Everyone Has a Story to Tell
Our Customers Tell Theirs

Over the years Ohmsett has been the test center for some of the most innovative spill response technologies currently used for rapid and efficient response to oil spills. Government agencies, academia, public and private companies use Ohmsett as a research center to test oil spill containment/clean-up equipment and techniques, to test new designs in response equipment, and to conduct training with actual oil spill response technologies. To date, 27 countries have used Ohmsett for testing, research and development, and training.

By providing independent and objective performance testing of full-scale oil spill response equipment and technologies, we have helped researchers validate their study findings, and assisted manufacturers in testing their equipment in preparation for market or improving their existing equipment. Our customers have made a difference in the way we detect, respond, and clean up spills. These are a few of their stories.

DESMI / Applied Fabric Technologies Inc.
Peter Lane, VP Special Projects

The Challenge
What started out as fast water boom testing for ExxonMobil in 1998, the Speed Sweep is now a commercial product for DESMI.

Our challenge was to: 1) to determine first loss tow speed, the speed at which the first signs of oil visually escape the boom, as well as gross loss tow speed, the speed at which large volumes of oil visually escape the boom; and 2) determine the throughput efficiency of the Speed Sweep as a system.

Overcoming the Challenge
We performed first loss testing in calm water and waves by bringing the system to a speed below where first loss may occur and then increasing the speed in incremental amounts until first loss was identified. We also performed throughput efficiency tests by advancing the system at a constant speed while encountering the equivalent of...

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Elastec, Inc.
Jeff Cantrell, Vice President

The Challenge
We believed when we built our first drum skimmer 25 years ago that it would revolutionize the process of recovering oil spilled on water. Our own tests verified that belief. But we wanted to prove to the industry as well, that our skimmer was capable of recovering more oil at a higher efficiency than anything on the market at the time.

Overcoming the Challenge
Other manufacturers claimed impressive results from their skimmers, but few had the evidence to support those claims. Ohmsett gave us the opportunity to test our equipment in a variety of conditions and to verify, in an impartial, reputable environment, that our skimmers would do what we said they would do.

Over the years, we have returned to Ohmsett time and again, not only to verify performance and establish nameplate capacities but also to learn how our skimmers perform, under a variety of conditions, helping us determine what further improvements were warranted. And, of course, it was at Ohmsett in 2011 that our revolutionary grooved disc skimmer captured the $1 million Wendy Schmidt Oil Cleanup X CHALLENGE prize. We can truly point to Ohmsett as an important contributor to our success.

Desmi / Applied Fabric Technologies Inc.
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The Challenge
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Overcoming the Challenge
We performed first loss testing in calm water and waves by bringing the system to a speed below where first loss may occur and then increasing the speed in incremental amounts until first loss was identified. We also performed throughput efficiency tests by advancing the system at a constant speed while encountering the equivalent of a 0.5mm thick oil slick.

The data we collected from the Ohmsett tests helped us further develop the Speed Sweep prototype enabling us to conduct testing at sea. Results in the field corroborated the test tank results and it is now a commercial product for Desmi.

Testing With Ohmsett
Ohmsett has been a big factor in our success story. Schedule a test by visiting www.ohmsett.com or calling 732-866-7183

Desmi won the Wendy Schmidt Oil Cleanup X CHALLENGE with an oil-skimming system that had four rows of rapidly spinning grooved discs. Based on this design, Elastec went on to develop the commercial model Elastec X150 skimmer system.

U.S. Coast Guard Research and Development Center
Kurt Hansen, Project Engineer

The Challenge
My first experience was in 1999 when the Coast Guard, in partnership with several other federal agencies, exposed fire-resistant booms to a crude oil fire at our facility in Mobile, Alabama. Afterwards the booms were sent to Ohmsett to determine if they could still hold oil.

Other visits have included specialty setups for oil sitting on the bottom that could not be created in any scale at other locations. Evaluating full-size prototypes is also crucial for efforts to develop technology for fast water response and submerged oil.

Overcoming the Challenge
The development of standard tests over the years that also led to ASTM standards is the biggest asset. These are repeatable and accepted worldwide. Ohmsett was adaptable when specialty pieces of equipment needed to be tested. Testing skimmers in ice conditions was also a challenge that Ohmsett staff is able to handle.

Testing With Ohmsett
More times than I can count. Almost yearly since 1999.

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At Ohmsett, R&D and Testing Opportunities Abound!
Our unique capabilities and realistic marine environment play an essential role in developing new technology for cleaning up oil spills.

Features & Capabilities:
- Full-scale testing, training and research
- Independent and objective testing with real oil
- Measurable and repeatable test parameters
- Chemical treating agents and dispersant testing
- Mechanical containment and recovery in ice
- Evaluation of remote sensing systems
- Test protocol development

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**The Challenge**
At the end of August 2014, several weeks before flying to New Jersey, we executed the final off-shore tests of the T-fence boom in the Mediterranean. Sea conditions during most of the time were Sea State 4. Instead of crude oil, we used an environmentally safe recoverable substitute for oil. Although we were very happy with the results, we knew that the final verdict must be derived from conducting tests with the real thing and under the supervision of oil spill response experts. In short, the main challenge was getting the “No losses” stamp of approval, under real oil conditions.

**Overcoming the Challenge**
HARBO’s team arrived at Ohmsett with just three suitcases; two containing a 100 feet long boom each, and tools and electrical instruments in the third. The Ohmsett crew, who did not expect this, asked us when the shipping containers will arrive. During the first or second test round, the reaction of the crew changed. We were excited by the myriad of testing possibilities and tools Ohmsett offers to achieve our testing goals: the professional crew, the sophisticated wave patterns, including Pierson Moskowitz, as well as the warm welcome we received and the logistical support. All this made the whole experience very valuable for our product development. For us the bottom line was the very successful test results that sent us home with a wide smile on our faces. We will be back.

**Testing With Ohmsett**
Just once, October 2014. We plan to be back in 2016.