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- ◆ The new Oil Spill Removal Organizations (“OSRO’s”) guidelines have been finalized, and are now available on-line at [www.uscg.mil/hq/nsfcc/nsfweb/nsfcc/ops/osro.html](http://www.uscg.mil/hq/nsfcc/nsfweb/nsfcc/ops/osro.html). Major changes in the guidelines include:
  - (A.) The “A” classification for Average Most Probable Discharge (“AMPD”) has been removed. Ensuring AMPD response coverage is now the responsibility of the plan holder.
  - (B.) Boom requirements have been updated to align them with 33 CFR Part 155.
  - (C.) The tables for required quantities of containment boom have been replaced with new criteria, which is based on the number of skimming systems an OSRO identifies to meet Effective Daily Recovery Capacity requirements.
  - (D.) The introduction of a waiver process to address OSRO’s that service facilities but not vessels. The waivers would allow such OSRO’s to receive their classification based upon the amount of protective boom required by the Area Contingency Plan for a particular Captain of the Port (“COTP”) zone instead of meeting the often larger vessel requirements for protective boom.
  - (E.) Equipment availability offset times have been created and are utilized when calculating equipment response times for classification.
  - (F.) With the exception of non-dedicated barges, the old 2:1 non-dedicated/dedicated equipment requirement has been eliminated.
  - (G.) Several Alternate Classification Cities (“ACC’s”) have been added to close gaps in coverage for some COTP Zones.
  - (H.) Operating environments have been changed to areas in order to bring the OSRO guidelines more in line with the regulations and the PREP guidelines.
  - (I.) Additional emphasis has been placed on training and exercises of response resources consistent with the PREP guidelines.

(J.) Enhancements to the verification process have been made in order to assess a “systems” capability to meet response criteria.

(K.) Increased involvement of the COTP in the OSRO classification process.

Any questions on the new guidelines should be directed to the National Strike Force Coordination Center at telephone 1-252-331-6000. Contacts there include Lt. Segundo Argudo ([sjargudo@nsfcc.uscg.mil](mailto:sjargudo@nsfcc.uscg.mil)), ENS Anthony Quirino ([aquirino@nsfcc.uscg.mil](mailto:aquirino@nsfcc.uscg.mil)), Dave Wuerker ([dwuerker@nsfcc.uscg.mil](mailto:dwuerker@nsfcc.uscg.mil)), or Jeff Perdue ([jperdue@nsfcc.uscg.mil](mailto:jperdue@nsfcc.uscg.mil)).

- ◆ **Congratulations!** to Mike Popa of Marine Pollution Control, who was recently named the company's Vice President of Operations. ***We wish Mike all the best in his new position!***
- ◆ Brazilian state-owned oil giant Petrobras suffered more environmental setbacks this week – the result of explained and unexplained oil spills. The company responded to two “mystery” spills, one on Thursday, May 24 and another on Saturday, May 26. The company had reported two slicks – one of about 29,000 gallons of crude oil and a second of some 2,230 gallons of crude oil – about 55 miles offshore and moving away from the coast. Petrobras halted production at several oilrigs while it investigated the spills, but later resumed production saying that the oil spilled was not the type produced by its oilrigs. On Wednesday, May 30, some 56,000 gallons of oil spilled from Petrobras' Paulinia pipeline. The leakage was detected just before noon in a pipeline that links the Paulinia refinery to the Barueri terminal just northwest of the city of Sao Paulo. Pumping through the pipeline was immediately halted, and 600 emergency workers were reportedly brought into remove spilled oil that had migrated into a luxury condominium complex, and to set up barriers to protect a river nearby. (Source: *AP and Reuters*)
- ◆ Sorbent Products Company (“SPC”) recently announced the addition of Spill Kit Refills to their product line. The basic contents of each spill kit are absorbent pads, SOCs, pillows, goggles, nitrile gloves, and disposal bags. The size and number of each item varies according to the size of the intended spill response. Spill Kit Refills are available for SPC's 20-Gallon Lab Pack, 55-Gallon Drum, 95-Gallon Overpack, and Large & Extra Large Spill Truck. For more information on the Spill Kit Refills, contact SPC's Jill Kelly at 800-333-7672, send her e-mail to [kellyj@sorbentproducts.com](mailto:kellyj@sorbentproducts.com), or visit the company's web site at [www.sorbentproducts.com](http://www.sorbentproducts.com).
- ◆ As you may be aware, Sen. James Jeffords (Vermont) – a moderate Republican who was often at odds with his party - recently parted ways with the GOP and will now be assuming the Chairmanship of the U.S. Senate Environment and Public Works Committee. Many analysts believe that the President will now have a harder time getting his environmental and energy initiatives through Congress given that the Senate balance of power has shifted in favor of the Democrats and that Sen. Jeffords is now in charge of the Senate's environmental committee. (Source: *Environmental Protection E-News*)
- ◆ **Work/Life/Health:** To make quality goal setting more meaningful, ask employees to sit down and hand-write their goals on index cards. When they are finished, file the cards for future use during performance evaluations. The reason for this is twofold: (1.) Having employees sit down and write the goals forces them to put more thought into the process. (2.) The impact of an employee seeing the goals in their own handwriting during a performance evaluation is far greater than something that's prepared by the employees' supervisor. (Source: *Quality Manager's Alert*)
- ◆ **Quote of the Week:** “Let the word go forth from this time and place, to friend and foe alike, that the torch has been passed to a new generation of Americans, born in this century, tempered by war, disciplined by a hard and bitter peace, proud of our ancient heritage, and unwilling to witness or permit the slow undoing of those human rights to which this nation has always been committed, and to which we are committed today at home and around the world. Let every nation know, whether it wishes us well or ill, that we shall pay any price, bear any burden, meet any hardship, support any friend, oppose any foe to assure the survival and the success of liberty.” – John F. Kennedy (1917-1963), *Speech to the Massachusetts State Legislature [January 9, 1961]*