



CASE STUDY | DELAWARE

TANKER BREACH SPILLS OIL INTO THE DELAWARE RIVER NEAR PHILADELPHIA

CHALLENGE

During the 2004 Thanksgiving weekend, a single-hulled tanker I was preparing to dock at a refinery just outside Philadelphia. As it approached, it struck a large anchor submerged in the Delaware River. The impact punctured the tanker's hull, and it began leaking more than 263,000 gallons of heavy oil into the tidal waters of this busy East Coast shipping route.

SOLUTION

We immediately responded on behalf of the tanker owner and were on site within two hours. We assumed the role of incident commander, leading a unified command that included representatives from the U.S. Coast Guard, the State of Delaware, the State of New Jersey and the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. This effort demanded a range of unique solutions, including relocation of the command post in mid-response; securing suitable staging areas; establishing a science committee; conducting Town Hall meetings; and identifying techniques for detecting submerged oil.

RESILIENCE DELIVERED

This complex response lasted over six months. Our on-site partnership with the tanker owner successfully responded to the breach and mitigated the impact of the oil spill. When the response was complete, we supported the tanker owner through the lengthy legal processes that ensued.

Our vessel attendance and audit services have helped our clients successfully manage these complex and increased compliance challenges for the best possible outcomes. This is a particularly valuable service for operators with vessels infrequently calling the U.S., or for new Masters who have not previously called the U.S.

WITH YOU WHEN IT COUNTS



SHIPPING &
TRANSPORTATION

We're market leaders in resilience for shipping and transport. We've partnered with over 800 ship owners and managers, supporting more than 11,000 vessels. We've advised rail and onshore logistics providers.

We draw on this experience to help you prepare, comply and respond.

CONTACT AN EXPERT



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