



**FAST IMPLEMENTATION OF RESPONSE EQUIPMENT IN AREAS IMPACTED
BY A SMALL AND/OR MAJOR SPILL**

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ABSTRACT

During the transport of products at the time of major incidents off the coasts, the response time is an important factor. Preventing the arrival of the pollution on the coast must be the common goal. But, we must accept that we will never be able to eliminate this problem.

What we must do is reduce the response time for transport, storage, and disposal of polluting products collected.

We talk about several shields:

- The first shield is near the starting point of the incident.
- The second shield will be the drifting oil slicks.
- The third shield is the result of the splitting of the drifting oil slicks.
- The fourth shield is situated before the arrival of the polluting products on the coast.

Unfortunately, the fourth shield is very likely to be passed through. So, our response must be preventing the arrival on the coast of the polluting oil slick. We must gather it in order to concentrate the means at a distinct place. At the present time, a few concepts are studied and even at the step of the first tests.

In this paper, we will describe the different equipment developed by MerClean, equipment dedicated to response against marine pollution. We will talk more particularly about the project Sehn Safety of Hydrocarbons before Cleaning up, that is to say containment of hydrocarbons by a net of type Seine and transport by trawling.

The work bases of the development of the project Sehn were:

- Low production cost
- Disposable pocket concept
- Time and speed of trawling to be reduced to a minimum
- Implementation of experienced surface (pair trawling)
- Use of clean equipment aboard fishing vessels and implementation of equipment in fully safe conditions

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- Detail study of procedures of recovery of the pockets after the operation
- Disposal of the polluting products
- Post trawling cleaning of the stately parts

Steps to be carried out:

- Storage
- Tests and staff training
- Fast plan of implementation, transport and transhipment
- Necessary means: trawl, support for the transport of product pockets, sorting, disposal
- Cleaning of the stock

Other projects are developing like:

- Nappe: Cleaning of the Oil Products from a Wreck

Gravity recovery of cargo from a wreck using a canopy and a storage tank

- Sarcop: Active and fast security of polluting cargo

Building of a concrete sarcophagus of containment around a polluting wreck

- Lobhys: Low cost barge for Hydrocarbons Spill recovery

Multi-purpose, low cost barge for response in polluted areas

- Light dedicated means for response in coastal, harbour zone or in mouth of river

