

Bonn Agreement Accord de Bonn

#### Seminar on remote sensing, MARPOL regulations & initiating legal proceedings 14 – 16 April 2015





#### **Setting the scene**

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## Remote Sensing within the Bonn Agreement

Aerial surveillance from '80s, all CPs since 1989
 Operational discharges → Marine pollution control flights
 Accidental spills → aerial monitoring & guidance in response



Satellite surveillance from early '90s
 → North Sea Pilot Project; from 2007 CleanSeaNet Corport Sea View Corport Se



ENVISAT or RADARSAT orbit. Detection by means of SAR Early warning system, steered by K-SAT Verification / validation by aircraft





#### • Sensors mounted <u>on board of response vessels</u> Sensor systems (radar, IR) used on board of response vessels to detect oil spills, since 2000







## **R/S Aircraft - what sensors for detection and observations (1)**

- Side Looking Airborne Radar (SLAR) long range detection of surface phenomena
- UltraViolet-InfraRed (**UV-IR**) scanner or cameras close range optical data of oil slick dimensions and relative layer thickness (due to temperature differences)
- MicroWaveRadiometer (MWR) measuring variation in layer-thickness

### A pattern

• In higher wave conditions a pattern is flown to radiate the slick from all sides.



## **R/S Aircraft - what sensors for detection and observations (2)**

- Forward Looking Infrared Camera (FLIR) Typical SAR/CG instrument, alternative for UV-IR
- Laserfluorosensor (LFS) Active laser to "sample" surface slicks compared to database of substances
- Photo- and/or video cameras
- Accurate Navigation
- Maritime radio for communication with vessels

## R/S Aircraft - what sensors for observations (3)

• MK1 Eyeball



the human eye connected to a substantial computer (brains) to relate surface phenomena and oil appearances

- $\rightarrow$  Bonn Agreement Oil Appearance Code (BAOAC)
- $\rightarrow$  NL Study on "visibility limits"

Proving that when traces of oil are observed in the wake of a vessel it is a violation of MARPOL









#### Do you know the color of oil?



The appearance of oil at sea surface is related to the thickness of the oil layer. The operator assesses the oil slick and estimates the volume. A lower limit is to be used for initiating proceedings against the violator; the upper limit is for defining response capacity





## Shipborne sensors

- Raw data taken from ship radar or
- Raw data taken from dedicated scanner
- Systems: Rutter; SeadarQ; Sens2sea; Consilium; Miros.....more?
- Pair of binoculars
- IR camera
- Aerostat (balloon) with camera system launched from a vessel.

### Limited coverage





But Aerial surveillance & remote sensing are <u>not</u> limited to oil

Other harmful substances (LNS)

Waste/solid cargo residues

'Unknown' detections

> [Atmospheric emissions from ships]

#### **Other harmful substances**

• Increase of spills of other harmful substances MARPOL Annex II discharges (LNS)

number of operational discharges of other harmful substances per flying hour (BE – BA Quadripartite Zone)



### **Other harmful substances**

- [satellite detection,]
- Aircraft SLAR detection,
- Visual observation from distance,
- Transparent slicks when overhead, or slicks with equal sheens, or other appearance (≠BAOAC)
  - Sometimes vessel connected, identification substance possible
  - Often orphan slick without vessel, no information on substance
- Sampling difficult if not impossible  $\rightarrow$  pick up
- Sometimes illicit discharge, but often legal (!)
  - Cf. (non) respect of general MARPOL Annex II discharge standards

#### **Other harmful substances**



#### Waste/solid cargo residues

### • = MARPOL Annex V discharges North Sea = Special Area



#### **Detection of 'unknowns'**

- Detections during night flight or in bad visibility
   *No visual verification possible, only sensor image*
  - Oil? Other harmful substance?



# Bonn Agreement now collects statistical data

#### on:

- Oil spills
- Other harmful substances
- 'Unknowns'



## Atmospheric (SOx) emissions from ships

 From 1/1/15, permitted S-emission in SECAs almost dropped to zero (0.1%)\*

\* MARPOL Annex VI / Sulphur Directive

- No BA task (yet) but some countries start with
  S-emission control flights this year
  - CompMon Pilot Project (TEN-T Call / DG MOVE)







### **Current status BA (EU)**

- Sufficient R/S aircraft
- Sufficient flight hours
- Good sensor capability for oil
- Aerial Operations Handbook (procedures)
- Extra Satellite surveillance (CSN)
- Good international cooperation
- EMSA training courses, EMPOLLEX exchange prog.
- SHARP DECLINE in operational oil spills (from ships)
- Improved response in darkness/bad visibility

### What is the problem? - Issues

- 1. Threat of reduction in flight hours in some CPs cf. budget cuts
- 2. Tendency of diversification of flight tasks border patrol, navigation, fisheries, ...
- 3. Increase in other harmful substances & problem of 'unknowns' What is substance floating at sea surface? Can (costly) sensors reliably identify substance? How to build a strong MARPOL-file in such cases?

## What is the problem? - Issues (2)

- 4. What about SOx emission enforcement needs? EU ship owners strongly urge for at-sea controls
- 5. What kind of enforcement do MARPOL Annexes request? Where can R/S assets best contribute? - costs vs. benefits?
- 6. How to further improve response in darkness & bad visibility?

#### <u>OTHER</u> ?

## **BA Remote Sensing Workshop**

- Bring together <u>operational & legal experts</u>, <u>industry & researchers</u>
- With the aim to **exchange info & discuss**:
  - Current challenges in marine pollution
  - State of the Art & developments in remote sensing
  - Use/utility of sensors from legal point of view
  - Useful further actions

...Keeping the problems/issues in mind

## Wishing you a fruitful Workshop !

