

David J. Kinnaird
8090 Sage Thistle Trail,
Houston, Tx 77406

Date: 7th November, 2016

Ref: Aqua Flex

To Whom it may concern,

I have been asked by Scott Smith to provide details of my experience with Aqua Flex in 2010 on the Macondo Oil Spill. At the time the tragedy occurred, I was working as a senior manager at BP and was stationed in Venice, Louisiana 2 days after the explosion and subsequent oil spill occurred.

By way of back ground, my day job at BP was as a Project Director although I had worked for BP's renowned Emergency Response Team since 1989 in a wide variety of roles from Incident Commander to Situation Unit Leader to Operations and Planning Section Chief. During this period, I responded to a wide range of crisis events, many of them oil spill related and I never ceased to be amazed at the lack of advancement in oil spill removal and clean up technology. That was the case until I met Scott Smith and he introduced me to Aqua Flex.

The problem with oil spill sorbent pads and boom is that once they get oiled, they are of no further use and in fact tend to add to the problem rather than help to address it. Likewise, sorbent materials are exactly that; absorbent, soaking up vast amounts of water along with the oil they were deployed to "collect". This water adds to the weight of the materials which now need to be disposed of as hazardous waste per the EPA and in the USA, you pay by the pound in weight to use a landfill.

Aqua Flex is very different. Deploy it in the morning, come back in the afternoon hours, wring the oil out of it and redeploy. The oil can now be collected and sent to a refinery to be used productively and the Aqua Flex and be reused over and over reducing time and cost to dispose of soaking wet sorbent pads as hazardous material! One of the best uses for the technology is as "eelgrass" where the Aqua Flex is made in to what looks like bunches of hay strands. These are deployed behind skirt boom which helps to prevent the oil from entraining [passing underneath the boom in tidal or windy conditions]. It collects the oil instead and helps the responders collect it twice daily which is highly effective not to mention efficient.

Another use for the eelgrass was to clean oil from the ballast tanks of vessels that were used in the spill response effort. These vessels were often forced to take ballast whilst over top dead center and thus got crude in their ballast tanks. The eelgrass was highly effective in removing the oil sheen from these ballast tanks and was good enough to pass a USCG inspection after only two or three passes with clean Aqua Flex.

After many, many uses, the Aqua Flex starts to fall apart. Wring it out thoroughly [it will not absorb water, only oil] and send the oil free residual to the landfill just as you would have done with sorbent pads/boom only without all the oil and added water weight. Fewer trips to the landfill, less weight when you get there!

It is true that to use Aqua Flex effectively and efficiently, you must provide a means of wringing the oil out. The more effective and efficient you make this wringer, the more time and effort you will save and it is a onetime cost and the machinery needed is basic and inexpensive.

In the salt water marshes in lower Louisiana, Aqua Flex was the ***only*** way of effectively removing the oil other than burning the reeds to the water line. A dangerous, expensive and environmentally unfriendly way of removing entrained oil. Sorbet pads were worse than useless and CNN and mainstream media newsreels are full of tape depicting these pads sitting there doing precisely nothing!

I wish to add, for the record that I was a user of this product and have absolutely no financial dealings with Scott Smith other than buying millions of dollars' worth of Aqua Flex during the Macondo Crisis. I believe in Aqua Flex and have never heard Scott Smith say anything that was not borne out in fact.

Very Sincerely,

David J Kinnaird

+1 281 224 6466

kinnaidj@yahoo.com