

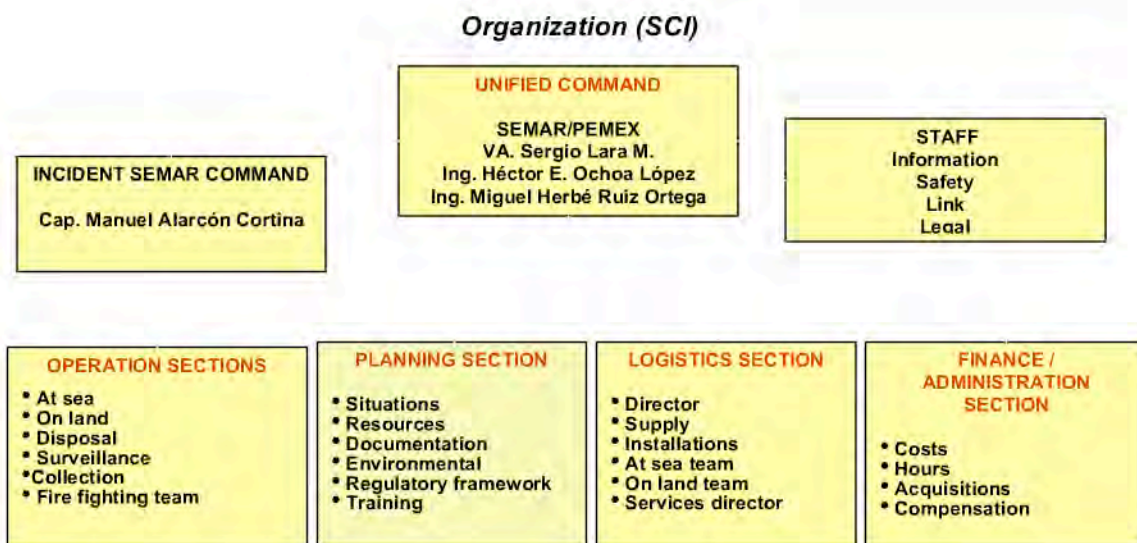
Response to an oil spill from an offshore drilling rig: working together in the KAB 121 incident

On October 23rd 2007, Extreme weather conditions were encountered due to the passing of a cold front with wind gusts of up to 120 km / h from the North and wave heights of 6 to 8 meters it was a situation that has never been experienced in the "Sonda de Campeche" before.

The described situation caused the Usumacinta drilling rig to tilt onto the Kab-101 platform where the cantilever landed on top of the valve assembly of the Kab-121 well, causing an instant loss of well control subsequently leaking oil and gas into the surrounding environment.

Consequently the Local Contingency Plan was activated with participation of the government authorities, PEMEX response personnel from other states and various international companies were involved, as Alpina Briggs from Brazil, Briggs Marine from the UK, Clean Caribbean Americas, NRC, and a captain from Chilean oil spill response organization, a multinational team was created where we were "working together" with experienced oil spill response professionals.

With experience from drills such as ARIETIS 1 2006, we decided to use the Incidents Command System (ICS) which, in this case, was organized as following:



Among the most important activities were:

- Surveillance flights to monitor and track the spill.
- Containment and recovery operations of oil offshore.
- Shoreline clean up and inspections.
- Environmental Beach evaluation.
- Offshore sea survey.

Result and conclusions:

- Team work led by Secretaría de Marina (SEMAR) enabled success of shoreline and offshore operations.
- Being prepared with the Local Contingency Plan (PLC) and Regional Oil Spills Response Plan for Gulf of Mexico was really helpful for attending the emergency.
- Incidents Command System (ICS) allowed to meet emergency in an organized way and at the lowest costs.



- Selection of Services Providers with human and technical capacity allowed for a prompt and efficient response.

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