



## CRV LEONARDO

### MISSION IN BRIEF

To provide a research platform for CMRE scientists that is particularly well suited for engineering trials and research experiments in shallow waters.

### OVERVIEW

Launched in 2002, Coastal Research Vessel (CRV) *Leonardo* is a valuable asset to CMRE's programme of work, contributing significantly to the scientific successes of the Centre. The vessel provides excellent access to the sea for small research experiments, engineering trials and military experimentation, and it has an increasing role in conducting research experiments related to port protection or involving AUVs.

Powered by a diesel-electric engine, the *Leonardo* is quiet, and with twin aft thrusters and one bow thruster, it is also highly manoeuvrable. The *Leonardo* is the smallest research vessel in the world that is fitted with dynamic positioning and substantial deck handling equipment. For multi-day cruises, the *Leonardo* can accommodate up to 10 people. For day-only cruises, the ship can handle up to 15 people.

Like the NRV Alliance, the *Leonardo* is owned by NATO, and it is available for charter to eligible organizations within the NATO nations. Starting in 2010, the *Leonardo* is now manned by Italian Navy crews, helping to reduce the cost of operating the ship, but still allowing the Centre to take advantage of its capabilities as a research platform.

### CONTACT

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*Top: The Leonardo underway. Bottom: The Leonardo offers an excellent platform for launch, tracking and recovery of AUVs.*