

ADNOC Leads by Example

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With the fact of just how sensitive the Abu Dhabi waters are when it comes to oil marine pollution, the Crisis & Emergency Management Team are always on stand-by and ready to mobilize at the first sign of trouble.

Our teams are already strategically established across the Abu Dhabi Emirate, where we have two major oil spill response centers located at Mussafah & Ruwais, a response outpost at Al-Dabb'iya, and a response vessel anchored between Zirku & Das Island for quick initial response. The well trained teams based at these locations are not only capable of providing support to the teams already established at each of the operating companies, but are also equipped to deploy quickly with significant stockpiles of equipment to respond to a larger tier two spills.

Developing Capabilities & Training:

With our team all being trained in-house with programs that have been accredited by the Nautical Institute of the UK to meet the requirements of International Maritime Organization (IMO), the Crisis & Emergency Management Team is ready for the plans that are being developed with the cooperation of the Abu Dhabi Maritime Security Council and UAE Armed Forces to handle the national Tier 2 requirements. As for the Tier 1 operations, they are responsibilities to be upheld by the Oil Producing Companies (OPCO), with the support of the Crisis & Emergency Management Team to enhance their response capability.

Moreover, during the year, we have also undertaken courses with National Emergency Crisis and Disasters Management Authority sponsorship, where our team went to UK and attended various training courses; also various conferences and courses in the UAE attended by international participants. Nevertheless the exercises held internally and locally with ADNOC OPCOs at which the Crisis & Emergency Management Team participates in as one of the major role players.

And in the federal level ADNOC & its OPCOs were represented by the Crisis & Emergency Management Team in the exercises held by the National Crisis & Emergency Management Authority such as Taawn Haq 5, 6 and union shield.

Equipment:

In terms of equipment we are looking to rationalize all oil spill response equipment so that there is uniformity across the Group. This will not only enhance the capability for mutual aid, but also improve maintenance programs and provide some economies of scale. Ongoing receiving delivery of oil spill response equipment and several new fast response vessels worth 27 million AED, apart of the several escort tugs permanently equipped with oil spill response equipment already in operation. The addition of these crafts will enable response teams to deploy quickly to the scene of an incident and even to locations with difficult access.

Response:

Year 2012 and 2013 our oil spill response centers have been mobilized to combat several incidents that have occurred in the various sites, one of these which was responded to at Das Island the spill was oil seepage caused from old dead leg pipes, our teams managed & collected the over flowed oil. Moreover, they were on stand-by to respond quickly and efficiently to various reported incidents that occurred within the Emirate of Abu Dhabi and off the coast of UAE.

Couples of drifting barrage incidents were reported; the Crisis & Emergency Management team ensured the prompt and effective response to these incidents through the coordination with PPA, CICPA and other external agencies.

Lessons Learned:

These incidents, specially the DAS Island spill, provided a good experience for our response teams. Along with the workshop conducted afterwards and the in-depth analysis of such incident added more areas of to be considered in the oil spill response planning and the shoreline equipment needed.