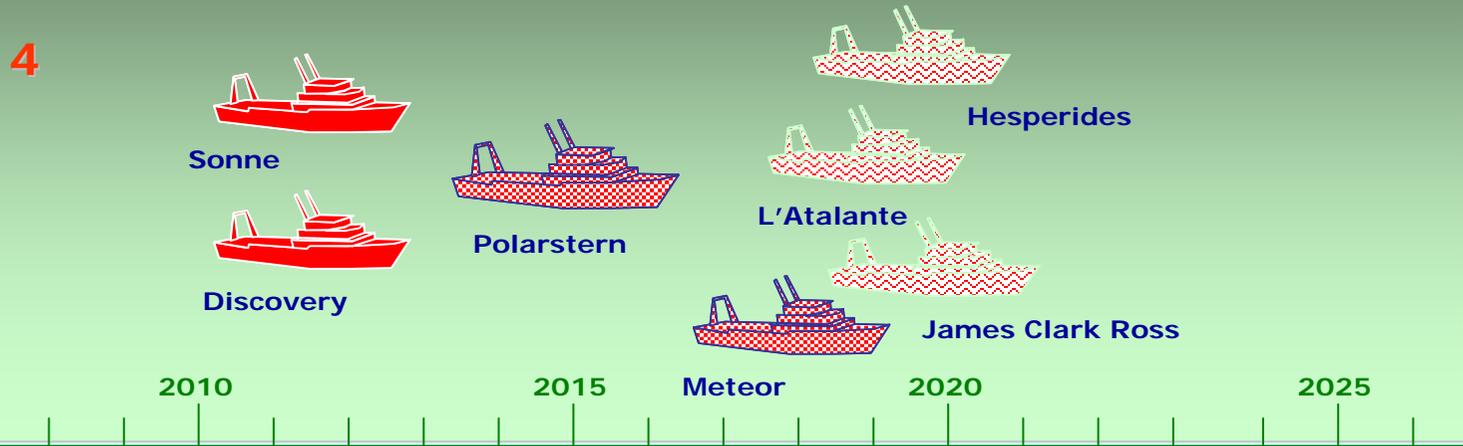
2010 - 2030

legend

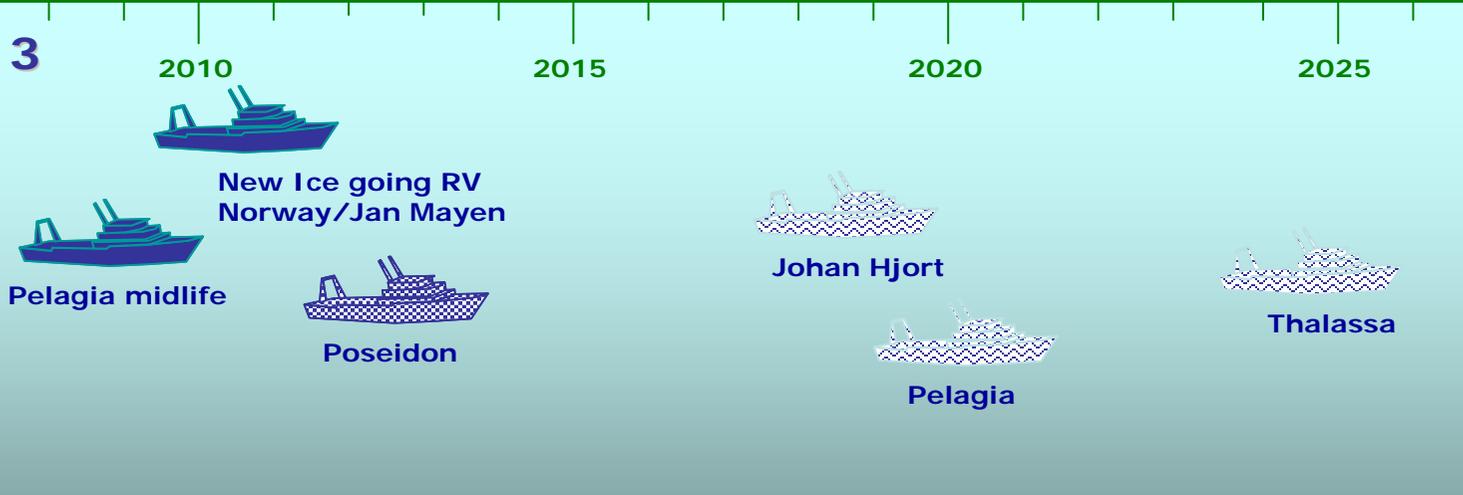
Global Class

Ocean Class

4



3



Le Suroit

7 Scheduled and recommended renewal/replacements of RVs built before 2000

5 RVs built after 2000: Global Class: Pourquoi Pas? 2005; James Cook 2007
 Ocean Class: G.O. Sars 2003; Maria S. Merian 2005; Sarmiento de Gamboa 2007

Table 1: OFEG global and ocean class research vessel renewal status as of May 2008

Country	OFEG Ship	Class	In service/ refit	30 years age	Renewal Status
France	Pourquoi pas?	G	2005	2035	
	l'Atalante	G	1990/ 2008	2020	
	Le Suroit	O	1975/ 1999	2005	
France/Spain	Thalassa	O	1996	2026	
Germany ⁽¹⁾	Polarstern	G	1980/ 2000	2010	recommended for 2016
	Meteor	G	1985/ 2006	2015	recommended for 2019
	Sonne	G	1968/ 1990	2008	replacement scheduled for 2012
	Merian	O	2005	2035	
	Poseidon	O	1976	2006	recommended for 2014
Netherlands	Pelagia	O	1991	2021	Midlife Conversion Scheduled Dec 2009/March 2010
Norway	G O Saers	O	2003	2033	
	J. Mayen	O	1992	2012	out of service 2012
	J. Hjort	O	1990	2020	
	New ice going ship	G/O	2012		scheduled in service 2012
Spain	Hesperides	G	1991/ 2004	2021	
	S de Gamboa	O	2007	2037	
United Kingdom	J C Ross	G	1991	2021	
	J Cook	G	2007	2037	
	Discovery	G	1962/ 1992	1992	replacement scheduled 2012

Legend

(1) German roadmap according to DFG and KDM (2008)