



24th ERVO Meeting, 05-07 September 2022 Bucharest, Romania

Version 0.1: Draft Minutes

Hosted by the National Institute for Research and Development of Marine Geology and Geoecology – GeoEcoMar.

The 24th ERVO (European Research Vessels Operators) Annual Meeting was held from the 5th to the 7th September 2022 in Bucharest, Romania, kindly hosted by GeoEcoMar National Institute for Research and Development of Marine Geology and Geoecology).

After a welcome by Stefan Florescu from GeoEcoMar, Lieven Naudts gave a short introduction about the ERVO Group, updates regarding numbers, activities and the near future expectations, and officially opened the meeting. A round table introduction of all present was then held. Lieven Naudts then formally handed over the chairmanship to Ricardo Codiglia and Aodhan Fitzgerald was nominated as incoming vice chair.

Day 1 - Tuesday 6th of September 2022

Theme 1: Delegates Reports of Activity

- 9:20 - 9:40: 10 years of operating coastal/regional RV Simon Stevin: past and future - Dre Catrijsse

Dre gave an interesting presentation on the past 15 years of operation of the Simon Stevin, with a focus on the evolving nature of its operation, preparation for mid-life refit and the complementarity of operations with the new Belgica.

For more details, [please see the presentation on the ERVO website](#).

Theme 2: RV Builds, Modifications and Performance

- 9:40 - 10:00: RV Tom Crean – Commissioning and Operation - Aodhán Fitzgerald

Aodhan gave a presentation of the commissioning and bringing into service very soon after delivery of the new Tom Crean and the challenges and lessons learned.

For more details, [please see the presentation on the ERVO website](#).

- 10:00 - 10:20: RV Jákup Sverri project - Leon Smith

Leon gave an insight in to the first year of operation of the new Jakup Sverri and its successful introduction into service. The vessel is performing as designed and is a big step up in performance from the vessel that it replaced.

For more details, [please see the presentation on the ERVO website](#).

- 10:20 - 10:40: RV Skagerak; Designed for world class research and education - Louise Newman

Louise gave an insight into the capabilities of the RV Skagerak, its management model and a look forward at operations for the following year.

For more details, [please see the presentation on the ERVO website](#).

The attendees broke for coffee and for a review of poster updates at 10:40.

- 11:00 - 11:40: The building of the new IEO vessel and increasing the performance of hulls combining CFD and channel experiences - Jordi Sorriibas / Santiago Martin

After an introduction by Jordi Sorriibas, Santiago Martin from ARMON shipyard gave a brief introduction to the new build IEO vessel under construction in VIGO, Spain. He then gave a detailed talk on the use of CFD in combination with towing tank data to optimise the design of many aspects of research vessels from mounting of acoustic sensors to hull performance, propeller design, rudder

design as well as seakeeping and aerodynamics and how these designs are utilised practically in a range of vessels.

For more details, [please see the presentation on the ERVO website](#).

- 11:40 - 12:00: Laura Bassi, one year later: the new systems used in the Polar expeditions and the challenges ahead - Francesco Coslovich

Francesco gave an update on the successful 2021 refit of the Laura Bassi which included the installation of a “Baltic” room and a frame for coring for future planned work in the Antarctic.

For more details, [please see the presentation on the ERVO website](#).

- 12:00 - 12:00: Deck machinery for RVs – lessons learned - Jack Peile and B. Rodriguez

This was a presentation on common errors made in RV tenders when specifying winches. The advice was to consider the scientific operation/packages to be used when putting tenders together for RV's this ensures that the delivered product matches the vessel scientific requirements.

For more details, [please see the presentation on the ERVO website](#).

- 12:20 - 12:40: Update from the building yard regarding new Norwegian coastal vessel - Johnny Ytreland

Johnny gave an update on the design and build of the new Norwegian vessel Prinsesse Ingrid Alexandria.

For more details, [please see the presentation on the ERVO website](#).

- 12:40 - 13:00: The new RV Belgica: delivery and operations - Lieven Naudts

Lieven gave a presentation on the selection of an operator for the new Belgica, the acceptance of the vessel, training of the new crew and finally delivery to Belgium to commence operations. The first years planned and delivered operational life was reviewed and the process for dealing with warranty claims was presented.

For more details, [please see the presentation on the ERVO website](#).

Theme 3: Manning, Safety and training

- 14:00 - 14:20: Certified Polar Code Training and Polar Training for crew and scientist - F. Lauber

Mr Lauber gave a presentation on his company's training courses specific for scientists and navigators operating under the Polar code.

For more details, [please see the presentation on the ERVO website](#).

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- 14:20 - 14:40: Implementation of the ISM code on RV Sarmiento de Gamboa - Laura Terceno

Laura Terceno gave a presentation of the successful implementation of the ISM code on the Sarmiemto de Gamboa.

For more details, [please see the presentation on the ERVO website](#).

- 14:40 - 15:00: Training of maritime engineers in the new build process - Dennnis Lisberg

Dennis gave an introduction to the new build research vessel in development phase as a replacement for RV Dana. A key requirement of the process is to include the education of marine engineers in the new build process and in the following operations phase, this requirement has been written into the tender issued.

For more details, [please see the presentation on the ERVO website](#).

Theme 4: RV technology

- 15:00 - 15:20: Dry Drop Keel Concept - Miguel Angel Lleches

Miquel gave an interesting talk on the concept of putting fisheries echo sounding GPT units into a drop keel to reduce the impact of electrical noise on high frequency EK80 systems. This would require the use of a “Dry” drop keel.

For more details, [please see the presentation on the ERVO website](#).

- 15:20 - 15:40: Cellular and VSat technology improvements & Low Earth Orbit (LEO) technology developments - Colm Mulcahy

Colm Mulcahy from Voyager IP gave an overview of the new one web low earth orbit (LEO) system and its benefits to the RV community when it's fully in service.

For more details, [please see the presentation on the ERVO website](#).

- 15:40 - 16:00: Optimising USBL installation and operations on research vessels - Geraint West

Geraint West from Sonardyne gave a useful presentation on reducing subsea positioning errors when utilising USBL systems.

For more details, [please see the presentation on the ERVO website](#).

Theme 5: Common issues around research vessels

- 16:30 - 16:50: Protocols and COVID issues onboard the Spanish RV fleet. Lessons learned - Neus Romà Buyreu

Neus gave a presentation on the evolving Covid 19 protocols on-board the vessels of the Spanish fleet and the real life experiences and lesson for the future that were learnt.

For more details, [please see the presentation on the ERVO website.](#)

- 16:50 - 17:10: Arice project: outcomes and outlook - Veronica Wilmott and Nicole Biebow

Veronica and Nicole gave a presentation on the achievements of the ARICE project including the achieved transnational cruises, the joint research outcomes and interesting developments with the Ponant group in using the Commandant Charcot Polar Expedition ship to provide access for scientists to the Arctic.

For more details, [please see the presentation on the ERVO website.](#)

- 17:10 - 17:20: Update on Eurofleets+ Project progress to date including Transnational Access - Bernadette Ní Chonghaile and Niamh Flavin.

Bernadette and Niamh gave a presentation on the progress of the Eurofleets plus project to date including the extensive transnational access program.

For more details, [please see the presentation on the ERVO website.](#)

- 17:20 - 17:30: Eurofleets RI: Building Eurofleets Legacy: Update on transnational access pilot groups and Scenarios for a permanent fleets coordination platform - Lorenza Evangelista

Lorenza (online) gave an outline of the business plan for a future Eurofleets RI and its sustainable funding model.

For more details, [please see the presentation on the ERVO website.](#)

- 17:30 - 17:50: Eurofleets RI Roadmap and Guidelines - Next Steps September 2022 to October 2023 - Aodhan Fitzgerald

Aodhan gave an outline of the timeline for the implementation of the roadmap for the Eurofleets RI including the distribution of an expression of interest to RV operator institutions. This was followed by a round table discussion with the RV operators present in the room.

For more details, [please see the presentation on the ERVO website.](#)

Day 1 of the meeting closed at 6pm and was followed by an official diner at Hanui lui Manuc.

Day 2 - Wednesday 07th of September 2022

Theme 7: Remote Operations including Operations with Autonomous Vehicles

- 09:05 - 09:25: Experience after one year with AUV testing/operations - Johnny Ytreland

Johnny gave an insight into IMR's operations with their AV Munin and plans for a future USV "Sounder" which will be delivered in 2023.

For more details, [please see the presentation on the ERVO website.](#)

Theme 8: Energy Efficiency, alternative energy sources & zero impact

- 09:25 - 09:45: New Spanish research vessel: a diesel-LNG hybrid approach - Jordi Sorriba and Santiago Martin

Jordi and Santiago gave an excellent presentation on the rationale and background to the LNG/ Hybrid approach being used for the RV Odon de Buen. The comparison with other alternative emerging green fuels such as Methanol and hydrogen were also explored.

For more details, [please see the presentation on the ERVO website.](#)

- 10:30 - 10:50: Deck Machinery – Energy efficiency - J. Peile & B. Rodriguez

Ibercisa gave a presentation on the advantages of Electric over hydraulic winches and the additional advantages of the ability of energy regeneration.

For more details, [please see the presentation on the ERVO website.](#)

- 10:50 - 11:10: RV Aranda's new technologies (batteries and fuel cell system) - Joonatan Haukilehto

Joonatan gave an update on the Battery pack installation for ARANDA as well as the now cancelled Fuel cell installation and a summary of the latest view on these technologies.

For more details, [please see the presentation on the ERVO website.](#)

- 11:10 - 11:20: Topics, date and place for the next ERVO - Ricardo Codiglia

The new Chairman Ricardo Codiglia gave an outline on the proposed next location for ERVO 25 in beautiful Stockholm from the 12th - 14th of June, hosted by SLU and Gothenburg University.

Following this Ricardo thanked the hosts, presenter and attendees and closed the meeting.