



Organisation of oil spill response in the UK



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Phases of incident response



Search and Rescue

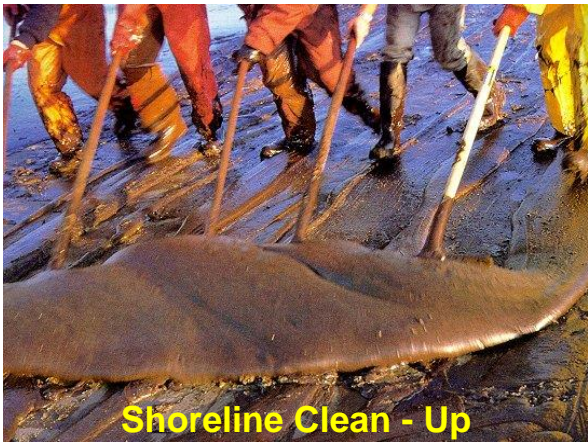


Salvage



At Sea Response





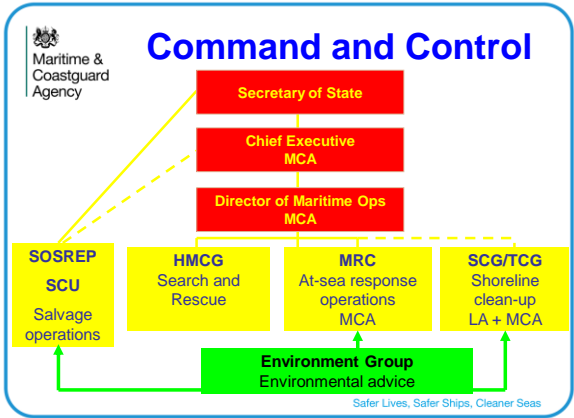


Maritime &
Coastguard
Agency

Who is involved and who does what ?

- ♦ HMCGB - Her Majesty's Coastguard
- ♦ CPSO - Counter Pollution & Salvage Officer
- ♦ SOSREP – Secretary of State's Representative
- ♦ SCU – Salvage Control Unit
- ♦ MRC – Marine Response Centre
- ♦ SCG/TCG – Strategic/Tactical Coord Group
- ♦ EG – Environment Group

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UK oil spill response



- ♦ Each cell has a specific role
- ♦ Some cells make decisions and initiate actions
- ♦ Some cells have statutory powers, some do not
- ♦ Some provide advice to other units

Prime objective of all involved to minimise the potential effects of the pollution

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Alerting



- The Polluter
- Third Party
 - normally via CGOCs
 - DECC Env Inspector
 - Harbour Authority
 - Offshore Operator
- Aerial Surveillance and Verification
 - Tour d'Horizon
 - Bonn Agreement Partner States
- CleanSeaNet
 - only wide area surveillance capability available to UK



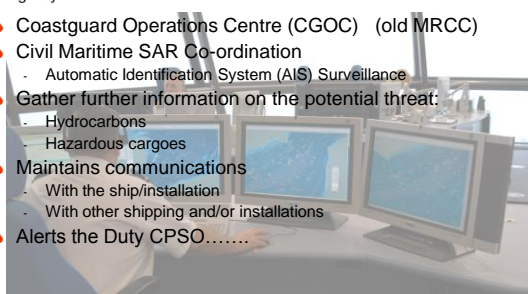
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HM Coastguard



- ♦ Coastguard Operations Centre (CGOC) (old MRCC)
- ♦ Civil Maritime SAR Co-ordination
 - Automatic Identification System (AIS) Surveillance
- ♦ Gather further information on the potential threat:
 - Hydrocarbons
 - Hazardous cargoes
- ♦ Maintains communications
 - With the ship/installation
 - With other shipping and/or installations
- ♦ Alerts the Duty CPSO.....



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Duty CPSO



- ♦ Front line on-call for pollution response incidents in UK waters
- ♦ Make assessment & establish category of incident – trigger point ?
- ♦ Assess ship owners and/or operators initial responses
 - Where offshore - liaise with DECC
- ♦ Consider response strategy
- ♦ Inform relevant authorities / organisations
- ♦ Primary contact for external agencies
- ♦ Assume initial MCA responsibility for Counter Pollution & Salvage implications of incident

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SOSREP



- ♦ **SOSREP**
 - ♦ **SOSREP has ultimate powers to intervene on behalf of Secretary of State for Transport in any salvage situation or situation where there is a threat of significant pollution**
- ♦ Powers to issue Directions
 - ♦ require ships to be moved or not to be moved from a specific area or locality within UK Waters.
 - ♦ establish Temporary Exclusion Zone (TEZ)

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Salvage Control Unit (SCU)



- ♦ Chaired by the SOSREP - or designated person
- ♦ Continues to monitor and evaluate operations, ascertain progress;
- ♦ Establish all objectives and proposals;
- ♦ Provides a forum for discussion between parties;
- ♦ Provide an avenue for state intervention if necessary;
- ♦ Conducts salvage plan approvals;
- ♦ Consider risks and dangers;
 - people and the environment
- ♦ It is NOT a committee

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SCU



- ♦ SOSREP
- ♦ Salvage Master
- ♦ MCA Representatives – CPSO and CGLO
- ♦ Environment Liaison Officer (Environment Group)
- ♦ Independent Salvage Advisor (if appointed)
- ♦ Single representative of shipowner and/or insurers
- ♦ Other Coastal State Representative – if applicable
- ♦ *SOSREP discretion to admit other representatives as appropriate*

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Marine Response Centre (MRC)



- ♦ Monitoring progress and effectiveness of at sea response
 - has authority to take the lead
- ♦ Recording of the decisions taken,
- ♦ Preparation of regular briefings for circulation to all interested parties, and
- ♦ Management of financial expenditure



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MRC Composition



- ♦ Head of the MRC
- ♦ Duty Counter Pollution and Salvage Officer (DCPSO)
- ♦ Counter Pollution and Salvage Officer - Current Ops
- ♦ Counter Pollution and Salvage Officer - Future Ops
- ♦ Environmental, Scientific & Technical Team
- ♦ MCA Resources and Claims Lead + Support
- ♦ MCA Public Relations Officer
- ♦ Administrative Support:
 - MRC Room Manager + 3
- ♦ Liaison Officers

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SCG/TCG



♦ The SCG/TCG will co-ordinate and lead the on-shore response:

- Determine the extent of the problem
- Agree a strategy and priorities
- Brief elected members, Ministers, VIPs, media
- Initiate response
- Obtain and allocate resources
- Determine methods of waste disposal
- Monitor progress

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Multi-Agency response



Local Authority personnel will be mainly concerned with shoreline clean-up

- | | |
|-------------------|----------------|
| ♦ EA / SEPA / NRW | ♦ Oil & Gas UK |
| ♦ NE / SNH | ♦ UKHMCG / CPS |
| ♦ MMO / MS-ML | ♦ Oil Company |
| ♦ Contractors | ♦ Police / FRS |
| ♦ ITOPF | ♦ UKPIA |

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Environment Group (EG)



- ♦ Function
 - To provide advice and guidance on environmental matters to SCU, MRC & SCG/TCG
- ♦ Role is purely advisory
 - EG has no formal powers (although members may have)
- ♦ MCA initiates then contacts:
 - Statutory Nature Conservation Body
 - Environmental Regulator
 - Fisheries Department

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