

Stena RoRo has built the world's largest civilian hospital ship – the *Global Mercy* is now calling Rotterdam

From February 28 to March 14, the world's largest hospital ship, the *Global Mercy*, will be in Rotterdam. A momentous event for Stena RoRo who, on behalf of the charity Mercy Ships, has been the project manager for the ship's construction since 2013. During her weeks in Rotterdam, the newly built ship will be open to visitors. Private individuals, organizations, partners, donors, volunteers and the media are welcome to visit the ship while she is being outfitted in Rotterdam for its vital mission in West Africa.

From February 28 to March 14, completion of the newly built *Global Mercy* – the world's largest civilian hospital ship – will be celebrated and she will be open for tours. Stena RoRo has been responsible for the design, contractual arrangements and site supervision of this very special marine construction project.

Hospital activities to be carried out on board entail specific requirements that influence everything from the design and layout of the hull to ventilation and other technical solutions. The ship houses operating rooms and hospital wards, a lab, eye clinic, dental clinic, training facilities and all that is needed both for in-patient care and those working on board, including schools and nursery schools for the crew's children. The *Global Mercy* is rated for passenger service and, when in port, can accommodate 950 people including a crew of 641.



Adaptation of existing concept

Stena RoRo specializes in designing ships for special needs.

“When we were commissioned to build the *Global Mercy*, we began with an existing concept for passenger ships and freight for long-distance international RoPax service,” says Per Westling, managing director for Stena RoRo. “We designed her as a pure passenger ship with hospital services instead. The car deck has been replaced by operating rooms and hospital wards.”

To meet the special challenges, Stena RoRo created a global project with subcontractors from around the world. Construction was carried out at the Tianjin Xingang shipyard in northern China where Stena RoRo has had an international team on site for monitoring the construction process.

“It was the first time the shipyard had built this type of ship and we wanted to carefully monitor the process. We are very pleased with the collaboration we’ve enjoyed as well as the standard of the completed vessel.”

Doubled capacity for providing help

The *Global Mercy* has been built on behalf of the charity Mercy Ships which via hospital ships, provides free medical care and expands local healthcare capacity for the world's most vulnerable human beings. The ships are staffed by volunteers from more than 60 countries. The *Global Mercy* is the first of the charity's ships to have been designed and built specifically for their needs. Previous ships have been converted into hospital ships.

With the *Global Mercy*, their capacity to provide help is more than doubled. The new ship will come alongside the *Africa Mercy*, in operation since 2007. With both ships in service, Mercy Ships expects to conduct more than 5,000 operations each year, treat over 28,000 dental patients and train more than 2,800 local healthcare staff.

“It's big seeing this project come to a close after so many years of engagement on our part,” says Per Westling. “We are extremely proud to have delivered such a special ship and to thereby be part of the amazing work of Mercy Ships.”

Celebrations and activities in Rotterdam

In Rotterdam, final outfitting is underway ahead of *Global Mercy*'s departure for Dakar in Senegal. Alongside celebrations and the ship being open to visitors, there will be guided tours both onboard and virtually (<https://globalmercy.org>). Mercy Ships hopes that the general public, donors and potential volunteers will take advantage of the opportunity to see the ship and get a clearer picture of life on board for both patients and volunteers. A special invitation is going out to the media, and they will be able to meet volunteers and several of the project's key figures, including Stena RoRo's managing director Per Westling.

***Global Mercy* in Rotterdam**

February 28 – March 14: Open to visitors. For registration and more information:

<https://globalmercy.org/events/come-on-board-press/>

March 1–2: Scandinavian Days on board, Per Westling participating

March 7: Maritime Day on board, Per Westling participating

March 15: Departure from Rotterdam

A global project under Swedish management

The project started back in 2013. Swedish Stena RoRo has been responsible for the design, contracting and site supervision of this unique and global project. French Barry Rogliano Salles, BRS, has served as the broker, detailed design by Finnish Deltamarin and construction has been carried out at the Tianjin Xingang shipyard in China. The *Global Mercy*, classified by Lloyd's Register in the United Kingdom, sails under the Maltese flag and operate along the coast of Africa.

A selection of suppliers involved in the project:

ABB Azipod® – Propulsion systems and generators

Alfa Laval – Coolers

Berg Propulsion – Bow propeller

Consilium – Safety systems, fire alarm system

Evac – Waste management

MacGregor – Hull doors and gang planks

Scan Marine– Monitoring and inspection of interior
Selectop – Antifouling painting
Wärtsilä – Generator engines

About the *Global Mercy*

Length: 174 meters
Beam: 28.6 meters
Draught: 6.15 meters
Gross tonnage: 37,000 tonnes
Deadweight: 5,448 tonnes
Total area, interior: 30,000 square meters

Follow the construction of Global Mercy here: <https://vimeo.com/681340439/61d56b6af2>

For more information, please contact

Per Westling, Managing Director, Stena RoRo AB
Tel: +46 31 855154; +46 704 85 51 54
Email: per.westling@stena.com

Since 1977, **Stena RoRo** has led the development of new marine RoRo, cargo and passenger concepts. We provide custom-built vessels, as well as standardized RoRo and RoPax vessels. The company leases about fifteen vessels to operators worldwide, both other Stena companies and third parties. Stena RoRo specializes above all in applying its technical expertise to the design and production of new vessels and the conversion of existing vessels for providing tailored transport solutions to its customers. We call this “Stenability”. Since 2013, Stena RoRo has been responsible for the design and completion of Mercy Ship's new hospital ship the *Global Mercy* – the world's largest civilian hospital ship and which was delivered in the spring of 2021 from the shipyard in China.

www.stenaroro.com

About Mercy Ships

Through its hospital vessels, Mercy Ships provides free high-quality healthcare, building up healthcare capacity and providing sustainable development to those with the least resources. Mercy Ships was founded by Don and Deyon Stephens in 1978 and has since operated in more than 55 developing countries, contributing care and development worth more than SEK 17 billion and treating more than 2.8 million people. Ships' crews consist of approximately 1,200 volunteers each year from more than 60 countries. They are surgeons, dentists, nurses, nursing educators, teachers, chefs, sailors, engineers and agricultural experts who volunteer their time and skills. With offices in 16 countries and an African center, Mercy Ships strives to make a difference for individuals and to assist nations. www.mercyships.org