

CIRCULAR

MARCH 10, 2006

CIRCULAR NO. 08/06

TO MEMBERS OF THE ASSOCIATION

Dear Member:

OIL POLLUTION IN THE UNITED STATES: NON-TANK VESSEL RESPONSE PLANS: LISTING OF OIL SPILL RESPONSE ORGANIZATION (OSRO) FOR AMERICAN CLUB MEMBERS: A REMINDER

Reference is made to Circular No: 9/05 of April 26, 2005 in which Members were informed of the United States Coast Guard (USCG)'s new requirement that the owners or operators of non-tank vessels operating in the navigable waters of the United States must prepare a Vessel Response Plan (VRP) and submit it to the USCG for approval.

As will be recalled, in order to gain approval a VRP must show that the owner or operator has access by contract to an Oil Spill Response Organization (OSRO).

Reference is also made to Circular 16/05 of June 9, 2005 in which the Club was pleased to confirm the details of the arrangements it had reached with National Response Corporation (NRC) of Great River, New York whereby NRC might be listed as American Club Members' OSRO for non-tank vessel calling at US ports **free of charge**. The purpose of this Circular is to remind Members of this capability.

NRC operates in all US states except for Alaska. Owners operating in Alaska with vessels over 400 gross tons (regulatory) must have already filed a spill response plan with the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation (ADEC). The list of response action contractors, contingency plan forms and non-tank vessel forms can be found at the following website:

www.dec.state.ak.us/spar/ipp/fvplans.htm

Members wishing to use NRC as their OSRO can contact NRC as follows:

National Response Corporation
3500 Sunrise Highway, Suite T-103
Great River, New York 11739
Phone – +1-631-224-9141
Fax – +1-631-224-9082
Email – iocdo@nrcc.com

It is important to note that although the Club has entered into this agreement with NRC, Members must still sign an agreement with NRC to be able to list NRC as their OSRO in their VRPs. Given these circumstances, Members are encouraged to make use of this facility with NRC and to contact NRC accordingly.

Shipowners Claims Bureau, Inc., Manager
60 Broad Street – 37th Floor
New York, New York 10004 U.S.A.



Tel: 212-847-4500
Fax: 212-847-4599
E-mail: info@american-club.net
Website: www.american-club.com



Additionally, it is recommended that Members availing themselves of this service contact NRC annually – ideally at the time they renew Club coverage – so as to ensure that all appropriate records are fully up-to-date. Equally, NRC should be informed whenever a vessel is added or removed from a fleet.

Although NRC's practice is to remind those owners/operators who are already in its system in respect of renewal etc., the importance of individual Members being proactive in volunteering relevant information will obviously help to ensure that, in the event of an incident, any unnecessary delays are avoided.

Members are also reminded that under the relevant VRP regulations they are required to contract with companies offering salvage and firefighting capabilities at the US ports to which Members' non-tank vessels are intended to trade. The following companies have been approved by the International Group of P & I Clubs for the provision of these services:

DONJON – SMIT
15402 Vantage Parkway East, Suite 316
Houston, Texas 77032-1966
Phone – +1-281-442-6800
Fax – +1-281-442-6802
Website – donjon-smit.com

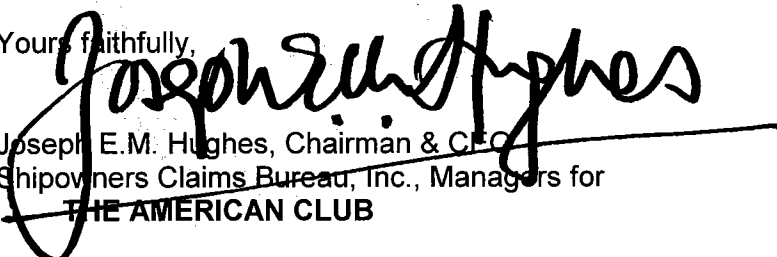
Marine Response Alliance LLC
P.O. Box 2287
Seattle, Washington 98111
Phone – +1-206-332-8076
Fax – +1-206-332-8376
Email – MRALLC@crowley.com
Website – www.marineresponsealliance.com

Resolve Marine Group
PO Box 165485
Port Everglades, FL 33316
Phone – +1-954-764-8700
Fax – +1-954-764-8724
General e-mail – info@resolvemarine.com
Website – www.resolvemarinegroup.com

Members needing these services are advised to contact the above-captioned companies directly. It is also worth noting that DONJON – SMIT has offered an extended retainer waiver for American Club Members for non-tank vessels over 400 GT until December 31, 2008. This was notified to the membership as a whole in Circular 22/05 of July 6, 2005.

As mentioned above, this Circular is offered as a reminder of the facilities available to Members, but should there be any questions in regard to the above, or generally, your Managers will, of course, be pleased to respond.

Yours faithfully,



Joseph E.M. Hughes, Chairman & CEO
Shipowners Claims Bureau, Inc., Managers for
THE AMERICAN CLUB