Concarneau, 30th october 2026

Piriou wins contract to build 16 new-generation tugboats for the French Navy

The French Defence Procurement Agency (DGA) has just awarded Chantiers Piriou a contract for the procurement of 16 new-generation tugboats (RP30NG), each with a towing capacity of 30 tonnes bollard pull.



Rendering RP30NG (non contractuel) © PIRIOU

Long 26 metres and with a full-load displacement of 370 tonnes, the RP30NGs have a bollard pull of 30 tonnes. Based on the civil tugboat range developed by Piriou, the RP30NGs have been adapted to the specific requirements of military operations. They will support the French Navy's harbour operations, particularly the maneuvering of nuclear submarines and flagship vessels.

Designed to operate up to 200 nautical miles from the coast for up to several days, the RP30NGs will also carry out port support missions, such as fire-fighting and pollution control. They will also be able to contribute to maritime surveillance and state operations at sea, notably fisheries control and assistance missions.

Industrial expertise tailored to the needs of the French Navy

This programme draws on Piriou's experience in the design and construction of workboats, as well as on the expertise available within the group to support the various stages of the vessels' lifecycle. Building on previous programmes and identifying jointly developed solutions in terms of design, equipment and maintenance help to optimise the operation of the vessels and in-service support.

Vincent Faujour, President of Piriou, said:

"We are very proud to receive this new order from the French Defence Procurement Agency (DGA), which demonstrates the continued confidence placed in Piriou and our expertise, and we thank them for this.

Piriou is the last remaining French builder of tugboats with a bollard pull of over 30 tonnes. Following the delivery of four RP 30/RPC 30-type harbour and coastal tugs to the French Navy and the construction of several dozen harbour tugs with bollard pulls ranging from 30 to 75 tonnes for various commercial operators, this new order strengthens our position in the tugboat market, and we are delighted about this.

It also demonstrates that our expertise in the design and construction of civilian vessels enables us to provide our Armed Forces with a fully sovereign range of vessels tailored to their specific operational requirements.

With the offshore patrol vessel (PH) programme currently underway in Concarneau, this new programme for the DGA marks a significant recognition of our teams' work and our commitment to serving the DGA and the French Navy."

Key specifications of the RP30NG

Key specifications of the RP30NG
Overall length: 26 m
Beam: 9.20 m
Displacement: 370 tonnes fully laden
Propulsion: 2 engines of approximately 1,100 kW and 2 aft azimuth thrusters (ASD)
Electrical power generation: 2 generators of approximately 160 kWe
Maximum speed: 11 knots
Towing capacity: 30 tonnes
Crew: 6 people

About PIRIOU

PIRIOU is France's leading independent shipbuilding and ship repair group. Since 1965, PIRIOU has been building high value-added vessels of up to 120 metres in length, thanks to its high-performance integrated engineering and its 11 sites across Europe, Africa and Asia. Having built and delivered nearly 600 vessels worldwide, PIRIOU offers tailored solutions as well as a comprehensive range of ships to meet the needs of international shipowners – both private and public, commercial and military. PIRIOU currently employs 1,500 people worldwide, including half in mainland France and its overseas territories, and achieved a turnover of 361 million euros in 2025. https://www.piriou.com/en/

Contact presse

Stéphanie ROOS FAUJOUR – Agence Sea to sea I+33(0)2-29-40-10-36 I +33(0)6-19-68-32-06 I
contact@seatosea.fr