

RRT III Fact Sheet

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SMART

Special Monitoring of Advanced Response Technologies

What is SMART?

Special Monitoring of Advanced Response Technologies or SMART is a - cooperatively designed monitoring program for in-situ burning and dispersants.

SMART relies on small, highly mobile teams that collect real-time data using portable, rugged, and easy-to-use instruments during dispersant and in-situ burning operations. Data is channeled to the Unified Command to address critical questions:

Are dispersants effective in dispersing the oil?

Are particulate concentration trends at sensitive locations exceeding the level of concern?

Having monitoring data can assist the Unified Command with decisionmaking for dispersant and in-situ burning operations.

What Does SMART Provide?

Dispersants

To monitor the efficacy of dispersant application, SMART recommends three options or tiers.

A trained observer, flying over the oil slick and using photographic job aids or advanced remote sensing instruments, assesses dispersant

efficacy and reports back to the Unified Command.

Tier II

Tier II provides real-time data from the treated slick. A sampling team on a boat uses a fluorometer to continuously monitor for dispersed oil 0*1 one meter under the dispersant treated slick. The team records and conveys fluorometer data to the Scientific Support Team, which forwards it with recommendations, to the Unified Command. Water samples are also taken for later analysis at a laboratory.

Tier III

By expanding the monitoring efforts in several ways, Tier III provides information on where the dispersed oil goes and what happens to it.

- Two fluorometers are used on the same vessel to monitor at two water depths;

- Monitoring is conducted in the center of the treated slick at several water depths, from one to ten meters; and

- A portable water laboratory provides data on:

water temperature;
pH;
conductivity;
dissolved oxygen; and turbidity.

In-situ Burning

For in-situ burning operations, SMART recommends deploying one or more monitoring teams downwind of the burn at sensitive locations such as population centers. The teams begin sampling before the burn begins to collect background data. After the burn starts the teams continue:

Sampling ~ for particulate concentration trends;

Recording them manually at fixed intervals and automatically in the data logger; and,

Reporting to the Monitoring Group Supervisor if the level of concern is exceeded.

The Scientific Support Team forwards the data, with recommendations, to the Unified Command.

What is SMART's Field Experience?

SMART has already been successfully tested in the field. SMART was used to monitor dispersant applications in the Gulf of Mexico and in February 1999 it was used to monitor the in-situ burn of the NEW CARISSA off Coos Bay, Oregon.