

SCOPE

Substrates: all types
Pollution: light to very heavy
Pollutant: all types
Sea: with or without tides



EQUIPMENT NEEDED

Basic equipment:

- Small floating booms, worksite booms, shore-sealing booms
- Skimmers/pumps
- Sorbents, landing nets

Extra equipment:

- Land- or sea-based logistical support (equipment deployment, waste disposal...)

DESCRIPTION/PRINCIPLE

Involves setting up a system to recover effluents floating in front of worksites where washing operations are being carried out. Containment is conducted using floating booms attached to the shore, set up in a U-shaped configuration. The oil is recovered by absorption or pumping from within the boom from the beach (using weir or oleophilic skimmers...) or from the water surface (using a barge/pontoon, a conveyor belt skimmer or weir skimmer etc., with an integrated or coupled storage capacity). The size of the system will depend on the volume of pollutant and the size of the worksite.

CONDITIONS OF USE

Pollution: moveable and pumpable oil.

Substrate: all types.

Site: relatively sheltered (at least during operations), for preference constantly underwater or narrow foreshore.

IMPACT ON THE ENVIRONMENT

Physical: light to none

Biological: very light (except for the spreading of pollution to the lower foreshore if the effluents have to travel over too great a distance before reaching the water, or oil mixed with sediments flowing into a subtidal zone).

PERFORMANCE

Yield: variable according to the volume of oil mobilised, the site and the recovery means.

Waste: emulsified oil, polluted water, fine sediments and various types of oiled debris.

OBSERVATIONS

- Requires massive logistic support (mobile recovery/waste disposal area) plus a methodical organisation of the worksite so as not to oil coastal areas that have already been cleaned up, or not yet been oiled.
- The concomitant use of bulk or conditioned sorbents on the water surface and the foreshore can be beneficial especially if the sediments are fine or the water turbid.
- Should only be considered for narrow beaches.