

24/7 INFORMATION SERVICE FOR MARINE CHEMICAL EMERGENCIES



BACKGROUND

In close cooperation with the European Chemical Industry Council (Cefic) and the Centre of Documentation, Research and Experimentation on Accidental Water Pollution (Cedre), EMSA created the MAR-ICE Network in 2008. The idea behind the Network is to provide product-specific information and expert advice on chemicals involved in maritime emergencies, remotely and on-site at the requester's country. The service is available to national administrations 24/7 via a dedicated contact point.



MAR-ICE NETWORK

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24/7 INFORMATION SERVICE FOR
CHEMICAL EMERGENCIES AT SEA

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WHAT TYPE OF SERVICE DOES THE MAR-ICE NETWORK OFFER?

MAR-ICE offers a 24/7 information service on chemicals in an event of a maritime emergency.

Product and incident-specific information and advice on chemical products and their associated risks are provided within 1 hour of the request and more detailed information shortly thereafter. Furthermore, an expert from the chemical industry holding the relevant know-how may be made available to travel to the requester's country to support the authorities at the command centre.



MAR-ICE level 1

Remote expert information and advice

Information provided within 1 hour

- Safety data sheets
- Marine chemical information sheets (MAR-CIS data sheets)
- Relevant data from international codes & regulations

Information provided shortly after on a case-by-case basis

- Additional information on product properties from a knowledgeable chemical company (if necessary)

For cargoes spilled at sea

- 2D or 3D drift and weathering models, indicating areas potentially impacted by the pollution
- Estimation of the mass balance of the chemical spilled according to time elapsed

For containers

- Assessment of the behaviour of a container lost at sea
- Advice on methods to locate and recover the containers

For cargoes on board disabled vessels

- Risk assessment for responders and the environment
- Advice on response methods and options.

MAR-ICE level 2

Expert advice on-site

- Within 2-6 hours the requester will know if a knowledgeable expert from the chemical industry is available to travel to the requester's country to support and advise the authorities during the response operations
- Within 2-6 days, the chemical expert can travel to the command centre of the requester's country.

WHO CAN CONTACT THE MAR-ICE NETWORK?

All EU member states and EFTA coastal States.

All communication with the network is channelled through the MAR-ICE contact point and is, in principle, done in English.

WHAT ARE THE BENEFITS OF THE MAR-ICE NETWORK?

National authorities benefit from 24/7 access to a chemist specialised on marine pollution response, who they can consult for professional information, documentation and advice on chemical products and their associated risks.

The information provided through the network supports requesting countries in their decision-making process when dealing with chemical emergencies at sea. The MAR-ICE expert advice on-site by the chemical industry can be vital during very complex or long-lasting incidents involving chemical substances.

The MAR-ICE network provides a cost-effective and rapid information service, that supports and helps the authorities in the complex decision making process of responding to chemical emergencies at sea.

The network has already been activated for several real incidents and marine pollution response exercises.



HOW IS THE MAR-ICE NETWORK ACTIVATED?

All requests to the MAR-ICE network are channelled through the MAR-ICE contact point. This service is available free of charge, 24/7, via contact numbers and procedures which have been distributed to the national maritime administrations.

It is advisable to use the MAR-ICE activation form when making a request to the network. All contact numbers and a summary of the activation procedures are included in this form.

MAR-ICE ACTIVATION FORM




MAR-ICE ACTIVATION FORM (v.2020)

A. Procedure summary and contact details for activating the MAR-ICE Network

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graph TD
    1[1. Call MAR-ICE] --> 2[2. Requester sends this activation form by email to MAR-ICE]
    2 --> 3[3. MAR-ICE confirms receipt of email]
    3 --> 4[4. MAR-ICE sends by email the information requested (MAR-ICE level 1 and 2)]
    4 --> 5[5. Requester confirms receipt of information]
    5 --> 5.1[5.1 Requester asks for further information or clarification if needed]
    5.1 --> 4
    5 --> 6[6. Requester terminates MAR-ICE Activation]
    6.1[6.1. For MAR-ICE level 2 the communication continues between requester and identified industry expert]
  
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With ICE Contact Point: Tel: +33 (0)22 286 22 1010 Fax: +33 (0)22 286 22 1010
 E-mail: mar-ice@emsa.europa.eu

B. Information about the request

Real incident: ☐ Exercise or drill: ☐

Date of request: _____ UTC time of request: _____

Request for MAR-ICE level 1 (remote information & advice): ☐ MAR-ICE level 2 (on-site expert advice): ☐

C. Information about the caller (requester)

Name of caller or contact person for this request: _____

Position / title: _____

National authority / Organisation: _____

Country and city: _____

Telephone/mobile: _____ E-mail: _____

D. Information about the incident

Date / UTC time of incident: _____

Name and type of vessel(s) involved: _____

IMO number: _____

Cause of the incident (collision, grounding, fire or explosion, failure...): _____

Description of incident location: _____ Coordinates: Latitude [N/S]: _____ Choose an item.
Longitude [E/W]: _____ Choose an item.

Weather conditions at the time of the request:

Sea state: _____ Wind speed: _____ Choose an item. Water depth: _____

Substance(s) spilled at sea: ☐ Y ☐ N Substance(s) spilled on board: ☐ Y ☐ N

Measures and response actions already taken: _____

Other relevant information about the incident (e.g. port of origin / destination, last port of call, etc): _____

Please attach pictures from the incident or spill: ☐ (Y) attached ☐ (N) not attached