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## ALE TRANSPORT PARTLY COMPLETED RSS SIR DAVID ATTENBOROUGH



ALE has reached the next project milestone and transported the partly completed RRS *Sir David Attenborough*, the new polar research ship for Britain.

The ship, weighing 5,000t, was moved from the fabrication hall 41m to the slipway at Cammell Laird's shipyard in Birkenhead. In order to transport such a large and heavy piece, ALE utilised 216 axle lines of SPMT and 26 transport beams. The ship was moved so the client could continue construction of the bow.

Scott Fenwick, Project Engineer for ALE said: "We extremely proud to be so involved in such a landmark project, completing the engineering and execution of heavy transportation and load-out scopes of work. We have found the best solution possible at each stage; designing bespoke transport frames and utilising transport beams to avoid welding to the vessel – which is costly and time consuming."

ALE previously loaded-out and loaded-in the AFT section of the ship in August 2017. The new ship has been commissioned by NERC, designed by Rolls-Royce, built by Cammell Laird

Shiprepairers & Shipbuilders Ltd and is a major UK Government investment in frontier science. The vessel will be operated by British Antarctic Survey when the ship enters service in 2019.

## **ENDS**

***Issued by the ALE Press Office. For more information, please contact Sarah Maia, Group PR Officer, 01782 977 146 or [s.maia@ale-heavylift.com](mailto:s.maia@ale-heavylift.com)***

## **NOTES FOR EDITORS:**

**Image 1: Photograph of the ship being transported in Birkenhead, UK.**

### **About the new polar research ship for Britain**

The RRS *Sir David Attenborough* will be one of the most advanced polar research vessels in the world. From 2019 onwards scientists researching oceans, ice and atmosphere will have access to state-of-the-art facilities on this floating multidisciplinary research platform.

The new polar ship is commissioned by NERC, built by Cammell Laird to a Rolls Royce design and operated by British Antarctic Survey. This new research platform will transform how ship-borne science is conducted in the Polar Regions. The commissioning of the RRS

*Sir David Attenborough* is part of a major Government polar infrastructure investment programme designed to keep Britain at the forefront of world-leading research in Antarctica and the Arctic. This £200m commitment represents the UK Government's largest investment in polar science since the 1980s.

More information is here: [www.bas.ac.uk/attenborough](http://www.bas.ac.uk/attenborough)

**ALE:** One of the world's leading international heavy transport and installation contractors, is providing the engineering solutions and executing the heavy-lifting operations for the construction phase of the project. They will use a variety of techniques and equipment to jack-up, skid and transport sections of the vessel.