

Ship A53 **VIRSAITIS** is built in 1978 Norway, Bergen as VIDAR class coastal mine layer. Ship was modernised in 2002 and bought by Latvian Navy in 2003 to serve as flag ship. Ship name VIRSAITIS is inherited from previous flag ship (1921.-1940.) and means "Chief of the tribe" or simply "Chieftain".

A53 VIRSAITIS serves as staff and support ship in MCM squadron and also can provide support to diver teams and can lay mines if necessary. Since 2003 A53 VIRSAITIS several times has been BALTRON staff ship. In 2017 VIRSAITIS for the first time is SNMCMG 1 staff ship.

SHIP CLASS - VIDAR

SHIP TYPE - Coastal mine layer

SHIP BUILT - 1978 Norway, Bergen

SHIPS FORMER NAME - VALE

COMMISSIONED IN LATVIAN NAVY - 27.01.2003.

WATER DISPLACEMENT - 1785 t

LENGTH - 64,8 m

BEAM - 12 m

DRAFT - 4,6 m

CREW -

MAIN ENGINES - Wichmann 2X2100 BHP SPEED - 14 knots

ARMAMENT - 2X AA BOFORS L/70 40 mm