



LP Bulletin

Friday 17 April 2009

Bulletin 633 - 4/09 - Oil Pollution Response - Argentina

Following some recent enquiries, the Association would like to remind members of requirements in Argentina regarding oil pollution response procedures.

The Argentinean National Contingency Plan (PLANACON) was adopted in 1998 and requires that all pollution must, in practice be cleaned up by the polluter or an appointee. In the case of a spill, it must be made clear in writing who will carry out the clean up operation. If no suitable party is identified the local authorities will take it upon themselves and charge the owner accordingly. The



Prefectura Naval Argentina (PNA) is the competent local authority responsible for administering the National Contingency Plan and dealing with all pollution by oil or other noxious substances within the Argentinean marine and freshwater environment.

All Argentine flagged tankers and those foreign tankers trading regularly to Argentina must have an approved contingency plan showing a contract with an approved individual (and alternate) who will act as an Oil Spill Response Organisation (OSRO).

The OSRO defined within the contingency plan must be a resident in Argentina and speak Spanish.

For those tankers not trading to Argentina on a regular basis, they must appoint an OSRO for their visit, before entering Argentinean waters. This can normally be done through the ships agent.

It is not currently a requirement to have the same procedures in place with regards to hazardous substances but plans are in place to eventually incorporate such procedures into the National Contingency Plan.

Source of information: International Tanker Owners Pollution Federation Limited
<http://www.itopf.com/>