

## AMOSPlan Section III 2025



## AUSTRALIAN INDUSTRY COOPERATIVE OIL SPILL RESPONSE ARRANGEMENTS

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## INTRODUCTION

The cooperative arrangements for response to oil spills by the Australian oil and associated industries are brought together under AMOSPlan. AMOSPlan has 3 sections developed – this is the General Section which details the general arrangements of the Plan. The other sections have restricted access.

AMOSPlan is managed by the Australian Marine Oil Spill Centre (AMOSC), which also coordinates the participation of the its members in the [National Plan for Maritime Environmental Emergencies](#) (National Plan). This National Plan can be found via the following link

<http://www.amsa.gov.au/environment/maritime-environmental-emergencies/national-plan/>

The National Plan is the contingency planning and response arrangement for Australia and is a cooperative arrangement between the Commonwealth, State and Northern Territory Governments and the shipping and petroleum industries for responding to marine hydrocarbon spills. The National Plan is administered by the Australian Maritime Safety Authority (AMSA).

AMOSPlan replaces (in total) the previous industry mutual aid arrangement referred to as the Marine Oil Spills Action Plan (MOSAP).

This publication has been prepared as a guide to the industry's mutual aid arrangements and their place in the National Plan.

This document is available on the AMOSC web-site ([www.amosc.com.au](http://www.amosc.com.au))

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## OVERVIEW

The Australian Marine Oil Spill Centre Pty Ltd (AMOSC) operates the Australian petroleum industry's major oil spill response facilities.

AMOSC's primary goal is to provide an industrial / national scale pollution response effort on behalf of and for its members. AMOSC's response capabilities include offshore, near-shore and shorelines strategies, and span the IPEICA tiered response capabilities –

AMOSC's Australian Based Capabilities	
Surveillance, modelling and visualization	Surface dispersants
At-sea containment and recovery	Near shore protection of sensitive resources
Shoreline clean-up	Inland waterway response
Source control	Oiled wildlife response
Offshore subsea dispersants	Shoreline Cleanup and Assessment Techniques (SCAT)

Table: Oil Spill Capabilities (based on extract from 'IPEICA Tiered Preparedness & Response Good Practice Guide' Pp 14.)

Equally important is AMOSC's role in training, exercising and coordinating industry personnel ready to provide immediate emergency oil spill response.

AMOSC was established in 1991 as a not-for-profit subsidiary company of the Australian Institute of Petroleum (AIP), primarily as a combined industry capacity, in response to the Exxon Valdez incident that occurred in Alaska in 1989. This incident pre-empted the introduction of an *International Convention on Oil Pollution Preparedness, Response and Co-operation (OPRC)* in 1991.

AMOSC owns and operates the petroleum industry's major oil spill response facilities including stockpiles of oil spill response equipment and sub-surface intervention equipment. There is one main stockpile located in Geelong, three stockpiles located in/around Perth and additional stockpiles in Exmouth and Broome.

AMOSC has a permanent staff of nineteen available on a 24/7 basis. When responding to oil spills, the permanent staff is supplemented by participating and associate member company personnel specially trained for marine spill response. This group of around 110 company employees forms the AMOSC Core Group. The Core Group receives support and training in excess of usual industry-based oil spill response courses conducted under the International Maritime Organisation (IMO) levels I-III format and are kept valid and in-date through refresher training every two years. This Core Group is available to all AMOSC Member Companies and others through the National Plan (see below).

AMOSC conducts focussed marine oil spill response training courses at its well-resourced training centres at Geelong and Fremantle and at member facilities on request. These training courses cover the full range of oil spill response activities – from equipment operation through to management of oil spill response activities. AMOSC also provides advice, auditing, contingency planning and exercise management services all based on marine spill preparedness and response.

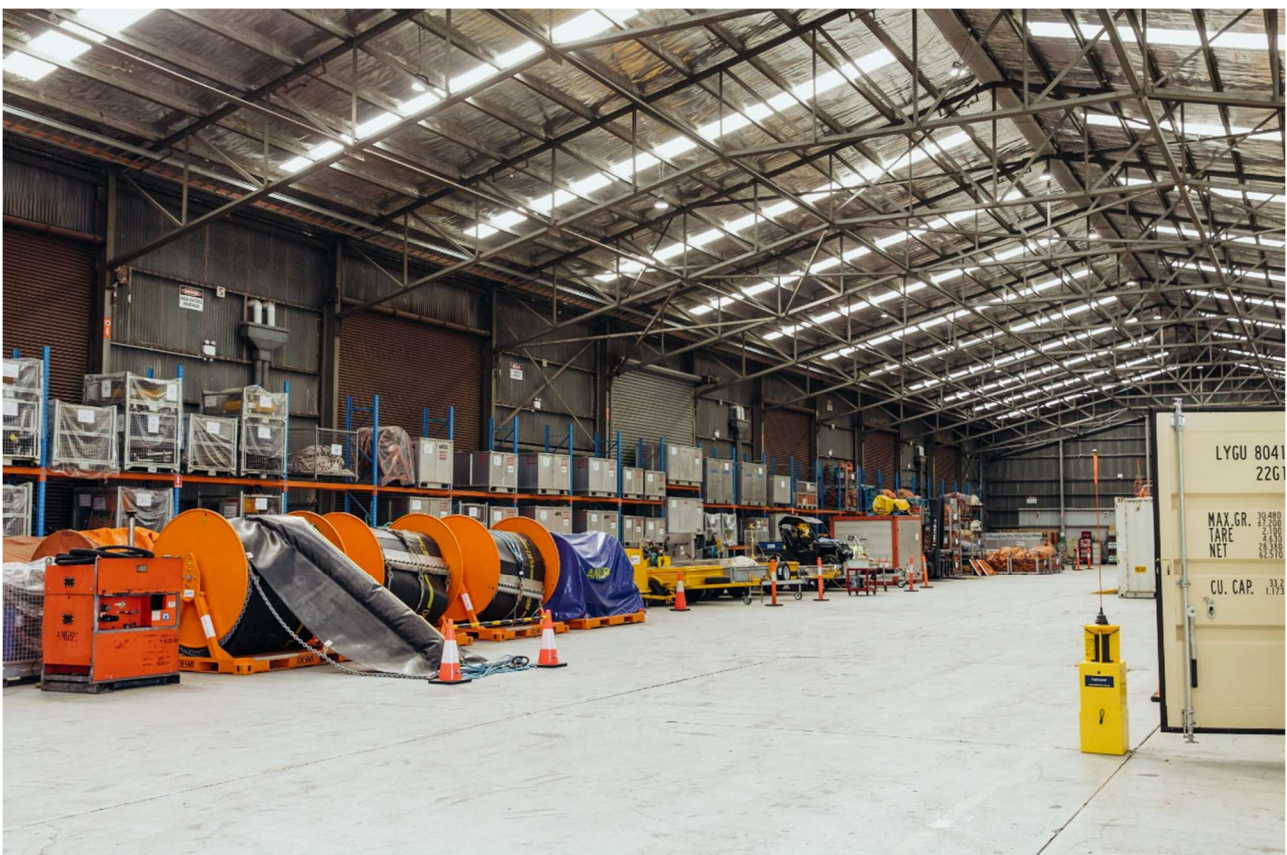


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The IMO courses conducted by AMOSC are accredited by the internationally recognised Nautical Institute (an international representative body for maritime professionals with 7,000 members in 115 different countries - see <http://www.nautinst.org/> ).

As marine oil spills may occur that require response efforts over and above individual company capabilities, the petroleum industry has developed cooperative arrangements for mutual aid. These mutual aid arrangements are brought together under AMOSPlan which is internationally recognised as global good practise. Under AMOSPlan, designated spill response resources of individual companies are made available to other companies and to the National Plan through service contract agreements administered by AMOSC.

AMOSC is governed by a Board of Directors consisting of its key founding member companies, or their current day corporate entities. The Board meets regularly to determine matters pertaining to risk and strategy, and review AMOSC's financial and governance operations.



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## PARTICIPATION IN AMOSPLAN

AMOSPlan has different levels of information available for preparedness and response. The levels determine the access available to different parties; this level represents level 3 and has general information only available. Level 2 is the information available exclusively for AMOSC Member Companies. Level 1 of the AMOSPlan is available only to AMOSC staff.

## MEMBERSHIP

### Participating Company

This category comprises the major oil producing companies and refiner/marketer companies. Annual subscriptions towards the capital and operating costs of AMOSC for these companies reflect production, refining capacity or annual movements of oil by sea. The Participating Members comprise the AMOSC Board.

### Associated Company

This category comprises ship owners and operators and smaller companies engaged in hydrocarbon exploration, production and/or distribution.

AMOSC Associated Companies pay a fixed annual subscription (“See [“HOW TO SUBSCRIBE”](#) on the AMOSC Website). In addition, a joining fee equivalent to the current annual subscription is payable for each approved application regardless of previous membership.

The current list of companies is in Appendix I.

## NON-MEMBERS

Non-subscriber companies or other entities are able to access training and capability building services at the discretion of AMOSC.

In the event that a non-subscriber company/ entity request emergency access to AMOSC resources, an access charge applies at the time of call-out. This charge is additional to the regular annual membership subscription plus joining fee (equivalent to one year’s subs) and the normal membership resource hiring charges.

AMOSC *does not* guarantee or assure a ‘right’ to access response resources for non-members / entities.

## GOVERNANCE DOCUMENTS

### Legal Arrangements

Several legal agreements underpin AMOSPlan. These address AMOSC’s operating arrangements, the basis on which company personnel and equipment can be made available to AMOSC and the basis on which AMOSC can make personnel and equipment available in response to oil spills.

### Articles of Association

The AMOSC Articles of Association (30 April 1991) sets out the constitution and basic governance arrangements for the company.



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## Centre Rules

The AMOSC Articles of Association make provision (Article 120) for the AMOSC Board to issue regulations (called Centre Rules).

In May 1992, the AMOSC Board adopted the AMOSC Centre Rules covering operating arrangements and practices for general AMOSC oil spill preparedness and spill response activities. In Particular, these Centre Rules address matters such as:

- Rates for AMOSC training courses
- Rates for hire of AMOSC & third party equipment
- Arrangements for the entry and exit of AMOSC members
- Liabilities of AMOSC and AMOSC members
- Differing rights and obligations of foundation members and associate members
- Geographical areas across which AMOSC services and equipment would be available

These Centre Rules apply to all general activities and provide guidance for the Board, the AMOSC staff and AMOSC members. The Centre Rules have served AMOSC well over the past 20 years and have had slight evolutions during this period.

A copy of the Centre Rules is available on the AMOSC website.

## Anti-Bribery and Corruption Policy

The AMOSC anti-bribery and corruption policy (Policy) is adhered to by all employees, directors, officers, volunteers and other personnel engaged by AMOSC to ensure that no one engages in bribery or corruption in any form. The Policy also recognises that AMOSC Member Companies – many of whom are multi-national corporations – also have their own anti-bribery and corruption legislation and policy and procedures to which they adhere. The Policy notes that AMOSC is bound by the Australian Commonwealth *Crimes Act 1914* for activities both within Australia and beyond the country's borders. In addition, AMOSC is committed to complying with the requirements of the UK *Bribery Act 2010* and the US *Foreign Corrupt Practices Act 1977*.

## AMOSC Master Service Contract

The AMOSC Centre Rules set out specific requirements for inclusion in any agreement for hiring or provision of services by AMOSC.

AMOSC has adopted a standard form of hiring agreement for use with all Member companies, known as a Services Request to a Contract Note. A Master Service Contract is signed by all founding and associate Members of AMOSC at the time of joining AMOSC.

The Master Service Contract records the processes for activating AMOSC services and the prior approval of a Contract Note which will be activated on each occasion that a Member company (or an affiliate of the company) wishes to hire AMOSC equipment or utilise AMOSC services.

It has been AMOSC's experience over the past 20 years that having a pre-approved Contract Note in place, and a clearly established process for activation the Contract Note has meant that AMOSC resources can be made available to Member companies at a very short notice on previously agreed and understood terms & conditions, similar to a call off contract. This facility has proved invaluable in the event of an urgent spill response.



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## AMOSC Master Service Contract

The Contract Note specifically deals with:

- Equipment and services to be supplied and the associated fees and AMOSC expenses
- Return of equipment and transport of equipment
- Responsibility for control of operations and equipment
- Liabilities and indemnities
- Equipment loss or damage
- Payment of fees
- Termination of the agreement; assignment and delegation
- Force majeure
- Schedules to the agreement set out details of equipment and personnel provided by AMOSC as well as fees and charges and insurance cover details

## AMOSC SUBSCRIPTIONS, FEES AND CHARGES

### AMOSC Annual Subscriptions

AMOSC's annual operating costs are met through annual subscriptions paid by founding and associate member companies. Annual subscriptions are due and payable on 1 January each year.

Annual subscriptions for AMOSC member companies are set by the AMOSC Board in November each year at a standard rate. These include -

- Participating company (refiner/large producer)
- Participating company (small producer)
- Participating company (non- producer)
- Associate company (producer)
- Associate company (non- producer)

### AMOSC Fees and Charges

AMOSC member companies (or their affiliates) requesting **general oil spill preparedness services** under an AMOSC Contract Note will incur fees and charges in accordance with the specific services requested, based on the pre-determined fees and charges specified in the schedule to the Contract Note for that activity. Note that these fees and charges are updated from time to time by the AMOSC Board. Member companies requesting general oil spill preparedness AMOSC services will normally be invoiced progressively over the duration of the activity so that AMOSC is in receipt of funds to cover its ongoing costs related to that activity. AMOSC normally provides fully detailed invoicing, with the specifics of each part of the services provided.

Upon receipt of a request (signed Contract Note) from a Member Company requiring activation of AMOSC resources for a **spill response**, an invoice for \$1,000,000 plus GST will be issued by AMOSC for immediate payment. AMOSC will issue progress payment invoices to the Member Company throughout the oil spill response with standard invoice payment terms of 30 days. The initial \$1,000,000 payment will be credited against the final invoice issued after completion of the oil spill response.



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## AMOSC Specialised Services

AMOSC's specialised services including the AMOSC Subsea First Response Toolkit (SFRT) are subject to their own additional membership arrangements, including separate subscriptions, fees and charges.

## AMOSPlan ACTIVATION

### Member Company

AMOSPlan is activated by a company when the response to an oil spill incident is regarded by the company as requiring resources beyond those of the company itself.

**Callout Authorities & Mutual Aid contacts:** In the event that the oil spill response requires the call out of AMOSC's own resources, the call out request is made directly to AMOSC by the approved authority in the company.

These company approved authorities are called "**Company Authorities AMOSPlan**" (**CAA**) and are able to activate AMOSC and also provide all the mutual aid capabilities from within their own companies. The roles and responsibilities of the **CAA** are available to AMOSC Member Companies from Level 2 of this plan. Each AMOSC Member Company is required to nominate their own CAA to AMOSC and these details will be regularly maintained and exercised.

### National Plan

A Master Service Contract is in place between AMOSC and AMSA, enabling AMSA to hire equipment and personnel from AMOSC on behalf of the National Plan. These resources include both AMOSC's own resources and those that may be available from Participating Companies. The agreements in place with AMOSC allow resources from these companies to be hired through AMOSC by AMSA on behalf of the National Plan.

Should a non-industry National Plan party require industry resources to assist in oil spill response; the request is normally channelled via AMSA to AMOSC.

AMOSC may also receive and respond to requests directly from a jurisdiction independent of AMSA.

## AMOSPLAN AND THE NATIONAL PLAN

The petroleum industry's oil spill response capabilities are fully integrated into the National Plan. Operational responsibilities for the participants in the National Plan are set out in the National Plan under Table 6. This Table summarises the obligations detailed in the Inter-Governmental Agreements (IGA). In the Administrative Arrangements, responsibilities are defined in terms of Statutory Agency and Control Agency.

The **Statutory Agency** is the Agency that has statutory responsibility for pollution matters in the relevant area. The Statutory Agency is in all cases a Commonwealth, State or Northern Territory Government Agency.

The **Control Agency** means the Agency having responsibility for acting (i.e., field deployments) in response to the oil spill (known as the 'Responsible Party'). In some cases, the Control Agency may be the same body as the Statutory Agency.



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Industry resources are available to the National Plan, through AMOSPlan.

### Response

In addition to their involvement in oil spill response through AMOSPlan, petroleum industry employees participate in National Plan activities as follows:

- **Industry Personnel** have also been nominated as members of the Core Group – a group of key industry and government personnel nominated for their experience and expertise to assist the Combat Agency in response to an oil spill. This is administered by AMOSC.

### Cooperation

Industry representatives are involved at both Commonwealth and State/Northern Territory levels in Committees established under the National Plan:

- **The National Plan Industry Advisory Forum** provides strategic direction to the National Plan Strategic Stakeholders Committee in managing the National Plan. AIP & AMOSC advocates global oil spill preparedness, capability and response best practices on the NP IAF.
- **The National Plan Strategic Coordination Committee (NP SCC)** is responsible for the strategic coordination of the National Plan. AMOSC advocates global oil spill preparedness, capability and response best practices on the NPSCC.
- **The State/Northern Territory Oil Spill Emergency Response Committees** have major responsibilities in oil spill contingency planning, equipment location and oil spill response. AMOSC represents industry on these groups, and additional jurisdictional sub-committees, including HAZMAT taskforces, as agreed by the AMOSC CEO.
- The relevant petroleum industry companies are members of the State Committees.

### Equitable Funding

Industry financially contributes to Australia's national response in a number of different ways:

- AMOSC has been created to provide an industry response capability for any industry spill
- AMOSC contributes to National Plan requests for support in shipping-based hydrocarbon spills
- AMOSC contributes 50% funding to the Fixed Wing Aerial Dispersant Contract (FWADC)
- AMOSC provides Trajectory Mapping services
- AMOSC owns the Australian SFRT equipment

Any equitable funding issues raised from previous inquiries have been satisfactorily addressed via ongoing AMOSC operations.



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## AMOSC CORE GROUP PROGRAMME

The personnel available under the mutual aid arrangements form the AMOSC Core Group. AMOSC's objective is to maintain the minimum following composition of the Core Group

- Management support (30 members)
- Field Operators (60 members)

### AMOSC Core Group Activation

The AMOSC Core Group may be activated by any member company that requires additional assistance (beyond its own resources) to respond to a spill. Mutual Aid Contacts in each company may make arrangements with each other to provide Core Group support in the event of an oil spill, or alternatively AMOSC may be asked by a member company to arrange for specified Core Group support to be provided from a number of companies participating on the Core Group Program.

AMOSC will liaise with all relevant companies and ensure that the requesting company understands the terms and conditions of use of Core Group personnel and is able to clearly identify the types of Core Group skills needed to assist in the spill response. AMOSC will also co-ordinate ongoing Core Group support in the event of an extended incident response.



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### AMOSC Core Group Membership

The target number of AMOSC Core Group members has been lifted from 85 to 140 people. This should amount to a daily rolling average of 100 Core group, comprising (ideally) of a 70/30% split between Operators and Management support.

This provides sufficient personnel to run a response of complexity, including aviation, marine and shoreline, and provide staff resourcing to bolster the Incident Management Team/Forward Operating Base capacity and capability for first and second swings. Phased over 12 months from 30 November 2023 the following requirements for each Member have been agreed by the AMOSC board:

Member Category	Revised Core Group Requirement
Participating member companies	A minimum of 11 personnel to the Core Group, with a split of 7 Operators and 4 Management members
Associate member companies (Tier One & Two fee paying members)	A minimum of 5 personnel to the Core Group, with a split of 4 Operators and 1 Management member
<i>The split for each requirement can be made up of dual trained Core Group</i>	
<i>There is no maximum number of Core Group numbers for each member</i>	

The agreed changes to increase the number of Core Group members allows for transparent, fair and reasonable arrangement across the AMOSC membership.

AMOSC will work with and support all Members during this transition phase.

If member companies are unable or unwilling to meet the minimum Core Group requirements as above, a levy will be added to their following years members. This is set at \$5,000 for each 'missing' Core Group member, and measured as at 1 December each year. Any monies raised under this levy will be directed towards training efforts of the Core Group.

AMOSC encourages all Members to actively participate in the Core Group which provides assurance to the State and Commonwealth Governments of the petroleum industry's commitment and ability to effectively respond in the event of a spill.

### Group Skills and Experience

Members of the AMOSC Core Group member are required to attend an AMOSC Core Group Workshop every 2 years to maintain a valid status in the Core Group, although this requirement may be offset against equivalent participation in AMOSC or National Plan exercises or an oil spill response. AMOSC normally conducts three Core Group training courses each year.

Core Group members also undertake additional training in specialised areas such as advanced shoreline operations, aerial surveillance, surveillance modelling & visualisation, offshore containment & recovery, coastal protection and other areas as identified by AMOSC from time to time.



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## EQUIPMENT AVAILABLE IN AUSTRALIA

### National Plan

This equipment is purchased by AMSA, using National Plan funds and is under the custodianship of AMSA. The equipment is available for responses on application to AMSA. AMSA also has a Memorandum of Understanding available for industry to access for preparedness and response needs.

### States

Some States have elected to purchase equipment over and above the National Plan allocations. This equipment may be available for hire via the State agency.

### AMOSC

The major central stockpile held at Geelong (and support stocks held in Fremantle, Exmouth & Broome) is available for hire through AMOSC.

### The Subsea First Response Toolkit (SFRT)

The SFRT was engineered and built by Oceaneering Norway and bought by a number of AMOSC Member Companies in 2013. The equipment arrived in Henderson WA in November 2013 and is currently stored and maintained by Oceaneering Australia. AMOSC owns this suite of equipment which includes 500m<sup>3</sup> of dispersant for Subsea Dispersant Injection (SSDI).

The membership to the SFRT is accessed by having AMOSC membership and then applying to AMOSC for membership to the SFRT. There is a separate membership cost that will be explained on application to AMOSC [amosc@amosc.com.au].

The SFRT is governed by the AMOSC Board through a Steering Committee consisting of the members of the SFRT.

All equipment listed as SFRT Equipment, cannot be used for surface spill response.

There is a provision made by the Committee to provide up to 250m<sup>3</sup> of dispersant for an emergency surface spill response, provisions must be met/agreed with AMOSC in the first instance.

### Companies

Various companies own equipment, strategically positioned to allow those companies to carry out Control Agency responsibilities. Some of this equipment is available as part of the mutual aid arrangements.

AMOSC and industry equipment available for incident response are listed in the information sections of the AMOSPlan available to AMOSC Member Companies only.

Updates of industry equipment and contact details should be forwarded to AMOSC.



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## FIXED WING AERIAL DISPERSANT CAPABILITY

To make agricultural aircraft available for dispersant spraying a Fixed Wing Aerial Dispersant Capability (FWADC) contract was established in 1996 on behalf of the National plan and remains in place between AMOSC and AMSA. AFR). While AMSA owns and manages the FWADC contract, AMOSC contributes 50% of funding for the National Plan FWADC. AMOSC will call off and support the FWADC on behalf of its upstream members.

The contract with AFR ensures four aircraft are available to leave base within four hours of mobilisation, one each located as follows:

1. Eastern Zone – Scone NSW
2. Northern Zone – Batchelor NT
3. Western Zone – Jandakot WA
4. Southern Zone – Parafield SA

Aircraft used under this contract must meet detailed specifications including a requirement for turbine power, typically met by, for example, Airtractor type aircraft. Aircraft must also comply with all Civil Aviation Safety Authority requirements including those for low flying. All nominated aircraft are AT802 type of 3000 litre capacity.

Aircraft are required to operate fully loaded to 200 nautical miles offshore.

In addition to the supply of aircraft, AFR are contracted to provide:

- a Liaison Officer and Dispersant Loading personnel. The Liaison Officer represents AFR and is responsible for assisting with the management and supervision of AFR's aircraft and dispersant loading operations during an incident.
- Loading Crew will consist of two (2) personnel who will have sufficient expertise and knowledge to load dispersant and refuel AMR's aircraft.
- The Liaison Officer(s) and Loading Crew(s) must be on-site within twenty-four (24) hours of activation by AMSA or AMOSC

AFR will within ninety (90) minutes of activation by AMSA advise the time at which the Liaison Officer(s) and Loading Crew(s) can be at the nominated location ready to commence operations.

- AFR's performance is measured against agreed Key Performance Indicators (KPI). KPI's are based upon:
  - Aircraft availability,
  - Quality management,
  - Reporting and innovation, and,
  - Safety and the environment.

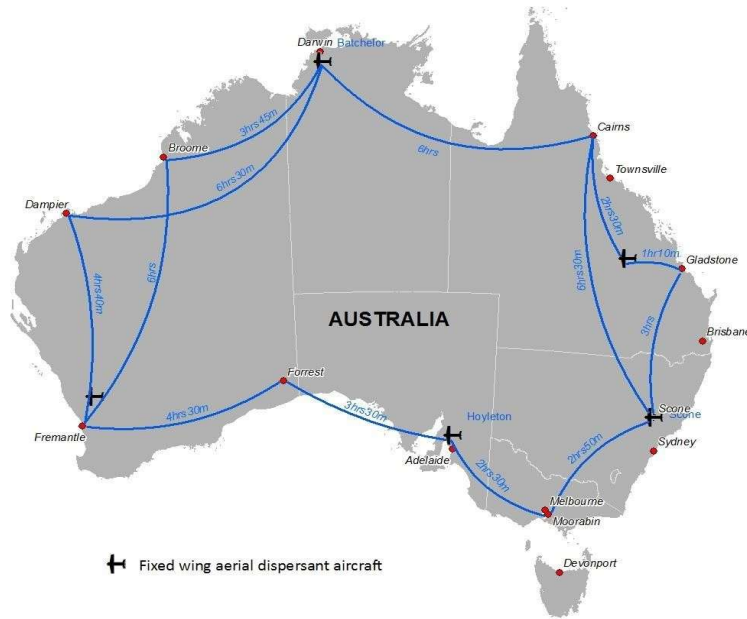
In addition to the overall administration requirements, AFR is responsible for:

- Management of sub-contractors and daily availability reporting to AMSA,
- Training of pilots in AUET and the requirement to fly at low level over the sea,
- Obtaining all necessary approvals and preparation of manuals,
- Participation in National Plan exercises, including actual flying operations, funded by others, and
- Management of aerial dispersant operations during an exercise or response.



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AFR are not responsible for supplying dispersant during a response.



AT802 type of 3000 litre capacity - Aircraft are required to operate fully loaded to 200 nautical miles offshore



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## FURTHER INFORMATION

Further information on AMOSPlan can be obtained from AMOSC:



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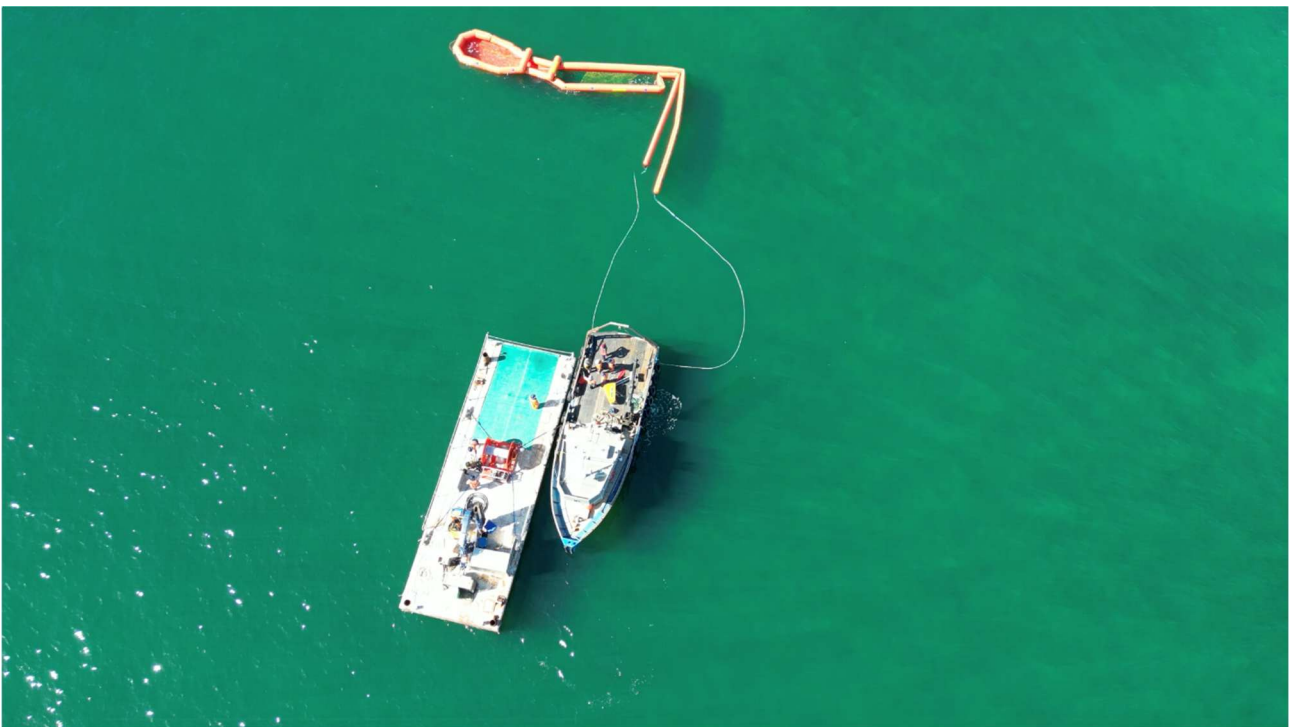
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APPENDIX 1 – AMOSC SUBSCRIBING COMPANIES  
PARTICIPATING MEMBERS 2025

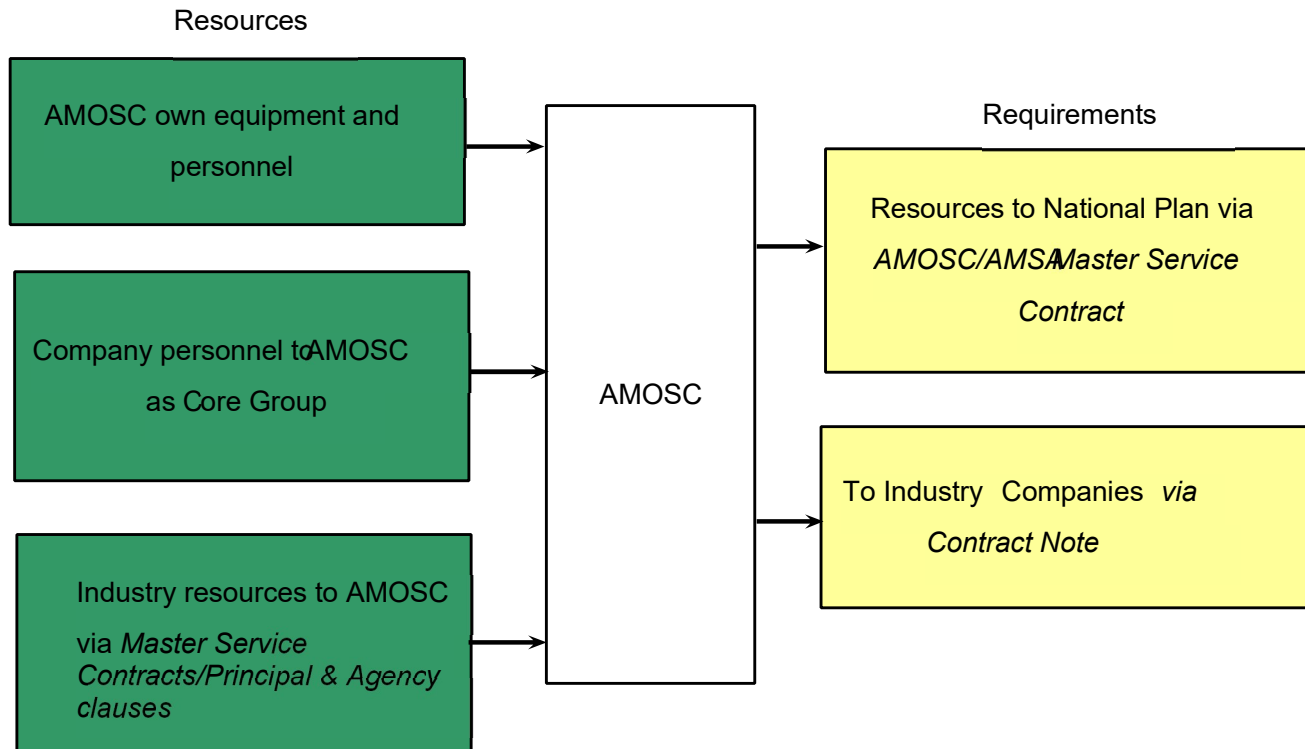


ASSOCIATE MEMBERS 2025



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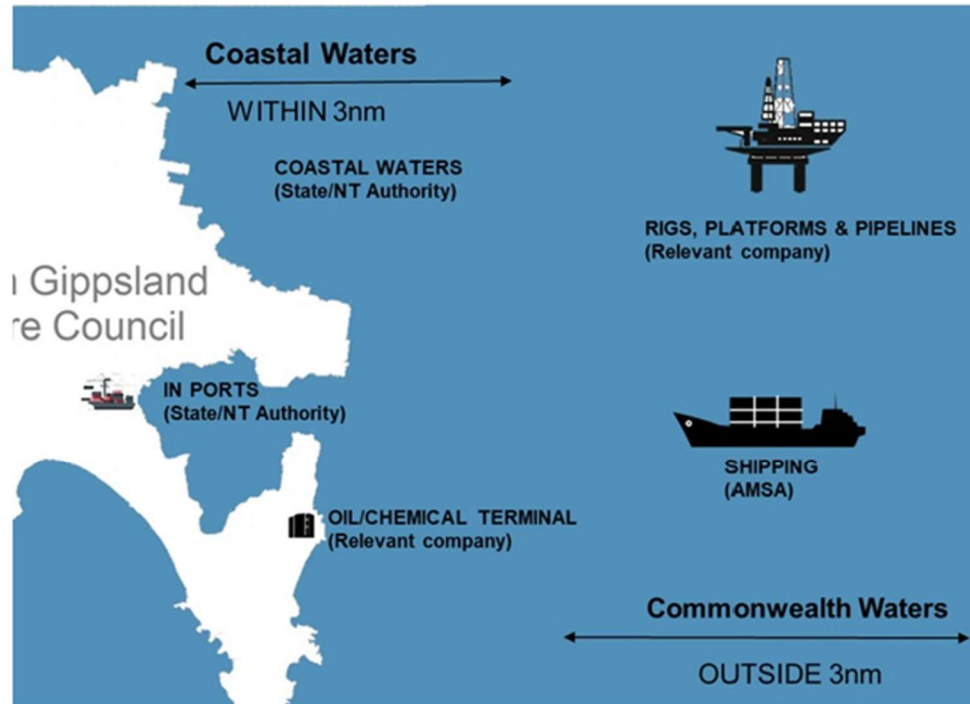
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## APPENDIX III – CONTROL AGENCY RESPONSIBILITY

### Control Agencies



### Jurisdictional Authority

#### Commonwealth Waters

*Petroleum Activity:*



*Shipping Activity:*



#### Coastal Waters

*Petroleum & Shipping Activity:*

Relevant State Agency



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## APPENDIX IV – GLOBAL RESPONSE NETWORK

The Global Response Network is a coalition of major oil spill response companies operating throughout the world. GRN members are distinguished from other commercial spill response organizations by the fact that they receive their funding from their members or customers through some type of cost sharing formula and not separate contracts more directly associated with for-profit organizations. Members of the GRN provide their direct spill response services to their members/customers and the GRN is not a mechanism whereby a spiller can call on one GRN member and have direct access to the equipment and personnel of another GRN member.

AMOSC is a member and can either request or provide advice ex/into the GRN <https://globalresponsenetwork.org/>



## About GRN

Oil spills remain one of the most vivid and emotive threats to our environment. They can have a devastating impact on the wildlife and people who live and work in spill-affected areas.

GRN was set up to help minimise that impact.

Our members include some of the world's leading specialists in oil spill response. Each of them brings a unique knowledge and experience of responding to spills in different parts of the world.

By pooling that knowledge and experience, we promote higher standards, greater consistency and a more effective response to spills worldwide.



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