



## Marcus Hook Facility Hosts US Coast Guard/DBRC Exercise

The Sunoco Marcus Hook Facility recently hosted the US Coast Guard Atlantic Strike Team (AST) and the Delaware Bay & River Cooperative (DBRC) for an emergency response exercise.

The exercise simulated an emergency product lightering operations: the transfer of oil or hazardous material from a stricken vessel to another vessel, barge, or temporary storage device.

In this simulated vessel casualty, a self-contained hydraulic pumping system was positioned on Marcus Hook's 2B Dock area to provide hydraulic pressure to power a portable viscous oil pumping system positioned on the simulated stricken vessel. The system was used to transfer water, as 'simulated oil' from a simulated stricken vessel, (the Oil Spill Recovery Vessel "DELBAY") onto a DBRC barge. In an emergency, this process would prevent oil or other material from leaking into the surrounding water via a ruptured tank, or from tanks that are in jeopardy of being ruptured.



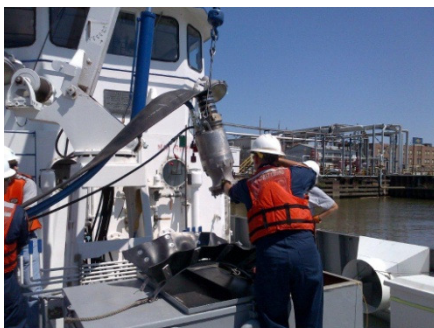
No actual oil was moved during the exercise, but the team successfully tested their readiness, equipment, and ability to work together. The participants included 24 members of the USCG Atlantic Strike team and six members from the DBRC. The DBRC and the AST have a common mission – oil spill response, so it makes sense to train together and share expertise and techniques, said Rich Schultz, Commanding Officer of the AST. Lessons learned from recent oil spills have

shown that working together and pooling assets towards a common goal has significant advantages over separate operations and conflicting objectives. Therefore, the DBRC members and the USCG are committed to continuing joint training, and working together on projects that enhance the regional ability to prepare for and respond to oil spills on the waters of the Delaware River and Bay. Sunoco is a long standing member of DBRC, and fully supports this kind of activity; this is a great opportunity for all involved, said Bill Kelly of Sunoco Marcus Hook.

The Delaware Bay and River Cooperative is a long standing oil spill preparedness and response asset for users of the Delaware River and Bay. The DBRC, a non-profit corporation, is fully funded by the petroleum and transportation industries, and is organized to respond to, and protect the environment from oil spills on these waters with pre-staged equipment throughout the area. The DBRC has been providing these services since 1977, and can respond to spills in the 110 mile area from the Betsy Ross Bridge in Philadelphia, to the offshore areas outside the Delaware Bay.



The USCG Atlantic Strike team, based in Fort Dix, NJ, is one of



three in the country. These teams are designed to rapidly deploy to emergencies including oil spills, hazardous materials, biological weapons and radiation. The other two national teams are based in Mobile, AL and Novato, CA. The exercise demonstrated the advantages of industry and government working together towards a common goal. The petroleum and transportation industries, and the DBRC have always enjoyed a very good working relationship with the USCG, and this exercise is just one example of the efforts to maintain that relationship.