



MEDIA RELEASE

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Singapore Conducts Trilateral Oil Spill Response Exercise and Tests New Technologies at JOSE 2026

Singapore, Indonesia and Malaysia conducted a ground deployment exercise (GDX) under the Revolving Fund Committee to strengthen coordination in responding to oil spills in the Straits of Malacca and Singapore. Conducted ahead of Singapore's 17th Joint Oil Spill Exercise (JOSE) 2026, the GDX simulated an oil spill originating from a vessel collision in Singapore waters, with the oil subsequently reaching the shores of Indonesia and Malaysia.

Strengthening Trilateral Oil Spill Response Coordination

2. Led by the Maritime and Port Authority of Singapore (MPA), the GDX tested information sharing, response planning and mutual assistance among the three littoral States. As part of the exercise, Indonesia and Malaysia deployed response assets in their respective waters to test their response arrangements under the exercise scenario.

Singapore's Oil Spill Response Capabilities and Emerging Technologies

3. Separately, MPA hosted representatives from government agencies, industry partners and international organisations at the Integrated Operations Hub (IOH) Lab at ALICE@Mediapolis as part of JOSE 2026. The programme provided an opportunity to share Singapore's oil spill response capabilities and explore how emerging technologies could support future response operations. Representatives from the International Maritime Organization (IMO), ITOPF¹, Indonesia's Directorate General of

¹ ITOPF is a pollution response advisory organisation providing objective technical advice worldwide on effective response to spills of oil, chemicals and other substances at sea. ITOPF operates on a not-for-profit basis and provides a wide range of technical services to back up their core role of responding to ship-sourced spills.

Sea Transportation and Malaysia's Department of Environment also attended the programme².

4. Participants were briefed on the coordinated deployment of response assets for oil containment, dispersal and recovery, drawing on demonstrations conducted at sea.

5. The programme also highlighted how emerging technologies could enhance oil spill response. These included MPA's Maritime Digital Twin (MDT), which uses modelling to predict the movement of spilled oil and identify potentially affected areas, as well as artificial intelligence to support response planning and resource deployment.

6. Participants were also briefed on potential concepts of operations involving unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVs) and unmanned surface vessels (USVs), including those trialled with ST Engineering. Drawing on demonstrations conducted at sea, the briefing illustrated how aerial surveillance could guide USVs in carrying out tasks such as dispersant spraying and oil containment boom towing. Overall, JOSE explored how such concepts of operations could be supported as unmanned technologies mature, potentially expanding the range of capabilities available for future oil spill response operations.

<End of Release>

² Representatives include Mr David Osborn, Director (Marine Environment), IMO; Mr David Campion, Head of Singapore Office/Senior Technical Adviser (ITOPF); Mr Alfaizul, Acting Head of Maritime and Shipping Supervision Base Tanjung Uban (Head of Indonesian Delegation); and Mdm Hajah Azuri Azizah binti Haji Saedon, Deputy Director General (Development), DOE (Head of Malaysian Delegation)

Annex: List of Participating Organisations

Singapore Government Agencies

- Maritime and Port Authority of Singapore (MPA)
- Sentosa Development Corporation (SDC)
- National Parks Board (NParks)
- National Environment Agency (NEA)

Industry Partners

- Vitol Bunkers (S) Pte Ltd
- Crystal Offshore Pte Ltd
- OPL Services Pte Ltd
- ST Engineering
- Skyports Deliveries Pte Ltd
- Avetics Global Pte. Ltd.
- Skyscapist Pte Ltd
- Accenture SG Services Pte. Ltd.

About the Maritime and Port Authority of Singapore (MPA)

MPA was established in 1996 with the mission to develop Singapore as a global hub port and international maritime centre, and to advance and safeguard Singapore's strategic maritime interests. MPA takes on multiple roles as Singapore's maritime and port regulator and planner, international maritime centre champion, national maritime representative, and champion of maritime digitalisation and decarbonisation efforts. MPA partners industry, research community and other agencies to enhance safety, security and environmental protection, facilitate maritime and port operations and growth, expand multi-domain capabilities, and support the cluster of maritime services and manpower development.

For more information, please visit www.mpa.gov.sg/.

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