BASIC STEPS TO BECOMING A MEMBER

There are no fees for participating in ECOPRO or VBAP programs.

1. Prepare the plan using your current Safety Management System (SMS), and operations and policy manuals.

2. Submit the plan with excerpts from your SMS or company manuals to show you meet the standards.

3. When your plan is approved by Ecology you will become an Associate Member.

4. To become a Full Member, our vessel inspectors will audit your tank vessels that visit Washington waters to confirm compliance with the standards.

5. ECOPRO Full Members are recognized at a formal ceremony where your company receives the prestigious ECOPRO Award.

CONTACT INFO

If you would like to participate in Washington’s voluntary compliance program for tank vessels, please contact Lori Crews for all the details at:

Department of Ecology
Spill Prevention, Preparedness, & Response Program
P.O. Box 47600
Olympia, Washington 98504-7600
Phone: (360) 407-7438
Fax: (360) 407-7288
Email: lori.crews@ecy.wa.gov

WHAT OUR MEMBERS HAVE TO SAY ABOUT VBAP and ECOPRO

“Our oil company customers look at our ECOPRO accreditation very favorably when ranking us against other competing towing companies.”
– Captain R. L. (Bob) Shields, President Island Tug and Barge Ltd.

“The ECOPRO standards challenge us to improve our quality, safety and environmental management systems; and empower us to be safe corporate citizens.”
– Anil Mathur, President and CEO Alaska Tanker Company

“ECOPRO measures help us achieve excellence in safety and environmental stewardship.”
– Thomas B. Crowley Jr. Chairman of the Board, President and CEO Crowley Maritime Corporation

“We are proud to be the first recipient of the ECOPRO Award and the longest continuous member of the program.”
– William E. Jenkins, President and CEO SeaRiver Maritime Inc.
Membership in the Exceptional Compliance Program (ECOPRO) or the Voluntary Best Achievable Protection Program (VBAP) puts you in an elite group representing some of the most advanced and safest marine transportation companies in the world.

**PROGRAM ADVANTAGES**

Meeting the ECOPRO and VBAP standards heightens your overall level of marine safety and reduces the probability of an oil spill. These standards were developed jointly with industry representatives to provide higher standards than those required by law but attainable by today’s marine transportation companies.

The ECOPRO and VBAP standards include elements that may already be included in your company’s International Safety Management (ISM) program, Planned Maintenance System, and shipboard policies and operating procedures. Many companies are already operating at a high level of safety and environmental awareness and this program allows you to take advantage of and receive recognition for that work.

As an ECOPRO or VBAP member, you will:

- Be inspected on a **three year cycle** instead of annually.
- Receive **public recognition** for your excellence in marine safety and environmental stewardship.
- Receive positive responses from customers, P & I clubs, and marine insurance companies based on your participation in our program.

**WHY IT’S IMPORTANT**

Washington has set a goal of “zero spills” and we need our industry stakeholders to help us move towards this goal. Washington has some of the most valuable and beautiful marine ecosystems in the lower 48 states. Puget Sound has the third and fifth largest ports on the west coast and a major spill would have significant economic and environmental impact on Washington State.

We invite all tankers and tank barge companies that operate in Washington waters to meet our ECOPRO and VBAP standards and show their commitment to preserving our environment.

Approximately **60% of the tank vessels already operating in Washington waters are ECOPRO or VBAP members.**