Contingency Planning

The contingency planning process is a structured approach to developing a spill response capability. It allows an effective initial response to an oil spill, in addition to sustaining an ongoing response proportionate to the risk.

In line with the Tiered Preparedness and Response (TPR) Good Practice Guide¹, Oil Spill Response Limited (OSRL) follows a structured approach throughout the contingency planning process which includes:

1. **Oil spill planning scenario development**
   Analysis of risk and the identification of planning scenarios that cover the full range of your risk and response challenges

2. **Response strategy development**
   Development of appropriate response techniques and strategies for the planning scenarios and the role of Net Environmental Benefit Analysis (NEBA) in agreeing the most appropriate response options

3. **Determining the response capability**
   Identification and provision of response resources, including consideration of supporting elements in building an overall response capability

4. **Creation of the Oil Spill Contingency Plan (OSCP) and associated documentation**
   Compilation of the planning material into a clear and concise, actionable plan for use in a response, including supporting documents for supplemental materials and justification of response capability

5. **Roll out and implementation of the OSCP**
   Company specific training and exercise programme to build responder competence, test and verify the response capability and to ensure the OSCP meets your company’s needs

An OSCP is the output of the contingency planning process, establishing a robust tiered preparedness and response framework. Past experience demonstrates that by having a well written and exercised OSCP, there is the possibility to reduce the potential impact of an incident on people, the environment, assets and business reputation. This includes having well trained people who are adequately resourced, well executed scenario planning, suitable equipment and tiered preparedness plans in place.

**Our service**

The entire contingency planning process can be managed by OSRL on behalf of your company.

OSRL draws from over 30 years of expertise and experience to offer a service that follows industry good practice and regulatory compliance standards. OSRL has delivered OSCPws worldwide to companies and governments, covering a variety of scopes. These include new documents, reviews and updates of existing OSCPws.

Key aspects of our service includes:
- Subject Matter Experts
- Oil spill experience
- Supported technical advice
- Tailored service
- Industry good practice
- World recognised experts
- Resource efficiency
Contingency Planning

Our approach
Firstly, OSRL will define the scope and the scale of the OSCP. Any company specific guidelines, local and national legislation that underpins the development of the OSCP will be reviewed. OSRL will work with you to align your specific requirements with industry good practice. Key stakeholders will be engaged at this stage, and throughout the process as required, as OSRL understands the value of their involvement.

Your OSCP will be user-friendly, concise and tailored sufficiently to meet your requirements whilst following country specific guidelines.

OSRL uses the Contingency Planning Good Practice Guide’s (GPG) Annex 1 list of suggested components of an OSCP to steer step 4 of the contingency planning process:

- Initial actions
- Notifications and reporting
- Assessments
- Response resources
- Response management
- Sensitive areas
- Response strategy
- Waste management
- Decontamination
- Demobilisation
- Termination of response
- Response debrief

An OSCP provides details about the actions required to prepare for and respond to oil spills. It will cover different planning scenarios (including the worst credible case scenario), based on the risk assessment. It also indicates a suitable response strategy from applicable techniques based on the likely oil spill fate and sensitivities in the area.

OSRL can create a range of client tailored products of which the OSCP forms the central element. OSRL has worked with clients to produce a series of products, such as risk assessments, crisis management document reviews and gap analyses before developing the final bespoke OSCP.

Plan familiarisation
Once the OSCP has undergone a rigorous review process, a workshop centred around the OSCP can be conducted. This forms a crucial part of the training platform and ensures that the newly developed OSCP is introduced and practiced by the workforce who will be using it.

Review and update
OSRL consultants are available to conduct reviews and updates of existing contingency plans and oil spill response programmes. An expert review may be required to reassess the risk and regulatory framework, ensuring that the response capability which is already in place is sufficient.