

Oil Spill Response Training conducted in Pearl Harbor, HI.

6 August 2014

SUPSALV conducted an OPA-90 Spill Response Training Exercise in Pearl Harbor, Hawaii this spring that gave them an opportunity to conduct realistic exercises with their spill response equipment and practice joint operations with the COMNAVREG Hawaii Navy On Scene Coordinator's (NOSC) spill response network, Mobile Diving and Salvage Unit ONE, Company 1-3, and various Pacific Fleet salvage, diving and pollution response representatives. The exercise, conducted April 7 – 11, also provided an opportunity for pier side and in-water training in the use of Off-Ship Firefighting System and Light Weight Hot Tap system.



Two 30' Boom Handling Boats performing half-moon skimming maneuver.

The Oil Pollution Act of 1990 (OPA-90) provides requirements for contingency planning both by government and industry. Owners of vessels and facilities must prepare their own Facility Response Plans and be prepared to execute those plans. The training in the port of Pearl Harbor, was structured to comply with the OPA-90 National Preparedness for Response Exercise Program (NPREP) training and drill requirements for deploying skimmer and boom systems in the Hawaii geographical area of responsibility.



Class V Modular Vessel Skimmer getting underway from Alpha 7 pier in Pearl Harbor Naval Base. This skimmer system uses an absorbent belt to collect oil product herded by its booms.

In this exercise, SUPSALV deployed a Modular Vessel Skimmer System, four Boom Handling Boats (BHB's), and 300' of USS-26 Oil Containment Boom. The exercise was conducted by SUPSALV Emergency Ship Salvage Material (ESSM) contractor personnel stationed in Hawaii.

SUPSALV maintains an extensive inventory of pollution response equipment at the Emergency Ship Salvage Material (ESSM) bases in Williamsburg, VA; Port Hueneme, CA; Anchorage, AK; Pearl Harbor, HI. Additional information on SUPSALV's pollution response capabilities can be found at http://www.supsalv.org/00c25_home.asp.



MDSU 1, CO 1-3 training on the use of the Portable Firefighting System.



GPC, SUPSALV's ESSM contractor, provided hot tap training for on-surface and in-water phases using the 4" Lightweight Hot Tap. The Hot Tap system provides a means for divers to penetrate a steel hull or tank and to extract the oil trapped in the hull to prevent spillage.



25' Utility boat herding yellow wooden blocks, simulating spilled product, during training maneuvers.