

GBA Ships

Keeping the world's largest floating book fair sailing with AMOS

ABOUT GBA SHIPS

GBA Ships e.V. (Gute Bücher für Alle, “Good Books for All”) is a German non-profit headquartered in Mosbach. Since 1970, its ships have visited more than 490 ports in over 150 countries.

It currently operates MV Logos Hope, home to the world’s largest floating book fair, and MV Doulos Hope, which began operating for GBA Ships in 2023. Volunteers from approximately 60 nations crew the vessels.

In 2025, the organisation distributed more than one million books.



THE CHALLENGE

With two ocean-going vessels and international volunteer crews that regularly rotate, GBA Ships needs consistent maintenance processes, accessible technical knowledge and coordinated procurement.

Operating the ships internationally creates four distinct challenges:

- **Crew rotation** – engineers and other volunteers change regularly, increasing the need for consistent procedures and effective handovers.
- **Knowledge retention** – practical maintenance experience must remain available to incoming crew members.
- **Limited connectivity** – engineers work in shipboard areas where phone or network signals may be unavailable.
- **Safety and compliance** – maintenance activity and records must support safe operations and ISM-related requirements.

THE SOLUTION

AMOS provides a consistent system for technical management across both ships, overseen ashore by GBA Ships teams and used by onboard engineering teams.



Four capabilities are particularly valuable:

1. **Maintenance planning** – teams schedule and manage planned maintenance through established workflows.
2. **Technical knowledge** – job descriptions preserve procedures; onboard engineers suggest improvements for future crews.
3. **Onboard access** – engineers use AMOS in areas without connectivity.
4. **Procurement coordination** – purchasing activity is managed within the same established technical-management environment.

WHY SPECTEC WAS CHOSEN

GBA Ships is a long-standing AMOS customer, supported by maritime-specific software, consistent maintenance and procurement processes, and direct collaboration with SpecTec.

A LASTING PARTNERSHIP

In October 2026, SpecTec product, sales and marketing teams visited Logos Hope in Liverpool to listen to users directly, learn from their onboard experience and gather insights to help improve AMOS.



RESULTS ACHIEVED

For GBA Ships, the central outcome is continuity and control across changing crews and operating locations:

- ✓ **Consistent maintenance** – established processes support engineering teams on both vessels, and real time information for the shore team to be able to order parts, and prove that planned maintenance is happening during audits.
- ✓ **Preserved knowledge** – maintenance job descriptions provide a consistent reference as volunteers rotate.
- ✓ **Coordinated operations** – maintenance and purchasing information is managed within AMOS across ship and shore, especially important when the ships are operating in more remote parts of the world for scheduling maintenance and logistics.
- ✓ **Continuous improvement** – feedback from engineers helps refine procedures for the next crew, and job descriptions and procedures are easily changed and importantly, with revision control.

> **“Thank you for your continued support! Using AMOS helps us to carry on doing the good work by keeping everything under control.**
>
> **With a changing volunteer crew AMOS is our datum for maintenance and logistics (including food deliveries) so as a tool it is much appreciated, but also it is great to work with the SpecTec team on a personal level to achieve this and it was great to welcome them onboard to see Logos Hope firsthand.”**
>
> **GBA Ships e.V.**
> David Frisby, AMOS Manager



FUTURE PLANS

The teams continue discussing how next-generation AMOS capabilities could support onboard users.

GBA Ships are planning a trial of the new AMOS Platform experience over the coming months.

SpecTec’s customer visits also provide practical feedback to inform future development.

CONCLUSION

SpecTec is proud to support GBA Ships and its mission of bringing books to communities worldwide.

By helping retain technical knowledge, standardise maintenance and coordinate procurement across both ships, AMOS gives its volunteer-led teams the continuity they need to keep sailing.

Ready to see how AMOS can enhance your fleet?

Trusted by leading marine operators worldwide. For 40+ years we've streamlined asset management and supported global trade.

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info@spectec.net · www.spectec.net