

# dispersant

## MASTERCLASS



This course has been developed as part of the CSIRO-AMSA relationship under the National Plan.



This masterclass is targeted at technical and non-technical experts in the oil and gas industry, shipping, and regulatory bodies.



The past program structure was as follows:

### Dispersants – an overview

Dr. Ken Lee, CSIRO

### Surfactant and dispersant chemistry

Dr. Patrick Hartley, CSIRO

### Dispersants, biodegradation and ecotoxicity

Dr Sharon Hook, CSIRO

### Dispersant Acceptance and Listing

Paul Irving, AMSA

### Spill Situational Awareness, Planning and NEBA

Francois Xavier Merlin, CEDRE

### Operational Application Technologies and Logistics

Nathan Young, AMOSC

### Public and Responder Health Issues

Paul Irving, AMSA

### Dispersant Monitoring and Technologies

Dr. Andrew Ross and Dr Xiubin Qi, CSIRO

### Open Forum

Master Class Presenters' panel



## If dispersants are in your future...

Are you giving consideration to the use of chemical dispersants as a primary marine oil spill response option? Dispersants are known to help break down surface oil slicks. The resulting microscopic droplets are transferred into the water column where they are rapidly diluted by natural physical processes (e.g. currents) to concentrations below toxicity threshold limits and degraded by marine micro-organisms. Dispersants sprayed on surface oil slicks and/or injected into subsurface plumes of oil from well blowouts may reduce the volume of oil reaching sensitive coastal environments and the exposure of oil to marine wildlife. Weighed against these positive outcomes are potential impacts of dispersed oil on the organisms in the water column and seabed.

The 'window of opportunity' to apply dispersants is limited. Efficacy decreases as the oil weathers and its viscosity increases. Successful field operations require timely dispersant acceptance and decision making processes. Everyone involved in dispersant operations, from preparedness to planning, from operations to monitoring, must be familiar with all aspects of dispersant operations to ensure integrated best practice.

This CSIRO and AMSA dispersant masterclass is targeted at technical and non-technical experts in the oil and gas industry, shipping, and regulatory bodies. The masterclass will introduce key concepts, the scientific basis and logistical constraints that inform decisions on the use of dispersants. Case studies will illustrate both the surface and subsurface application of dispersant. The program is structured around expert presentations, but there is plenty of opportunity for participants to raise questions and concerns.

## ...this is the masterclass for you!

Contact Tamara Walton at [Tamara.Walton@csiro.au](mailto:Tamara.Walton@csiro.au) to enquire about this one day dispersant masterclass for your spill response training program.

**“ ...Just wanted to write a quick note to say thank you for the dispersant masterclass event last Thursday – it was AWESOME! The content was interesting and myself and my colleagues really enjoyed it! We were very surprised at how technical some of the information was and how it was delivered in a way that we were able to understand easily!.. ”**

**Claire Miles**  
Regional Operations Officer  
NSW Environment  
Protection Authority