

Workshop on Offshore Emergency Response

Athens, 25 June 2019

Integrated Surveillance System for the offshore platforms



MINISTERO DELL'AMBIENTE
DELLA TUTELA DEL TERRITORIO E DEL MARE

The legal basis of italian national marine pollution response system:

1. Law n. 979/82 (“protection of the sea”)
2. Law n. 464/98 (ratification of OPRC Convention)
3. Ministerial Decree 29/01/2013 (National Plan of MoE)



Two institutions deal with
the response operations,
UP TO THE SITUATION
OF **LOCAL EMERGENCY**



**BUT WHEN THE NATIONAL EMERGENCY
IS DECLARED...**

**Ministerial Decree
04/11/2010**



The national system of emergency response to marine pollution - **the FLEET**

STRUCTURE

- The Ministry of the Environment, with the contract of **09 february 2018** has hired a fleet dedicated to the response to a pollution at sea.
- This structure consists of 36 vessels, including **9 supply vessels and 27 coastal unit**, operating in standby mode with staff available 24 hours a day.
- The contractor is also obliged to set up 8 stores on the ground for the storage of equipment and materials in the cities of Genoa, Civitavecchia, Naples, Messina, Bari, Ravenna, Venice and Cagliari.

The anti-pollution Fleet

The units of the hired fleet are tasked with following services:

- Intervention activities in the territorial waters in the event of pollution or risk of pollution upon request of the competent maritime authority, on the basis of permits issued by DG Nature Protection and Sea (MoE).
- Interventions outside the territorial waters in the framework of the principles of cooperation between states in combating marine pollution, in accordance with the international conventions to which Italy is a member.
- MODALITY OF SERVICES: the units carry out - under the direction and in the responsibility of the local Coast Guard Office – **only** intervention of mechanical removal of pollutant (with the *extrema ratio* of the use dispersants).
- In case of damage or extraordinary maintenance works, as from the 5th day of unavailability, the contractor shall replace the vessel with another having the same technical features, as approved by MoE.



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Supply vessels and coastal units



35 mt, Int. Navig., Oil Slick Detection Radar (6 out of 9), rec-oil capacity not less 200 mc, skimmers with recover capacity 50 mc/h, oceanic booms (400 mt at least)



20 mt, reco-oil capacity not less 80 mc, mechanical skimmers with recover capacity 30 mc/h, coastal booms (200 mt at least) and absorbents booms (100 mt at least)

- ✓ optimal geographical distribution of the naval component
- ✓ more coverage in sensitive areas and / or higher risk of pollution
- ✓ response time within the territorial waters **within 12 hours** from the time the order given by the Ministry (**5 hours** in case of emergency within 3 nm out off the coast)

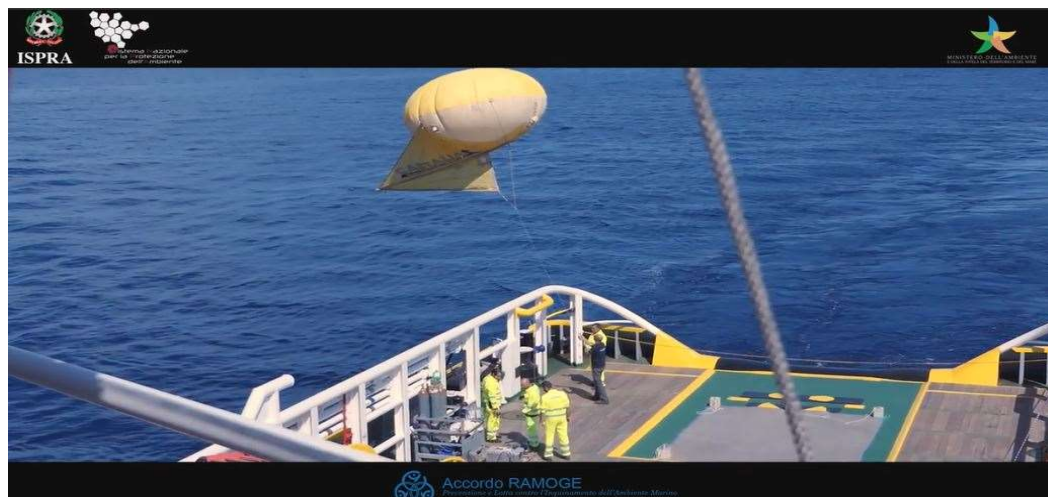
**Pursuant to the contract
5 vessels are also
tasked with the active
surveillance of the
offshore platforms**



Offshore monitoring

Every day, unless adverse weather conditions, the anti-pollution vessels in the service agreement of the Ministry, located in the vicinity of the **oil extraction fields**, perform a visual monitoring (and radar) in areas where the platforms are located, to detect any traces of hydrocarbon spills in the sea.

Currently, in Italy, the offshore installations for hydrocarbons extraction from the seabed are 140 (14 for oil production) divided into 5 different areas in the Adriatic Sea and in the Strait of Sicily.





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Integrated Surveillance System for the offshore platforms

In addition to the normal anti-pollution activity that takes place all along the Italian coasts, there is a constant and targeted service of monitoring by **anti-pollution vessels**, that operates in collaboration with the **aircrafts of the Italian Coast Guard**, and with the space surveillance of the areas by a **constellation of satellite** managed by E-Geos/ASI.

The system allows constant control of the oil platforms located in the nation's territorial waters, in order to detect early any oil spills and to reduce the risk of massive pollution of the Italian coast, with serious repercussions on the economies of coastal regions.

In **March 2015** the **integrated surveillance system** became fully operational (satellite, air and sea) of oil platforms.

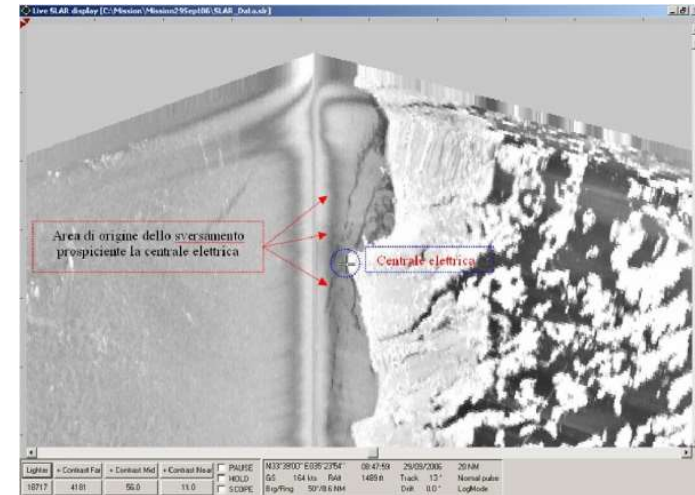


ItCG Aerial surveillance

As a component of the integrated surveillance system, the Coast Guard, **on the basis of an agreement signed with the MoE**, carries out regular patrol flights with its own aircraft, fitted out with radar equipment for remote sensing that allow detection of potential hydrocarbon patches present on the surface of the sea, even during the night hours.

This is done not only in the vicinity of the platforms, but during most of the flight, on large sea areas.

This activity is performed **when no satellite coverage is in place**



Recent regulation

Directive 2013/30/UE →



National Decree Law 18 august 2015, n. 145

New measures:

- Prevention measures for major incidents
- Risk assessment and emergency response plans for offshore installations (internal and external)
- Accordance with local and national contingency plans
- National authorities must verify safety provisions, environmental protection measures, and the emergency preparedness of rigs and platforms – **(Committee on Safety of offshore operations)**
- Sanctions
- Information available for citizens
- Cooperation with other Member States

In response to the loss of life and environmental damage caused by the Macondo blowout in the Gulf of Mexico in 2010, the European Commission issued Directive 2013/30/EU on the Safety of Offshore Oil and Gas Operations (the Directive) in June 2013.



Committee on Safety Offshore Operations

President (nominated by the Head of Government)

- **Competent General Director of MED**
- **Competent General Director of MoE**
- **Competent Director of National Fire Brigade Corp**
 - **General Commander of ITCG**
 - **Navy Vice Chief of Staff**

**SUBSTITUTE MEMBERS ARE FORESEEN, AND
3 PERIPHERAL COMMITTEES AS WELL**

D.M. 23/01/2017

***MINISTERIAL DECREE FOR ENHANCING THE
STANDARD OF EQUIPMENT AND STOCKPILES OF
ANTI POLLUTION RESOURCES***

It applies to oil offshore installations, their storage units (FPSO and FSO) and supply vessels and requires adequate storage facilities (warehouses) on the ground in the vicinity of platforms

- oceanic booms with lenght not less than the perimeter of the installation or of the storage unit, plus 30%;
- absorbent booms with lenght not less than the double of the sum of the external perimeter of installation and storage unit;
- 1000 It of dispersants recognized suitable pursuant to italian regulations, with spraying system

D.M. 23/01/2017

***MINISTERIAL DECREE FOR ENHANCING THE
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ANTI POLLUTION RESOURCES***

Waivers can be granted by the Head of Maritime Compartment (Harbour Master) with the consensus of the local office of Ministry of Economical Development in the following cases:

- neighboring platforms;
- unattended platforms;
- when assets cannot be fitted on board due to dimensional constraints

Obligations are laid down to draft plans for the training of the personnell, with drills at least every six months (copy to the Coast Guard)



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THANK YOU FOR THE KIND ATTENTION

