

Concarneau - Paris, July 25 2018

DGA -the French Defence Procurement Agency- has taken delivery of the *RHONE* -second-of-type BSAH\*- built by KERSHIP



*\*BSAH = Bâtiment de Soutien et d'Assistance Hauturier  
i.e. Offshore support and assistance vessel*

The offshore support and assistance vessel (BSAH) *RHONE* – second of a series of four vessels designed and built by KERSHIP – was ordered in 2015 and formally handed over to the French Defence Procurement Agency (DGA) .

The third BSAH – the *SEINE*, will welcome her new military commander next September in Concarneau. Its delivery is scheduled during the first quarter of 2019 and the delivery of the 4th unit - the *GARONNE* - is due during summer 2019.

The success of this programme for the French Navy is the fruit of the common objective of PIRIOU and Naval Group to create a global leader in civil standard vessels dedicated to state action at sea – coastguards, police, military police, customs...- by implementing industrial complementarities. KERSHIP benefits from Naval Group's experience on naval defence markets and from PIRIOU's for civil standards vessels. Involved in several major programmes for the French State, KERSHIP has thus become in a few years the first provider of vessels dedicated to state action at sea for the French Navy.

Also note that

- the BSAH *LOIRE*, first unit delivered in March 2018, has just achieved its long-term deployment.
- the BSAH *RHONE* reached in April 2018 her home port in Brest where the integration of information and command systems were undertaken as well as the contractual and qualification trials together with the state resources provided by the French Defence Procurement Agency and the French Navy.

The BSAH programme is implemented under the supervision of KERSHIP that manages the contract and industrial coordination. PIRIOU ensures design, building and trials of these vessels characterized by a high versatility and a thirty-days autonomy. Naval Group carries out studies of the military installations, provides communication systems and will perform In-service supply (ISS) over up to a five-year period. The four vessels were entirely built in the PIRIOU and KERSHIP shipyards in Concarneau and Lorient.



Featuring a 70m length and a full load displacement of approximately 2,960 t, the BSAHs are operated by a crew of 17.

### A versatile 70m multi-mission vessel

Length overall .....	70.3m
Moulded beam .....	15.8m
Draught .....	5.0m
Deadweight tonnage .....	about 1,000 t
Deck cargo .....	250 m <sup>2</sup>
Speed .....	14 kn
Hull / superstructure .....	steel
Accommodation .....	17 (crew) + 12 passengers
Propulsion .....	2 x 2650 kW
Generators .....	2 x 300 kWe

<b>Specific equipment:</b>	
Bollard pull capacity.....	80 t
DP 1 dynamic positioning	
10 t crane at 25 m	
Accommodation of 12 divers and their equipment	
Fi-Fi 1 fire-fighting system	
Deployment of a floating anti-pollution barrier	
Working boat of length approx. 8m	
Semi-rigid boats	
Transportation of weapons and ammunition	
Submarine support during stopover	

## About PIRIOU

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Involved in shipbuilding, repair, naval engineering and services since 1965, PIRIOU specializes in producing vessels up to 120m with high added value through a combination of high-performance engineering and a global network of industrial sites in Europe, Africa and Asia. With over 470 ships built and delivered worldwide, PIRIOU provides bespoke solutions as well as a complete range of standardized or customized vessels that satisfy the requirements of international shipowners, whether they be private or public, civilian or military.

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## About Naval Group

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Naval Group is the European leader in naval defence. As an international high-tech company, Naval Group uses its extraordinary know-how, unique industrial resources and capacity to arrange innovative strategic partnerships to meet its clients' requirements. The Group designs, builds and maintains submarines and surface vessels. The Group also proposes services for naval shipyards and bases. In addition, the Group offers a wide range of marine renewable energy solutions. Naval Group is sensitive to the challenges of corporate social responsibility and has signed the United Nations Global Compact. The Group reports revenues of €3.7 billion and has a workforce of 13,429 employees (2017 data).

[www.navalgroup.com](http://www.navalgroup.com)

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## About KERSHIP

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KERSHIP is a joint company founded in 2013 by PIRIOU and Naval Group, two experts in naval design and building, military systems and services. KERSHIP provides vessels up to 95m dedicated to state action at sea for marines, coastguards, customs, and scientific institutions...

With the expertise of its parent companies, KERSHIP supports administrations and military marines throughout their vessels lifecycle, from building to delivery as well as from after sales to In-service Support (ISS).

[www.kership.com](http://www.kership.com)

### Press contacts

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