



Elastec's oil skimmer takes top prize in Warsaw, Poland

Carmi, Ill., company racks up international acclaim

By [Len Wells](#)

Posted October 13, 2012 at 6:06 p.m.

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CARMI, Ill. — Carmi, Ill.-based Elastec/American Marine has taken top honors in Warsaw, Poland, for its innovated grooved disc oil skimming technology.

Peter Cheney, who represents Elastec in Europe from his base in Estonia, accepted the Nafta Gaz Grand Prix Award at Oil & Gas Warsaw 2012, an industry conference and exhibition held recently in Poland's capital city.

It's not the first international acclaim Elastec has won recently. The company captured one of two Excellence in Environment Technology awards presented earlier this year at the Offshore Arabia Conference in Dubai. Earlier this month, Elastec received a Popular Mechanics Breakthrough Award during ceremonies in New York City. National Geographic ranked the grooved disc skimming technology second in its "Most Hopeful Energy Developments of 2011". And, the Washington Post cited the device as the 13th best "Moment in Innovation" of 2011.

Elastec also won the \$1 million first prize in last year's Wendy Schmidt Oil Cleanup X-Challenge for the development of a device that would mop up at least 2,500 gallons of crude oil per minute at a minimum of 7 percent oil-to-water efficiency rate. Elastec's technology removed 4,670 gallons per minute with an efficiency rate of 89.5 percent.

Elastec received international attention in 2010 when the company deployed its innovated Hydro Fire Boom technology to help clean up the Deepwater Horizon oil spill in the Gulf of Mexico. Elastec was able to corral thousands of barrels of crude oil and burn it off before it had a chance to wash ashore.

Elastec operates manufacturing facilities in Carmi and Fairfield, Ill., and Cocoa, Fla.