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Address: Edificio Odriozola, Avenida García Barbón 4, E-36201 Vigo - España

Contact

Patricia SANCHEZ ABEAL

Communication Officer

Tel.: +34 986 12 06 17 /

E-mail: patricia.sanchezabeal@efca.europa.eu

EFCA charters a EU fisheries patrol vessel

Following the publication of an open call for tender, the EFCA has awarded the contract for chartering an offshore EU fisheries patrol vessel to a consortium led by Sentinel Marine Ltd for the vessel *Lundy Sentinel*, a British flagged Multi-Role Field Support Emergency Response and Rescue Vessel (ERRV) built in 2015. The vessel's overall length is 61 meters and can launch up to three boarding boats.

In 2018, the vessel will be deployed primarily as a fisheries patrol vessel in international, EU and where possible third country waters in the different joint deployment plans and other operations from the Mediterranean and Black Sea, to the Western Waters, North Sea and Baltic Sea.

Lundy Sentinel can also contribute to multipurpose tasks in the framework of the European cooperation on coast guard functions, as search and rescue, sea border control and detection of pollution, in cooperation with Member States authorities and/or Frontex and EMSA.

The framework contract between EFCA and the consortium has been signed for an initial period of 24 months and may be renewed twice for 12 months each at EFCA's option, up to a total contract duration of four years.

"This additional inspection platform deployed by EFCA in cooperation with the Member States and the European Commission will enhance the European Union capacity to improve compliance, harmonisation and effectiveness of fisheries control operations including its international dimension without prejudice of other commitments with regards to the European cooperation on coast guard functions," said Pascal Savouret, EFCA Executive Director.