

Koninklijk Nederlands Instituut voor Zeeonderzoek





## NIOZ: interesting times

- Reorganization of the funding agency has been completed.
  The new management has decided that they need to invest in marine science, resulting in 2 processes:
- Talks about a new funding model
- A working group has been installed to look at the options for a new ship. Stakeholder consultation is now taking place.



#### Activities 2017 and 2018

- 2017: North Atlantic mainly
- Now: A Caribbean North Atlantic expedition that started mid-December and will finish end of July.
- 2<sup>nd</sup> half 2018: Mediterranean, Black Sea, Red Sea, transit through Gulf of Aden to southern Indian Ocean. January 2019, west of Cape Town.
- Activities on other vessels: OSNAP moorings (Neil Armstrong),
  3D mooring recovery (l'Atalante), recovery Challenger Deep mooring (Sonne), deep-sea mining equipment test cruise on Sarmiento de Gamboa



### New Equipment

- New synthetic deep sea cable, long process.
- Current cable has conductor and optical fibres and is used for bottom sampling, clean CTD, Video surveys etc. now 8000m
- First test piece malfunctioned, milking of the outer mantle
- New test pieces ordered (2, different outer mantle materials)
- Test pieces delivered, but too late and 30m shorter than required and ordered
- New test pieces need to be delivered and tested in June
- If not, we may decide to wait until the new vessel and switch to separate cables for piston coring and the rest.



# New Equipment, ELAN 2 LN generator, on board since December

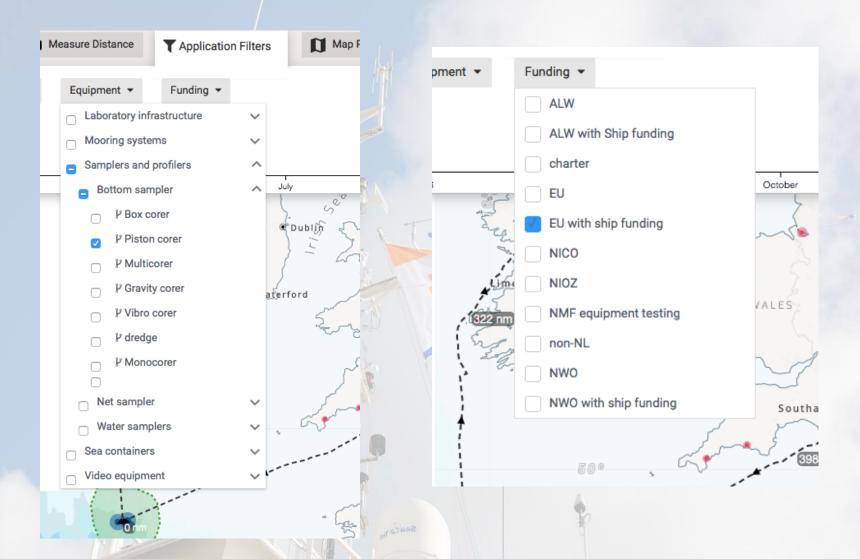




- Last week: OFEG Spring meeting.
- OFEG meets twice a year.
- Most important for OFEG: sharing of cruise programmes and looking at opportunities to share the ships, for full cruises, a few days only or urgent recovery of equipment.
- Sharing cruise programmes is becoming easier now that 3 out of 6 OFEG members share the same cruise planning system, Marine Facilities Planning, with Norway and Spain to follow later this year.

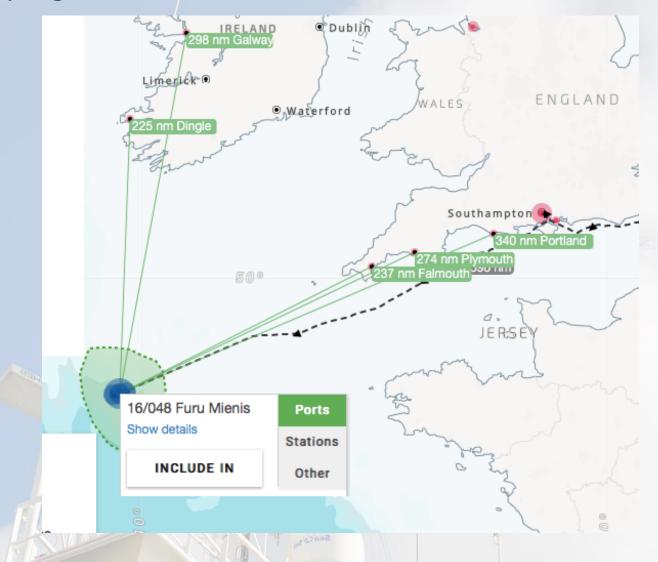
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 Marine Facilities Planning system: New functionality in the programme construction for easier voyage planning.



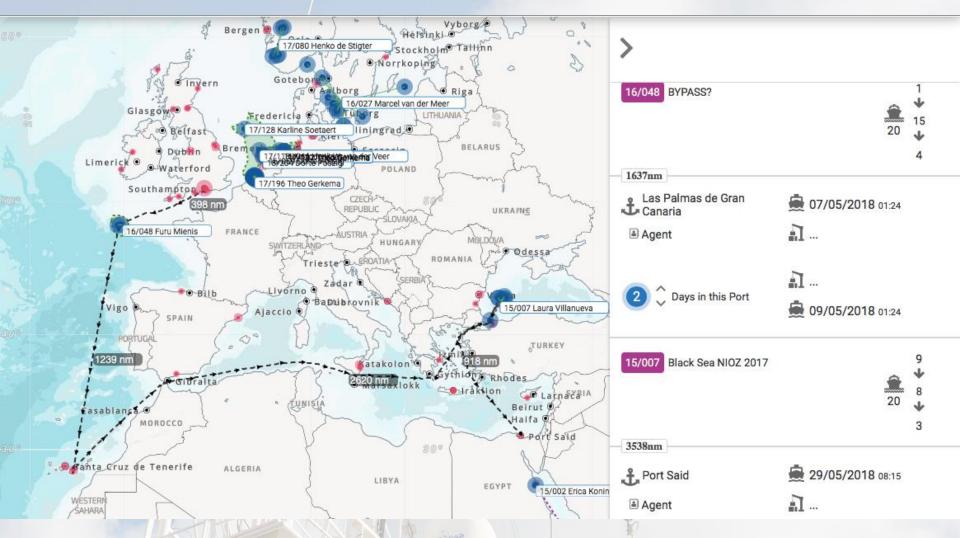
NIOZ

Marine Facilities Planning system: New functionality in the programme construction.



NOZ

 Marine Facilities Planning system: New functionality in the programme construction.





Marine Facilities Planning system:

 Further development of advanced reporting tools for annual reports or for the funding agencies

Development of the phone app for use on board as an on-line system

Advanced planning options



- OFEG TECH is the technical spin-off from OFEG. OFEG TECH members are asked by OFEG to look into technical issues.
- Issues that are of importance: EIA's, ongoing
- Cables and wires. A new working group will be looking at cable options and use and how to better share, to make an overview of the cables now in use and if possible work towards a common strategy.
- Input or participation from US side (RVTech) would be highly appreciated.



## Other news from Europe

 The EMB (European Marine Board) has established an expert working group on the future of the research vessel fleet in Europe, to update position paper 10 from 2007.

Several work packages, a.o. deep sea, polar, underwater networks, training, management of the fleet etc.