



**OFEG**



## OCEAN FACILITIES EXCHANGE GROUP

Update on

a bottom-up approach of research fleet  
co-ordination & harmonisation

[www.OFEG.org](http://www.OFEG.org)

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**ERVO 2009**

Marieke J. Rietveld, NIOZ, the Netherlands



**OFEG**

**Main objective:** exchange of shiptime and exchange of major equipment based on 'bartering' > without money-exchange;  
joint cruises

Exchange based on **value points** according to scientific capacity as agreed between members

**Significant advantage:** access to wider range of facilities, and access to sea areas that would be beyond reach.

At the same time more efficient use of ship time by reducing wasted cost and time on long passages.

**Minimising bureaucracy and overheads**

**OFEG members:** Ifremer (France), BMBF (Germany), NIOZ (Netherlands), IMR-UoB (Norway), CSIC (Spain), NERC (UK)



**OFEG**

## Other OFEG advantages:

**Opportunistic interventions:** mutual help when equipment get lost, recovery of drifting moorings, when within reach; en-route servicing and turn-around of partners' moorings, combined sampling and measurements for partners.

**Joint scheduling of cruises:** OFEG meets twice a year for fine tuning of cruise planning and cruise scheduling, such as **geographical cruise schedules**.

**Announcement of opportunity:** OFEG announcement of planned deployment of ships to the science community

**Information exchange** harmonisation and fine tuning of plans for replacement and upgrade of research vessels.

# OFEG



L'Atalante



Alkor



James Cook



G.O.Sars



Discovery



Heincke



Jan Mayen



M.S. Merian



Meteor



Johan Hjort



Pelagia



Poseidon



Sarmiento de Gamboa



Hesperides



Pourquoi Pas?



James Clark Ross



Garcia del Cid



Sonne



Thalassa



Le Suroit



Polarstern\*)

## The 2009 OFEG fleet

[www.OFEG.org](http://www.OFEG.org)

\*) only joint cruises

## 2009 OFEG fleet

<b>L'ATALANTE</b>	85	<b>France</b>	<b>PELAGIA</b>	66	<b>Netherlands</b>
<b>LE SUROIT</b>	56	<b>France</b>			
<b>POURQUOI PAS?*</b>	105	<b>France</b>	<b>G.O. SARS*</b>	77	<b>Norway</b>
<b>THALASSA</b>	74	<b>France / Spain</b>	<b>JAN MAYEN</b>	64	<b>Norway</b>
			<b>JOHAN HJORT</b>	64	<b>Norway</b>
<b>ALKOR</b>	55	<b>Germany</b>	<b>GARCIA DEL CID</b>	47	<b>Spain</b>
<b>HEINCKE</b>	55	<b>Germany</b>	<b>HESPERIDES</b>	82	<b>Spain</b>
<b>MARIA S. MERIAN*</b>	95	<b>Germany</b>	<b>SARMIENTO DE GAMBOA*</b>	70	<b>Spain</b>
<b>METEOR</b>	98	<b>Germany</b>			
<b>POLARSTERN#</b>	118	<b>Germany</b>	<b>DISCOVERY</b>	90	<b>UK</b>
<b>POSEIDON</b>	61	<b>Germany</b>	<b>JAMES CLARK ROSS</b>	99	<b>UK</b>
<b>SONNE</b>	98	<b>Germany</b>	<b>JAMES COOK*</b>	90	<b>UK</b>

**OFEG fleet** - **10 Global Class** - **90% of European GC Fleet**

**21 RVs** - **8 Ocean Class** - **53% of European OC Fleet**

**6 countries** - **3 Regional Class** - **15% of European RC Fleet**

\* Built after 2000

# only joint cruises

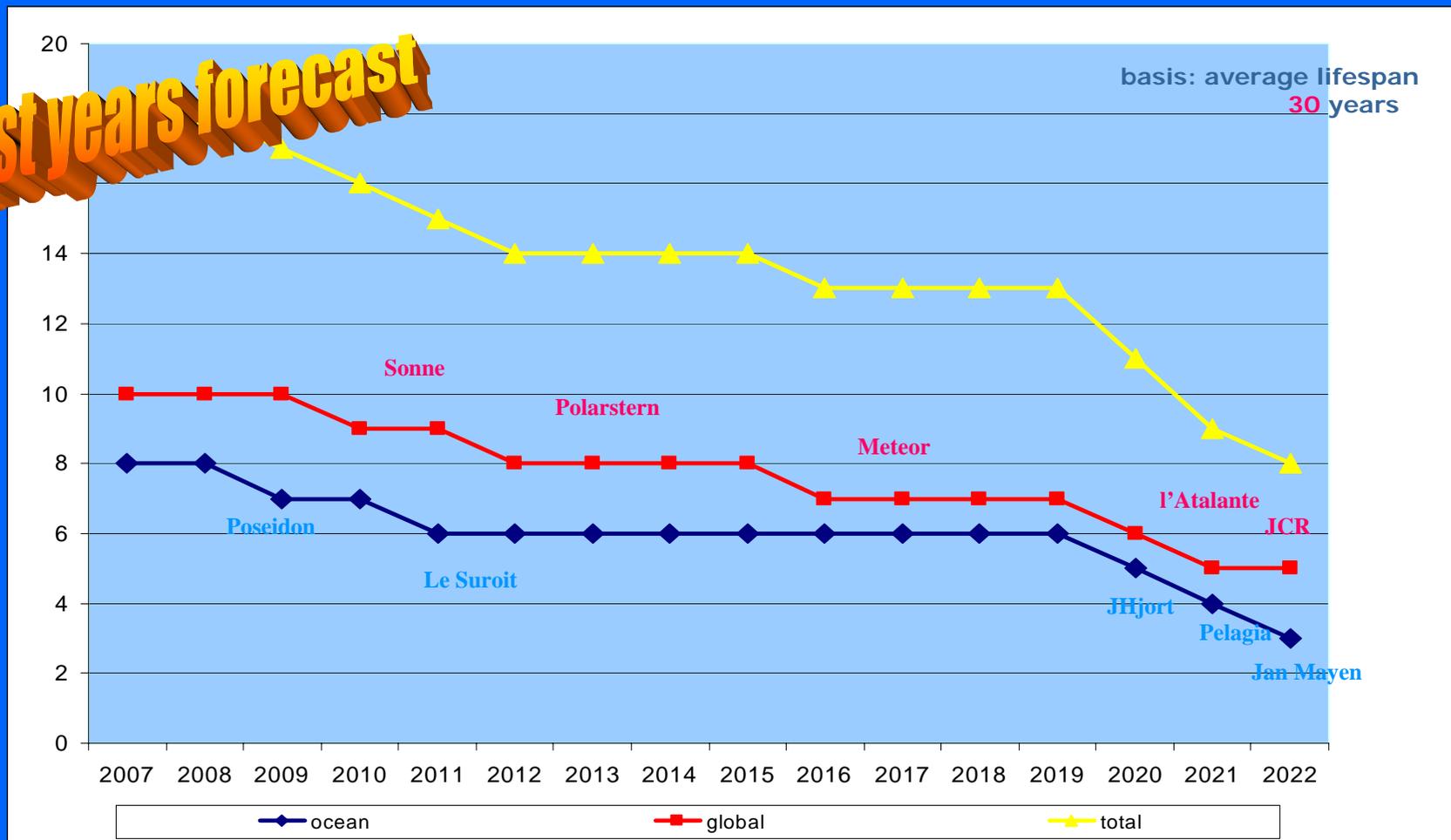


## In Summary:

OFEG represents Europe's leading oceanographic research organisations and provides a forum to consider barter exchange and co-operation opportunities for the Global and Ocean Class research fleet.

All present OFEG members, except NIOZ, run multiple fleets - totalling 18 of the 26 **Ocean** and **Global** Class academic research ships in Europe, as well as most heavy equipment

Last years forecast



Evolution of OFEG fleet without any\* replacements  
\*RRS DISCOVERY replacement included

# Roadmap of Renewal of OFEG Ocean and Global class RV fleet

2010 - 2030

## legend



scheduled



recommended



age 30 years

**Global Class**

**Ocean Class**



scheduled



recommended



age 30 years



Le Suroit

4



Sonne



Discovery



New Ice going RV  
Norway/Jan Mayen



Polarstern



Hesperides



L'Atalante



James Clark Ross



Meteor

2010

2015

2020

2025

3

2010

2015

2020

2025



Pelagia midlife



Poseidon



Johan Hjort



Pelagia



Thalassa

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

5 RVs built after 2000:

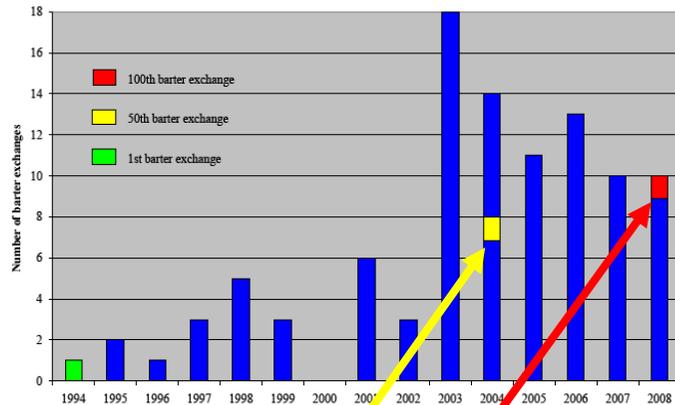
Global Class: Pourquoi Pas? 2005; James Cook 2007

Ocean Class: G.O. Sars 2003; Maria S. Merian 2005;

G. Sars 2007

## Number of exchanges

Graph 1 – Annual number of barter exchanges by OFEG partners since 1994



1994 – 1<sup>st</sup> barter exchange

2004 – 50<sup>th</sup> barter exchange

2008 – 100<sup>th</sup> barter exchange

Status per 2008

## OFEG statistics

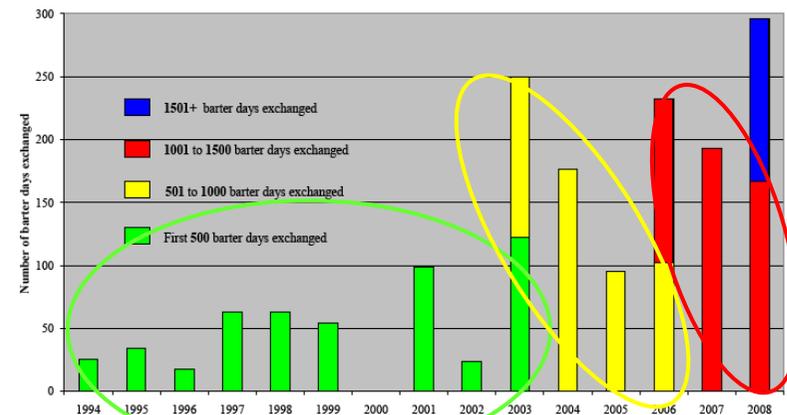
1994-2003: 1<sup>st</sup> 500 days – 10 y

2003-2006: 500 – 1000 days – 4 y

2006-2008: 1000 – 1500 days – 2 y

From mid 2008: > 1500 days

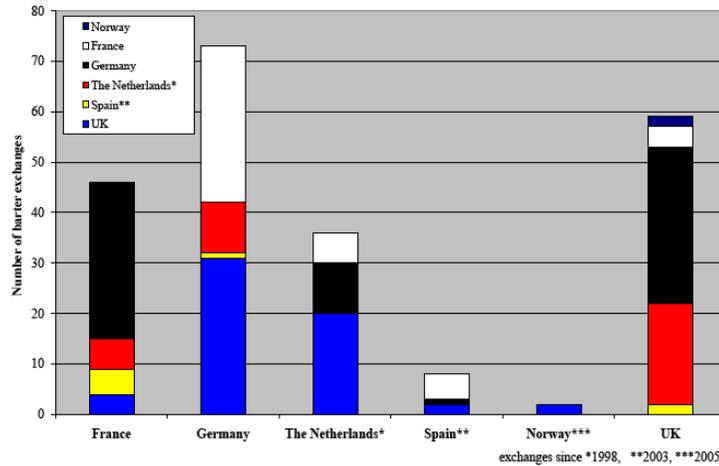
Graph 2 – Annual number of barter days exchanged by OFEG partners since 1994



Number of barter days

## Number of exchanges

Graph 3 – Number of barter exchanges between OFEG partners (1994 to 2008)



F G NL Sp No UK

Total number of  
exchanged days:

1682

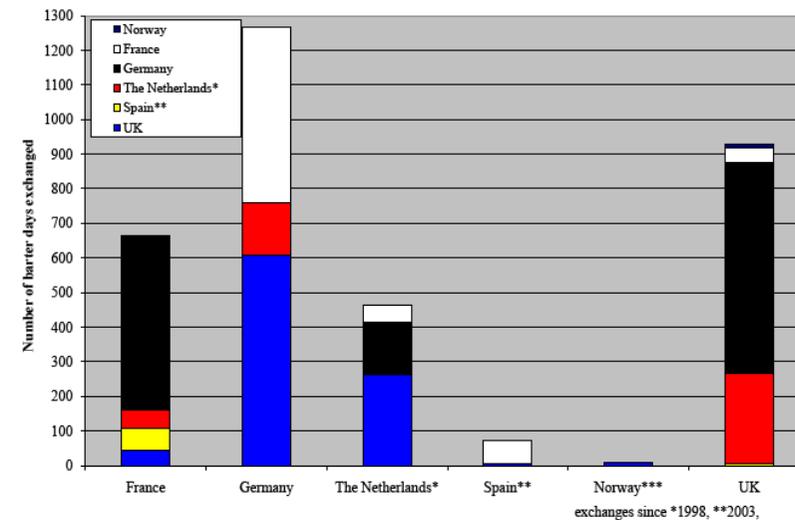
Total number of  
exchanges:

101

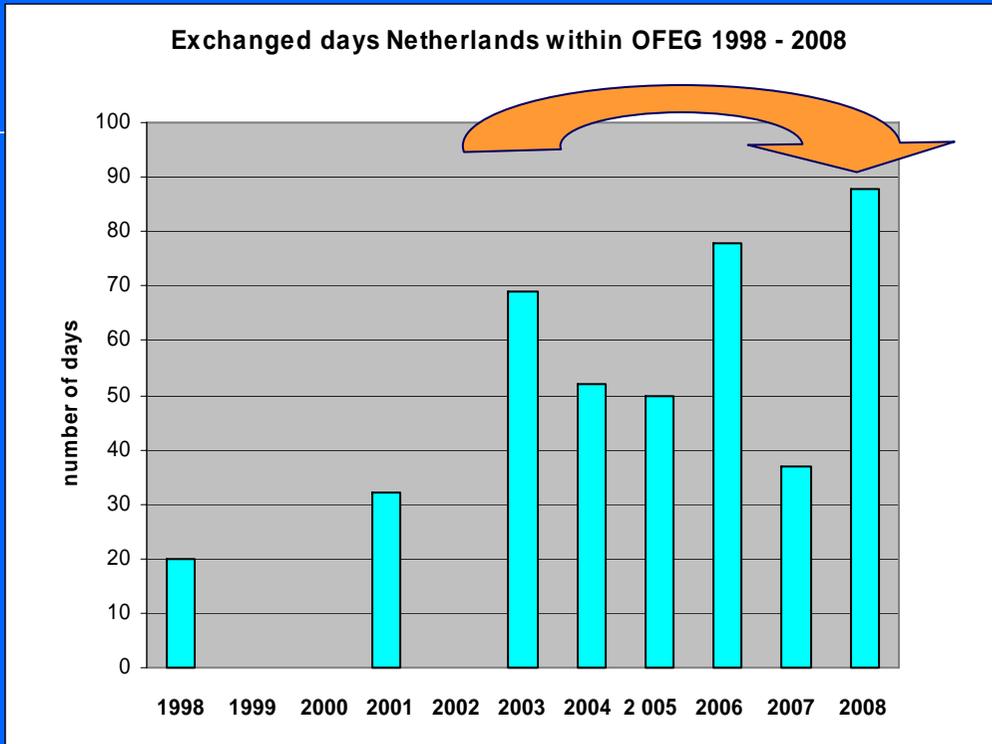
Status: 1994 - 2008

## Number of exchanged days

Graph 4 – Barter days exchanged between OFEG partners (1994 to 2008)



F G NL Sp No UK



2003 - 2008

## Output for the Netherlands

NIOZ is an OFEG member since November 2002

NL use of OFEG ships : average 26 days/year

Average use of RV Pelagia by OFEG partners: 36 days/year

## OFEG-TECH

Provides a forum for communication and networking to support the development of major equipment and to improve cooperation between the OFEG partners.

**Key issue: interoperability**

Next meeting, November 2009, UTM-CMIMA,  
Barcelona



## OFEG Spring meeting April 2009, NIOZ, Texel, Netherlands

1. Capital/investment plans to be shared by all members as they are revised throughout the year
2. OFEG-TECH to consider options to improve ROV payload, vehicle, and technician interoperability
3. Develop a standard letter to Principal Scientists offering ship-time on OFEG ships
4. Marine trial and equipment testing activities to be announced and open for all members to join in
5. Develop an OFEG Output Performance Measures document
6. Ensure that OFEG-TECH's ROV activities complement those planned under EUROFLEETS
7. Revise OFEG website in line with members' recommendations
9. OFEG meetings to be scheduled after OFEG-TECH



Thank you



Any questions??



INSTITUTE OF MARINE RESEARCH  
HAFÐRÁSKVEMINGJINSTITÚTUNY



Federal Ministry  
of Education  
and Research

