



## Central Command for Maritime Emergencies

Since 1st January 2003 this central command has been working in Cuxhaven. It is permanently well prepared for Emergency Management and Maritime Pollution Response in case of serious emergencies with the potential of extensive damage.



The Federal Government and the five coastal Federal States (Hamburg, Bremen, Niedersachsen, Mecklenburg-Vorpommern and Schleswig-Holstein) have created the Central Command for Maritime Emergencies as a joint institution that runs a maritime situation centre operating 24 hours a day and a competence center for maritime emergency management. Staff members are from the Federal States and from the Federal Government.



The principals for the work of the Central Command for Maritime Emergencies are:

- Independence of the head of the Central Command for Maritime Emergencies from other authorities – as far as possible
- The head is authorized to issue instructions to all staff members of the Central Command for Maritime Emergencies.
- Clear and consistent structure for decisions
- Merging of all special fields a case of operation as a central leadership group
- Instruction of all action force by central leadership group
- Formulation of orders with explicit objectives
- Action force carries out orders independently



In everyday business staff is permanently trained. International and national developments of response to marine accidents are monitored and evaluated. So, substantial experience is available in case of operation.

