

For Immediate Release



The American Salvage Association Presents Salvage and Marine Firefighting (SMFF) Marine Salvage Response Course to U.S. Coast Guard National Strike Force Members

August 20, 2025 - Alexandria, VA - The American Salvage Association (ASA) conducted a marine salvage response course with the U.S. Coast Guard (USCG) Sector Mobile and the U.S. Coast Guard National Strike Force in Mobile, Alabama. From August 5-7, 2025, the course took place at the NOAA Disaster Response Center in Mobile, AL.

The informative training was presented to a classroom of 30 people, with the purpose of familiarizing the group with an in-depth overview of key topics and challenges faced when responding to marine casualties. The course content included making responders aware of rapidly emerging technologies and the need to ensure relevance and partnerships with industry professionals while aligning with ever-changing qualification criteria for the National Strike Force.

For 22 years, the ASA has partnered with the USCG to deliver specialized training, and the course continues their dedication to enhancing maritime emergency response. The training program included discussions across SMFF (155regs, timing, planning, VRP), NFPA 303/306, 46 CFR 197, dive team qualifications and standards and mixed gas diving with daily table top exercises on the subjects of rapid salvage assessment, barge lightering calculations, tunnel dewatering, and EVATS logistics.

Positive feedback from attendees ensures the educational focus of the training remains timely and valuable to those engaged in the field.

Jeremiah Winston, chair of ASA's Training Committee commented, "This immersive course strengthens the longstanding partnership between the American Salvage Association and the U.S. Coast Guard by presenting the knowledge and skills critical for maritime emergency response. This framework ensures that responders are well-prepared to handle complex salvage operations safely and effectively. Together, we are advancing the industry's best practices."

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Photo Credit: American Salvage Association

About the American Salvage Association

The mission of the American Salvage Association is to be a unifying association of the commercial marine salvage industry, serving as the definitive spokesperson for the industry in Washington, D.C. and elsewhere in North, Central and South America as well as the Caribbean Sea. Learn more about the American Salvage Association at americansalvage.org. For inquiries, please reach out to media contact Katie Hill, Director of Operations, at khill@americansalvage.org.