

PRESS RELEASE

CROWDFUNDING CAMPAIGN FOR STEAM TRAILER NORTH SEA

DEN HELDER - To fund the final phase of the extensive restoration of the unique Noordzee seagoing steam tug, a crowdfunding campaign was started by the Stoomsleepboot Noordzee foundation. This will run until the end of November 2018 and was set up in Amsterdam together with the crowdfunding specialist Voordekunst.



The coal-fired steam tugboat Noordzee, built in 1922 by order of Blohm + Voss from Hamburg at the neighboring yard of Janssen & Schmillinsky, has been active in the Netherlands since 1976. In that year, the tug for demolition was saved by luxury yacht builder Kees Jongert from Medemblik, who brought the tug again after a restoration. After his death, in 2010, the tug became unused, causing the condition to decline rapidly. In 2016 the current owner, the Stoomsleepboot Noordzee Foundation, made an ultimate attempt to save the North Sea from destruction. For this the tug was transferred to Museumhaven Willemsoord in Den Helder, where an enthusiastic group of volunteers took up both the restoration and the fundraising. And with success.

In the meantime, among other things, the rejected steam boiler has been replaced, major maintenance has been carried out and the hull and the above water vessel have been re-preserved from top to bottom. The restoration project has now reached the final stage. This includes the connection of all piping of the boiler to the existing installations, the achievement of the required certifications and the complete preparation of the tug. An amount of approximately 40,000 euros is still needed for this. To get this amount together, together with crowdfunding specialist Voordekunst from Amsterdam, a short crowdfunding campaign was set up. Information about this can be found on a special project page on the site voordekunst.nl/noordzee. This page can also be donated. Great counter presentations were devised for donors.

The aim is to bring the steam crusher fully under steam again in early 2019. If this succeeds, this tugboat can be used as an eye-catcher of Museumhaven Willemsoord for cruises, participation in events, Sinterklaas tours and various educational purposes. And this also preserves a unique nautical monument for posterity.

Photo:

The steamboat North Sea at its permanent location for Theater De Kampanje at Museumhaven Willemsoord in Den Helder.

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