

# The Global Response

40th Anniversary Edition



1984 – 2024

 **OSRL**



**Anytime**  
**Anywhere**



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## Welcome

Celebrating 40 years of excellence, OSRL marks this milestone anniversary with a special edition reflecting on our journey and the future we are building together.

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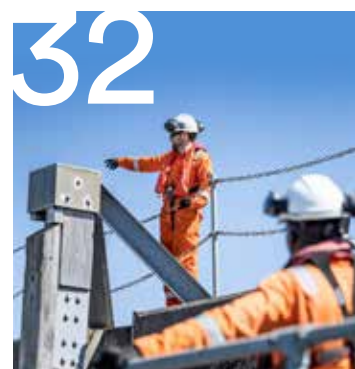
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Joanne De Stefani





# Welcome to

a special edition of The Global Response,  
to recognise **40 years of excellence** as our  
organisation reached this milestone anniversary.



# 16 July

**marked the anniversary  
of the date that Oil Spill  
Response Ltd (OSRL) was  
officially formed.**



Through the pioneering work of British Petroleum's (bp) Oil Spill Service Centre in Southampton, UK, OSRL was formed, and for **40 years**, we've maintained a reliable capability for oil spill preparedness and response services.

As we reflect on the journey we have been on over the last 40 years, we remain committed to addressing the evolving needs of our members. With our worldclass resources and talented professionals, we stand ready to respond to any situation and continue to deliver value to our members.

**I would also like to highlight some of the significant accomplishments we've achieved in this past year alone.**

The current OSRL strategy was set in 2023 at the long-term strategic review and sets out a focus on OSRL's core functions of engagement, preparedness and response, seeking to ensure OSRL offers a high quality, efficient and effective service to members. The strategy is based on sector data demonstrating that whilst the energy transition continues, for at least the foreseeable future, the risk of oil spills will remain relevant and important to most of OSRL's current membership. Therefore, our purpose will continue to provide a cost sharing joint venture delivering global and regional response and preparedness services, primarily to members.

2024 has been a year of transformation for OSRL, implementing the new organisation structure, which was agreed at the end of 2023 along with updating the company mission and vision and refreshing the OSRL brand. Read more about our new [mission and vision](#) in this magazine.

We were excited to recently reveal our new branding and logo. We have been developing our refreshed brand since the beginning of the year, and we're really pleased to have been able to launch this to our external audiences to share the evolution of OSRL and understand the

reason behind this change. Our newly designed logo marks a significant step in our rebranding efforts. The new logo encapsulates our core values of safety, collaboration, integrity, respect and excellence while reflecting our commitment to our future aspirations.

This year we have introduced a variety of new roles across the company and through the different services we provide.

We will share some of the new positions we have announced in this issue and how these roles will positively impact the work we do.

The newly commissioned capping stack, stationed at our Guyana Shore Base Inc. (GYSBI), is one of six provided by OSRL to the industry and one of only two in Latin America.

I hope you enjoy this special edition magazine. We are very proud of how far we've come and can't wait to see what our next chapter has in store.

Best wishes

**Vania**





**2024 has been a year of transformation for OSRL, implementing the new organisation structure, along with updating the company mission and vision and refreshing the OSRL brand.**







Recognising 40 years of leadership,  
impact and innovation:

## The journey of OSRL

**This year marks a milestone for OSRL as we recognise 40 years of leadership, innovation, and global impact in oil spill preparedness and response. Since our inception, we have evolved from a small initiative into a global organisation supporting our members worldwide. Today, we reflect not only on our remarkable history but also on the future we are building.**

### Legacy of leadership: 40 years at the forefront

OSRL's story began in the 1980s when leading oil companies recognised the need for a dedicated response capability to address oil spill incidents. Recognising that oil spills were an industry-wide issue rather than the concern of a single company, bp joined forces with Esso, Texaco, Petro-Canada, and Mobil to form what is now known as OSRL. This cooperative arrangement laid the foundation for a new era in tiered oil spill response capability.

What started as a single company initiative quickly became a global response organisation. Over the past four decades, we've navigated an evolving industry, responded to some of the most significant oil spills in history, and continuously advanced our capabilities to meet the needs of our members.



### Global impact: Supporting our members anytime, anywhere

From small-scale incidents to significant events, OSRL has consistently demonstrated its ability to mitigate oil spills' environmental and societal impacts. We've responded to over 400 spills since 1984 and each response underscores our commitment to supporting our members anytime, anywhere.

Our membership grew significantly in the early years. However, the Exxon Valdez oil spill in March 1989 underscored the necessity of our organisation. We were among the first organisations to respond, providing expertise and specialist resources.

The Exxon Valdez incident led to a rapid expansion in our membership, with the number of member companies increasing to 17 by the end of 1989. This growth trend has continued over the decades, as we now serve around 40 shareholders and over 125 associate members, representing more than two-thirds of the world's oil production.

As membership grew, so did OSRL. OSRL merged with East Asia Response Limited (EARL) in 2006 and Clean Caribbean and Americas (CCA) in 2013, further expanding its global reach. Our international presence is central to our mission. With 300 employees across 13 strategically located bases globally, our multidisciplinary teams collaborate closely with members and stakeholders, combining local insights with global expertise to deliver effective and efficient responses.



## Our membership grew significantly in the early years.





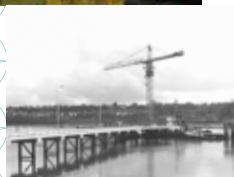
### **Innovation and expertise: A foundation for excellence**

Our commitment to innovation, expertise, and continuous improvement is unwavering. Over the years, we have expanded our capabilities to provide comprehensive services that address multiple aspects of oil spill preparedness and response.

Preparedness Services ensure our members are ready to respond with equipment hire, bespoke training programs, exercises and expert consultancy.



# We continue to push boundaries to ensure that we remain at the forefront of **oil spill preparedness and response.**



Subsea Well Intervention Services deliver rapid access to advanced well-capping and containment technology, enabling effective responses to subsea incidents.

Member Response Services offer response capability during oil spills, leveraging our global resources, expert advice and specialist equipment.

Our teams, which include specialists in operational response, consultancy, and science, are supported by functional experts in logistics, technology, and training, ensuring seamless service delivery. This blend of operational excellence and cross-disciplinary expertise has made us the company we are today.

Looking to the future, we are committed to elevating our expertise and adapting to our members' needs and the changing energy landscape.

We are embracing the latest technologies, including virtual reality training, advanced simulation tools, and innovative platforms such as the Incident Hub, to enhance our response capabilities and foster greater collaboration. By leveraging these cutting-edge tools, we are building an operational platform that is fit for the future and capable of adapting as the industry evolves.

Our innovation extends beyond traditional response capabilities. Today, we are exploring projects like preparedness for alternative marine fuels research and collaborating with members on emerging challenges. From supporting wind farm operations to tackling plastic pollution, we are broadening our scope to address the evolving needs of our industry and the environment.



**A culture of excellence:  
Powered by people**

At the heart of OSRL's success is our engaged, diverse, and highly skilled workforce. Our culture reflects the values that drive us: safety, excellence, collaboration, respect, and integrity, ensuring that our teams remain motivated to deliver exceptional service to our members.

Our history of leadership also includes strong visionaries who have guided us through important moments. Our first CEO, Sally Rothwell, who joined from ConocoPhillips, and our current leader, Vania De Stefani, who joined from bp, have all played an instrumental role in shaping OSRL's trajectory.

Vania reflects our forward-looking vision:

**As the energy landscape evolves, OSRL is committed to innovation and supporting our members through the energy transition. We are focused on delivering solutions that meet today's challenges while preparing for tomorrow's opportunities.**





#### **Future commitment: Leading through change**

As we recognise this significant milestone, we remain focused on the future. OSRL is dedicated to supporting our members as they navigate the energy transition, ensuring they are prepared for emerging risks and equipped to meet the challenges ahead. By embracing technology, fostering collaboration, and maintaining our commitment to continuous improvement, we will continue to deliver world-class services that make a tangible difference.



#### **A thank you to our members and stakeholders**

We extend our heartfelt gratitude to the members, partners, and stakeholders who have been instrumental in our journey. Together, we have built a legacy of excellence that continues to define OSRL's role as the industry's trusted choice for oil spill preparedness and response.

**Thank you for being an essential part of our story. Together, we will continue to shape the next chapter of oil spill response OSRL.**

# 40 years of excellence: Our people

**People are at the forefront of our business, which is reflected in the individuals we employ. The incredible teams we have across our locations worldwide are all professionals in their respective fields.**

Over the years we have cultivated a group of highly experienced and qualified staff ready to advise and support clients in all aspects of oil spill preparedness and response.

As we reflect on our 40 years, we asked a selection of people from our bases around the world, to explain what makes OSRL a unique place to work, some of their most memorable moments and what motivates them each day.



**Tuan Anjos**

**Services and Solutions Manager, Brazil**

I started with OSRL in 2014 as a Responder in Brazil, moving through roles as a Response Specialist and then a Senior Response Specialist before stepping into my current role as Services and Solutions Manager. Over the years, I've transitioned from purely operational roles to a focus on engagement and preparedness, though I still assist with operations as needed. One of my proudest accomplishments was co-leading OSRL's first-ever SWIS (Subsea Well Intervention Services) mobilisation for a member in 2019, and in 2022 I was a part of a historic mobilisation for another of our members'. These experiences were intense but incredibly rewarding and showcased OSRL's commitment to response readiness.

I'm proud to be a part of this unique organisation, and all the people that make it diverse. OSRL has allowed me to work with people from all over the world, from Norway to South Africa, and I love the global perspective it brings to my life.



**Geeva Varghese**

**Business Manager, Australia**

After more than 15 years with OSRL, my journey has taken me from responder to my current role as Australia Business Manager. My time here has spanned various areas, including preparedness, external engagement, and business development. I'll always remember not only the nerves I felt on my first oil spill deployment but also the sense of pride to contribute in helping mitigate the impact on the environment; those early hands-on experiences have been invaluable.

**What makes OSRL special for me is its people. Working alongside talented, supportive colleagues has enriched my experience and provided a constant source of learning.**

The team's dedication and solidarity truly stand out, creating an environment that nurtures both personal and professional growth. The people we have at OSRL make all the difference!



**Sharon Koh**

**Creative Content Lead, Singapore**

I've spent 26 years with OSRL, starting at East Asia Response Ltd and evolving through six roles to my current position which combines my love for creativity with project management, and is my favourite role so far. Over the years, I've had the opportunity to create the OSRL Yearbook, launch the company's first website, develop social media channels, and collaborate on our magazine, "The Global Response".

I've seen more and more gender diversity in our organisation, including a greater representation of women in roles that historically were predominantly fulfilled by men, breaking the norms and proving that women are equally capable in science and technology.

The increase in women in technical roles has inspired me, and I'm grateful for the supportive managers and colleagues who have encouraged my growth. OSRL has provided an incredible environment for learning and innovation, allowing me to contribute meaningfully while doing what I love.





## Matt Simmons

**Americas Response Manager, America**

My career with OSRL has stretched across nearly three decades, I've travelled extensively, taken part in various training, exercises and spills, and assisted in setting up a member's in-house spill response capability whilst working as a dedicated consultant for a member company.

Whilst on a long-term placement in Kazakhstan, I was responsible for hiring, training, procurement and contingency planning. Our planning came into action as the North Caspian Sea freezes between October to April, so we had to sort alternative routes for emergency response. As a result, hovercrafts were introduced to the Caspian for the first time to help transport in an emergency.

In 2003 I was invited for a short deployment working on an offshore vessel, which would help shape my career further. I was coordinating overnight offshore deployment exercises in Hawaii, as well as conducting a large 300 person tabletop exercise. These roles have allowed me to refine our response protocols while tackling complex logistics and building international connections.

Navigating diverse environments, from the Niger Delta to crisis management sites, has deepened my expertise in oil spill response. These experiences highlight the challenges and responsibilities of mitigating the impact on environmental and community interests on a global scale.



## Mariana Sacuiu

**Office Manager, Bahrain**

My 16 years at OSRL began in Bahrain, where I quickly became a key part of our Middle East operations. I had only been at OSRL for four months when I experienced my first major incident to respond to. The incident was an inland spill in Yemen, it was both challenging and rewarding, and an experience that helped define my career path. The teamwork, dedication, and sense of purpose I experienced during this event solidified my commitment to the company.

## My journey at OSRL has been built on teamwork and a shared dedication to supporting our members.

Throughout my journey, I have had the privilege of working with some of the industry's best, colleagues, members, and contractors. Their guidance and support have been instrumental in my development, teaching me the importance of direction, resilience, and continuous learning.

I'm grateful for the mentorship and collaboration that have guided me and look forward to continuing my contributions to OSRL's future.



## Rob Holland

**STSE Manager, UK**

Since joining OSRL over 20 years ago as a consultant, my career has developed and I have progressed to Science, Technology, and Stakeholder Engagement (STSE) Manager. This is a new post in the newly formed engagement function at OSRL. My work has included developing spill response techniques and launching our academic engagement program. A key accomplishment has been building our Shoreline Cleanup Assessment Technique (SCAT) capability aligned to industry good standards, and positioning OSRL as a trusted partner in emergency response.

I am immensely proud of the work myself and my team have put into developing our academic engagement programme from virtually nothing to a regular part of our engagement activities and even extending to PhD supervision, helping to encourage the next generation of spill responders and scientists.

For me, OSRL's people are what make the journey rewarding. Working alongside professionals from diverse fields has been a constant source of fulfilment, and I take great pride in witnessing the growth of my colleagues. From remote sites in Indonesia to Mauritania's deserts, my time with OSRL has been dynamic and impactful.



# Sustainability

as part of our new rebrand

**We recently unveiled our newly designed logo, marking a significant step in our rebranding efforts. The new logo encapsulates our core values of safety, collaboration, and excellence while reflecting our commitment to our future aspirations.**

We have refreshed our logo and visual identity as well as rethinking our operations to align with a more sustainable future.

We have dedicated the past four decades to responding to oil spills and other incidents that have impacted wildlife and the environment all over the world.

To maintain a level of sustainability with our new visual identity, we will take a measured, environmentally conscious approach. Our rebrand has been designed to use up existing resources, repurpose what we already have, and extend the life of essential assets to ensure we can reduce waste and environmental impact where possible.

## Repurposing

An element of our rebranding strategy is the conscious effort to repurpose existing materials. For example, rather than discarding old branded clothing, training manuals, or signage, we've integrated a process of upcycling and repurposing these items. This will ensure our new brand is not just a visual refresh but also a reflection of our mindful approach to resource management.

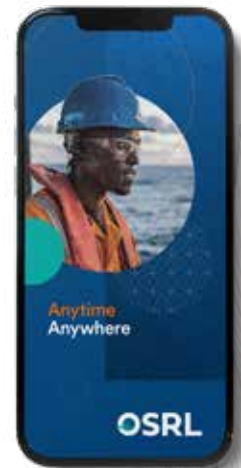
We see this as an opportunity to reinforce a culture of sustainability within the company and among our stakeholders. We will be embracing innovative ways to reuse and repurpose items within our organisation.

**We will gradually be phasing in the new brand across our materials and operations, to try to ensure that no resource goes to waste and that the transition is both smooth and sustainable.**

### How we got to this point

We chose the new branding to align with our core values of safety, collaboration, and excellence while reflecting our commitment to future aspirations. The new brand has been an evolution from our old identity, encompassing what we have stood for over the last 40 years, and looking to our future ambitions.

The rebranding process has been collaborative, involving not only internal stakeholders but also input from our members and key partners across the industry. This collective input has ensured that the new OSRL brand is one that honours our history while also looking ahead to the future—toward a future where innovation, safety, and sustainability are interlinked in everything we do.



**Our new branding represents much more than a design change. It stands as a beacon of our mission to innovate and lead in oil spill response preparedness.**

The sleek, modern aesthetic of our new logo incorporates elements that reflect both our past and our forward-looking vision.

Our decision to roll out the new brand gradually throughout 2025 is also rooted in sustainability. This extended timeline allows us to minimise waste by ensuring that we use up existing inventories and materials before transitioning to the updated brand. It's a deliberate, thoughtful approach that underscores our commitment to reducing unnecessary consumption and environmental impact.

### Conclusion: A brand for the future

Our rebrand is about much more than a new logo or visual identity. It's a reflection of how we are evolving to meet the future while remaining true to the values that have defined us for the past four decades.

As we celebrate our 40th anniversary, we look forward to the future with confidence and a renewed sense of purpose, knowing that our new brand will continue to uphold our key principles. This is just the beginning of the next chapter in our legacy of leadership in oil spill response.





# News from around the business

## Oiled Wildlife Response Workshop in Shetland



**We recently facilitated an Oiled Wildlife Response Workshop on Shetland, Scotland. The workshop brought together local and national wildlife response stakeholders to discuss and hopefully enhance oiled wildlife preparedness for Shetland and the wider UK.**

Attendees included the Maritime and Coastguard Agency (MCA), Offshore Petroleum Regulator for Environment and Decommissioning (OPRED), Royal Society for the Protection of Birds (RSPB), members of the Shetland Oiled Wildlife Network (SOWN), Shetland Island Council (SIC) and representatives from some of our Shetland base members (bp, Equinor and Shell).

The workshop lasted a day and a half and brought together key national and regional stakeholders from the industry, government, and non-governmental

organisations to develop a shared understanding of the challenges and resources required in responding to an oiled wildlife incident on the Shetland Islands. It also identified future needs and actions to improve response preparedness.

The event was hosted at the Hillswick Wildlife Sanctuary, a key member of the SOWN, with lunch and meeting room facilities provided by the St Magnus Hotel nearby. Participants were given a tour of the Hillswick facility and an OSRL-Led demonstration of the OSRL Shetland Base Tier 2 oiled wildlife equipment stockpile before participants were guided through a tabletop exercise and follow-up discussion.

**The event was a great success with some tangible outcomes that should lead to improvement of wildlife response capability on Shetland.**

It has also encouraged relationships between national stakeholders in looking at the wider UK response structure.

During our visit, we enjoyed meeting some of the current residents at Hillswick Wildlife Sanctuary, especially Munro and Frankie, a pair of common seals!

# Oiled wildlife preparedness & response in Argentina: A collaborative triumph

The fight to protect wildlife in the event of an oil spill is a complex one, requiring a united front.

We're committed to promoting wildlife preparedness and response (WP&R) efforts across Latin America. We organised a collaborative workshop in Argentina that embodied this commitment, bringing together industry leaders, government officials, and local wildlife organisations to produce a successful workshop highlighting industry, government and NGO cooperation.

This impactful workshop, championed by industry giants YPF and Equinor, was delivered by us and our trusted partners, Aiuká – world-class wildlife experts and members of GOWRS. The event served

as a testament to OSRL's collaborative approach, where we combine our resources and expertise with the best in the field to achieve optimal results.

The workshop wasn't just about sharing knowledge; it was about igniting a spark. We aimed to inspire other operators to embark on their own WP&R preparedness journeys. By showcasing the power of collaboration, we hope to see a domino effect of proactive wildlife protection initiatives across the region.





# Improving our locations across the globe



**We have been making improvements to some of our current locations and, in some cases, relocating to new enhanced sites, to create a better work environment for our teams.**

## Southampton, UK

We are accelerating towards the completion of our Southampton base move to the new offices at Strategic Park.

We have an external team working on transforming the building to create a welcoming workspace for our team and visitors. They've added internal walls, routed new electrics, air-conditioning and have overcome the inevitable challenges that projects of this size are prone to. We have a separate contractor working hard to redesign the warehouse, inventory, and racking to hold our response, EHS, and training equipment.

Our logistics team has created a logistical move plan, which meshes with the racking layout design for a deliberate movement of equipment from our Lower Williams Street office to Strategic Park. The plan will also give assurance that, if we are mobilised mid-move, then we will be able to quickly locate our equipment to ensure an effective response.

## Singapore

The Singapore Project Team was given valuable suggestions during the consultation sessions and facilities survey for the Singapore Base renovation. Important concerns that were raised during the facilities survey included the washrooms, shower facilities, and air conditioning units. Key findings were considered, and competitive renovation quotes were obtained from various interior design firms. We have now progressed to the next stage of appointing a company to take on the interior design following a communication session with staff in Singapore.



## South Africa

Earlier this year, we officially opened our new office in South Africa. This milestone is a testament to our entire team's hard work, dedication, and collaboration.

Our team there put in a great deal of time and effort to bring the project to life. Their vision created a warm and welcoming workspace for staff and our visitors.

Throughout the process of setting up the new office, we were committed to focusing on sustainability. We repurposed materials from the old office and donated unused equipment and old furniture to local charities. This initiative highlights our ongoing dedication to positively impacting the world around us.

## Aberdeen, UK

The Aberdeen team recently completed their move to a new location in the heart of the city.

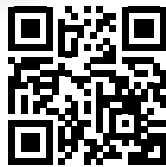
The new office is located nearer to the city centre and in close proximity to local shops and cafés, which is an improvement on the old building, and will make it easier for visitors to locate. Keeping in line with our commitment to sustainability we were able to repurpose and recommission equipment from the previous offices.



## Latest episode of our podcast: The Response Force Multiplier



Episode:  
**Crisis Management  
in Action: Lessons  
from Rob Bly's Journey**



Scan to listen to the latest episode

**In this episode, we uncover the traits that define effective crisis management leaders.**

Rob shares anecdotes illustrating the value of open communication, relationship-building, and adaptability in high-pressure scenarios. Discover how balancing professionalism with a touch of humour can foster a cohesive and effective team.

We dive into the significance of leveraging diverse skill sets and understanding when to step up or support from the sidelines. These insights offer valuable lessons on achieving success in emergency response situations. As we journey through Rob's experiences, we also explore the shifting landscape of crisis management,

especially in a post-COVID world. Learn how organisational resilience and business continuity have gained prominence, with leadership playing a crucial role in shaping a culture of preparedness. Rob's reflections on career pathways in this field reveal it as not just a necessity but a rewarding career path filled with growth opportunities.

This episode is a must-listen for anyone looking to understand the true potential of crisis management and how it can unlock an organisation's capabilities during emergencies.

## Corporate Social Responsibility

# CSR Days

At OSRL, our employees are given the opportunity to take two Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) days per year to engage in environmental and social activities:



- **Volunteering days**
- **Skills-based volunteering** share professional skills with local schools, community centres, etc
- **Environmental initiatives** such as tree planting, beach clean-ups, etc
- **Charity walk or run**
- **Book or clothing drive**

### CSR across the organisation

Many of our employees have already explored different ways to give back to their local communities through individual activities and team efforts.

Our Aberdeen team participated in an environmental activity to remove non-native invasive plants from the River Dee. Working together, the team acted to remove the beautiful but insidious Himalayan Balsam that spreads prolifically along the riverbanks of the lower Dee in Scotland.

This invasive plant grows in dense, shaded areas, crowding out many of the native species and adding no benefit to the stability of the riverbank. Tackling this issue requires a team of volunteers to remove the plant during the summer months and help prevent it from spreading.



Last year, our Marketing and Communications team took part in a beach clean-up on Weston Shore, near our Southampton offices in the UK, collecting several bags of litter from along the local shorelines.

The amount of rubbish collected in a short time was a stark reminder of the global environmental issues that are present worldwide and closer to home.

The wind and rain on the day were challenging, but the team battled the elements, knowing that their efforts were crucial in protecting parts of the community in the area surrounding our Southampton base.

This task wasn't just about cleaning up a beach; it was about taking responsibility, setting an example for others to follow, and, importantly, doing something worthwhile together as a team to build strength and resilience.

Educating young people is an important part of CSR and another way our organisation can connect with the local community. Another team of ours recently ventured out to visit Fair Oak Junior School, near our Southampton base in the UK, to explain to a group of enthusiastic 10 and 11-year-olds what we do at OSRL.

The day was spent teaching the children about oil spills, how they occur, and what we do to clean them up. The team visiting the school demonstrated some of the equipment and techniques that we use and got the children involved by allowing them to attempt to clean up their own oil spill - using vegetable oil. We hope the visit inspired a new wave of oil spill responders!

Laurie Buthfer from our response department, recently attended the Royal Norfolk Show with a team of Environmental Scientist students from the University of East Anglia to demonstrate a game he had helped to develop, 'Oil Spill Challenge', designed to teach children how to clean-up an oil spill and the environmental impact it can have.

For OSRL, CSR builds trust, inspires our people, supports the environment, and strengthens our organisation for the future. By showing our commitment to CSR, we commit to leaving a lasting positive impact, reinforcing OSRL's reputation as a responsible and resilient organisation.



# Supporting successful ship-to-ship ammonia transfers

Paving the way for ammonia bunkering in the pilbara region.

**We're pleased to have played a crucial role in the recent ammonia ship-to-ship transfer pilot, launched through a tripartite collaboration between the Global Centre for Maritime Decarbonisation (GCMD), Pilbara Ports and Yara Clean Ammonia (YCA).**

This groundbreaking operation, conducted at the Port of Dampier in the Pilbara region of Western Australia, represents a step forward in realising Pilbara's potential as a green ammonia bunkering hub.

We collaborated with industry leaders involved in this trial to develop an emergency response plan to help support the ship-to-ship ammonia transfers.

The two successful ammonia transfers, completed under rigorous safety protocols, signify a significant advancement toward establishing Pilbara as a key player in low-GHG emission shipping. The operations were overseen by Pilbara Ports and Australian Government agencies, ensuring that all safety, environmental, and regulatory measures were met.



Our involvement was critical in developing comprehensive emergency response procedures tailored to the unique risks associated with ammonia transfers. The findings from these studies formed the basis for a Pilbara-specific draft Emergency Response Plan (ERP) that, along with our partners, BlueTack and Stream Marine Technical, we were able to help develop for this trial. Key safety protocols, such as the use of emergency release couplings, emergency shutdown devices, and purging procedures, were implemented to mitigate risks. Our extensive expertise in handling potential spill scenarios was instrumental in ensuring the operation's success, and as part of the recommendation, an ex-AMSA fire-fighting tug was deployed to be on standby in the event of an emergency.

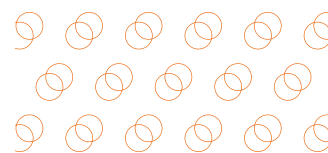
These procedures were reviewed by authorities, including the Australian Maritime Safety Authority (AMSA), Department of Transport (DoT), and Department of Fire and Emergency Services (DFES), ensuring a coordinated approach to incident response.

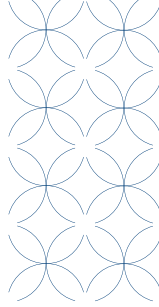
“**This initiative marks a significant step toward a more sustainable future for the shipping industry, and OSRL is honoured to play a key role in its success.**”

**Vania De Stefani said:**

“We are proud to have supported this critical trial by developing the emergency response plan, showcasing our commitment to collaboration with industry leaders. By working closely with key stakeholders, we were able to apply our expertise in oil spill response and contingency planning to ensure safety and effective incident control. The success of this trial is a testament to strong partnerships and open communication, allowing us to overcome technical and operational challenges together throughout the project.”

We would like to extend our sincere appreciation to our valued partners, BlueTack and Stream Marine Technical, for their continued collaboration. BlueTack's innovative solutions and commitment to quality have been instrumental in driving our shared success, while Stream Marine Technical's expertise and dedication to marine safety and training have enhanced our operations. Together, their professional approach has played a pivotal role in helping with the success of this trial. We look forward to continuing to collaborate with industry leaders as part of a broader effort to enable ammonia as a marine fuel.





# Enhancing our global spill response with new base and capping stack in Guyana





**We're pleased to announce the opening of a new base and the commissioning of a cutting-edge capping stack in Guyana. This state-of-the-art equipment, designed and built by Trendsetter Engineering, is integral to our mission to strengthen global oil spill response capabilities.**

The newly commissioned capping stack, stationed at our Guyana Shore Base Inc. (GYSBI), is one of six provided by OSRL to the industry and one of only two in Latin America. This critical asset is leased to ExxonMobil Guyana as part of a newly established Guyana regional capping stack service, with ExxonMobil being the inaugural subscriber. We welcome the opportunity to discuss providing coverage to other operators in the region.

In response to the needs and requirements of current offshore operations, the Guyanese government mandated the presence of Subsea Well Intervention equipment in the country. The system, which includes a Lightweight Capping Stack and a heavy shears kit for debris removal provided by Trendsetter Engineering, was delivered earlier this year.

The development of the new base in Guyana aligns with our Long-term Strategy to enhance operational capability for our members while supporting the development of an integrated response function within the Americas Region.

Looking ahead, we plan to expand our in-country capabilities.

**📈 In the future, we will also look at expanding our in-country surface and dispersant response capabilities as part of a more comprehensive emergency response offer.**

**Vicente Allevato,**  
Americas Regional Manager.

We encourage other operators in Guyana and the region to subscribe to this essential capping stack service, reinforcing collective efforts to remain ready to respond in the event of an oil spill.





# OSRL in education

## Bridging Research to Response

**We introduced the Science, Technology, and Stakeholder Engagement (STSE) team at the start of the year. Through their work, the team maintains a connection to the academic community to ensure that the science of spill response is tuned to operational realities.**

This activity has been described as “Bridging Research to Response” and covers a range of engagements from scientific conference attendance, research funding/supervisory roles to undergraduate lectures and careers advice.

Focusing on three core objectives:

### **1 Protect the existing tools in the response toolbox**

STSE will engage with the academic and scientific community to communicate key messages for response strategy development.

### **2 Shape the response techniques of the future**

STSE will work with internal collaborators and external stakeholders to actively identify and pursue new and novel technology, techniques, and approaches to advance spill response.

### **3 Inspire the spill responders and scientists of the future**

We are seeing reduced interest for graduate careers in the industry fuelled in part by a desire to move towards a low-carbon future society, climate change concerns, and media portrayals. This provides a challenge for OSRL (and our members) in the recruitment of next-generation oil spill responders. This is also compounded by the departure of experienced professionals from the spill response community. STSE will actively pursue future responder recruitment as an intrinsic part of its function.

We’ve seen success in collaborating with universities and research institutes across the UK and North America. These partnerships have yielded new tools, research insights, and the development of future spill response professionals. In 2025, we plan to expand into the Asia-Pacific region.

We have highlighted a few case studies that emphasise the impact of these joint efforts.

### **Case Study 1: Rapid Impact Assessment Tools**

We have actively forged close relationships with key university researchers and identified Exeter’s marine ecotoxicology group as a leading group studying impacts of chemicals and contaminants on marine ecosystems.

In collaboration with the University of Exeter, we supported a PhD project to develop new methods for assessing the ecological impact of oil spills. Kat Colvin embarked on the PhD which helped her career. She is now a Senior Environmental Toxicologist at bp. This is a perfect example of how we worked together to get focused outcomes. It resulted in research paper publications, industry engagement and a route for Kat into a member company.



### **Case Study 2: Plastic Nurdle Enzyme Research**

In response to the X-Press Pearl incident off Sri Lanka, where large quantities of plastic nurdles contaminated shorelines, OSRL initiated a joint research project with the University of Portsmouth. This project explores innovative methods for breaking down plastic waste, potentially revolutionising how we manage plastic spill response in the future.

### **Case Study 3: Educational Outreach and Mentorship**

We are deeply committed to developing the next generation of spill responders. Through our academic engagement programs, we have delivered lectures and workshops to universities across the UK, sharing knowledge on spill response techniques and inspiring students to join the industry. Our collaboration with academia has been cemented with the inclusion of the Oil Spill Management module in the Crisis and Disaster Management Masters course, at the University of Portsmouth.

## Breaking barriers to education

**In July this year, OSRL Ghana Limited Company and Bayfield Oil Services Ltd opened a new computer lab at the Sekondi School for the Deaf in the Western Region of Ghana.**

As part of our commitment to supporting local communities, we wanted to support the school with this project to help bridge the technology gap faced by the students and provide them with better opportunities to learn. With this new equipment, deaf students at the school will be brought up to date in this digital age.

The computer lab, designed in collaboration with the school, features an advanced range of computers with high-speed internet and up-to-date hardware to assist with learning. The new technology will open up more opportunities to further the students' education and improve their capabilities.

Representatives from the Shama District Education Office, the Inchaban Traditional Council, Pax for Hearing International Foundation, and the Petroleum Commission attended the opening of these new facilities and were treated to traditional dancing and the chance to see the students testing out the equipment.

The school's students and teachers were grateful for the apparatus provided in the computer labs and their potential for growth and learning, and we are proud to have been involved in this project.

We take Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) seriously in our organisation, and understand the value of integrating social and environmental concerns into our operations to help support local communities.

Thank you to Rachel McLachlan, Raphael Mensah, Abel Kombey, and all who helped make the project and event successful.



## Industry outreach with our Responders

One of our Senior Response Specialists, Dan Lambley, headed to Wales as part of our commitment to industry outreach with academia. Dan was recently promoted to Senior Response Specialist, thanks to the experience he's gained through spills, training, and stakeholder engagement.

He said: "Industry outreach is something I thoroughly enjoy. During my talks, I like to showcase the capabilities of OSRL and the environmental rationale behind response strategies. This industry outreach is crucial to increasing awareness of our industry, inspiring research to enhance response strategies, and inspiring future responders to the industry."

Dan gave talks at Bangor University and Cardiff University / Prifysgol Caerdydd in Wales. Both universities were welcoming and keen to host our talks, continuing to support the collaboration between industry and academia.

## Responder helping students develop educational game

Laurie Buthfer from our Response team, recently attended the Royal Norfolk Show with a team of Environmental Scientist students from the University of East Anglia to demonstrate a game he had helped to develop, 'Oil Spill Challenge', designed to teach children how to clean-up an oil spill and the environmental impact it has.

This innovative educational tool is designed to educate young minds about environmental protection. It teaches children how to respond effectively to oil spills, giving them an insight into protecting marine ecosystems in a fun and engaging way.

Laurie drew from his experiences as a responder dealing with oil spill response and mitigation, to create something that would simplify complex spill response strategies into child-friendly lessons.



# An introduction to some of the new roles within our organisation

This year we have introduced a variety of new roles across the company and throughout the different services we provide. We're sharing some of the new positions we have announced and how these roles will positively impact the work we do.



## Wildlife in OSRL's Long-Term Strategic Review

As part of our recent Long-Term Strategic Review (LTSR) we have reviewed our existing wildlife strategy to ensure that the wildlife strategic plan aligns with our wider strategy and timeframe.

The focus was on ensuring that these aims align with our new 5-year strategies for Response, Preparedness and the new Engagement Function at OSRL.

One structural change from the LTSR is that Paul Kelway's role of Wildlife Preparedness and Response Manager was renamed to Wildlife Technical Authority. The job description remains the same and the role continues to have responsibility for OSRL's long-term strategy for Wildlife, but it is now situated within the new Science, Technology and Stakeholder Engagement (STSE) Team under Engagement.

The new role and updated structure underscore our continued commitment to wildlife preparedness and response. By enhancing internal and external collaboration, operational readiness, and strategic alignment, we are better equipped to handle wildlife incidents in collaboration with our wildlife partners, and to support our members.



## A New Role In Wildlife Response

Our Wildlife Emergency Preparedness & Response Team is introducing a new role of Wildlife Response Operational Lead, and we were pleased to announce that Frankii Rouse was appointed in this position.





## Introduction to the role of Science, Technology & Stakeholder Engagement

Rhea Shears was appointed as the Science, Technology, and stakeholder Engagement (STSE) Officer earlier this year, focusing specifically on the Europe, Middle East, and Africa (EMEA) region.

In her role, Rhea is a key member of the broader STSE team, driving the development and integration of scientific research and advanced technologies across the EMEA region. Her responsibilities include leading initiatives that align with regional stakeholder engagement goals, and ensuring that our response services are not only innovative but also tailored to the unique challenges and opportunities within this diverse and dynamic area of oil spill response.

This role is at the forefront of engaging with a range of stakeholders across the EMEA region, including government agencies, non-profit organisations, academic institutions, and local communities. By building strong relationships and promoting collaborative efforts, they will ensure that our projects are reflective of the needs and priorities of our members within the region.

The STSE Officer, will play a critical role in integrating operational realism into academic research projects that we are supporting. Operational responders prioritise immediate, practical solutions during spill scenarios, whilst academic researchers often delve into detailed, specialised studies that may not always directly impact immediate response efforts.



**By ensuring that academic research aligns with the practical realities of spill response, Rhea will help produce outputs that are both scientifically rigorous and directly applicable to improving our response techniques.**

We offer a comprehensive array of interactive courses designed to enhance your oil spill response skills and knowledge, offered year-round in various learning formats.

Our expert-led training follows internationally recognised standards that can help you ensure your organisation is ready to respond to any incident, using the most appropriate techniques.



Scan to explore our full range of courses and make a booking.

Upcoming training courses for

2025

## Oil Spill Clearance - On-Scene Commander (IMO Level 2 Equivalent)

Unleash your full potential with our flagship IMO Equivalent Training Course, where tactical and strategic spill response management skills take centre stage.

This exceptional program blends theory and hands-on training to provide you with a deep understanding of diverse response techniques and a holistic appreciation of every facet of oil spill response.

Perfect for those relatively inexperienced in oil spill response, this course is suitable for those who will operate in tactical, site safety or environmental support positions within an Incident Management Team (IMT) or Emergency Response Team.

Through engaging tabletop and practical exercises, this course will equip you with the skills and knowledge to become a key member of an oil spill response team, one with practical oil spill equipment knowledge and experience.

You will learn and gain understanding in the following areas:

- Overview of oil spill response
- Discover the fates and effects of oil, potential environmental and economic impacts and the importance of preparedness
- Importance of Health & Safety to Response personnel during an incident
- Response techniques used during an incident including practical elements, conducting an inland, shoreline and offshore response
- Importance of media relations during response operations and the opportunity to practise skills
- Spill termination and the liabilities that sit with responsible parties

Next date:  
**24-28 March  
2025**

Run on  
demand  
throughout  
2025

## On-Scene Commander - Americas (IMO Level 2 Equivalent) Spanish

This course, delivered in Spanish in America, provides the fundamental knowledge required for all Supervisors and On-Scene Commanders to conduct a successful response.

Delivered in Spanish at our American base in Florida, USA, where tactical and strategic spill response management skills take centre stage.

This exceptional program blends theory and hands-on training to provide a deep understanding of diverse response techniques and a holistic appreciation of every facet of oil spill response.

Perfect for those relatively inexperienced in oil spill response, this course is suitable for those operating in tactical, site safety or environmental support positions within an Incident Management Team (IMT) or Emergency Response Team. This course is ideal for On-Scene Commanders and the following personnel:

- Those required to operate within an IMT or Emergency Response Team, including site safety positions
- Operational staff responsible for setting strategic and tactical priorities and those required to conduct response tactics
- Planning staff with an environmental remit
- Government officials

## Oil Spill Response Management (IMO Level 3 Equivalent)

This IMO Level 3 equivalent course will enhance the expertise in incident management strategies for all senior managers, officials and decision-makers involved in managing a response to an oil spill.

Providing insight into some of the key complexities that you may face during an oil spill incident and the tools to use to overcome these. The interactivity of this course allows you to use your initiative and thought processes throughout to understand the challenges of incident management. You can also witness first-hand the difficulties faced in deploying equipment with a hands-on practical exercise. The course will give you a structured journey of an oil spill incident, from the causes and fates of oil spills through to incident termination.

This course is ideal for those required to be an Incident Commander during an oil spill incident, government officials involved in emergency response representing their jurisdiction, and the following personnel:

- Those responsible for emergency response management and command of oil spill response incidents
- Decision-making managers within the oil, gas and shipping industries
- Individuals performing the role of an Executive Commander, Incident Controller or Incident Commander in an Emergency Response Team
- People belonging to regulatory or statutory bodies associated with emergency response
- Senior officials from Government agencies involved with spill response (Environment, Coastguard, Navy and Army)
- Harbourmasters, Port Captains, and Incident Managers at large ports.

Next date:  
13-15 May  
2025

## Environmental Advisor

A unique and invaluable environmentally focused three-day course delivered in Pembrokeshire, Wales, the site of the most recent UK Tier 3 oil spill incident involving a large-scale shoreline impact.

Embark on a captivating three-day journey in picturesque Pembrokeshire, Wales, UK, the very site of the most recent UK Tier 3 oil spill incident with significant shoreline impact.

This immersive course takes you on a profound exploration of the MV Sea Empress Tanker incident's aftermath, offering hands-on insights from those who were there. Delve into detailed field studies, revealing compelling evidence of the incident's impact on the affected shorelines. Contrast these sites with those untouched by oil spills, all while visiting the actual locations impacted during the course. Elevate your tactical and strategic environmental skills to a new level through this invaluable experience. Don't miss this extraordinary opportunity to learn and grow.

This course is tailor-made for individuals holding an HSEQ position or a dedicated environmental custodian with responsibility for both preparedness and response. If you're part of a response team with environmental duties, an environmental advisor, a stakeholder with environmental responsibilities, or even an academic immersed in contingency planning roles, this is the course for you.

Join us to uncover a world of expertise, environmental stewardship, and industry leadership.

Next date:  
10-13 March  
2025



# ITAC 2024

A recap of industry insights and innovations.

**The International Technical Advisory Committee (ITAC) event took place at the Nova Southeastern University Oceanographic Centre in Fort Lauderdale, USA. This gathering brought together leading experts from around the globe to explore the latest developments in oil spill response and industry collaboration.**

The event began on a high note with an insightful keynote speech by Dr. Chris Reddy, PhD, who addressed The Science of Communication in a Crisis. Throughout the day, we shared lessons learned from recent incidents and provided attendees with updates on subsea response capabilities.

## DAY 1

### Highlights from the day one

The opening day was packed with engaging sessions and activities, including:

**Research Updates:** Presentations on coral sustainability and responder mental health underscored the commitment to ecological and personal well-being.

**Industry Innovations:** Updates on dispersants, satellite monitoring, and herders showcased cutting-edge advancements.

**Hands-On Exploration:** Participants toured the university's lab and coral nursery, gaining insights into the science behind the marine restoration.

Attendees were free to network during the ice-breaker dinner and the reception at the Oceanographic Center, where participants reconnected with their peers. The gathering also provided an opportunity to honour Paul Schuler, our STSE Officer (AMER) for his years of invaluable contributions to the industry ahead of his retirement.

Gratitude was extended to key partners, including the Bureau of Safety and Environmental Enforcement, MDA Space, the American Petroleum Association, ExxonMobil, Safety Harbor LLC, and Maritime New Zealand, for their participation and support.

# DAY 2

## Day two Insights

The second day of ITAC 2024 continued with dynamic discussions and updates:

**New Research:** Presentations from the New Jersey Institute of Technology and CEDRE revealed promising research initiatives.

**Response Tools:** Advances in subsea mechanical dispersion, UAVs, and water column monitoring tools highlighted the industry's technological progress.

**Wildlife and Pollution Response:** Experts shared best practices in oiled wildlife care and tackling ship-source pollution incidents.

**Collaboration in Action:** Sessions emphasized the importance of partnerships between industry players and oil spill response organizations.

Acknowledgements were given to the day's contributors, including the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Natural Resources Canada, SINTEF, Oxy, Dalhousie University, Water Mapping, CSA Ocean Sciences Inc., the United States Coast Guard, UC Davis, and ITOPF.



## Looking Ahead

As the event approached its final day, anticipation built around sessions on industry collaboration for good practice guides, led by Chevron, and an introduction to our Response Hub. Participants were also eager for a tour of our base in Fort Lauderdale.

## Moving Forward

As ITAC 2024 concluded, the momentum carried forward with plans for us to join the next event, Clean Gulf 2024 conference, in Houston. This next step ensures the conversation on industry advancements and global response readiness continues.

**ITAC remains a cornerstone event for us, encouraging collaboration and innovation to bridge the gap between science and industry.**

# Wildlife Week 2024

**We recently held another successful Wildlife Week, from our bases around the globe.**

This year, we brought together oiled wildlife response experts to share insights, updates, and real-world experiences for a total of four global webinars. We also ran internal training sessions, equipment demos, and exercises. It was a pleasure to share this wealth of knowledge with over 150 participants worldwide.

**The four webinar topics were:**

- 1** Exploring wildlife response and legislation around the world
- 2** Developing a local wildlife response organisation with examples from South America (Spanish)
- 3** Oiled wildlife Response in the incident management system
- 4** Oiled wildlife Response in offshore and nearshore events

We would like to thank our incredible partners, GOWRS Network and Sea Alarm, for their help and support throughout Wildlife Week.



# Interspill Conference & Exhibition 2025

**Join us at the Interspill Conference and Exhibition in April 2025, in London.**

Interspill 2025 is the 10th edition of Europe's premier Oil Spill Clean-up Conference and Exhibition, part of a triennial series of international events.

Focusing on the potential issues raised by future spills, the event on 8-10 April 2025 at ExCeL London will connect international experts and leaders from the spill industry and deliver three days of unparalleled business development, learning and networking.

**INTERSPILL**  
EXCEL, LONDON | 8-10 APRIL 2025  
CONFERENCE & EXHIBITION





# Report of Activity 2024

As 2024 comes to a close, we've taken this opportunity to reflect on our achievements over the past year. From navigating a business restructure, launching a brand refresh, and recognising our 40th anniversary, we've accomplished some big milestones.

Each of the departments that make up our business, have provided us with data that reflect what we have achieved in 2024.



Scan here to view the report of activity for 2024.



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