



Gulf Strike Team – Quarterly e-News

October-December 2007



News

Hurricane Season 2007 is officially over and GST is grateful that it was a relatively “light” year for the U.S. As we begin 2008, we are looking forward to assisting you with your preparedness, response, and incident management tasks this year. For those Sectors/Marine Safety Units who are scheduled to lead or participate in a PREP exercise in 2008 (North Carolina/MSU Wilmington, Key West, Tampa/St. Pete, Mobile, Houston/MSU Port Arthur), we are standing by to assist you with your exercise. Please let us know the scheduled dates of your PREP so we can plan appropriately. If any of you would like GST to attend your Area Contingency Planning meeting to meet your stakeholders and/or provide a short NSF Capabilities brief, please call me.

Best regards and Happy New Year from the GST! --- CDR Virginia Kammer, (251) 776-2793

Customer Service

Please let me know if there is any way the GST can improve its service and support to you. Also, please understand that the Deployable Operations Group (DOG) does not change your access to us. As per the National Contingency Plan, any OSC can call us directly for assistance at any time: (251) 441-6601. You can also call me any time on my cell phone: (251) 776-2793. My official e-mail address is virginia.j.kammer@uscg.mil. When I am TAD or on response I also use the following address: cogulfstriketeam@gmail.com.

Case & Exercise Summaries

October

Top Officials (TOPOFF) Exercise - Three GST members helped the Pacific Strike Team support the TOPOFF terrorism exercise. Personnel deployed to Portland, OR, Phoenix, AZ, and Guam where they provided technical expertise for chemical, biological, radiological, nuclear, and explosive (CBRNE) procedures & Incident Command System support from October 15-21, 2007.

November

NSF 004-08: CA Wildfires 2007 - NSF personnel conducted household HAZMAT recovery following the devastating wildfires in Southern California. GST deployed one member to help the Pacific Strike Team recover and collect hazardous materials scattered in the wake of the fires throughout residential areas of San Diego County from November 8-18, 2007. **Location:** Ramona and Dulzura, CA. **EPA OSC:** Mr. Robert Wise

NSF 006-08: M/V Cosco Busan - GST personnel assisted the Pacific Strike Team with response efforts stemming from the allision of the M/V Cosco Busan with the San Francisco Bay Bridge and the subsequent oil spill into the bay. Three GST members deployed to San Francisco and provided technical assistance, contractor oversight, and shoreline clean-up and assessment team (SCAT) support from November 14 to December 1, 2007. **Location:** San Francisco, CA, and surrounding area. **USCG OSC:** Captain Paul Gugg

December

NSF 010-08: “Karn” and “Hicky” Oil Well Plugging Operations - GST deployed personnel to provide site safety and contractor oversight to support EPA well-plugging operations in Northern Kentucky. Operations began on December 2, 2007 and are expected to continue until mid-January, 2008. **Location:** Fordsville, KY. **EPA OSC:** Mr. Chuck Eger

The World’s Best Responders – Anytime, Anyplace, Anywhere



Gulf Strike Team – Quarterly e-News



NSF 011-08: Circle Environmental #1 - GST deployed two members to provide site safety and contractor oversight for tetrachloroethylene and paint waste removal from a warehouse in downtown Dawson, GA. The primary activity was the over-packing of HAZMAT into drums. GST was on-scene from December 11-14, 2007. **Location:** Dawson, GA. **EPA OSC:** Mr. Jim Webster.

International Mobilization, Preparedness & Response Exercise, Panama – GST provided technical expertise and ICS training and support for **MOBEX Panama** participants prior to and during the exercise. The Panama Canal Authority (ACP) hosted this exercise in conjunction with the NRT, and Clean Caribbean & Americas, as well as industry professionals from the private sector.

Joint GST and Alabama Civil Support Training/Exercise – GST conducted an ICS 210 course and GST SOP training for the CST in addition to conducting a full-field exercise at a local chemical plant, 11-14 December. The CST will provide GST with WMD sampling training and Level A emergency “cut-out” procedures during the next quarter.

Upcoming Events & Training Opportunities

Please contact the unit directly to inquire about upcoming events.

Note: Please call ENS Dickson if you are interested in attending a course: (251) 441-6601.



Happy New Year from the Gulf Strike Team!

The World's Best Responders – Anytime, Anyplace, Anywhere