

INTERVIEW: ADMIRAL THAD ALLEN ON USCG, LEADERSHIP, BP OIL SPILL

# THE YEAR IN HOMELAND SECURITY

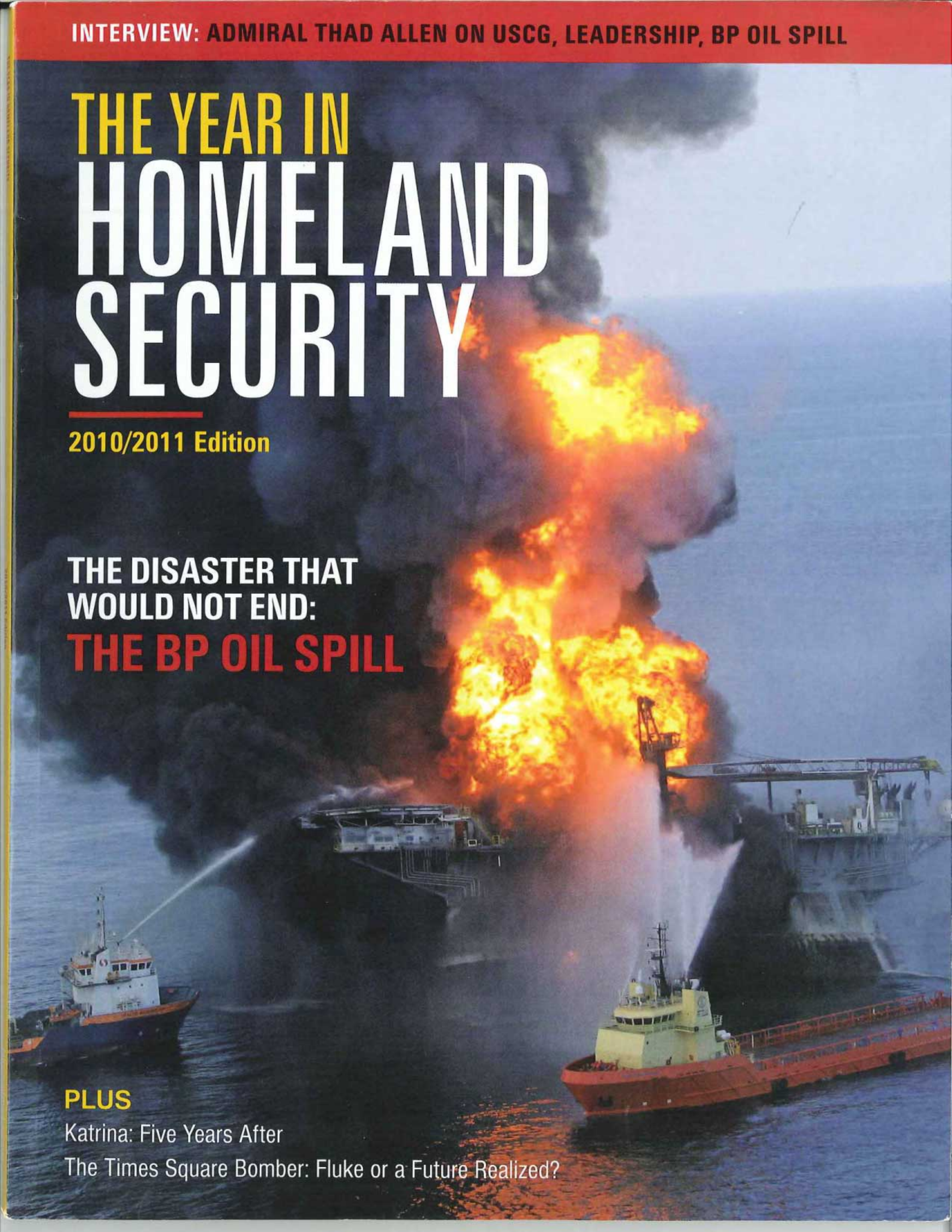
2010/2011 Edition

THE DISASTER THAT  
WOULD NOT END:  
**THE BP OIL SPILL**

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# RESOLVE Marine Group

## Respond, Assist, Protect, and Save

**T**hirty years ago, Joe Farrell, Jr., a veteran of the U.S. Coast Guard, founded RESOLVE Marine Group in Fort Lauderdale, Fla. Today, as president, Farrell sits at the helm of a global salvage and marine services company, with several divisions that handle all manner of maritime casualties. RESOLVE delivers marine firefighting and emergency response, towing, lightering, wreck removal, and reefing services, as well as emergency response training for maritime personnel.

RESOLVE has operations in Fort Lauderdale, London, Mobile/Theodore, New Orleans, and Singapore, with imminent plans for a base in Mumbai. This year alone, RESOLVE's teams responded to vessel casualties in Iraq, above the Arctic Circle in Canada's Northwest Passage, in Singapore, Hawaii, Jamaica, and in New York, Texas and the Gulf of Mexico – for jobs ranging from ship-board fires, groundings and strandings, to vessel collisions and oil spills. In the past three years, RESOLVE has responded to 85 percent of the most significant vessel casualties in U.S. waters.

The mainstays of RESOLVE Marine Group are marine salvage and firefighting, and RESOLVE's U.S. operations are positioned to handle any maritime fire or vessel casualty that might result in an oil spill anywhere in U.S. waters – with assets and personnel in all major U.S. ports and COTP zones. RESOLVE meets all salvage and marine firefighting requirements for Vessel Response Plans (VRP), for full compliance with the newly amended Oil Pollution Act of 1990 (OPA90) regulations. The new rules take effect Feb. 22, 2011, and require any tanker within U.S. waters to name an emergency responder and have a VRP filed with the USCG.

RESOLVE's expertise and deep experience with marine casualties are the basis for training programs offered at RESOLVE's Maritime Academy in Port Everglades, Fla. Originally created to build an in-house firefighting team, the academy now trains personnel for emergency response on all types of vessels. USCG officers, Military Sealift Command and Army personnel, commercial vessel and cruise line personnel, and land-based firefighters receive training at the Academy, with more than 17,000 trained to date.

From the explosion of the Deepwater Horizon rig until late summer of 2010, RESOLVE was focused on emergency response and oil spill clean-up operations in the Gulf of Mexico. RESOLVE was initially called in to support the firefighting response following the rig explosion. Then, as a subcontractor to BP, RESOLVE worked out of their 9-acre Theodore, Ala., port facility, in coordination with the U.S. Coast Guard, the U.S. Navy, BP and NRC, on assignments throughout the Gulf – laying boom, transporting skimming equipment, performing vessel decontamination, and directing "vessels of opportunity" for near-shore clean-up.

RESOLVE managed a fleet of more than 120 vessels and hundreds of personnel engaged in the Gulf effort. To monitor fleet movements and facilitate communications, RESOLVE applied their Resolve Tracking and Response (RTR) technology, a proprietary, satellite-based asset tracking, monitoring and response service designed specifically for vessel and fleet



This loaded chemical/product tanker was grounded inside Galveston Bay, Texas. RESOLVE refloated the vessel utilizing four tugs after transferring cargo and deballasting.

management. RTR enables fast, two-way communications, mapping, tracking and response, and real-time operations management reporting. RTR was used in the Gulf to locate and track floating assets and personnel, and maintain two-way communication and data exchange 24/7 for all operations. RESOLVE is presently working with Bahamian law enforcement agencies and marina operators to apply RTR to the problem of vessel theft in Bahamian waters. In Central America, RESOLVE is exploring applications for fisheries fleets and private marinas.

Earlier this year, RESOLVE's team lent their salvage expertise and resources to aid Haiti immediately after the island's devastating earthquake. Their initial voluntary mission to deliver relief supplies quickly expanded to the removal of wreckage obstructing the harbors of Port au Prince and Varreaux, enabling relief efforts and allowing commerce to proceed.

Since the Gulf spill clean-up, RESOLVE's Marine Services division has refocused on the decommissioning of oil platforms in the Gulf. With the acquisition of a 1,000-ton A-frame crane, RESOLVE foresees a role in disassembling obsolete rigs – and creating artificial reefs. RESOLVE worked with the U.S. Navy previously on the reefing of the *ex-Oriskany* – the largest artificial reef in the world, and has sunk more vessels for artificial reefs than any other salvage company.

Joe Farrell's "resolve" in his early career to make his company a success has paid off (Farrell was Ernst & Young's Entrepreneur of the Year for the state of Florida in 2005), and his longstanding mission for RESOLVE – "To leave the world a better place" – continues to guide his company and its people. As the maritime industry continues to grow, Farrell and the RESOLVE Marine Group team will be standing by ready to respond, protecting the marine environment, saving lives and cargo and assisting the vessels that carry them around the globe.

For more information about RESOLVE Marine Group visit [www.resolvemarine.com](http://www.resolvemarine.com).