
**Ships and marine technology — Marine
environment protection — Terminology
relating to oil spill response**

*Navires et technologie maritime — Protection de l'environnement
marin — Terminologie relative à la réponse aux déversements de pétrole*



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Foreword

ISO (the International Organization for Standardization) is a worldwide federation of national standards bodies (ISO member bodies). The work of preparing International Standards is normally carried out through ISO technical committees. Each member body interested in a subject for which a technical committee has been established has the right to be represented on that committee. International organizations, governmental and non-governmental, in liaison with ISO, also take part in the work. ISO collaborates closely with the International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC) on all matters of electrotechnical standardization.

The procedures used to develop this document and those intended for its further maintenance are described in the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 1. In particular the different approval criteria needed for the different types of ISO documents should be noted. This document was drafted in accordance with the editorial rules of the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 2. www.iso.org/directives

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The committee responsible for this document is ISO/TC 8, *Ships and marine technology*, Subcommittee SC 2, *Marine environment protection*.

This second edition cancels and replaces the first edition (ISO 16165:2001) which has been technically revised.

Introduction

Communication is important in the implementation of an effective oil spill response and this communication will be most effective if there is common understanding of the terms used. Many of the terms and definitions listed here have been widely used for many years, while others are the result of recent experience. The gradual evolution of our understanding of oil spill behaviour and response measures means that oil spill terminology will continue to develop.

Ships and marine technology — Marine environment protection — Terminology relating to oil spill response

1 Scope

This International Standard contains terms and definitions relating to oil spills and their control. This International Standard provides standardized terminology relating to oil spill response, defined as the broad range of activities related to spill cleanup, including surveillance and assessment, containment, recovery, dispersant use, *in situ* burning, shoreline cleanup and disposal.

2 Terms and definitions

NOTE In developing this International Standard, an attempt was made to use existing definitions wherever possible. For example, comprehensive terminology is available on containment booms, performance of recovery skimmers and on bioremediation, as provided by the publications of the American Society for Testing and Materials (ASTM) Committee F20 on Hazardous Substances and Oil Spill Response. Other areas had less coverage by standards organizations and gaps were filled through a review of a variety of sources. In this International Standard, whenever another published source serves as the primary basis for a definition, this source is indicated by an abbreviated code. The complete citations for these codes are provided in the Bibliography.

2.1 Oil/oil slick properties

2.1.1

crude oil

naturally occurring form of petroleum, mainly occurring in a porous underground formation such as sandstone

[ISO 1998-99:2000]

2.1.2

emulsification

process in which microscopic droplets of water are mixed in the oil, or vice versa

2.1.3

emulsion

mixture of oil and water in which droplets are interspersed in varying concentrations throughout the oil, or vice versa, formed when these fluids are mixed by mechanical or hydraulic action

Note 1 to entry: Emulsions are more precisely referred to as water-in-oil or oil-in-water emulsions. Water-in-oil emulsions are sometimes referred to as a “mousse”.

2.1.4

environmental fate

form and location of a material resulting from transport and transformation

[ASTM E 943-08]

2.1.5

heavy shoreline oiling

pooled deposits or a layer of surface oil

2.1.6

moderate/light shoreline oiling

sheen or film of surface oil