



PREVENTING OIL SPILLS DURING VESSEL REPAIR



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Sea Grant University

BEFORE STARTING REPAIRS

- Be sure that engines and fluids have cooled.
- Clear work area of oil and debris.
- Provide sufficient and safe lighting.
- Remove or extinguish all ignition sources.
- Provide continuous ventilation.
- Have a serviced fire extinguisher available.
- Post a schematic of all fuel and oil system lines in engineroom; label or color code all fluid lines.
- Relieve pressures from all closed fluid systems.
- Drain used oil from equipment before disassembling.
- Remove waste oils from area in closed containers.

TO REDUCE THE RISK OF POLLUTION

- Do not use toxic solvents to clean engine parts.
- Use drip pans and absorbent pads to contain oil spills.
- Attach warning signs to engine starting mechanisms and critical valves, or disable starting circuits.
- Inspect all lines and hoses for signs of deterioration.
- Check oil seals, gaskets and fittings for oil leaks.
- Replace hoses and fittings with the type and size specified for the intended fluids and service.
- Tighten all fittings to prescribed torque values.
- Secure and protect all lines against chafing or damage.
- Use proper oil transfer equipment to refill oil reservoirs.
- Use high quality oil products and filters.
- Base oil change frequencies on type and length of service.
- Closely monitor equipment for leaks during initial restart.
- Test all machinery fluid warning and monitoring gauges.
- Do not leave oily tools, parts or debris on vessel or dock.
- Plug all fluid lines before removing equipment from vessel.
- Use only approved containers to store petroleum products.
- Prior to hauling vessel from water, clean bilges and remove loose containers of paint and oil-based products.
- Clean exterior of hull before launching vessel.

REPORT ALL OIL SPILLS



CALL!

1-800-424-8802