COURSE BROCHURE

Oil Spill Response

An applied course on preparing for and responding to marine and inland oil spills: oil behavior, contingency planning, containment and recovery, shoreline cleanup and incident management.

Code	HT-HSE-118
Category	Health, Safety & Environment
Duration	1 week
Level	Intermediate
City	Istanbul

Introduction

A large share of the world's oil trade passes through the region's waters and ports, close to desalination plants, fisheries and sensitive coastlines that a spill can damage quickly. The first hours of an incident decide the scale of the harm, and they leave no room for improvisation.

Objectives

- Explain oil properties and the weathering processes that change oil behavior after a spill
- Predict slick movement and estimate spilled quantity from aerial observation
- Set out the elements of a contingency plan using the three response tiers and an incident management structure
- Select suitable containment, recovery and treatment techniques at sea, on the shoreline and on land
- Manage responder safety, waste and documentation through to termination of the response

Who should attend

- Environment and emergency officers at oil companies, ports and terminals
- Marine operations and loading terminal supervisors
- Staff of government bodies responsible for marine environment protection, and coast guards
- Response team members at contractors and at coastal desalination and power plants

Skills you will develop

- Spill assessment and trajectory prediction
- Selecting response techniques
- Contingency planning and incident management
- Shoreline cleanup and waste management

Learning Outcomes

- Predict the direction of slick movement from wind and current data by vector addition
- Estimate spilled oil volume from appearance and area using the Bonn Agreement Oil Appearance Code
- Recommend a response option on the basis of a net environmental benefit analysis (NEBA)
- Match a cleanup method to each shoreline type and define its cleanup endpoints

Course Outline

Day 1: Oil Behavior and Incident Assessment

- Oil properties (API gravity, viscosity and pour point) and persistent versus non-persistent oils
- Weathering: spreading, evaporation, emulsification, natural dispersion, dissolution, sedimentation and biodegradation
- Trajectory prediction from wind and current, aerial surveillance, and estimating quantity from oil appearance

Day 2: Preparedness and Contingency Planning

- Potential spill sources, risk assessment and the Tier 1, Tier 2 and Tier 3 response levels
- Environmental sensitivity maps and protection priorities for desalination intakes, mangroves and coral reefs
- Contingency plan content, the Incident Command System (ICS), notification and calling in outside support

Day 3: Response at Sea

- Booms: types, configurations and their limits in currents and waves
- Weir, oleophilic and vacuum skimmers, matching them to oil viscosity, and storage of recovered liquids
- Chemical dispersants and their window of opportunity, in-situ burning, and NEBA for choosing between options

Day 4: Shorelines, Inland Spills and Waste Management

- Shoreline types and sensitivity, and SCAT surveys to assess oiling and set cleanup priorities
- Cleanup methods: manual recovery, low-pressure flushing, sorbents and natural recovery
- Spills on land and groundwater protection; segregation, temporary storage and disposal of oily waste

Day 5: Managing the Response and Tabletop Exercise

- Responder safety: oil vapors and heat stress, protective equipment and decontamination
- Documentation, keeping cost records for compensation purposes, and termination criteria
- Applied tabletop exercise on a crude oil spill at a loading terminal, managed by participants from first notification to the next day's action plan

Training methodology

Calculation exercises on slick trajectory and on volume estimation from area and appearance
A sensitivity map exercise on a fictional coastline to site booms and set protection priorities
Video footage from well-known spill incidents with analysis of the response decisions
A tabletop exercise with roles taken from the incident management structure

Certification

Participants receive a Harbor Training Center certificate of attendance on completing the course.

Upcoming dates

City	Dates	Language	Fee
Istanbul	8 – 12 February 2027	AR	EUR 5,400
Istanbul	9 – 13 August 2027	EN	EUR 5,400

Fees are per participant.

Contact us

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To register and for details, scan the code or visit:

https://harbor4training.com/en/courses/oil-spill-response