

## **Witt O'Brien's Earns California's Spill Management Team (SMT) Certification for Oil Spill Response**

PRESS RELEASE

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HOUSTON / London / Singapore / São Paulo, August 16, 2023. Witt O'Brien's announced today that the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) Office of Spill Prevention and Response (OSPR) has officially certified the firm as an External Spill Management Team (SMT). Witt O'Brien's crisis communications division, Navigate Response, also received certification to act as Assistant Liaison Officer and Assistant Public Information Officer for incidents occurring in the state.

OSPR serves as California's primary agency for responding to oil spills in both inland and marine environments. External SMTs are vital to ensuring that government agencies and companies that monitor and manage oil spill responses can take fast and effective action in coordination with the responsible party. When an emergency strikes, many Incident Management Command Centers do not have the resources to staff the multiple roles required for an effective response. As certified external SMTs for OSPR, Witt O'Brien's and Navigate Response personnel can be activated to fill Incident Command System (ICS) positions during OSPR's efforts to manage spill responses.

Witt O'Brien's and Navigate Response's SMT certifications were achieved as a result of the firm's performance in a major tanker oil spill simulation conducted in March 2023 off the Southern California coast near Los Angeles. The exercise was developed in cooperation with OSPR, the U.S. Coast Guard, and other state, Federal, and local agencies. The exercise incorporated all aspects of an ICS response and included more than 200 participants from Witt O'Brien's and the participating agencies.

"We are proud to have received SMT certification from OPSR and look forward to working with the agency to maximize incident response and minimize oil spill impact in California's waters," Tim Whipple, Witt O'Brien's CEO stated. "We're committed to supporting our clients' environmental protection initiatives and stand ready to deploy wherever and whenever needed."

### **About Witt O'Brien's**

Founded in 1992, Witt O'Brien's is a global leader in crisis management and resilience solutions. Operating from hubs in Houston, London, and Singapore, its diverse services include the design and implementation of social and infrastructure programs, business continuity, and emergency management. Witt O'Brien's is trusted by over 1,500 organizations worldwide, including government agencies and Fortune 100 companies.

Witt O'Brien's is a wholly owned subsidiary of Ambipar Response, a public company traded on the New York Stock Exchange under the symbol AMBI. Ambipar Response is a global leader in integrated environmental and emergency management solutions, building sustainability and resilience from over 400 locations worldwide.

## **About Ambipar Group**

[Ambipar Group](#) delivers integrated environmental and emergency management services through two divisions: environment and response. Since 2020 it has been a public company listed on the Brazilian stock exchange (under the ticker B3: AMBP3).

## **About Navigate Response**

[Navigate Response](#) is the strongest global crisis communications network specializing in the international shipping, port, and offshore industries. Headquartered in London, Houston, and Singapore, it operates a global network of media response and communications professionals with 46 offices in 30 countries, providing immediate support and expert advice for any situation that threatens operations and reputations.

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