



M923 NARCIS



Ship's history

In February 1974 Belgium, France and the Netherlands joined hands in a research program for the construction of a new type of mine hunter. This agreement resulted in the construction of thirty five CMT's (Chasseurs de Mines Tripartite) during the period 1980-1990, of which ten were bought by Belgium. All mine hunters were named after a flower, hence the title 'Flower-Class'.

M923 Narcis was the ninth of its sort and was launched on 30 March 1990 in Rupelmonde. On 14 March 1991, the ship was christened by Mrs. Lafosse-De Backer, the wife of the then Mayor of Mons. The patronage of Narcis was accepted by the city of Mons.

In 2005 a modernization project was launched, called BENECUP (Belgian Netherlands Capability Upgrade Project). This project was finalized in 2009.

Tasks and Missions

The principal task of a mine hunter is, like the name indicates, the detection and the neutralization of all kind of mines (ground and moored), which can be found in international waters, the approaches to and entrances of harbors, anchorages, etc. to keep these waterways safe. In participation with the NATO, this task can be extended beyond our own territory to defend the interests of our allies. Beside this task, the Narcis can also be deployed for the naval training of students.

The Narcis has, since it was launched, been deployed in several missions:

1992	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Exercise Blue Harrier• Stanavforchan	2006	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• SNMCMG1
1993	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Stanavforchan	2011	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• SNMCMG1• Active Endeavour
1995	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Exercise Blue Harrier• Stanavforchan		<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Unified Protector
1997-1998	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Stanavforchan	2016	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• SNMCMG1