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COVID-19 Update (17 July 2020)

This week OSRL carried out a field deployment to test our Shoreline Response COVID-19 protocols. This included working on site, transport to site, site set up, deployment of equipment and equipment rehabilitation. The exercise was delivered with no safety incidents and some good learnings that will be fed-back into our plans. Early lessons identified include:

- Proximity sensors, whilst useful in some circumstances, became a distraction at times during deployment
- Safety and practical considerations meant that wearing a well-fitted face mask and working within 2m of colleagues was preferable to maintaining a 2m distance at all times
- Where a face covering rather than a face mask was required, a snood-type alternative, as used in many UKCS passenger helicopters, was a better option and reduced, but did not eliminate, fogging of glasses
- OSRL's COVID procedures require the use of Nitrile gloves to reduce the spread of infection, however typical activities also require the use of impact and abrasion resistant gloves to protect against hand and finger injury during deployments. Guidance should be updated on the best combination of hand protection to mitigate both risks

Although there were no new Country Response Plans published this week, OSRL has updated information for 13 of our existing plans; Egypt, Singapore, Japan, Sakhalin, Senegal, Gabon, Suriname, Guyana, Colombia, Panama, Argentina, Brunei, The Philippines. There are a total of 55 plans live, with 5 translated into their native language. All of our country plans are available here .

This week we have published the latest in our updated Field Guide series; adding a COVID-19 Appendix to our Waste Management Field Guide, which can be found here.

OSRL are finding that our Remote Training options are being very well received and Members may be interested to read a recent blog on the subject here .

We now have more Spanish-language remote training available to Members:

- Remote IMS300 for Expanding Incidents (Spanish)
- Remote OPRC (IMO Equivalent) Refresher (Spanish)

Visit our website for more remote training course offerings.

We would also draw your attention to another in popular webinar series:

- Are You Ready? A Best Practice Guide to Organising, Storing and Maintaining Your Tier 1 Oil Spill Response Equipment (in both Spanish and English) - 28 | 30 July. Visit our events page for these webinars.

OSRL continue to seek feedback from our Members on our response to COVID-19 and how it could be improved in any way. If you have not done so already can I encourage you once again to participate in a 20 minute survey here .

As management of the COIVID-19 issues is now at a steady state, communications frequency will be shifted to fortnightly going forward. You can, however, always check our website and social media channels for regular updates.

We remain just a phone call away, ready to virtually support you and your operations. Should you have any questions, please email CMT@oilspillresponse.com or contact our Duty Managers.