DELFTship Version 13.10 Background Images Feature

Part 1
Introduction

In mid-January, 2021, DELFTship.net issued a new version of their DELFTship Free™ program. Among other changes, the user interface received an update and rearrangement that, overall, improved functionality. The program also now offers multiple options for dimensional units in the metric (meters and millimeter) and imperial (feet and inches) systems. Best of all, for the modeler seeking ways to convert existing 2D plans of historic vessels, or even one's own design, into a 3D model for evaluation or reconstruction, the revised Background Images feature is probably the new version's greatest asset.

First of all, the insertion and editing of background images is done completely within its own Editor window. Modelers familiar with the former program versions' clunky feature recall having to switch back and forth between the Edit Image dialog and the main program viewport to position and make adjustments to the images. It was an excruciatingly frustrating experience, and probably contributed to ship modelers dropping the program entirely. The new Background Image feature changes all that.

Note that the DELFTship program currently operates natively only on Microsoft Windows PCs. It has been reported that a Windows emulator can be obtained for Mac systems that will run the software.

Disclaimer
This guide is a privately-prepared product completely independent of DELFTship.net. Reference is made to the DELFTship Manual (*Manual_13_mc0.pdf*, a free download from www.delftship.net). Images used in this guide are screen shots taken from the current version of the program, 19.10 (328). This guide is not to be sold. All intellectual rights and images are reserved by DELFTship.net unless otherwise stated.

Scope
The DELFTship program is part of a relatively sophisticated naval architecture software group produced by a company located in the town of Hoofddorp, The Netherlands. The **Free version** includes features for creating digital 3D models of vessels, hydrostatic calculations, basic stability analysis, developable surface unfolding for sheet metal and wood patterns, and plan exporting and printing, among other things. The **Professional version** of the software also has the ability to include various technical extensions and add-on modules for professional ship and marine engineering designers.

This guide relates specifically to the use of the new Background Images feature, which is an important but secondary aspect of the program. You should read through the Hull Modeling portions of the program manual before using this guide. For completeness, the step-by-step instructions presented here assume you are a complete novice to the program. Feel free to skim over those parts with which you are familiar.

This guide will be divided into five parts to present how to use the DELFTship Background Images feature. Each part is a separate document for ease of printing and reading while using the program. You will find that even though some of these parts repeat information found in the official DELFTship manual, they include methods and warnings obtained from the user perspective that make this guide more complete.

Part 1 Introduction and Scope
Part 2 Background Image Editing Controls
Part 3 Preliminary Program Settings for Background Images
Part 4 Background Image Considerations
Part 5 Inserting and Positioning a New Background Image