



# Quarter-turn actuators aboard the laboratory ship Yersin

*During the Monaco Yacht Show this year, the Yersin research laboratory yacht was presented. This highly innovative 76.6m vessel, which is equipped with Bernard Controls electric actuators, is designed to operate safely and comfortably in ambient temperatures of between -20°C and +50°C, believed to be a first for a private yacht.*



The Yersin has more than 80 weatherproof quarter-turn actuators installed on all circuits onboard (ballast, water, cooling). For the ballast system especially, products of the Failsafe spring-return FQ range were selected. For this critical process, the selection of an automatic return in security position (opened or closed valve, depending of the initial setting) in case of a power cut has been decisive. On the other circuits, weatherproof quarter-turn actuators - OVA/S models (now gathered under the SQ range) were selected to operate butterfly valves. A diesel-electric drive train is coupled to Schottel twin-propeller pods for full DP capability. The Ice 1C class hull has a relatively shallow draft for navigating shoal waters, with a pump jet instead of a bow thruster. Passenger Ship-certified, with two laboratories, media room, infirmary,

landing craft and various winterised tenders, the result is a multi-purpose vessel that combines the comfort of a superyacht with the go-anywhere vocation of an explorer and the scientific facilities of a research ship. This travel ship, built by the PIRIOU chantiers in Concarneau (Brittany), and belonging to a Frenchman, is a laboratory designed to navigate on all world's seas, included in polar area. The ship itself was named after Alexandre Yersin (1863-1943), doctor, bacteriologist and French-Swiss explorer, to whom we notably attributed the discovery of the bacillus responsible for the plague and subsequently the elaboration of the first worldwide serum aimed at healing this disease. Yersin left the construction shed at the Piriou shipyard in Concarneau on the Brittany coast in preparation for her launch

on January 26. With her unusual deep bronze hull and off-white superstructure, she was the commercial yard's first superyacht project. French owner, Francois Fiat selected Piriou based on its strong track record of building ocean-going tuna purse seiners and other SOLAS-certified working vessels. "Specialist vessels are simpler to build because they have a very specific function," says shipyard's CEO, Pascal Piriou. "Yersin is more complex because she is a multi-purpose vessel. What impressed me is that all this had already been thought through and designed five years ago by the owner's team." Bernard Controls (BC) has always been deeply involved in the water and industry sector. Shipbuilding has been a regular market for BC, who notably supplied actuators for the Charles de Gaulle aircraft carrier.

