Facilities and Features

Overview
Since the launch of the Africa Mercy in 2007, Mercy Ships has planned for another ship of equal or greater capacity to be added to the fleet. Drawing upon over 42 years of organizational experience, and over five years of specific study on the outcomes of the Africa Mercy in serving the people of West and Central Africa, the Mercy Ships International Board approved entrance into a contract for the construction of a purpose-built hospital ship. This new ship will more than double the ability of Mercy Ships to deliver hope and healing, while significantly increasing capacity-building and training potential.

The new ship represents a global collaboration. The 37,000 GRT hospital ship is under construction at Tianjin Xingang Shipyard, part of the China State Shipbuilding Company (CSSC) with project management by Stena RoRo of Gothenburg, Sweden, and construction design by Deltamarin of Turku, Finland. The French ship brokerage company Barry Rogliano Salles (BRS) was instrumental in helping negotiate the contract. The new ship will be classed by Lloyd's Register of the UK, and it will be flagged by Malta.

The Global Mercy will be capable of serving anywhere in the world and will initially expand the activity of Mercy Ships on the African continent.

Hospital
The hospital covers most of decks 3 and 4 – approximately 7,000 square meters containing supply services, 6 operating theaters, 102 acute care beds, 7 ICU/isolation beds and an additional 90 self-care beds. The hospital area includes dedicated classroom/conference spaces as well as simulator labs for more effective training. All pre-operative and post-operative work can be done onboard rather than ashore, which minimises the Mercy Ships footprint when operating in busy ports. The new ship will more than double our annual medical capacity and is designed to carry out a wide range of surgeries including, but not limited to, maxillofacial and reconstructive surgery, tumor removal, cleft lip and palate repair, plastics, orthopedic surgery, cataract removal, and obstetric fistula repair.

Specifications

- Length: 174m
- Breadth: 28.6m
- Gross Tonnage: 37,000
- Registered: Malta
- Crew Capacity: 641
- Main Engines: 4 x Wartsila 6L32 w/ 2 x ABB Azipul Pods
- Draft: 6.1 m
- Decks: 12
- Building: Tianjin Xingang Shipyard
- Surveyed By: Lloyd's Register

Accommodation
The Global Mercy will have meeting and work spaces with numerous design considerations based upon prior operating experience and crew feedback. The ship incorporates the latest comprehensive technology for crew safety and security and will provide accommodation for 641 people including crew and medical staff onboard. The ship services are designed to host up to 950 people when the hospital is working and additional day-crew are serving onboard in various functions such as translators.

Construction Phases
The sequential steps in the building process include up to 72 months of detailed design work, construction of the hull and installation of machinery systems, outfitting the accommodation decks/hospital, extensive testing and trials prior to delivery from shipyard, installation of additional medical equipment and general supplies and further testing prior to deployment.

Images, case studies and additional information about Mercy Ships can be found online at www.mercyships.org

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