U.S. Department of Homeland Security

United States Coast Guard

SERT

Salvage Engineering Response Team

SERT Activation Guide
and
Rapid Salvage Survey Form

Background
SERT provides immediate 24/7 naval architecture and salvage engineering support to U.S. Coast Guard units in response to vessel casualties, including grounding, sinking, capsizing, collision/allision, and structural damage. SERT should be contacted by Coast Guard units as soon as practical following a vessel casualty, so that pertinent technical information can be gathered and SERT can be integrated quickly into the early phases of the response.

Initial Contact
Initial contact with the SERT Duty Officer should be made by phone at (202)327-3985. The Duty Officer will provide initial assessment of the casualty and guide requests for additional information.

Rapid Salvage Survey Form
For many casualties, the SERT Duty Officer will request initial technical information be provided on the Rapid Salvage Survey Form (attached). This document serves as a basic "checklist" for many vessel casualties. The following specific additional guidance is provided:

- Fill in the form with the best information available, but do not delay sending the form to SERT if some information is not known;
- Items marked with an asterisk (*) are the most critical for initial action, and should also be as accurate as possible.
- Vessel drafts should be provided for the pre-casualty and post-casualty conditions. It is likely that the pre-casualty drafts will be the departure condition. It is critical for grounding or sinking casualties that draft readings be time-annotated, especially the post-casualty drafts, so that they can be sequenced to the local tide and/or water level fluctuations;
- Technical documentation including vessel plans and stability information should be gathered if available onboard the vessel or through other means, but do not delay sending the form to SERT if this information is unavailable;
- If the vessel has an installed and operational loading computer, the loading computer output (printout and/or electronic file) should be obtained if possible and provided to SERT as an e-mail attachment;
- Provide contact information including email and mobile phone for the primary point of contact, and additional points of contact if known; and
- Once completed, scan or save the form and e-mail it as an attachment to the SERT Duty Officer at sert.duty@uscg.mil.

Additional Information
In addition to providing immediate 24/7 naval architecture and salvage engineering support for vessel casualties, SERT also provides remote technical review of submitted salvage, refloating, and lightering plans, and other documents. To assist field units, SERT has published several "brief sheets" which serve as guidelines for field units in requesting salvage plans. These guidelines are available on the Marine Safety Center SERT web page, which can be found by searching "USCG SERT" on Google, CG Portal or Homeport.

Contact Information (24/7)

- SERT Duty Officer Mobile Phone: **(202)327-3985**
- SERT Duty Officer Email: **SERT.Duty@uscg.mil**

SERT Rapid Salvage Survey Form (Page 1 of 2)

Instructions: Initial contact with the SERT Duty Officer should be made by phone at (202)327-3985. The Duty Officer will provide initial assessment of the casualty and guide requests for additional information. If requested, fill this sheet out as completely as possible with the information available. However, items marked with an asterisk (*) are the most critical for initial action, and should also be as accurate as possible. Once completed, e-mail the form as an attachment to: sert.duty@uscg.mil. This PDF fillable form is available on the Marine Safety Center SERT web page, which can be found by searching "USCG SERT" on Google, CG Portal or Homeport.

Basic Vessel Information:

Vessel name*: _____ Official Number: _____
Classification Society: _____

Length (B.P.)*: _____ Beam*: _____ Depth*: _____
Full load draft*: _____ Service speed: _____ *(if known)*

Vessel type*: ☐ Bulk carrier ☐ LPG/LNG carrier ☐ OBO carrier ☐ Product carrier
☐ Crude carrier ☐ Container ship ☐ RO/RO ship ☐ Break-bulk ship
☐ Barge carrier ☐ Barge with rake ☐ Barge w/o rake
☐ Other: _____

Vessel Response Plan (VRP):

Does the vessel have a VRP? _____ Has the VRP been activated? _____
Who is the designated SMFF provider on the VRP? _____ *(if known)*

Type of Casualty: *(check all that apply)*

☐ Grounding ☐ Sinking ☐ Capsizing ☐ Collision/Allision
☐ Flooding ☐ Fire/explosion ☐ Oil/HAZMAT spill ☐ Structural Damage
☐ Other: _____

Date/Time of Casualty*: _____ **Position*:** Latitude _____
Longitude _____

Vessel drafts*: *(as accurate as possible)*

Pre-Casualty Drafts* Date/Time Taken: _____			Post-Casualty Drafts* Date/Time Taken: _____	
Port	*Starboard*		*Port*	*Starboard*
		Forward		
		Midships		
		Aft		

Bottom Type*: *(for grounding or sinking, check all that apply)*

☐ Mud/silt ☐ Sand ☐ Gravel ☐ Rock ☐ Coral

Water Depth Information*: *(for grounding or sinking)*

Tides *(if applicable)*: Time/height at time of casualty *(if known)*: _____
Time/height at next high tide: _____
Time/height at next low tide: _____
River height or lake level trend *(if applicable)*: _____

Vessel Damage*: *(if applicable)*

Flooding: _____
_____
Structural Damage: _____
_____

Vessel Cargo:

Cargo type and quantity: _____

_____

Cargo damage, loss, hazards: _____

_____

Pollution:

Reported pollution, oil spill: _____

_____

Fuel oil type and quantity: _____

_____

Initial SERT Assistance Required: *(check all that apply)*

☐ Ground reaction, force to free, refloating analysis

☐ Stability analysis ☐ Structural analysis ☐ Damage, oil outflow analysis

☐ Salvage/refloating plan review ☐ Lifting/rigging plan review

☐ Other: _____ ☐ Any/all of the above (as required)

Documentation Available: *(if known, check all that apply)*

☐ General Arrangement Plan ☐ Trim & Stability Book

☐ Capacity Plan, Deadweight Scale

☐ Structural Drawings (Midship Section Plan, Shell Expansion Plan, Deck Plans)

☐ Other: _____

Onboard Loading Computer: *(if known)*

☐ CARGOMAX (HECSALV) ☐ GLM (GHS) ☐ NAPA

☐ Other: _____ ☐ None/unknown

Additional Information: *(if applicable)*

_____

_____

_____

Primary Contact Information*:

Name: _____ Organization: _____

Phone (mobile): _____ E-mail: _____

Secondary Point of Contact: *(if applicable)*

Name: _____ Organization: _____

Phone (mobile): _____ E-mail: _____

SERT Contact Information (24/7):

SERT Duty Officer Cell Phone: (202)327-3985

SERT Duty Officer E-mail: sert.duty@uscg.mil

*Please scan or save completed form, then e-mail as attachment to: sert.duty@uscg.mil