POSEIDON was built in 1976 and is classified as an open-ocean marine research vessel. Named after the Greek god of the seas, the ship was used mainly for longer expeditions in the North Atlantic, Mediterranean, Black and Red Sea. The ship is highly manoeuvrable and stable even in high winds and rough seas. She was refitted for expeditions to explore the deep-sea in the beginning of the 1980’s. The POSEIDON was decommissioned at the end of 2019 after 43 years in service and is to be replaced by a new vessel in the next few years.

POSEIDON was the second ship to bear this name. The original “Reich Research Steamer” POSEIDON was used primarily for fisheries research between 1902 and 1945. However, the research focus of the second POSEIDON was centred on oceanographic, marine biological and geological investigations. POSEIDON was ideally suited for this purpose with its four laboratories and assorted winches, cranes and sounders. Some of her equipment, such as the multi-beam echo sounder and rosette water sampler, could also be used on other ships. In addition, POSEIDON was capable of deploying the manned submersible JAGO, the ROV PHOCA and the AUV ABYSS.

The ship was designed for the highest classification of German Lloyd and also for a temporarily unmanned engine room. It is built as a single-section ship and satisfies all stability requirements under permissible load conditions. It has highly effective stabilizing fins which still permit scientific work in rough sea conditions. Its Gill rudder provides for very good manoeuvrability. POSEIDON had major overhauls in 2009/2010 and 2014, where, amongst other improvements, all three engines were modernized to extend POSEIDON’s sea-going capability to 24 days.
All the components

Construct all the modules
Construct the deck

The final product