



The accident of the "Prestige" Events, consequences and lessons

Galicia



- Located in the northwest of Spain
- Main fish and shellfish region of Europe
- More than 25,000 direct jobs & 120,000 indirect jobs related with coastal activities

Fisterra's Traffic Separation Scheme

42,500 ships pass / year

Dangerous goods: 14.347

- Oil tankers: 2.958
- Chemical tankers 3.068
- Gas carriers: 1.666

General cargo: 13.249

- Containers: 8.963



Galicia

Affected by many maritime accidents which have caused spills or different pollutants

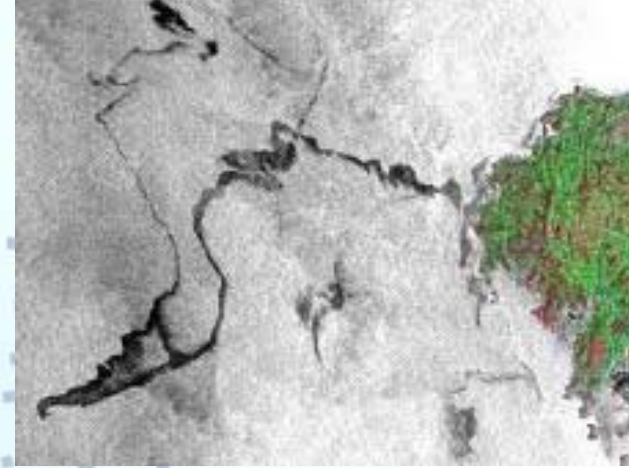
- *Polycommander*
- *Erkowit*
- *Andros Patria*
- *Urquiola*
- *Cason*
- *Aegean Sea*
- *Prestige*



The accident

M/T “PRESTIGE”

- 13 – 19 November 2002
- Accident due to structural failure
- Sunken to 135 Nm
- Sailing from St. Petersburg and Ventspils to Gibraltar
- 77,000 tons of fuel oil
- No personal injury



64,800 tons of spilled oil recovered

From shore side 8,000 people/day → 13.000 m³

Sea:

- antipollution vessels → 14,946 m³
- fishing vessels → 36,262 m³
- wreck (3,800 m) → 13.800 m³



- Final damage estimated in 2.200 M€
- The area was almost completely recovered in 2005
- Provided aid by the Galician government to the fishermen and shellfisher to the amount of 115,2 M€



Liabilities

Spanish State against American Bureau of Shipping ABS

Demand 1.000 M€

- January 2008 in New York dismissed for lack of jurisdiction
- Spain appealed and finally denied in August 2012

Trial for criminal, environmental and civil damages

Main accused

- Director general Marina Mercante

Responsible for marine merchant directorate

- Shipowner and management company
- Insurance company
- Control crew
 - Captain (Apostolos Mangouras)
 - Chief engineer (Nicolaos Argyropoulos)
 - First officer (Ireneo Maloto)



Trial for criminal, environmental and civil damages is a large scale trial

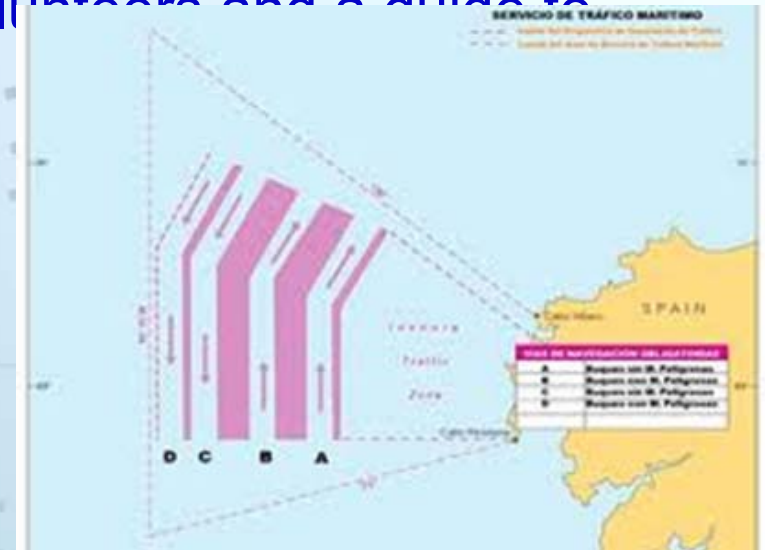
- volume
 - documentary (50,000 pages)
 - witness (140 people)
- economic matters
 - 1.974 M€ Spanish Government
 - 172,8 M€ Other spanish administrations
 - 86,3 M€ French government
 - Trial begins next October 16



Consequences

Remoteness of the Fisterra's Traffic Separation Scheme

- 1989 → 9 – 21 NM Established due to heavy traffic and accidents
- 1993 → 21 – 33 NM Away due to overlap with fishing grounds
- 2003 → 21 – 42 NM Away following the accident the "Prestige"
- Acquisition of new equipment
- Recently regional contingency plan approved including the participation of sea professionals and volunteers and a guide to competence.



GRACIAS

Thank you