

ENVIRONMENTAL MATS AND GROUND PROTECTING SYSTEMS

Serious environmental problems may arise when vehicle fluids (oil, brake fluid, fuel, etc) are dispersed on unprotected soil surfaces when they are being serviced. Spilled oil tends to accumulate in the environment, causing soil and water pollution. Oil decomposes very slowly. It reduces the oxygen supply to the micro-organisms that break the oil down into non-hazardous compounds.

Even at venues with tarred or concrete pit & paddock surfaces, vehicle fluid spillages may eventually degrade the quality of surface waters if it is allowed to access nearby storm water drains that discharge to lakes and rivers. Proper spill response is thus critical to avoiding a negative environmental incident.

The "Environmental Mat" thus acts as a barrier between the vehicle/motorcycle and the soil. The rationale behind the use of the mat is to protect the soil from pollutants like vehicle fluids. Spilled vehicle fluids pose a serious risk for the environment and can cause irreversible damage to the ecology and groundwater sources.

ENVIRONMENTAL MATS

- 1. Environmental mats must be composed of an absorbent upper part (top) and an impermeable part underside (bottom). Use of mats (or other effective ground protecting devices/systems) is compulsory wherever work on vehicles (motorcycles, quads, cars, karts, etc) is allowed by the organisers.
- For Motorcycles the <u>minimum</u> technical data for the mat are: Dimensions: Minimum 160 cm X 100 cm – Absorption capacity: Minimum 1 liter per m² – Thickness: Minimum from 5 to 7 mm
- 3. For Cars, Karts and Quads the whole area underneath the vehicle, where there is the prime probability of fluid spills, must be covered with a ground protecting sheet or environmental mat.
- 4. In combination with the Environmental Mats or ground sheets, other ground protecting systems like fluid absorbant material, oil spill kits, etc can be used to clear spillages. These materials must be disposed of in a hazardous waste container.
- 5. The key-elements to consider, when deciding on an environmental mat, are the following:
 - The **absorption** capacity of the mat (or ground protecting device) so that no puddles are formed on top.
 - Under no circumstances must it allow vehicle fluids to seep through onto the soil, thus having to consist of an **impermeable** (liquid proof) base.

6. Under no circumstances may these mats be disposed of in a standard refuse bin. A hazardous waste container must be available at a designated point within the DSP (Designated Service Point). Any damaged mats MUST be disposed off in this container. Alternatively the soiled mats can be placed in a sealed plastic container for disposal by a hazardous waste disposal company

RESPONSIBILITIES OF COMPETITORS AND SERVICE CREWS

- 9.5 The use of an environmental mat (or other effective ground protecting devices/systems) is compulsory at ALL motorsport events to prevent soil and water contamination. (For Specifications See APPENDIX 11 ENVIRONMENTAL MATS)
- 9.6 After the use of an environment mat, it must be rinsed with water ONLY in a place with a proper drain and oil-divider. Mats must be considered as hazardous waste and disposed of accordingly.



Above: Irreversible damage of soil and vegetation due to oil pollution and servicing of vehicles.



<u>Above:</u> Ordinary plastic sheeting does not provide proper protection when used as an "enviro mat". It has no absorption qualities. Fluids form puddles and will eventually run off and pollute soil and/or water sources. Newspapers, cardboard boxes, etc. also do not address proper pollution control.



Environmental mats with absorbent top layer and liquid proof bottom layer.





Ground covers, in combination with other absorbent systems, are very effective at off road events. The use of an environmental mat or ground cover protecting is compulsory at all refueling points.





Other ground protecting systems, which can be used on their own or in combination with environmental mats, are absorbent rolls/pads/pellets and oil spill kits. These can be very effective in a pit/paddock area with concrete or tarred surfaces. Oil spill kits can be made available to competitors by venue owners (permanent circuits) or event organisers (off-road race).

SUPERSORB OIL ABSORBENT Supersorb oil absorbents absorb up to 25 times their own weight of mineral, vegetable and animal oils, fat, paint and hydrocarbons. They are easy to handle and dispose of and can be incinerated with less than 0.02% ash content. Supersorb has the following advantages: Absorbs up to 25 times own weight Dustless Will not absorb water Wringable Non toxic Flame resistant SUPERSORB PARTICULATE SUPERSORB Easy to use dust free synthetic absorbent. Scatter over oil and the contaminated area for rapid absorption of even heavy oils from land or water and sweep up or harvest from water using hand held scoops. PACKING CODE DESCRIPTION SS00005 Supersorb particulate 5kg bag SUPERSORB PADS SUPERSORB CUSHIONS Cushions meet a variety of clean up and safety needs. Excellent for absorbing spills and leaking fluids in confined hard to reach places. Use string through eyelet to lower into sumps, drains or separators. Supersorb pads are highly effective for absorbing all types of petroleum products. This strong wringable material is perforated so small amounts can be used to minimise wastage. Cut or overlap to fit around equipment. CODE DESCRIPTION ACKING DESCRIPTION PACKING Supersorb pads 50's 2kg pack CODE SS01050 4kg pack 8kg pack SS01100 Supersorb pads 100's Supersorb cushions 10's 10 x 500mm square/bags SS00021 SS01200 Supersorb pads 200's SUPERSORB ROLLS SUPERSORB BOOMS Supersorb rolls absorb oils over larger areas on land or water, protect walkways and machines from oil spray and contamination from foot traffic Cut to size and place around machinery and at road accidents beneath damaged vehicles. Supersorb booms can be used on land or water to contain and absorb hydrocarbon spillage. Booms can be joined to form the desired length. Use to boom rivers, dams and harbours and to contain oil on land and prevents spills from reaching drains. PACKING PACKING CODE DESCRIPTION CODE DESCRIPTION SS00040 Supersorb booms Ø180mm x 4m 2 x 61/2kg booms/bag SS00196 Supersorb roll (96cm x 44m) 8kg rol SSO0044 Supersorb micro-booms Ø125mm x 4m 2 x 31/4kg booms/bag SS00148 Supersorb mini roll (48cm x 44m) 4kg roll

