

An artist's rendering of the TNI-AL's new training ship, on order from Construcciones Navales Paulino Freire. Source: Construcciones Navales Paulino Freire

Spanish shipbuilder Construcciones Navales Paulino Freire has laid down the keel for a 111-m training ship on order for the Indonesian Navy (Tentara Nasional Indonesia - Angkatan Laut, or TNI-AL).

The 111-m vessel was laid down on 27 January in Vigo, Spain in a ceremony attended by senior members of the Indonesian defence ministry and the navy, the TNI-AL said in a statement released two days later.

The new training vessel, which is yet to be named, will replace the TNI-AL's 823-tonne, three-masted sail training vessel KRI *Dewaruci*, which is currently in service. According to *IHS Jane's Fighting Ships*, the 58-m *Dewaruci* was launched in January 1953 by German shipbuilder HC Stülcken & Sohn, and was commissioned by the TNI-AL in July the same year. The ship can take up to about 70 cadets per training mission.

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According to specifications provided by the TNI-AL, *Dewaruci* 's replacement will feature improved carrying capacity of up to 120 cadets per training mission and have about 3,350 m ² of sail area. The ship is currently scheduled for delivery in July 2017.

The new training ship with improved carrying capacity is being ordered amid an increase in the TNI-AL's training needs. The service anticipate the delivery of several new platforms in 2017, including two SIGMA 10514 Perusak Kawal Rudal (PKR) guided-missile frigates and the first of three Chang Bogo-class Type 209/1200 submarines.