



RV BELGICA ACTIVITY 2012

LIEVEN NAUDTS



MUMM | BMM | UGMM
Management Unit North Sea Mathematical Models

museum Royal Belgian Institute of Natural Sciences

belspo Belgian Science Policy Office

1. General

RV Belgica 2012:
Evaluation 165 planned days



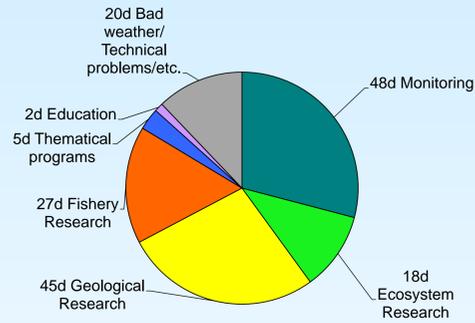
length: 50.9 m beam: 10.0 m draught: 4.6 m

Operated by Belgian Navy since 1984

Belgian Navy crew :15 pax
Scientists :16 pax

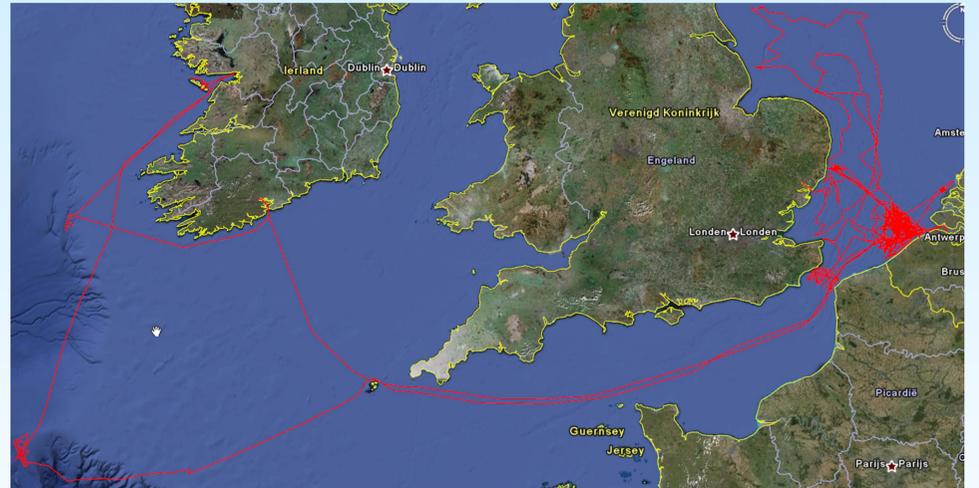
Owned by Belgian Federal Science Policy

Coordinated by RBINS -MUMM



Program 2012

Ship track 2012



sailed distance 2012: 8 600 nm

2. Activities

Eurofleets CWC-MOIRA cruise:

- Cork – Galway
- 01- 08 May 2012
- 6 institutes
- 5 countries (CH, IT, IE, ES, BE)
- 9/15 pax: students
- 10/15 pax: women

- Cold-water coral investigations
- Moira Mounds

- USBL-guided box-coring
- Oceanography



Increased monitoring activities BPNS:

- Wind mill farms
- Fishery (P&I Club special clause)
- Noise measurements – sea mammals
- Bird counting
- Artificial reefs (fish, megafauna, etc.)
- sediment transport

- Dredging of harbors and dumping
- Sand and gravel extraction
- Sea water quality



EGNOS-GALILEO test (ESA):

- Evaluation of EGNOS SATNAV for maritime purposes
- Evaluation of GALILEO signals



3. Ship: maintenance



- Sandblasting and painting superstructure
 - New paint system (Hempel 2 component epoxy)
- Installation VSAT
 - Intellian V110
 - 512/256 Kbit/s CIR – 1536/768 MIR
 - KU-band

PROBLEMS:

- Since 2012, RBINS-MUMM needs to pay 21% VAT (as enforced by FPS Finances)
- VAT discussion led to blockage between RBINS-MUMM & Belgian Defence: no planned winter maintenance
- EC decided not the formal condition of the ship (military), but the main activity (science) is the deciding factor

4. Future challenge: RV Belgica II



2013: Budget study

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