



Photo: The Finnish Border Guard

ChemSAR Newsletter November 2018



## ChemSAR is already on the Final Straight



ChemSAR's aim is to make rescue operations at sea safer and more effective, especially in the case of hazardous and noxious substances (HNS) incidents. The project has created Standard Operational Procedures (SOPs) for such rescue operations.

The SOPs have been developed throughout the project, and in September they were tested in an international exercise in Estonia. The final tuning has been made according to the feedback from the exercise and soon the result of the hard work will be materialised as a handbook for maritime SAR in HNS incidents.

The project has also prepared eLearning material, which will help the rescue workers in adopting the SOPs. The eLearning material is currently under final evaluation and will also be published soon.

In HNS incidents it is crucial to find correct information about hazardous materials. ChemSAR answers to this need by publishing an online data-portal, which will help the rescue authorities to find reliable information about dangerous substances quicker.

All these together soon lead ChemSAR to its final goal. The material will be published in February in our final conference. Hopefully you can join us there!

ChemSAR project creates uniform operational plans and standard operational procedures to save human lives in maritime hazardous and noxious substances incidents.

### Main Results

- More efficient rescue operations at sea
- Enhanced transnational co-operation
- Increased capacity and competence of the maritime actors

### Beneficiaries

Rescue authorities, Maritime Rescue Coordination Centres, rescue units, shipping companies, passengers, SAR training academies, coastal inhabitants and environmental authorities



ChemSAR

### Partners:



Mayday, mayday! Tallinn JRCC receives a distress call. Chemical leak detected on the M/V Regal Star and ChemSAR Livex was on!

# ChemSAR Live Exercise

13 September 2018 Paldiski



Photo: Mariikka Whiteman

Before starting the rescue operation, the chemical needs to be identified and the impact of it assessed. Also the restriction area must be defined.



Photo: Mariikka Whiteman



Photo: Päivi Söderholm

The leak caused toxic vapours to spread on the car deck.



Photo: Mikko Westerlund



Photo: Mariikka Whiteman

Helsinki Fire department's chemical experts and MIRG team were called to rescue.



Photo: The Finnish Border Guard



Photo: Mikko Westerlund



Photo: Mikko Westerlund

The helicopter of the Estonian Police and Border Guard Board was needed to transport the MIRG team to the distressed vessel.

Chemical divers searched for casualties and evacuated people from Regal Star.



Photo: EPBGB



Photo: EPBGB



The man-over-board boats (MOB) of both the Finnish Border Guard and Swedish Coast Guard were called to transfer the victims afloat to the OPV Turva and KBV-031. Altogether 8 injured victims were brought to Turva, some of which suffered from hypothermia, some not able to walk due to injuries.



Photo: Mariikka Whiteman



Photo: Sari Nyroos



Photo: Kirsi Laitio

After boarding but before entering the pressurized OPV Turva via the air-lock, the victims had to be decontaminated and wipe-tested for chemical residues.



Victims were also transferred to the port, where they were decontaminated and sent to the hospital.



Photo: Päivi Söderholm



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The observers were able to follow the situation at sea online. Fleetrang submitted the information from vessels, which was projected on the terminal wall.



Photo: Päivi Söderholm

Danel Tüür from the Estonian Police and Border Guard Board was responsible for the exercise. He thanked all participants for the successful exercise, which not only tested the SOPs but also enhanced the co-operation between the rescue authorities of the involved BSR countries.



Photo: Mariikka Whiteman

# ChemSAR goes further with the ResQU2 Platform

ChemSAR is part of a new project platform called ResQU2. The aim of the ResQU2 is to improve emergency preparedness in the Baltic Sea and North Sea areas by enhancing the durability of learning experiences gained in ChemSAR, HAZARD, DiveSMART Baltic and MIRG EU/MIRG-EX projects.

The project platform formed by several existing Interreg projects is a new form of funding, and the aim is to increase the impacts of the EU-funded projects in the area.

ResQU2 brings together rescue services, seaport and other relevant authorities and knowledge partners. The platform will disseminate the learning experiences to other rescue operators, professionals and decision makers. The platform complements the



Photo: The Finnish Border Guard

currently existing transnational co-operation in its fields by disseminating expertise gained in handling maritime incidents and insights for executing large-scale international exercises.

You can read more about ResQU2 in [blogit.utu.fi/resqu2](http://blogit.utu.fi/resqu2)



**HAZARD**



## ChemSAR Final Conference

6 February 2019

Scandic Marina Congress Center, Katajanokanlaituri 7, Helsinki, Finland

The ChemSAR Final Conference in Helsinki will introduce the project outputs, namely the common standardized guidelines, chemical data portal, and eLearning solutions and materials all supporting rescue operations. In the Final Conference, also experts and authorities will demonstrate the advantages of the produced outcome.



Registration is open at <https://konsta.utu.fi/Default.aspx?tabid=88&tap=5258>

Pls register by 23rd of January 2019.

The programme will be available later on our website: [blogit.utu.fi/chemsar](http://blogit.utu.fi/chemsar)

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**Welcome!**

ChemSAR Project  
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Contact information and more facts: [blogit.utu.fi/chemsar](http://blogit.utu.fi/chemsar)

