

Commissioning of the New Research Vessel “Donghaero”

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New Research Vessel "Donghaero" of Korea

The National Oceanographic Research Institute (NORI) of the Republic of Korea has commissioned the new research vessel "Donghaero" which is equipped with state of the art equipment on June 15, 2004.

A previous vessel (65 tons) was built in 1981, and it is so old, not suitable for the precision survey and oceanographic observation. So, the new vessel is constructed and designated as the same name "Donghaero" as the previous one. The construction of “Donghaero” started in August 2003, and has been completed after about 10 months work.

With regard to the particulars of the vessel, the gross tonnage is 136 tons, the service speed is 14 knots, overall length is 38m and cruising range is 1,600 miles. Maximum accommodation capacity has 15 persons including researchers.

The vessel is equipped with advanced navigational devices such as Auto Pilot, ECDIS and DGPS, as well as Bow thruster which can support comprehensive hydrographic data collection and ocean research activities covering EEZ and coastal areas. In addition, in order to carry out the bathymetric survey, investigation of sea-bottom profile and various oceanographic researches, Multi-beam echosounder, Sub-bottom profiler, CTD, ADCP, etc. are installed into the vessel.

With a commission of the vessel "Donghaero", it will be able to upgrade our ocean research capacity in the EEZ, as well as the ports under the jurisdiction of the Donghae Oceanographic Research Office which is one of the branch offices of NORI.

NORI will greatly make a contribution to the safety of navigation and the development of the ocean using high-quality data obtained from the vessel.