

"Training tools for an increasingly complex and dangerous job"



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About the series

Major oil spills capture the attention of the public when they occur, but it is the smaller spills that occur much more frequently. Any size spill has the potential to cause problems, not only for the environment but for the people who live in the area and for personnel who respond to clean up the spill. These responders are responsible for preventing ignition of the spill, stopping the flow of oil, limiting the environmental impact, and removing and properly disposing of the waste in a safe manner.

The Oil Pollution Act of 1990 requires plants, ports and carriers to prepare contingency plans for response to unplanned oil spills. "Oil Spill Response," a five-tape series, is designed to provide training to personnel who are called upon to control and clean up oil spills.

About "Initial Response"

Part One of *Oil Spill Response* is "Initial Response." This tape discusses how spills commonly occur, and provides an overview of factors to consider during the response. It studies the different types of oils, including gasoline, jet fuel, naphtha, gasoline, diesel fuels, asphalt, and crude oil, and talks about the hazards associated with oil during the different phases of the spill, including fire risk,

toxicity, mechanical dangers, and environmental threats.

"Initial Response" also tells what agencies must be notified of a spill, and discusses how spills behave and the factors that will cause one spill to behave differently from another. Other topics covered include sizing up the situation, site control, responder safety, incident management, and mounting a non-intrusive response. 25 minutes

About "Countermeasures on Land"

The second part of the series, "Countermeasures on Land," focuses on the ecological impact of oil spills on land and along the shoreline. It explains the basic elements of a contingency plan, and covers control activities and spill countermeasures for land spills, including low and high pressure washing, sand blasting, soil washing, physical removal, mechanical removal, vacuum pumping, use of sorbents, degradation and bioremediation.

"Countermeasures On Land" also discusses the potential impact of various treatment methods, and covers appropriate safety precautions that must be taken by responders, including use of protective equipment and safety plans. Other topics examined include how land spills behave, how to prepare for an approaching spill, how intrusive clean-up methods can be detrimental and can delay natural recovery, and the special



problems of shoreline clean-up. 28 minutes

Program three of *Oil Spill Response* is "Countermeasures On Water." This film studies the factors that challenge responders to water spills, including weather, wind, sea conditions, and currents. It examines how oil weathers when spilled on water, and what factors affect the weathering rate. Resources for enlisting aid are outlined, and the importance of tracking spills in order to predict ecological impact is stressed.

Managing the response effort is outlined, and countermeasures discussed in depth, including booms and barriers, skimming, herding, absorbents, in situ burning, chemical treatment (dispersants and gelling agents), and bioremediation. Other topics covered

include basic safety precautions for emergency responders, and dealing with contaminated wildlife. 28 minutes

About "Waste Management"

A very important part of managing the response to an oil spill is handling recovered oil and other hazardous wastes resulting from the clean-up effort. This is the topic of the fourth title in the series, "Waste Management." This program outlines waste management priorities: eliminating the waste, reducing the amount of waste, recycling the waste, treating the waste, and disposing of the waste. It also discusses standards waste oil must meet for recycling, temporary storage options for bulk oil, oil/water separation, and use of vacuum trucks.

Other topics covered include extracting

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emulsions, separating oil and debris, and disposal and reclamation, including thermal desorption, incineration, land farming and landfill. 22 minutes

About "ICS & Unified Command"

When a spill occurs, many agencies will become involved in the response, from local fire departments, to private professional clean-up organizations, to multiple state and federal agencies. A good response management response system is necessary to blend these diverse agencies together into an effective, cohesive response team. This is a unified command response. This final program in the *Oil Spill Response* series explains how a single organizational structure is formed through the mutual agreement of cooperative agencies. It explains who the key players in the response will be, the responsibilities of each, and how resources are integrated successfully. 24 minutes.

Literature

A *Leader's Guide* is included with the series purchase which provides supplementary information about the topic of oil spill response, offers suggestions for field activities and drills, and includes excerpts from the *Shoreline Countermeasures Manual* from the Federal Region III Response Team.

About the Technical Committee

Emergency Film Group programs are created with the assistance of authorities in the subject field. Technical committee members for *Oil Spill Response* include:

Cdr. Mike Drieu, US Coast Guard, New Orleans, LA

Brian Fay, Clean Harbors, Braintree, MA

Phil Glen, Clean Channels, Pasadena, TX

Lt. Joe Leonard, USCG; Houston LEPC

Kenn Kadow, Alaska Clean Seas

William Nichols, Environmental Protection Agency

Jim O'Brien, O'Brien Group, Gretna, LA

Greg Noll, Principal, Hildebrand & Noll, Lancaster, PA

Cdr Frank Whipple, Hudson Marine; US Coast Guard (ret.)

Ed Wieliczkiwicz, BP Exploration Alaska

About the filmmakers

Gordon Massingham, director. For over 25 years one of the world's leading creators of emergency response training. Winner of more than 130 national and international awards.

J.B. Lamont, senior editor & sound engineer. J.B. is manager of the Avid non-linear editing suite at EFG. His work has been seen on NBC, ESPN, and many cable outlets.

About the Emergency Film Group

Emergency Film Group, a division of the Detrick Lawrence Corp., was established to

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