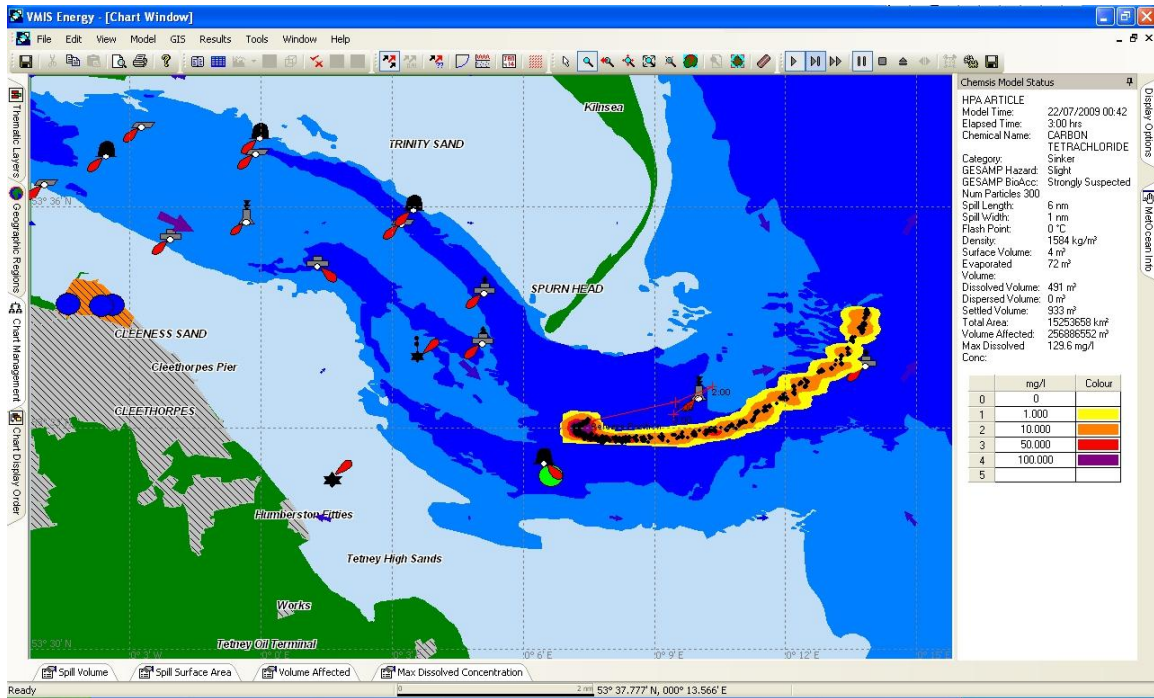


January 2010

Advanced marine spill simulation software is key to coastal environmental protection



Fictional release of 500m³ of carbon tetrachloride in the Humber estuary.

NCEC, part of the AEA Technology group, in partnership with BMT Argoss, a global specialist provider of marine environmental information, has co-developed a unique and sophisticated marine spill simulation tool to support primarily the Emergency and Rescue Services in the event of chemical incidents at sea or in port. The application has been independently validated in controlled sea trials, offering unparalleled accuracy and versatility.

Marine incidents involving chemical substances are more complex to deal with than oil spills (for which several simulation tools already exist). Dealing with one single substance dispersed at sea can be difficult enough, but when two or more are present these may interact in a wholly different way, forming complex chemical compounds. In addition, the variables required to assess the exact conditions of each incident are many, including tidal currents, weather patterns and proximity to population centres.

The NCEC Marine Spills simulation tool can also be used successfully as a planning and prevention tool. For example, port authorities may wish to plan for specific scenarios based on the movement of principal substances within that seaport. Similarly, shipping companies handling specific chemicals could also use it for risk management and actuarial purposes. Chemical manufacturers too can use it to demonstrate duty of care and regulatory compliance in their dealings with third party transportation of hazardous substances. Even local authorities could avail themselves of this tool, as they may wish to run predictive models to enable disaster preparedness, including clean up operations.

“This handy software application combines the benefits of GIS with NCEC’s intrinsic expertise of chemical incidents, providing a quick, easy and accurate solutions for preventive, as well as incidents management purposes” – Fabien Daniel, Marine Consultant, NCEC, adding: “NCEC offers this service 24 hours a day, globally, with accurate reports accessible in minutes.”

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For more information contact:

With over 35 years' experience, NCEC is a centre of excellence providing emergency response, consultancy and training on chemical safety and regulatory services. Its Emergency Responders are all qualified chemists who have received extensive training in chemical health and safety, emergency response and communication skills.

The NCEC is part of AEA, one of the world's leaders in the field of climate change and energy consultancy, operating in the UK, Europe, the US and China. It is the leading provider of advisory services to the UK Government and works extensively with the EU and major private sector organisations. With internationally renowned expertise in air quality and climate change, carbon management, resource efficiency and the environmental impacts of transport, AEA employs many world-leading experts and provides a high-level of policy consultancy and a range of technical services to its public and private sector clients.

For additional information on the product or service mentioned above, please contact Boris Salle, NCEC Sales Director on 0870 190 6565.; for information on this press release contact Maurizio Fantato, NCEC Marketing Manager, on 0870 190 8347.

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