



Health and Safety in oil spill response

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The First Steps

- Who is at risk from potential hazards?
- What is the hazard/risk?
- Assessing the hazard/risk
- Control measures
- Monitoring
- Feedback

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Who is at risk?

- Clean-up personnel
 - supervisory staff
 - observers
- General public
 - local residents
 - volunteers
 - media (tv & radio)

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Risk Assessment

- 1. Look for the hazards
- 2. Decide who might be harmed and how
- 3. Evaluate the risks and decide whether the existing precautions are adequate or whether more should be done
- 4. Record your findings
- 5. Review your assessment and revise it if necessary

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Potential hazards in oil spill response

- Oil
- Weather
- Clean-up equipment
- Clean-up chemicals
- Working area
- Working practices
- Simultaneous operations

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Oil hazards

- Toxicity
 - inhalation / ingestion / contact
- Flammability
 - Fire / explosion
- Oxygen displacement
 - Confined spaces
- Slippery
 - Slips and falls

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Weather hazards

- Cold
 - Exposure, wind chill, hypothermia
- Wet
 - Discomfort, low morale
- Heat
 - Heatstroke, dehydration
- Sun
 - Sunburn, sunstroke

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Clean-up equipment hazards

- Rotating equipment
- Vacuum equipment
- Complexity / size
- Hand tools

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Clean-up chemicals hazards

- De-fatting of skin by detergents
- Product information sheets
- Hazard Data Sheets

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Working area hazards

- Unfamiliar work site
- Shoreline
 - cliffs
 - beaches / intertidal zone
- At sea
 - vessel movement
 - cluttered working area
- Wildlife

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Difficult working conditions






Working practice hazards

- Night Operations
- Slips, Trips, and Falls
- Manual Handling
- Transport and Materials / Waste Disposal
- Fatigue
- First Aid


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Control measures

- Safe working practices
 - control of work (permit control)
 - task risk assessments
 - information/instruction/training
- Site control
 - barriers, police, access control
 - control zone concept
- PPE, last resort

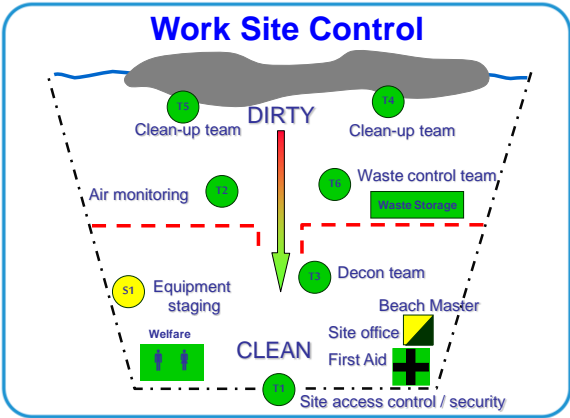
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Site Safety Assessment

- Unfamiliar working environment
- Safety assessor
 - qualifications
 - experienced
 - analysis of risk
- Reporting
 - site assessment pro-forma
 - liaise with planning / operations

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Safe Working Practices

- Supervision and training
- Communications
 - emergency contacts
- Welfare considerations
 - personal protective equipment
 - food and shelter
- Decontamination
 - cleaning stations
 - personnel and equipment

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Management of Volunteers

- Register & co-ordinate
- Fit skills to roles
- Minimum training?
- Equipment
- Wildlife and Logistics

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