

IALA COUNCIL
3rd session



8-12 December 2025
Mumbai, India

7 – National Matters

National Matters – United Kingdom

Northern Lighthouse Board replacement buoy service vessel

The Northern Lighthouse Board (NLB), the General Lighthouse Authority for Scotland and the Isle of Man (Scotland is part of the United Kingdom) is in the process of replacing one of its two vessels. NLV POLE STAR is currently under construction at Astilleros Gondan AS in Figueras, Spain and will be delivered towards the end of 2025. This will be the fifth NLB vessel to be named POLE STAR, the first entered service in 1892.

Designed from the outset to minimise impact on the environment, this modern diesel electric hybrid vessel features significant innovations and will improve UK buoy servicing and wreck response capability and overall resilience.

Attached is a Specification for the vessel

Request for Agenda time for presentation

The United Kingdom requests time during Council 03 to provide a ten minute presentation on the vessel.



POLE STAR SPECIFICATION SHEET



Main Particulars

General Information

Hull material	Steel
Type	Buoy-Maintenance Vessel
Delivery	2025
Lloyd's Register Class Notation	✱100A1, LA, *IWS, ECO, ✱LMC, UMS, Hybrid Power (+), NAV1, IBS, DP (AA), CAC2, Buoy & Light Tender, ShipRight ABN (SQ), ShipRight (MCBM), ShipRight CYBER and ShipRight UWN-L(T10), UWN-L(Q5)
IMO	9993614

Dimension

Length overall	70.00m
Breadth moulded	16.00m
Depth, baseline to Main Deck	6.40m
Draught (max)	3.9m
Draught (min)	3.4m

Capacities

Fuel (MGO)	215m3
Fresh water	150m3
Deadweight	TBC
Working deck area	338 m2
Deck capacity	6 x TEU Containers or 1x 40ft stern launch AUV container with 2 x TEU cabins
Deck loading	2.5t/m2

Accommodation

POB	16 crew with space for 10 additional crew or passengers
Cabins	26 Cabins (1 ancillary role as Hospital)



Performance and Machinery

Propulsion / Manoeuvring

Propulsion System	Diesel-Electric Hybrid
Main Engines	3 x MAN 12V175D-MEV IMO Tier III 3x 1860 kW
Main Propellers	2 x Schottel Rudder Propeller SRP 460 LE FP, 2x 2000 kW
Bow Thrusters	2 x Schottel Transverse Thruster STT 2 FP, 2x 550 kW
Batteries	Corvus Blue Whale 4644 kWh giving peak shaving, 2 hours at manoeuvring speeds & 12 hours hotel load endurance at anchor/in port
Shore Power	2 x 690v to accommodate hotel load and battery charging.

Features

Maximum Speed	14.0kn
Service Speed	10.5kn in up to sea state 6
Endurance	30 days at Service Speed
Bollard Pull	60T TBC
Fire Monitor	Jason MM602 hydraulic centrifugal sea water monitor – 900 cubic metres/hour with throw length 100m and height 40m

Equipment

Deck / Special equipment

Cranes	3 x Sormec Cranes: 1 x 20T SWL @ 16m radius Offshore rated Knuckle Boom Crane with subsea capability, 1 x 6 tonne @ 11m radius Knuckle Boom aft, 1 x 2T SWL Stiff Boom Provision Crane
Chain/towing Winch	1 x Ibercisa Chain/towing Winch, max pull 28.6t at first layer, drum capacity 300m @ 50mm, brake holding load 150 t
Midship ship side Chain stoppers	Tugpin Sharks Jaws SJCC-F 50MT SWL
Instrument Moon Pools	2
Rounded Stern	Removable Aft Towing Fairlead

Bridge Equipment

Hydrographic survey suite	Kongsberg EM 2040 MKII Multibeam and Skipper ESN200 Dual Channel Multi Frequency Echo Sounder
DP System	Kongsberg K-Pos DP-21 with ROV follow capability
Position reference	3x DGPS & 1x HIPAP
Radars	2 x Kongsberg KM Marine Radar Scanner incl. 1x Radar S-band Antenna and 1x Radar X-band Antenna
ECDIS	1300 – KM05 Deep Line Chart Console
Communications	2 x Lars Thrane Iridium GMDSS Antenna, with 1 Starlink Flat Antenna, 1 x Intellian T100W TVSAT with Intellian C700 Iridium Certus backup for business and crew use.

Other Equipment

SAR	FLIR search and rescue cameras
Boats	1 x Alicat Workboat accommodating 2 crew and 8 passengers 1x Polar Circle 5.6 m open workboat 1 x SOLAS Rescue Boat