U.S. Coast Guard
National Strike Force

CDR Tedd Hutley
Commanding Officer, Atlantic Strike Team
Coast Guard Missions

The Coast Guard is a *maritime, military, multi-mission* service

1. Ports, Waterways, and Coastal Security
2. Drug Interdiction
3. Aides to Navigation
4. Search and Rescue
5. Living Marine Resources Law Enforcement
6. Marine Safety
7. Defense Readiness
8. Migrant Interdiction

**9. Marine Environmental Protection**

10. Ice Operations
11. Other Law Enforcement
Coast Guard Command & Control

- Commandant
  - Pacific Area
    - District CDRs
      - Sectors
  - Atlantic Area
    - District CDRs
      - Sectors
Coast Guard Areas and Districts
U. S. Coast Guard Sector Commands

Command Boundaries
- Green: Area Boundary
- Red: District Boundary
- Blue: Economic Exclusion Zone

Map showing sectors across the United States.
Sector Organization

- Shore based operational unit
- Responsible for executing all USCG Missions within AOR

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- Captain of the Port
- Officer in Charge, Marine Inspection
- Search and Rescue Mission Coordinator
- Federal On-Scene Coordinator
- Federal Maritime Security Coordinator

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Shore Based Forces
Offshore Patrol Forces - Cutters
Offshore Patrol Forces - Aircraft
Deployable Specialized Forces

- National Strike Force
- Maritime Security Response Team
- Maritime Security and Safety Team
- Tactical Law Enforcement Team
- Port Security Unit
- Regional Dive Lockers

- Under the operational control of Area Commander
Overview of the National Strike Force

- “Special Team” within National Response System
- Assist FOSCs carry out their Response and Preparedness duties iaw NCP and NRF
  - Oil, HAZMAT, WMD response
  - Incident Management, Crisis Communications
- Strike Teams provide highly trained and experienced people and equipment for oil, hazmat, WMD response
- CG-IMAT provides NIMS ICS trained, qualified, and experienced personnel to assist USCG ICs during all-hazards incidents and events
- PIAT provides crisis communications and JIC management
- NSFCC manages RRI and OSRO classification program
Overview of the Atlantic Strike Team

- **AOR:**
  - CG District 1, 5, 7, 8, 9
  - EPA Region 1, 2, 3, 5, 7
  - Puerto Rico & US Virgin Islands
  - Internationally Africa, Mid East, Europe, E. Canada

- **Unit Stats:**
  - 36 Active, 35 Reserve, 3 Civilian, 8 Auxiliary

- **Diverse Enlisted workforce:**
  - Boatswain Mates
  - Machinery Technicians
  - Marine Science Technicians
  - Damage Controlmen
  - Electrician Mate
  - Electronics Technician
  - Storekeepers & Yeomen
  - Health Services Technician
Overview of the Atlantic Strike Team

**NSF Response Qualifications**
- Response Member
- Response Technician
- Response Supervisor
- Response Officer

**Additional Qualifications**
- Commercial Drivers (CDL)
- TANB Coxswain and Crewman
- Nationally certified EMTs
- ICS Qualifications (DIVS to IC)
- FOSCR
- Industrial Hygienist (civilian) on staff

AST Response Posture:
12 person HAZMAT Team on 24/7 Recall Status
Capabilities – Response Management

- ICS trained/qualified personnel
  - Strike Teams - oil, hazmat, natural disaster, WMD
  - CG-IMAT - all-hazards (SAR, LE, disaster, pollution, etc.)
  - PIAT - crisis communication, JIC management
    - Scale to size and type of incident
    - Work closely with other agencies and special teams
### Capabilities – Response Management

- **Command & Control (C2) Trailer**
- **Hazmat Response Trailer (HMRT)**
Capabilities – Site Safety & Oversight

- Site Assessment
- Site Safety Plan Development
- Contractor monitoring / supervision
- Air Monitoring
- Damage Assessment
- Salvage plan review
- Lightering plan review
Capabilities – Oil Response

- Skimming operations w/government owned and contracted equipment
  - Vessel of Opportunity Skimming System (VOSS)
  - Spilled Oil Recovery System (SORS)
- Containment (open-water, coastal, shoreline)
- Temporary Storage
- Shoreline Assessment
- Dispersant & In-situ burn use oversight & effectiveness monitoring (SMART)
### Capabilities – Pumping

- **Submersible and non-submersible pumps**
  - Chemicals
  - Oil

- **Viscous Oil Pumping System**
  - Viscous Oil and Sludges

- **Large Pump Load includes**
  - CCN 150 pumps
  - 3,000 gpm
    - Used to dewater Battery Bridge Tunnel after Hurricane Sandy
Capabilities – Chemical/HAZMAT Response

- **Chemical/Biological/WMD**
  - Only USCG unit authorized to operate in toxic/hazardous atmosphere
    - Trained in Level A, B, C entries
  - Full hazmat team capable
  - Chemical identification, characterization and disposal
  - Air Monitoring
  - Sampling
  - Confined Space Entry

- **Radiation**
  - Alpha, beta, gamma detection
  - Isotope Identification
Capabilities – Decontamination

- Technical Decontamination
- First Responder emergency decontamination
- Advise and Oversee Vessel & equipment decontamination
## Request Process and Funding

### Triggers for NSF Activation
- FOSC may request NSF directly
  - Actual or Substantial Threat of discharge or release
  - No pre-established threshold
    - Exceeds technical expertise
    - Exceeds capacity
    - Need for specialized equipment or capability
- NSF augments/supports FOSC
  - Surge capacity

### Funding
- Oil Spill Liability Trust Fund
- Comprehensive Environmental Response Compensation and Liability Act (CERCLA)
- Stafford Act (FEMA disaster funding)
Examples

### Chemical
- Barge carrying Anhydrous Ammonia runs aground UMR, requires lightering to refloat
- Substantial threat
- FOSC requests Strike Team assistance
  - Safety oversight
  - Air monitoring
  - Salvage/lightering plan review
- CERCLA fund

### Oil
- Tug collides with Tappan Zee Bridge, sinks and is discharging diesel fuel
- Substantial threat
- FOSC requests Strike Team assistance
  - Shoreline assessment
  - Air monitoring
  - Safety oversight and contractor monitoring during salvage ops
- Oil Spill Liability Trust Fund
Case Summary– F/V WILLIAM LEE

Sector Delaware Bay requested AST CBRN support after commercial fishing vessel encountered WWII munitions and a crewmember was exposed to mustard agent. The vessel had continued fishing for three days post exposure and sold potentially contaminated catch to market.

- AST conducted LEVEL B entries onto the vessel moored pier side.
- Characterized extent of contamination
- Info critical to disposition of catch and lifting of the COTP order
EPA Region V opened a removal project to mitigate an abandoned chemical plating shop that contained >1,000 drums, vats, and totes of HAZMAT to include cyanides, and chromic acid. The factory had operated since the 1930s in Jackson, MI and vacated in the 1980s.

- Contractor Oversight
- Site Safety
- HAZMAT ID in Level C
- Assisted the EPA successfully ID and dispose of >1,000 drums of HAZMAT
- Chemical Pumping Team
  - Pumped 40K gallons of chromic acid
Case Summary – Sunken Barge ARGO

Sector Detroit/D9 received a report from underwater divers that the Barge ARGO (RULET vessel sunk in 1937) was discharging benzol at the bottom of Lake Erie. The Barge was carrying 200,000 gallons of explosive benzol at the time it sank. The barge had the potential to create a major HAZMAT incident.

- TANBs/Boat crews provided On-Water Air Monitoring, sampling
- Salvage and Lightering expertise
- Site Safety & Contractor Oversight
- ICS Support
  - Incident Specific FOSCR/IC, SOFR, LSC, Deputy OSC, Assessment teams
- Successfully lightered 48,000 gallons of benzene/water mix
Case Summary - Caribbean Fantasy

On 16Aug16, C/S CARIBBEAN FANTASY experienced an engine room fire and ran soft aground three miles off the coast of San Juan, Puerto Rico. A mass rescue was initiated and 511 passengers were rescued from the vessel. Sector San Juan requested AST support for ICP assistance and salvage expertise.

- Augmented Command Post with ICS Support
- Conducted SCAT
- Provided safety oversight and salvage support
Case Summary – Kirby Tank Barge

Sector UMR received report of a barge grounding in the Mississippi river near Quad Cities, IL. The barge was carrying anhydrous ammonia. Upon numerous attempts to re-float the vessel, lightering was deemed the best option. AST was requested to provide salvage subject matter expertise, air monitoring and site safety oversight.

- AST provided a 4 member team for IMT support, safety oversight & air monitoring.
- 200 tons of product lightered
- Vessel was refloated w/ no damage.
National Special Security Event (NSSE)

- Deployed 12 person team for HAZMAT/CBRN response contingencies
- Provided real-time air monitoring
- Provided responder decontamination
- Augmented the Incident Command Post

AST provided support to USCG and U.S. Secret Service during the Republican National Convention, Democratic National Convention, Inauguration, Super Bowl 50, and the Papal visit to Philadelphia.
Atlantic Strike Team

CDR Tedd Hutley  
Commanding Officer

LCDR Shaun Edwards  
Executive Officer

LT Mike Oubre  
Operations Officer

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http://www.uscg.mil/hq/nsfweb/
Key Dates in Coast Guard History

• 1790 – Revenue Cutter Service Formed

• 1915 – Life Saving Service and Revenue Cutter Service merge to form the USCG under the Dept of Treasury

• 1939 – U.S. Lighthouse Service Becomes Part of the USCG

• 1946 – Bureau of Marine Inspection and Navigation Becomes Part of the USCG

• 1967 – USCG shifts to the Dept of Transportation

• 2003 – USCG shifts to the Dept of Homeland Security
Coast Guard Authorities

- Title 6 – Domestic Security
- Title 10 – Armed Forces
- Title 14 – Coast Guard
- Title 16 – Conservation
- Title 18 – Crimes and Criminal Procedure
- Title 19 – Customs Duties
- Title 33 – Navigation and Navigable Waters
- Title 46 – Shipping
- Title 50 – War and National Defense

**At all times the USCG is:** a Law Enforcement Agency, a Commercial Regulatory Agency, an Armed Service, and a Member of the Intelligence Community.