

Research Vessels ALLIANCE & LEONARDO



Ian Sage
Head, SMO

R.V. ALLIANCE



- 166 Days at sea supporting 9 major experiments in 2003
- 129 Days in 2004 (after budget cut)



CRV LEONARDO

133 days at sea supporting SPOW projects

Proving very reliable platform after initial problems

First dry dock completed with very good inspection results





LEONARDO



1 January 2004 – CRV LEONARDO became first public vessel on the specially created Public Register of Shipping in Italy.

16 January – Formal flag change ceremony held at NURC

All legal and certification issues now complete and MOU formally represented to SECGEN by Italian Ambassador

Ocean and Coastal





R.V. ALLIANCE CHARTER TO WALT DISNEY



Chartered for filming in “The Life Aquatic”

Directed by Wes Anderson

ALLIANCE transformed into “The HENNESSEY” for the project.

Filming took place near Rome and Ponza.

Project endorsed by NATO HQ and Flag State on a trial basis.

Comprehensive charter party agreement in place with assistance from SACT Legal staff.

Complete success with full return of operating costs and substantial PR for the Centre and NATO.

Film due for release in December 2004

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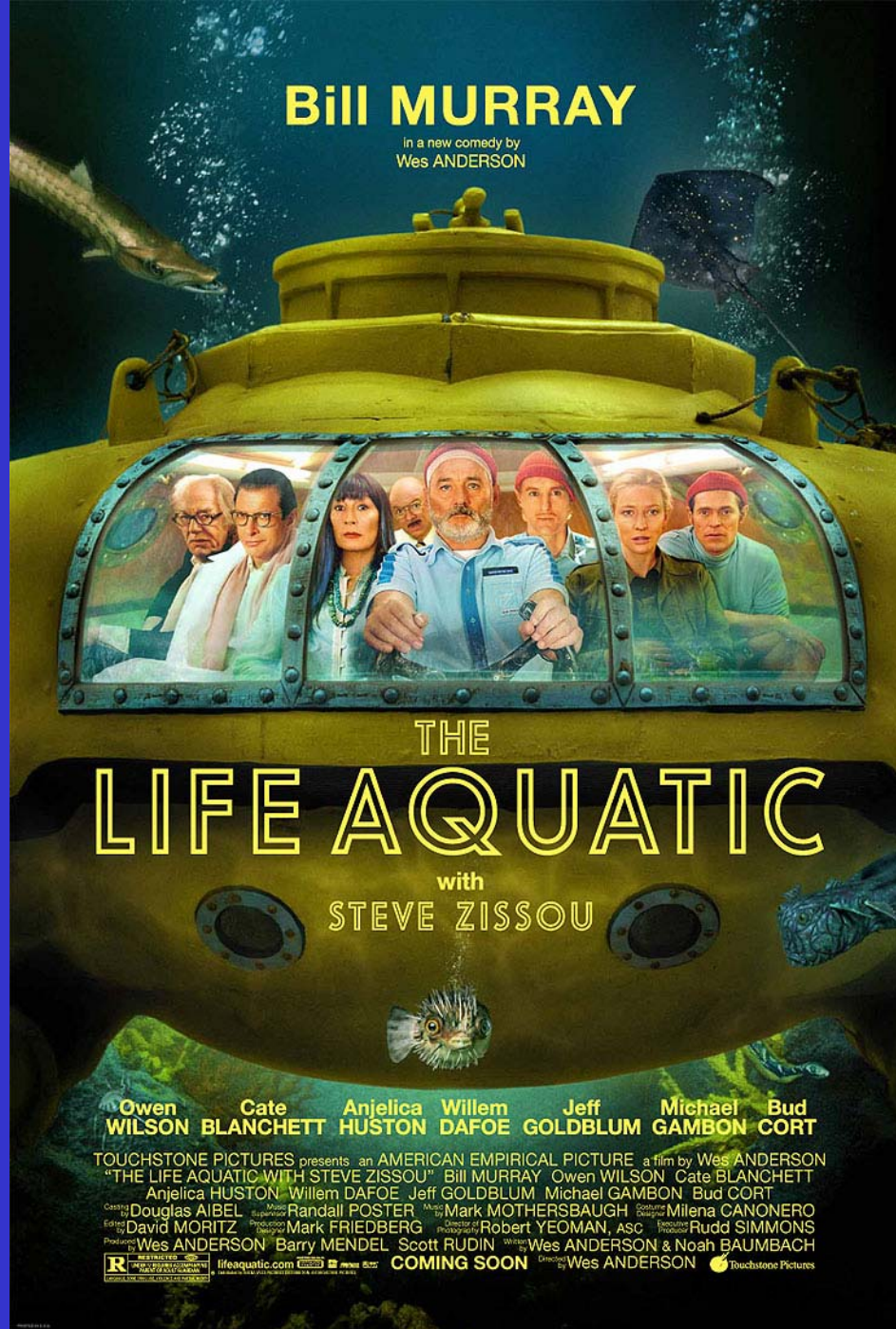


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NATO UNCLASSIFIED

FUTURE CHALLENGES

RV ALLIANCE

- In order to avoid a one off mid – life refit a rolling plan of modification and upgrade was introduced.
- Requires dry dock twice in a five year period to continue classification and Flag State certification. Next planned January 2005.



QUESTIONS