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website: wss-vic.org.au

The new “icebreaker” as shown above is currently being built by Damen Shipbuilding in Romania and will be called **NUYINA**, named after the Southern Lights of Tasmania

Like the previous vessel, local wharfies wanted to have the ship built in Australia, however, no shipyard was interested or did not have the capacity to construct such a specialized and complicated job within the specified time frame.

Damen, from origin a Dutch company formerly specialized in ultra-sized yachts and tugboats has purchased quite a number of shipyards around the world and often has modules built at different locations. Currently worldwide, they own 32 shipyards.

In this particular case the whole ship is to be built in Romania by Damen-Schelde Group with parts of the outfitting undertaken in Australia late 2020. Maatschappij “De Schelde” is a naval shipyard in Vlissingen (Flushing) which was also earlier acquired by Damen.

Vessel’s total length will be around 156 meters and she can carry 96 -20ft containers, also two tender boats are to be built, her service speed would be 12 knots to max 16 knots and she will have an ice breaking capacity of 1.65 meter thickness at a speed of 3 knots. This has a high rating when compared with Russian and Finnish ice breakers.

She will be able to carry 1200 tonnes of cargo and nearly 2 million litres of fuel for station operations. More than 110 personnel can be accommodated in single and double cabins.

Some more specs: 2 x 55 tonne cranes of the knuckle-boom type as well as 2 other cranes are to be fitted. Four small or two large helicopters can also be carried on board. She is fitted with a moon pool and can deploy a multi-beam echo sounder mapping the ocean floor.

Delivery is scheduled for the 2020-2021 Antarctic summer season. Home port: Hobart.

DMS Maritime manages the design and eventually will be responsible for the operation and maintenance on behalf of the Australian Government.

Part-Source : Australian Antarctic Program, www.antarctica.gov.au