

MV "Elisabeth"

MV Elisabeth is a seine purse fishing vessel which has also been used as a survey vessel in the North Atlantic, North Sea, Norwegian Sea and the Barents Sea since 2005. It has been employed for surveys for sea floor sampling using gravity corer, vibro corer and box corer. With the large deck space, three different cranes, winches etc., she is ideal for this work. For work in deep water, a USBL system is rigged in an "over the side bracket". By using one of the cranes for lifting and lowering the USBL pole, this takes only 3 - 4 minutes, i.e. basically not more time than using a moon-pool system. With the large forward and stern thrusters it is easy to keep her in any given position or move the vessel sideways to bring the corer inside the target in the case of a strong current in the area. She has also been used for side scan sonar survey and deployment and retrieval of weather buoys. The crew used for deck operation are the same as used for the fishing, i.e. they have many years experience with working offshore with all sort of deck equipment.

Gravity coring

MV Elisabeth has been used for gravity coring since 2007 in water depths to below 2000 m. With gravity coring the corer is lowered by the winch at top speed down to 50 - 100 m above the sea bed. The vessel is then moved, if necessary, so that the corer is within the target, and then lowered again at top speed on the winch into the sea bed, thus collecting the core which is then winched back onboard. For some surveys special coring winches have been utilised while on other surveys the winches normally used for the purse seining have been used. Depending on what is required the winch speed can be from 50 to 200 m/min.



Gravity corer being made ready for deployment



Gravity corer brought onboard

For all the surveys the vessel has been equipped with a hydraulic corer bell, making the coring safe even in rough weather, up to gale force. When operating with such a system, the core barrels can be up to 6 m.



Vibro corer ready to be hoisted onboard

Vibro Coring

Vibro coring surveys have been undertaken since 2007. For all the vibro coring surveys a hydraulic vibro corer has been used. The vibro corer is standing vertically on a platform on the deck and being lifted over the gunwale using a crane when in position. Core barrels up to 4.5 m can be used. With this equipment samples have been collected at up to 650m water depth, but the equipment can be used down to 900m. It is also possible to use other types of vibro corers from MV Elisabeth.



Vibro corer being launched from MV Elisabeth

Box coring

Box coring is normally used for collection of sea bed samples for environmental analyses. Such samples have been collected from MV Elisabeth since 2007 using different types of box corers at water depths from 50m to 1300m. The deck crane is used for lifting the box corer in and out from the deck, while the coring winch



Box corer being landed on the deck of MV Elisabeth

has been used for lowering the corer to the sea floor and bringing it back to the surface. Different types of grabs can be used on the Elisabeth for collecting sea bed samples for environmental studies.

Side Scan Sonar

Side scan sonar has been used on "Elisabeth" since 2007. The system is used from the back deck where the "fish" is launched using the crane on the back deck. Side scan sonar has been operated down to a depth of 1300 m.



Deployment of side scan sonar

Deploying and retrieval of weather buoys

MV Elisabeth has been used regarding deploying and retrieval of large weather buoys since 2005 at water depth up to 1200m using the different deck cranes onboard.



Weather buoy being deployed

Other types of surveys that MV Elisabeth can be used for

According to personnel who have used both MV Elisabeth and other vessels for different surveys world wide, MV Elisabeth would also be a suitable vessel for various other types of surveys than those described above. MV Elisabeth could be used for surveys such as piston coring, boomer surveys, sparker surveys, mini gun surveys and smaller ROV surveys.

Technical details

Flag	Norway	Built	1994	Class	DNV +1A1
Length o.a.	60.9 m	Width (mid)	11.6 m	Depth (mid)	7.0 m
Engine	3590 BHP	Generator	2 x 415 kVA	Shaft generator	1625 kVA
Cranes	3, 1.5 to 4.0 tons	Winch	2x38 tons	Thrusters	Forw. 550HP
			4 x 5 tons		Aft 350 HP
Fuel capacity	250 m ³	Water	50 t		
Speed (max)	17 kn	Speed (Economic)	12 kn	200	
			5,899		12/11/2009

Cabins 6 x 2 berths, 3 x 1 berth

Communication VHF, mobile tel., Sat tel., V-Sat, Inm. C, Telex, Telefax, e-mail, internet

Navigation GPS, Log, Radar, map plotter, sonar, echo sounder, Navtex

Safety equip. 2x20 persons rafts, 16x survival suites, 16x life jackets, 3x portable VHS



















MV Bømmelbas



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