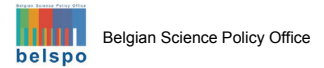




RV BELGICA ACTIVITY 2013

LIEVEN NAUDTS



1. General



length: 50.9 m beam: 10.0 m draught: 4.6 m

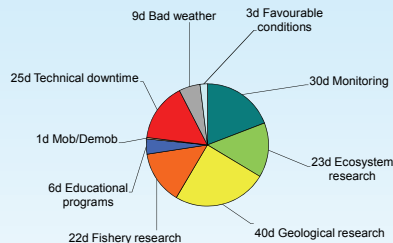
Operated by Belgian Navy since 1984

Belgian Navy crew :15 pax
Scientists :16 pax

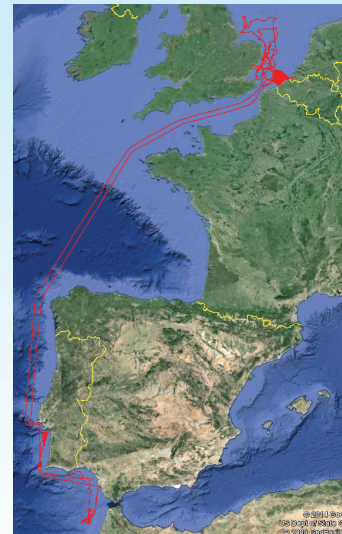
Owned by Belgian Federal Science Policy

Coordinated by RBINS – OD Nature

RV Belgica 2013:
Evaluation of the 159 planned days



Program 2013



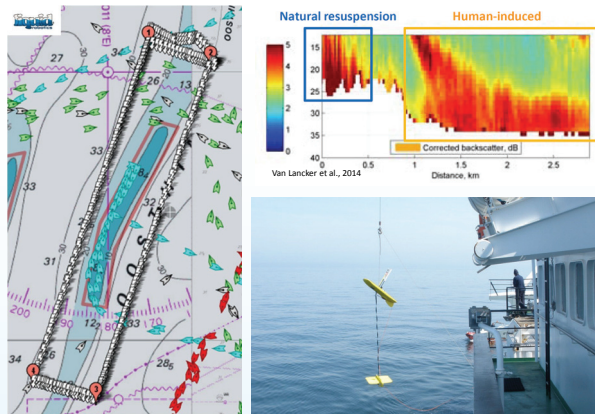
Ship track 2013

sailed distance 2013:
8 856 nm

2. Activities

Wave glider test (Liquid Robotics):

- Monitoring of sand extraction; human-induced sediment plumes
- 15th April – 6th May 2013: 22 days – 39 rounds – 1300 km
- Parameters: water temperature; salinity; chlorophyll-A; current velocity and direction incl. acoustic backscatter; crude and refined oil fluorescence; meteorological conditions



Public relation:

- Navy Days
- Visits of Secretaries of State Courard & Bogaert
- Excursion WinMon conference



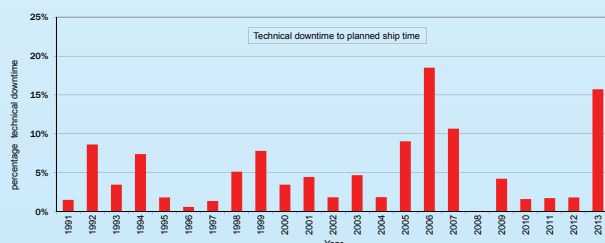
Loss of equipment:

- beam trawl
- tripod system
- bottom-mounted ADCP
- all recovered thanks to the help of the mine hunters of the Belgian and Dutch Navy & a fisherman



3. Ship: maintenance & problems

- 25 days of planned ship time lost; 6 campaigns cancelled; 11 research teams affected
- technical downtime was the result of:
 - the age of the vessel (obsolescence);
 - conservative maintenance in the preceding years (awaiting the replacement by RV Belgica II);
 - the VAT discussion that led to a delay of the renewal of the maintenance contract; 2 maintenance periods were missed;
 - the ship sailed 6 months (Feb-Jul 2013) without a maintenance contract and the associated budget



4. Future challenge: RV Belgica II



2013 - 2014: financial study
2014: technical specs

<http://www.mumm.ac.be/>