

Programme of an Operational Oil Spill Response Exercise between Finland and Estonia

Name of the exercise:	KOTKA 2013
Place of the exercise:	Outside Kotka, Finland
Date of the exercise:	August 26-28 th 2013
Host state of the exercise:	Finland

1. Background and general information

The exercise will be arranged under the *Agreement Between The Government Of The Republic Of Estonia And The Government Of The Republic Of Finland On Cooperation In Combatting Pollution In The Marine Environment* (1993). The exercise will be hosted and organised by Finnish Environment Institute SYKE and will take place outside Kotka in Eastern Gulf of Finland on August 26-28th 2013.

An Alarm Exercise will be executed in combination with the Operational Exercise.

The aim of these exercises is twofold:

- to test the available oil recovery techniques, alarm procedure, response capability, and response time of the participating countries; and,
- to coordinate staff roles and co-operation between strike teams (including combating equipment) of the participating countries.

The exercise is being implemented by the:

- Finnish Environment Institute SYKE; and
- Estonian Police and Border Guard Board.

The output will be in the form of a 'lessons learned' report, prepared by SYKE, to be presented and discussed at the following meetings of the competent oil spill response authorities both of the states.

Berthing is reserved in Kotka Central Harbour, in Finnish "Kantasatama". A pilot will guide vessels to the berthing place. Pilotage is obligatory and shall be asked by the normal procedure. Pilotage and berthing will be paid by the organiser (SYKE). Pilotage during the exercise day 27th August is not required.

Vessels will arrive to Kotka before 18:00 LT on Monday, August 26th. At 18:00 an exercise briefing will be held to the captains and observers on board Oil Recovery Vessel LOUHI in

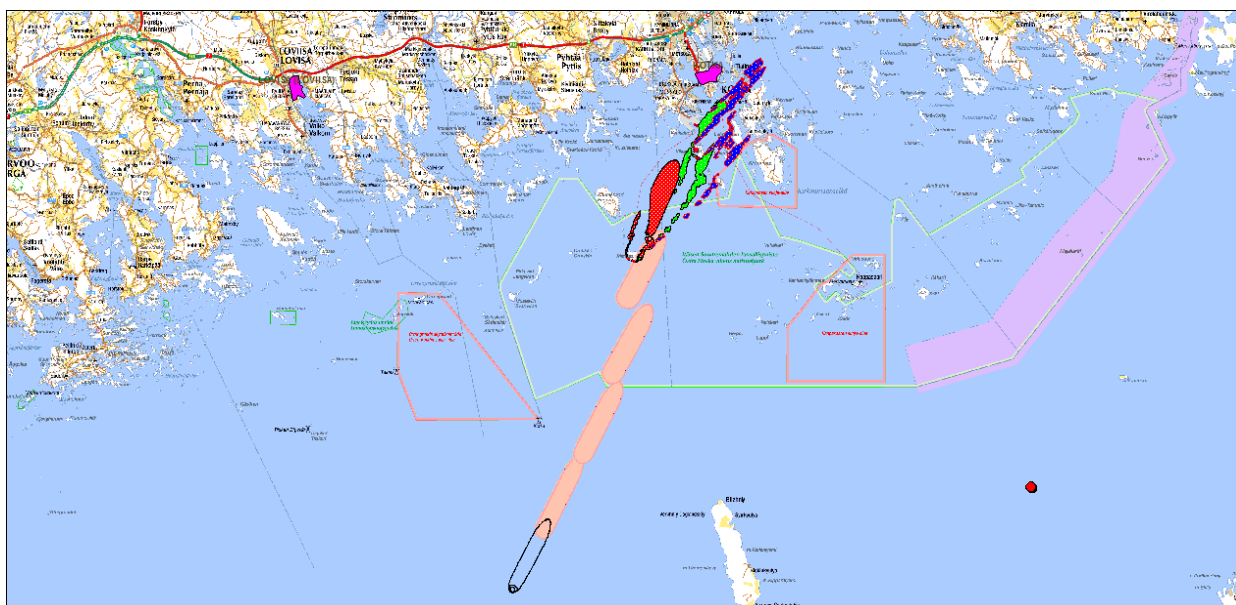
Kantasatama. Exercise will take place on 27th of August between 08:00 and 16:00. The debriefing will be held to the captains and observers on board LOUHI in Kantasatama starting at 18:30. The back-up date and departure day is 28th August.

SYKE has made a block booking in Sokos Hotel Seurahuone, address Keskuskatu 21 Kotka. Price for single room is 100€ including breakfast. Observers should book their accommodation by themselves using reference "Oil spill exercise" sales.kotka@sokoshotels.fi , Tel. +358 5 3500 401

2. Scenario

A very severe grounding of a Suezmax double hull oil tanker 'WW' with a cargo of 150 000 tonnes of crude oil occurred on the 25th August 2013 at 21:00 in the place 60° 01' 36" N and 26° 36' 33"E. Location is about 20 kilometres west from Russian island Suursaari (Gogland) and about 50 kilometres from the Finnish city of Kotka.

As a consequence of the grounding a total of 30 000 tonnes of crude oil escaped during 6 hours. There was south-western wind of 7-9 meters per second on the accident area. A huge, eight kilometres long and 1,5 kilometres wide oil slick was formed and started to drift towards Kotka. A 48 hours drifting prognosis has been calculated with model "SPILLMOD".



Map of the drifting scenario. The map shows the calculated slick positions in 6 hour time steps. The red area in the map shows the slick position at the start of the exercise, green and blue areas indicate the slick drift during the exercise.

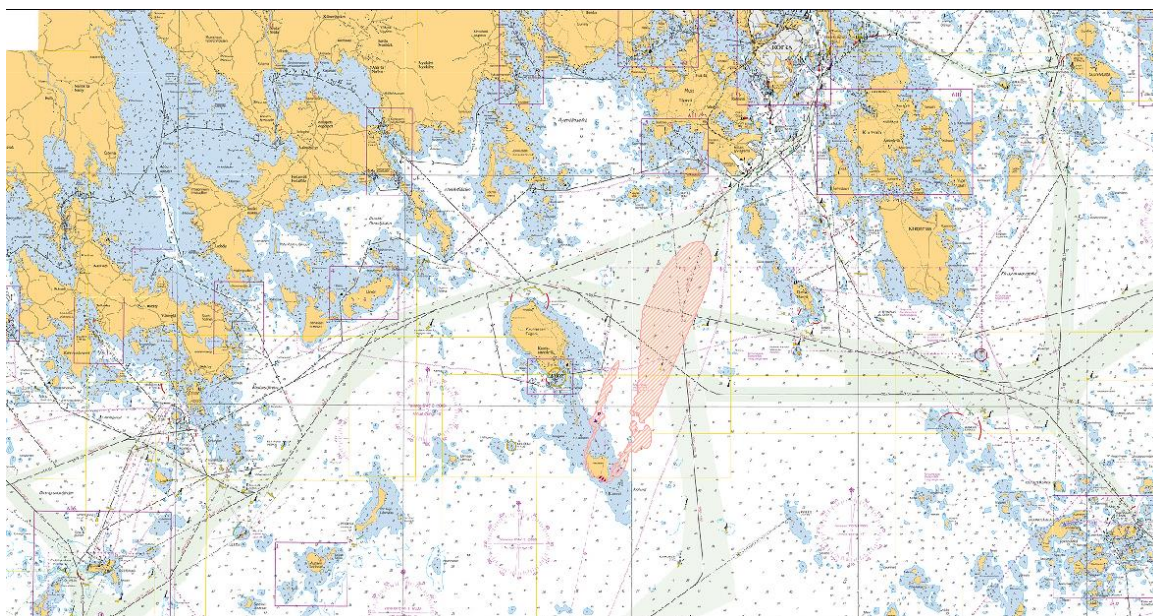
Finnish Environment Institute's duty officer alerts 12 Finnish oil recovery vessels, five of which arrive to the area during 26th of August. In addition, based on the bilateral agreement between Estonia and Finland, Finnish Environment Institute's duty officer asks assistance from Estonia. Also Regional Rescue Services are alerted in order to protect the shore from polluting. Surveillance aircraft is ordered to map the extent of the oil slick.

3. Participating Oil Recovery Vessels and Equipment

Nation	Name of the vessel	LOA (m)	Main Oil Recovery system	Oil cargo tank capacity (m ³)	e-mail address
Finland	HYLJE	54	LORI INSIDE	800	hylje@syke.inet.fi
Finland	HALLI	60	LAMOR INSIDE	1400	halli@syke.inet.fi
Finland	SEILI	50	LAMOR INSIDE	200	seili.bridge@meritaito.fi
Finland	OILI 1	24	LORI INSIDE	60	oili1@meritaito.fi
Finland	LOUHI	71	LAMOR INSIDE	1200	mtalouhi@gmail.com
Finland	MERIKARHU	58	MOBIMAR INSIDE	40	merikarhu@raja.fi
Estonia	KINDRAL KURVITS	62	LAMOR INSIDE	100	

Also other governmental ships and boats will be utilised. In addition the Kymenlaakso Rescue Services will participate with boats and response equipment.

SOSC will give orders to the recovery vessels based on the actual weather conditions at 9:00 LT when vessels are arriving to the exercise area.



Slick position on 27th of August at 9:00 i.e. when the recovery operation starts

Finnish surveillance aircraft will fly in the area observing the spill extent. The aircraft will communicate the observations of the thickest parts of the slick to SOSC. SOSC will further communicate this information to the strike teams. As an option the aircraft will guide Strike Teams or individual vessels to the areas of thicker oil. Aircraft will e-mail images to SOSC and vessels.

4. Command Structure and Communication

SOSC will form and if needed change the Strike Team formations according to the developing circumstances. The Baltic Sea operative communication plan for joint combating operations will be applied. VHF Channels will be given in the briefing. Standby VHF channel will be 16.

Aircraft to SOSC and aircraft to vessels frequency will be communicated at a later stage.

5. Situational picture

During the exercise the participating units will feed data in to the Finnish national oil response situational awareness system "BORIS".

- SOSC or his situational awareness officer will input response sectors
- SOSC, his situational awareness officer or Strike Team lead vessels will input the recovery results once per hour as well as other relevant information.
- MRSC Helsinki will input information on aerial surveillance results.
- Kymenlaakso Rescue Services will input information on booms and recovery results as applicable
- SYKE situational awareness officer will compile situation pictures showing the development of the situation, and will assist BORIS users if needed. Contact: boris@ymparisto.fi

6. Schedule of Events

The **preliminary** time schedule is presented in Finnish local time (UTC+3 hours):

26th August

18:00 Vessels have arrived to Kotka

18:00 Briefing for captains and observers on board LOUHI in Kantasatama

27th August

08:00 Start of the exercise: Departure of response vessels from the port of Kotka

16:00 End of the exercise – latest

16:30- Possibility to visit vessels in the Kantasatama

18.00 Debriefing for masters and observers on board LOUHI

19.15 Bus transportation from Kantasatama to city for an informal dinner

28th August

Back-up date for the operational exercise

Response vessels departure home

7. Contact information

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