The International Spill Control Organization, a not-for-profit organization dedicated to raising worldwide preparedness and co-operation in response to oil and chemical spills, promoting technical development and professional competency, and to providing a focus for making the knowledge and experience of spill control professionals available to Intergovernmental, Governmental, NGO’s and interested groups and individuals

ISCO holds consultative status at the International Maritime Organisation and observer Status at International Oil Pollution Compensation Funds

ISCO COMMITTEE & COUNCIL

ISCO is managed by an EXECUTIVE

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- Mr Matthew Somerville, Secretary (UK)
- Mr John McMurtie, VP and Editor (UK)
- Ms Mary Ann Dalglish, VP M’ship (USA)

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- Dr Manik Sardessai (USA)

A key IMO-supported international centre responsible for co-ordinating efforts to protect the marine environment in the north-west Pacific Ocean is to expand its areas of work, following a high-level meeting in Seoul.

MERRAC (the Marine Environmental Emergency Preparedness and Response Regional Activity Centre), is the focus for cooperation between China, Japan, the Republic of Korea and the Russian Federation on preventing spills, and ensuring an effective joint response to any spills that do occur in the region.

At the latest meeting of focal points (28-30 August), the four countries agreed to enhance their cooperation by identifying new areas of work for MERRAC, such as monitoring illegal discharges under IMO’s MARPOL convention, including by use of unmanned aircraft, and developing additional response manuals for managing spills
INTERNATIONAL NEWS (CONTINUED)

involving hazardous and noxious substances (HNS), such as gasoline or liquefied gas. These new work streams are expected to start in 2020.

MERRAC was established in 2000 by IMO, UN Environment and the Republic of Korea under UN Environment’s Regional Seas Programme.

Hosted in the Republic of Korea, it is one of four Regional Activity Centres operating within the Northwest Pacific Action Plan (NOWPAP).

The meeting (the 22nd NOWPAP-MERRAC Focal Points Meeting) also invited MERRAC to collaborate with similar centres established under other Regional Seas Programmes, such as REMPEC in the Mediterranean and REMPEITC in the Caribbean. MERRAC is also to assist IMO’s Marine Environment Protection Committee in developing an operational guide on responding to HNS spills.

CEDRE RECEIVES VISIT FROM TAIWAN’S VICE MINISTER OF THE ENVIRONMENT IN BREST AND SIGNS AGREEMENT WITH THE TAIWAN, CHINA, OCEAN CONSERVATION ADMINISTRATION WHICH COMES UNDER THE OCEAN AFFAIRS COUNCIL.

September 2 – Taiwan, China’s Vice Minister of the Environment and the Ocean Conservation Administration (OCA), represented by its Director-General, signed an agreement with Cedre to develop co-operation in the field of accidental water pollution. The agreement was signed on 30th August 2019, at Cedre’s headquarters in Brest, next to the Moulin Blanc marina.

The 23-strong delegation is led by Mr Ching-Ta Chuang, Taiwan, China’s Vice Minister of the Environment, Mr Richard Wen-Jiann Ku, Minister at the Taipei Representative Office in France and the Director of the Ocean Conservation Administration:

Mr Ching-Ta Chuang, Taiwan’s Vice Minister of the Environment; Mr Richard Wen-Jiann Ku, Minister, Taipei Representative Office in France; Ms Julia Hsiang-Wen Huang, Director-General of the Ocean Conservation Administration.

All 23 members of the delegation are attending a spill response training course on Cedre’s premises from 27th August to 4th September.

Stéphane Doll, Director of Cedre, states that: “For seven years, Cedre has been training 25 engineers and technicians from the Taiwan Environmental Protection Administration each year in spill response techniques.

This agreement is a vote of confidence in the services provided by Cedre. Through this commitment, we will be able to give a new impetus to our relations with the Taiwanese maritime authorities and professionals. We are particularly interested in exploring exchange and cooperation opportunities for common projects in the fields of training, research and experimentation, information sharing and of course assistance in the event of an oil or chemical spill.”

https://www2.cedre.fr/en
THE RED SEA GOES BALTIC

September 2 - What can the Red Sea learn from its sister sea, the Baltic, and vice-versa? A high-level delegation from the Red Sea countries came to HELCOM on 28 August 2019 to exchange views on regional cooperation relating to marine ENVIRONMENTAL matters.

Like the Baltic, the Red Sea faces a multitude of pressures affecting a fragile ecosystem, demanding a concerted response from the coastal countries.

CMI (Crisis Management Initiative), an independent Finnish conflict resolution organization, facilitated the study visit. The Baltic Sea region provides a number of examples of demand driven interstate cooperation, developed over 45 years of collective efforts. CMI deals with similar interstate cooperation issues in various places around the world, for example in the Red Sea region.

Since its inception in 1974 with the signing of the Helsinki Convention, HELCOM has been widely recognised as a platform for successful regional cooperation on improving the environmental state of the Baltic Sea.

The study visit also included visits to the Mandatory Ship Reporting System in the Gulf of Finland (GOFREP), as well as briefing sessions by the Arctic Council and the Council of the Baltic States (CBSS). www.helcom.fi/

IPIECA: 45 YEARS: WORKING TOGETHER TO SUPPORT INDUSTRY PROGRESS

September 3 – An article by Brian Sullivan, Executive Director, IPIECA -

2019 marks the 45th anniversary of the foundation of the organization I lead, IPIECA, the global oil and gas industry association for advancing environmental and social performance. I’ve been in the role for seven years and it’s fascinating to be at the interface between the industry and some of the major challenges facing the global community. Anniversaries are useful points to reflect on the past, look ahead to the future and consider the way forward.

The driver for the formation of IPIECA was the establishment of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) as an outcome of the 1972 Stockholm Conference on the Human Environment. At the time, the global community was most concerned about the effects of industrial development in terms of pollution and impacts on wildlife.

With the increase in understanding of the global nature of environmental issues, the need for all actors, besides countries, including industry cooperation was clear as these were issues too big for individual actors to address alone.

It was already understood that there was a strong relationship between the oil industry, development and the environment, and the formation of UNEP prompted a series of approaches by leading oil companies and UNEP to investigate opportunities to cooperate. Sensibly, UNEP encouraged the companies to form an association to act as a liaison channel on their behalf – the International Petroleum Industry Environmental Conservation Association (our name is now just IPIECA) was formed in March 1974. IPIECA was the first global oil industry association to focus on environmental good practice and act as a channel for communication with the United Nations.

Looking back, it is possible to see many of the key elements of IPIECA’s operating model and original principles still in place and enshrined in our Articles of Association today. Convening members to explore emerging issues and work together to develop guidance on environmental (and now also social) good practice is at the heart of what we do. This technical work provides the basis that enables the improvement of industry performance and allows IPIECA to speak authoritatively on environmental and social issues to external stakeholders. The work IPIECA does is based on consensus, which does not mean aligning around the ‘lowest common denominator’, but rather a place that supports and encourages improvement in performance across the industry.

In my view, this technical role is supported by the principle that IPIECA is not a lobby group. Our role is to focus on the evidence and the facts and to ensure that reliable and accurate information is available for members and stakeholders to inform their own decision making.
The non-lobby status also enables IPIECA to engage with stakeholders from the UN, NGOs and other sectors of society in a unique way. Our engagement includes long term partnerships, and collaboration on publications and events. In all these activities, IPIECA is open to constructive and robust feedback and guidance, and much of the input is very influential in our strategy and publications. From my experience we listen a lot more than we speak.

This operating model has led to some enduring and productive partnerships such as the Partnership for Clean Fuels and Vehicles with UNEP, the Global Initiative for Oil Spill Preparedness and Response with the International Maritime Organization and our recent publication, Mapping the Oil and Gas Industry to the Sustainable Development Goals: An Atlas, with the UN Development Programme (UNDP) and the International Finance Corporation (IFC).

IPIECA is a deliberatively inclusive association. Our vision is an oil and gas industry whose operations and products meet society’s expectations for environmental and social performance. The important word is industry – our work is available to all actors in the industry and the product of that work, our good practice guidance, is freely available to download from our website. You might think that erodes the business case for joining the Association, but the growing membership, now some 68 companies and associations, suggests otherwise. The active members stay as they see the benefits that arise from working with their peers in the industry and from having materials that have broad industry alignment behind them.

Like any organization operating where we do, at the convergence of the oil and gas industry and major sustainability issues, there are challenges that we are facing up to. Supporting global sustainable development and meeting the aims of the Paris Agreement are major challenges in which the oil and gas industry is actively playing a role to help achieve the vision of both. At the centre of this is the energy transition, where the emissions from global energy use need to peak and then decline to net-zero, whilst allowing the world’s growing population to access safe, clean and affordable energy.

The complexity of the transition means that it will take several steps to get to where we need to be. It also means that all parties and all solutions have a contribution to make, not just in terms of managing the emissions of their own operations, but also providing consumers with options that lower theirs. Unfortunately, the reality of this complexity is frequently undermined by attempts to reduce it to binary options, or through the exclusion of parties who can make large positive impacts.

The formation of UNEP and IPIECA reflected understanding all those years ago that there are issues that are too large for individual countries or companies to address successfully on their own. This is never more true than it is now and will be in the future. It’s a privilege to play a small part in addressing the challenges the world is facing today. IPIECA / Read more

**ENERGY INSTITUTE: 14.7 MILLION BARRELS/$926M WORTH OF OIL LOST DUE TO ASSET INTEGRITY ISSUES**

September 5 – The EI has announced its Asset Integrity Management Conference being held in Aberdeen, UK on 2-3 October 2019. This timely conference will explore the latest industry thinking, best practice, research and lessons learned and innovation with relevance to the management of major accident hazards associated with oil and gas assets.

In 2010 the Energy Institute published its High-Level Framework for Management of Process Safety. This cross-industry guidance was developed with input from several high-hazard industry sectors including oil and gas and has been endorsed by the industry safety regulator.

This conference seeks to build on these principles of cross-industry learning to examine approaches to the assessment and management of common major accident hazards from within, and without the upstream sector. More info

**NEWS REPORTS FROM AROUND THE WORLD (COUNTRIES LISTED IN ALPHABETICAL ORDER)**

Your editor does his best to monitor a limited number of websites for news (in English language) of interest to the international spill response community but does not have the resources to monitor multiple social media platforms. The message is “If you have news you would like to share with readers of the ISCO Newsletter in over 60 countries (including your own country), you should send it by email to the editor john.mcmurtrie@spillcontrol.org

**AUSTRALIA: NEW PENALTIES FOR STOCKPILING DANGEROUS GOODS**

August 27 - Rogue operators who stockpile dangerous chemicals could face up to 10 years in jail as part of tough new penalties introduced by the Andrews Labor Government.

The Dangerous Goods Amendment (Penalty Reform) Bill 2019 will be introduced into Parliament today and will ensure that those who flout dangerous goods laws will receive a serious penalty. Mirage News / Read more [Thanks to Don Johnston of ISCO Industry Partner, DG & Hazmat Group]

**BANGLADESH: PM FOR UNIFIED SUSTAINABLE BLUE ECONOMIC BELT**

September 5 - Twenty countries along the Indian Ocean perimeter on Thursday stressed the need for establishing global processes for governance of the oceans and seas within the UN systems for exploring potentials of deep sea with national, regional and strategic initiatives.
Above: Prime minister Sheikh Hasina, together with participants of the IORA Blue Economy Ministerial Conference, poses for a photo during the inaugural session of the conference in a Dhaka hotel on Thursday. — Focus Bangla photo

This was said in the Dhaka declaration of a ministerial conference of the Indian Ocean Rim Association (IORA) on blue economy held in Dhaka. It was the third IORA conference of this kind hosted by Bangladesh as the country is all set to become the chair of the inter-governmental organisation in 2021.

Australia, Bangladesh, Comoros, India, Indonesia, Iran, Kenya, Madagascar, Malaysia, Mauritius, Mozambique, Oman, Seychelles, Singapore, Somalia, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Tanzania, Thailand, United Arab Emirates and Yemen are members of the IORA. Japan, Germany, China, the UK, the US, France, and Egypt are the dialogue partners. New Age / Read more

**BANGLADESH: OIL SPILLS NOT THE ONLY THREAT TO THE SUNDARBANS**

September 6 - Can our mangroves survive the impulse to industrialise? On August 24, 2017, the High Court directed the Bangladesh government not to approve any industry activity within 10 kilometres of the Sundarbans area. The directive was based on a gazette notification published on August 30, 1999, by the then-Ministry of Environment and Forest, which declared the 10-kilometre area surrounding the Sundarbans an ecologically critical area (ECA).

Two years later, on August 27, 2019, the High Court went back on their decision, giving permission to establish LPG bottling factories within the ECA. Three organisations—TMSS, Baraka Limited and Delta LPG Limited—were not given environmental clearance certificates by the Department of Environment (DOE) when they wanted to establish LPG bottling factories within five kilometres of the forest. Challenging the DOE’s decision, these three companies appealed to the High Court, who ultimately gave them the go-ahead.

Tigers act as forest guards, prevent human encroachment, and keep the herbivore population in check. It is essential to increase the tiger population to conserve the forest, he adds. Various other types of wildlife, not just tigers, are dependent on the mangrove ecosystem, and are also becoming extinct due to rapid, unplanned industrialisation. A census conducted in 2019 revealed that only 198 Irrawaddy dolphins are left in the waters of the Sundarbans, whereas in 2006, the number was 451. An average of nine dolphins are killed in the Sundarbans every year by tangled in fishing nets or hit by cargo vessels. Besides these species, around 65 lakh people, including fisherfolk and all types of local forest gatherers, who have been living in harmony with the forest for centuries, will also lose their livelihoods with the loss of forest by industrialisation.

There is no doubt that if the industrialisation of the Sundarbans goes on like this, the world’s largest mangrove forest will soon disappear off of the face of the earth. The government must take note of the High Court directives and international appeals to save the “lung of our country” by stopping all forms of industrialisation near the Sundarbans. By building industries in this ecologically critical area, we might secure some short-term economic gains, but in the long run, these gains will prove futile if we cannot ensure a healthy, liveable environment in our country. The Daily Star / Read more
CANADA: GOVERNMENT INVESTS MORE THAN $7.3 MILLION IN RESEARCH ON OIL SPILL RESPONSE MEASURES AND THE COASTAL ENVIRONMENTAL BASELINE PROGRAM IN NEWFOUNDLAND AND LABRADOR

September 6 - Canada has the world’s longest coastline and is surrounded by three oceans and the health of our oceans matters to all of us. The Government of Canada is dedicated to protecting our oceans and waterways and to keeping them clean, secure and productive for the benefit of all Canadians, now and into the future. We understand the importance of protecting the marine ecosystems that are home to an abundance of ocean life, support more than 350,000 jobs and sustain hundreds of coastal and Indigenous communities. We also recognize that scientific research is fundamental to evidence-based decision-making when planning and carrying out marine conservation efforts.

Under Canada’s historic $1.5 billion Oceans Protection Plan, we are making meaningful investments in scientific research to help protect our coasts and waterways from the impacts of potential oil spills while supporting the collection of baseline data to identify changes in coastal environments.

Today, the Minister of Fisheries, Oceans and the Canadian Coast Guard, the Honourable Jonathan Wilkinson, announced that the Government of Canada is investing over $5.5 million in six research initiatives at Memorial University of Newfoundland to help improve protocols and decision-making that will minimize the environmental impacts of oil spills. In addition, more than $1.8 million is being invested in 10 marine environmental data collection initiatives led by seven partner organizations in Placentia Bay. Together, these investments will support the employment of approximately 67 individuals by project partners. Canada Govt / Read more

GUYANA: OVER 100 PARTICIPATE IN OIL SPILL RESPONSE TRAINING

September 3 - More than 100 persons have participated in emergency response training organized by ExxonMobil Guyana as part of its continued effort to prepare in the unlikely event of an oil spill.

The two-day activity followed extensive training in the Incident Command System and included representatives from state bodies such as the Civil Defence Commission (CDC), the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the Maritime Administration (MARAD). Newsroom / Read more

GUYANA: OIL SPILL RESPONSE CONTINGENCY PLAN 90% COMPLETED

September 5 - Guyana’s National Oil Spill Response Contingency Plan which is ninety percent complete is being drafted by local experts in key sectors.

In an exclusive interview with the Department of Public Information (DPI), Director General of the Civil Defence Commission (CDC), Lieutenant Colonel Kester Craig explained that the planning, drafting of the plan was done by local agencies with some technical advice from international bodies. iNews Guyana / Read more

INDONESIA STRENGTHENS COMMITMENT TO RATIFY OPRC

August 30 - A ‘Consignment Discussion Meeting on the Ratification of the 1990 OPRC Convention’ was held at the SwissBellin Kemayoran Hotel, Jakarta, on 30 Aug 2019; this marked an important step towards accession to the convention.

The consignment programme was hosted by competent speakers; Expert Staff for Politics and Maritime Affairs of the Cabinet Secretariat, Mrs. Dyah Kusumastuti re-delivered the mandate of the President of the Republic of Indonesia, mentioned during his State Speech on 16 August 2019, which was in line with the intended purpose of ratifying OPRC (unofficial translation provided by ‘google’). GISEA / http://www.gisea.org/news/indonesia-strengthens-commitment-to-ratify-oprc

KUWAIT: MILESTONE REACHED IN KEY OIL SPILL RESPONSE VESSEL PROJECT

September 4 - A steel cutting ceremony marked the start of construction of a multipurpose oil spill response and towage vessel for Kuwait Oil Co. Turkish group Uzmar Shipyard has started constructing a large multipurpose offshore oil recovery, support and towing vessel for Middle East operations. This is the largest Robert Allan-designed vessel ever to be built in Turkey and will be a significant addition to the fleet. Riviera / Read more
NIGERIA: WAIVE TO NPDC: BEGIN REMEDIATION WORK ON RUPTURED ABURA CRUDE PIPELINE

September 5 - MEMBER representing Ughelli North, Ughelli South, and Udu federal constituency in the House of Representatives, Hon. Francis Ejiroghene Waive, has called on Nigerian Petroleum Development Company, NPDC, to immediately commence remediation works on the ruptured Abura crude oil pipeline in Otu-Jeremi community, Ughelli South council area of Delta State. Vanguard / Read more

NIGERIA: FG SEEKS REVIEW OF PROCUREMENT PROCESSES IN OGNONLALD CONTRACT

September 6 - Minister of environment, Dr Mohammed Abubakar, has called for the review of procurement processes and payments on contracts awarded for the clean-up of Ogoniland, which he described as serious bottlenecks towards the successful implementation of the project.

He stated this in Abuja yesterday at the joint meeting of the governing council (GC) and board of trustees (BOTs) of Hydrocarbon Pollution Remediation Project (HYPREP). Leadership / Read more

NORWAY: NOSCA – CLEAN OCEANS

September - Based on 45 years of oil spill technology experience and knowhow we will fight the plastics in the world’s oceans. NOSCA was established in 1993 to satisfy a common need within the oil & gas industry. The oil companies and public institutions joined forces and resources in order to improve the overall knowledge and technology base of oil spill prevention and response. Now we want to use our knowledge and competence on an even bigger problem, marine pollution and plastics in the oceans.

NOSCA are now, in collaboration with Innovation Norway, starting up a cluster-program called “Clean Oceans”. The purpose with this initiative is to use over 45 years of oil spill knowledge in the war against plastic in the oceans. When it comes to oil spill technology we are the leaders within this industry and now we want to lead the technology development against plastic in the oceans. The mission: «Clean Oceans» will strengthen our member’s competitiveness by developing and launching innovative solutions for handling marine pollution and develop our members to become the leading cluster in removing plastics from the world’s oceans. NOSCA / Read more

SOUTH AFRICA: SHIPS' RISKY FUEL TRANSFERS ARE THREATENING AFRICAN PENGUINS

September 3 - The African Penguin is in serious trouble. Its population has fallen by more than 95% over the last century and, despite ongoing conservation efforts, its numbers continue to fall. There are now barely 20,000 breeding pairs in the world – and the largest colony is in South Africa, on islands around Algoa Bay in the country’s Eastern Cape province.

There are several reasons for the decline in African Penguin numbers. Historically, egg collecting played a major role in decreasing population numbers, and guano scraping for fertiliser removed important nesting habitats. But today the main threat the African Penguin faces is a shortage of the small fish it prefers to feed on.

Environmental changes coupled with local overfishing have seen the penguin’s prey shift their range from the west coast upwelling region to South Africa’s south coast. However, there are very few suitable breeding islands off the south coast, and that leaves the penguins with few safe breeding locations.

Now oil spills from a project that’s designed to harness the economic potential of South Africa’s oceans are threatening the world’s largest remaining African Penguin colony. Although there is a need to balance economic development and conservation, the African Penguin is an endangered species and – given that it is home to the largest colony – South Africa is largely responsible for ensuring its survival.

The colony is on St Croix Island, next to Coega harbour in Algoa Bay near the city of Port Elizabeth. The harbour is a deep-water, free trade port that’s a key component of Operation Phakisa – a government drive to promote the ‘blue’ (ocean) economy.
For the last three years ship-to-ship bunkering, which involves the transfer of fuel from one vessel to another at sea, has been permitted in the bay close to this crucial seabird breeding island. In that time there have been two oil spills that have killed penguins and other seabirds in the area.

The Marine Pollution (Control and Civil Liability) Act 6 of 1981 prohibits such routine bunkering off the South African coast because it is an inherently risky operation. Small leaks in pipelines or tank overflows can cause serious pollution. Once oil has been spilled it is dispersed by currents and the wind. This makes it very difficult to contain.

The two oil spills – one in 2016 and the other in July this year near St Croix have affected at least 220 African Penguins and there are about 15,000 in the colony.

In each case, penguin nests containing eggs and chicks were abandoned. Cape Gannets and Cape Cormorants, both listed by the International Union for Conservation of Nature as globally endangered, were also oiled. Fortunately, both spills were relatively minor. A major spill could impact a large proportion of the beleaguered African Penguin population.

UAE: FAIRDEAL GAINS EMERGENCY RESPONSE RECOGNITION

Photo: One of Fairdeal’s Diva U-Booms in the water

September 1 - Fairdeal Marine Services has operated a MARPOL reception facility in Fujairah, UAE, for many years, and has also catered to the needs of a number of principals, both offshore and onshore, by providing Oil Spill Response (OSR) capabilities.

In recognition of the quality of the services it provides, the company has been officially recognised by the regional Marine Emergency Mutual Aid Centre (MEMAC) headquartered in Bahrain as the first facility that is fully accredited to attend to, and deal with, hazardous and noxious substances (HNS) both onshore and offshore UAE.

UK: IOPC FUNDS - LECTURE TO STUDENTS OF THE 46TH MARITIME LAW SHORT COURSE, SOUTHAMPTON

September 5 - On 5 September 2019, the Legal Counsel, Kensuke Kobayashi, was invited to deliver a lecture on oil pollution liability to international students of the 46th Maritime Law Short Course administered by the Institute of Maritime Law, Southampton University. The lecture included a comprehensive overview of the legal framework of the international liability and compensation regime, the role of the IOPC Funds and a number of key incident case studies. The lecture was followed by a question and answer session. IOPC Funds / https://www.iopcfunds.org/

USA: 2019 USCG SECTOR DELAWARE BAY PREP EXERCISE AND TRAINING

August 27 - RRT II and RRT III leadership, along with the USCG Sector Delaware Bay/Delaware Bay Area Committee held their annual training and PREP exercise the week of July 22-24, 2019. The scenario involved a 1 million gallon offshore crude oil spill that ultimately impacted the shorelines of both Delaware (RRT III) and New Jersey (RRT II) within 38 to 48 hour timeframe.

The focus of this year’s event was to address the cross-regional boundary issues for the response when the area of response (AOR) authority is overseen by a single USCG Sector (Sector Delaware Bay), including the consideration on the use of chemical dispersants.

SCAA / Read more
USA: LATEST ACTIVITY REPORTS FROM NOAA OR&R

September 2 – Please click on the links below to read the latest News Reports from NOAA OR&R

OR&R Biologist Presents to Salish Sea Association of Marine Naturalists in Friday Harbor, Washington

On Aug. 29, OR&R biologist Gary Shigenaka gave an invited presentation to the Salish Sea Association of Marine Naturalists at the Friday Harbor Whale Museum in Friday Harbor, Washington.

OR&R Marine Debris Program Participates in Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation Ocean and Fisheries Working Group

On Aug. 20-21, the Marine Debris Program’s international activities and partnership coordinator, Steve Morrison, served on the U.S. delegation at the 13th Meeting of the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) Ocean and Fisheries Working Group (OFGW) in Puerto Varas, Chile.

OR&R Scientific Support Coordinator Instructs at Annual North West Oil Spill Control Course in Port Angeles, Washington

Lieutenant Commander Jim Rosenberg, with OR&R’s Emergency Response Division, provided instruction at the annual North West Oil Spill Control Course in Port Angeles, Washington, on Aug. 26-30. Jim is the scientific support coordinator for the Northwestern Continental U.S.

OR&R Scientists Collaborate with Partners to Test New Tools and Methods for Characterizing Oil Following a Spill

Last week, scientists from NOAA’s Office of Response and Restoration, in collaboration with an interdisciplinary and interagency team of researchers and oil spill responders, tested new tools and methods for characterizing oil slicks and oil in the water column following an oil spill.

ISCO NEWS

LAST WEEK MARKED THE 700TH ISSUE OF THE ISCO NEWSLETTER

The idea that ISCO should publish a newsletter was first suggested by ISCO President David Usher to Editor John McMurtrie at a 2005 meeting in Glasgow. The first issue went out to less than 100 subscribers on 11th July 2005. Today there are well over 3,000 on the mailing list and the actual readership is estimated at well over 5,000 because so many organisations circulate it to all their staff on their internal intranet systems.

NEWS FROM ISCO MEMBERS

News from ISCO Members – Your editor welcomes news from members. Please ensure that ISCO is on your mailing list for your press releases and company newsletters. Send your news to john.mcmurtrie@spillcontrol.org

MOIG: ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE REGIONAL WORKSHOP ON INCIDENT MANAGEMENT SYSTEM 200, 13-14 NOVEMBER 2019, TUNIS – TUNISIA

See details under TRAINING on Page 10.

TRAINING

CORRECTION AND REMINDER - INTERNATIONAL SPILL ACCREDITATION SCHEME

Please note that the wrong dates were given out by mistake in the announcement given on Page 8 of ISCO Newsletter 699. The correct dates are 25-26 SEPTEMBER. There are a few places still available. You can download the agenda at http://spillcontrol.org/downloads/Agenda_for_Castle_Archdale_25th.docx

For enquiries or to book a place please contact John Dawes at johnadawes@btinternet.com

UK & IRELAND: ANNUAL ISAS TRAINING DAYS

The Provisional Programme has been released for the ISAS Training Event being held at Castle Archdale, Enniskillen, Northern Ireland. The corrected date is 25-26 September 2019.

This event is being held in the beautiful surroundings of Lough Erne and early booking is recommended.

If you haven’t already had a summer break from work, why not think of combining your refresher training with a sojourn in Enniskillen – Golf, Fishing, Boating, Sights to see and lots of other things to do Visit: https://www.tripadvisor.co.uk/Attractions-g190795-Activities-Enniskillen_County_Fermanagh_Northern_Ireland.html

Download the training programme agenda at http://spillcontrol.org/downloads/Agenda_for_Castle_Archdale_25th.docx
September 4 - The Mediterranean Oil Industry Group (MOIG) and Oil Spill Response Limited (OSRL) are very pleased to invite you to the workshop on “Incident Management System 200” which will be held on 13 and 14 November 2019 at Paris Concorde Hotel, Rue du Lac Turkana, les Berges du Lac, Tunis-Tunisia.

The event will open on Wednesday, 13th November 2019 at 08:30 am and close on Thursday, 14th November 2019 at 17:15 pm. The workshop will be animated by MM. Mohamed Samy Elmahy and Mohamed Ahmed Moustafa, oil spill response specialists and trainers.

The IMS 200 workshop is the follow-up of the IMS 100 held on 14 and 15 March 2017 in Tunis-Tunisia and its main objective is to enhance awareness on oil spill preparedness. This workshop is also designed to enable participants to operate efficiently during an incident or event within the Incident Management System.

The Workshop Agenda includes an overview on IMS 100 and its applications, leadership and management, delegation of authority and management by objectives, functional areas and positions, briefings, organizational flexibility and unity of command, manageable span of control and transfer of command as well as a tabletop exercise. The working languages will be English and Arabic.

For organizational and technical reasons and in order to ensure the smooth running and the success of this workshop, participants will be divided in two groups, one group per day.

In order to enable MOIG to have all logistic arrangements made on time, it would be appreciated if you could have the Registration Forms (Registration Form Day 1, Registration Form Day 2) completed and returned by mail to houcine.mejri@moig.org.tn or by Fax at +216 71 888 439 at your earliest convenience; preferably before 25th October 2019.

We would like to bring to your kind attention that participation in the workshop cannot be guaranteed for nominations received after the abovementioned deadline. Looking forward to seeing you at this important event.

LLOYDS MARITIME ACADEMY - CERTIFICATE IN OIL SPILL RESPONSE

An online safety training course based on the Oil Pollution Preparedness, Response and Co-operation convention (OPRC), starts 27th November 2019. This course has been designed in line with the IMO’s International Convention on Oil Pollution Preparedness, Response and Co-operation (OPRC) therefore, it provides students with the most up-to-date knowledge in oil spill safety and effective emergency response. If you apply before the 6th September you get to save 10% off the course fees More info

CONTRACTS & TENDERS

OPEN TENDER NOTIFICATION SERVICE

This is a subscription service. Have a look to see examples of open tenders.

MESSAGES FROM EVENT ORGANISERS

ISAA Training Days Dates Correction and Reminder - Please see announcement under TRAINING on Page 9.

Clean Gulf in New Orleans – October 28-31 - JUST ANNOUNCED - MEGA SESSION LINE-UP AT CLEAN GULF 2019 - Mega Session: Land, Air, and Sea - Not Your Grandfather's Oil Spill. TUESDAY, OCTOBER 29 - 10:45 AM - 12:15 PM . Significant events on the Houston Ship Channel in 2019 may alter the future landscape of response in the U.S. Of concern was the heavy impact on commerce and immediate and delayed exposure concerns for the public and responders. Also of concern were agency jurisdictional questions and the real-time impact of social media.
MESSAGES FROM EVENT ORGANISERS (CONTINUED)

International Oil Spill Conference (IOSC), May 11-14, 2020 – Scholarship Applications now being accepted for IOSC 2020. IOSC proudly offers need-based scholarships to members of the oil spill response community to aid with registration and travel expenses. Submit your scholarship application by November 15 to be considered. Applications are reviewed and approved by the IOSC 2020 Scholarship Committee.

Contamination Expo, Birmingham, UK, September 11-12. Complimentary tickets for the event have almost sold out so this is your last chance to secure your ticket before it’s too late. https://www.rwmexhibition.com/index.asp

RESPONSE EVENTS DURING SEPTEMBER 2019 (UPDATED)

NIGERIA: NATIONAL WORKSHOP ON OIL SPILL LIABILITY AND COMPENSATION

GREECE: MEETING OF THE MAP FOCAL POINTS

UK: MARITIME SALVAGE & CASUALTY RESPONSE CONFERENCE
London, September 11-12. The two day conference will once again bring together senior executives and experts from salvage companies, technology providers, P&I Clubs, law firms and global regulators to discuss the latest challenges and developments making an impact on the industry. More info

UK: THE SPILL RESPONSE EXPO
Birmingham, September 11-12. The Spill Response Expo is one of seven specialist shows at the Contamination Expo Series that is designed to further the prevention, detection and management of chemical spills on water and on land. More info

UK: THE EMERGENCY SERVICES SHOW
Birmingham, September 18-19. Visit over 450 exhibiting companies displaying the latest PPE, fire-fighting equipment, communications technology, training facilities, vehicles and vehicle equipment More info

THAILAND: NATIONAL OIL SPILL CONTINGENCY PLAN WORKSHOP
Bangkok, September 24-27. Review and update of the National Oil Spill Contingency Plan (NOSCP) for Thailand. More info

UK & IRELAND: ISAA TRAINING DAYS AT CASTLE ARCHDALE
Enniskillen, September 25-26. Two days of technical presentations and practical hands-on exercises on inland spill response. Download the training programme agenda at http://spillcontrol.org/downloads/Agenda_for_Castle_Archdale_25th.docx

BAHREIN: GLOBAL HSE CONFERENCE 2019
Bahrein, September 30 –October 1. HSE professional from all across the globe will converge their knowledge to lead the future of HSE practices. The event will witness thought leaders of the industry who will impart knowledge sessions on the sustainable business practices underlining the socio-economic excellence. More info

UPCOMING EVENTS - OCTOBER 2019 ONWARDS (UPDATED)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>COUNTRY</th>
<th>2019</th>
<th>TITLE OF EVENT</th>
<th>LOCATION</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>UK</td>
<td>October 2-3</td>
<td>Asset Integrity Management Conference</td>
<td>Aberdeen</td>
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<tr>
<td>UK</td>
<td>October 2-4</td>
<td>ITAC Oil Spill Response Forum</td>
<td>Southampton</td>
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<td>CROATIA</td>
<td>October 2-5</td>
<td>Pollution Response Challenges in the Mediterranean Conference</td>
<td>Split</td>
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<td>USA</td>
<td>October 7-10</td>
<td>Elastec’s Fall 2019 River Spill Workshop</td>
<td>Carmi, IL</td>
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<td>NORWAY</td>
<td>October 14-18</td>
<td>Nosca Seminar 2019</td>
<td>Frøya</td>
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<tr>
<td>UAE</td>
<td>October 15-17</td>
<td>RECSO Envirospill Conference &amp; Exhibition</td>
<td>Abu Dhabi</td>
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<tr>
<td>BAHREIN</td>
<td>October 20-21</td>
<td>Int’l Oil Spill Response &amp; Environmental Protection Congress &amp; Exhibition</td>
<td>Manama</td>
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SITTING ON COLLAPSED.

USA: TENNESSEE

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USA EPA Tech Direc

Sea Alarm Foundation Newsletter

Salvage World

Safe Seas, Clean Seas

Salvage World

Sea Alarm Foundation Newsletter

Technology Innovation News Survey

USA EPA Tech Direct

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<td>UK</td>
<td>Meetings of the IOPC Funds Governing Bodies</td>
<td>London</td>
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<td>SOUTH AFRICA</td>
<td>8th GI WACAF Regional Conference</td>
<td>Cape Town</td>
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<tr>
<td>CANADA</td>
<td>Arctic Shipping Forum North America</td>
<td>Montreal</td>
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<td>TUNISIA</td>
<td>Incident Management System Training Workshop</td>
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<td>FRANCE</td>
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<td>Middle East HSE and Sustainability Week</td>
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<td>43rd AMOP Technical Seminar on Environmental Contamination and Response.</td>
<td>Edmonton, Alberta</td>
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COUNTRY 2020

NETHERLANDS | Interspill Conference & Exhibition | Amsterdam |

COUNTRY 2021

USA | Meetings of the IOPC Funds Governing Bodies | London |
USA | Clean Gulf Conference and Exhibition | New Orleans, LA |
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TUNISIA | Incident Management System Training Workshop | Tunis |
FRANCE | Cedre Technical Day | Brest |
UAE | Middle East HSE and Sustainability Week | Dubai |

To request posting of an event of interest to the Spill Response Community please send details to the Editor

Note: If a URL link (underlined in blue ink) is not yet available, one will be given in a later issue of this Newsletter

LINKS FOR DOWNLOADING & READING OTHER PUBLICATIONS

Alga Chronicle
AMSA Update
ATRAC Newsletter
AUSMEPA Bulletin
BIMCO Bulletin
Newsletter from George Holliday
Bow Wave
Cedre Newsletter
Clean Nigeria Associates Newsletter
EMSA Newsletter
GEF Newsletter
GISEA Quarterly Newsletter
IMO News Magazine
IMO Publishing Newsletter
JOIFF “The Catalyst”
Maritime Executive Magazine
MOI NewsLetter
Nautical Institute News
Navigate Response
NOAA OR&R
Oceana Buzz
OCIMF Newsletter
OHMSETT Gazette
OSPAR Newsletter
PEMSEA Newsletter
Pollution Online Newsletter
Safe Seas, Clean Seas
Salvage World
Sea Alarm Foundation Newsletter
Technology Innovation News Survey
USA EPA Tech Direct

Your editor depends on regular receipt of updated URL links for listed publications. If these are not received, relevant entries will be discontinued.

INCIDENT REPORTS (IN CHRONOLOGICAL ORDER)

USA: TENNESSEE - BARGE COLLAPSE, OIL SPILLS Into RIVER

August 27 - Officials in Chattanooga say a truck and crane went to the bottom of the Tennessee River when the barge they were sitting on collapsed.

WVLT8 / Read more  [Thanks to Don Johnston of ISCO Industry Partner, DG & Hazmat Group]
SPAIN: EFFORTS TO REFLOAT GROUNDED SPANISH MINESWEEPER CONTINUE

August 30 - The Spanish Navy is still working to refloat the minesweeper Turia, which grounded Tuesday near Cartagena, Spain. The fiberglass-hulled Turia went aground Tuesday morning off La Manga, a narrow peninsula near Cartagena. She suffered hull damage and flooding in several compartments, but no injuries or pollution were reported. Salvors began lightering fuel off the vessel on Wednesday, which has reduced the risk of pollution and lightened the ship for an eventual refloat attempt. The salvage plan calls for the use of airbags to raise the ship off the bottom, and the Spanish Navy said Friday that its salvage contractor is at work to implement the plan. The Maritime Executive / Read more

JAPAN: OIL LEAK AT IRONWORKS COMPICLATES FLOODING IN SAGA

Photo: Local residents and Self-Defense Force members place absorption sheets on a street in Omachi, Saga Prefecture, to remove oil washed away from a flooded ironworks after torrential rain on Wednesday. KYODO

September 1 - Volunteers gathered over the weekend to help clean up parts of Saga Prefecture flooded by torrential rain on Wednesday, but oil leaking from an ironworks is compounding their troubles. In the town of Omachi, some 50,000 liters of oil used to cool iron is believed to have been washed away from the local plant run by Saga Tekkohsho Co. The oil spread to residential areas and farmlands, damaging houses and ruining crops. Japan Times / Read more

NIGERIA: NNPC BEGINS REPAIR OF OIL PIPELINE IN DELTA

September 2 - The Group Managing Director (GMD), Nigerian National Petroleum Corporation (NNPC), Malam Mele Kyari, says the corporation has begun repair of its damaged Abura Crude Trunk line. Our source reports that the Abura Crude Trunk line at Otu-Jeremi town in Delta State experienced an eruption, last Friday. The Tide Newsletter / Read more

INDONESIA: OIL SPILL AND LIFEBOAT FROM MISSING INDONESIAN BULKER FOUND

September 2 - The search and rescue teams for the missing bulk carrier Nur Allya found signs of the ship over the weekend, 10 days after it disappeared with 25 crew onboard. The teams have found an oil spill and a lifeboat near Obi Island in the North Maluku in eastern Indonesia, and confirmed they were from the ship after analysing the oil samples. Splash247 / Read more

INDIA: MANGALORE PORT GEARS UP TO FIGHT POSSIBLE OIL SPILL AFTER VESSEL SINKS

September 4 - Tridevi Prem, the dredging vessel that was abandoned by its crew members on Monday after she started taking in water in the pump room, sank off the New Mangalore Port outer anchorage in the wee hours of Tuesday. Fearing a possible oil spill as the vessel had 45 kilolitres of fuel, the port authorities have initiated a slew of measures to prevent it. New Indian Express / Read more

THE BAHAMAS: EQUINOR REPORTS ONSHORE OIL SPILL IN BAHAMAS AFTER HURRICANE

September 5 - Equinor has discovered an oil spill at its storage terminal in the Bahamas in the aftermath of hurricane Dorian, the Norwegian energy company said in a statement on Thursday. On its website, Equinor described the terminal as a key business on the Grand Bahama Island, with a location intended to strengthen the company's market and trading position in the Caribbean region. "Our initial aerial assessment of the South Riding Point facility has found that the terminal has sustained damage and oil has been observed on the ground outside of the onshore tanks," Equinor said. Deviscourse / Read more

September 6 - The Latest: Oil spill spotted on Grand Bahama Island - Satellite images taken Friday show a slick of black oil seeping from the South Riding Point terminal. The terminal's tanks can hold 6.75 million barrels of crude oil and condensate. The facility was shut down Saturday as the Category 5 storm approached the island. Equinor said it has mobilized oil spill response resources that will arrive "as soon as possible." Lake Placid News / Read more

September 7 - Hurricane Dorian Caused a Major Oil Spill on Grand Bahama. Now, Oil Appears to be in the Water Nearby. Hurricane Dorian blew six lids off off crude oil tanks in the Bahamas, causing a major oil spill. Possible oil slicks spotted off the coast seem be related to the spill. As Cat 5 Hurricane Dorian slowly churned across Grand Bahama, it blew the lids off of six massive crude oil tanks,
causing a spill on the ground around the area. Now, new photos and video suggest that some of the oil from the facility could have reached the ocean.

Hasting Stewart, Equinor’s Head of US Media & External Relations, told the Weather Channel that each oil tank is surrounded by a 16-foot-deep moat that protects against spillage, but aerial and ground videos surfacing in Dorian’s aftermath showed that such measures did little against the storm’s 185 mile-per-hour winds. Six oil tanks were missing their lids, and two seemed to be overflowing. Nearby, land and water were saturated in inky black sludge.

JC with Hurricane Dorian Bahamas Relief flew over the area today and said: “absolutely no way it’s contained. Crude oil has spread from the wind and there’s a massive trail, clear as day, a giant black area that’s 5 acres long and all over the ground...there’s water on that side”

Meanwhile, possible oil slicks were spotted between the islands of Great Abaco and Nassau and near Grand Bahama, where the oil storage facility is located. "There’s a lot of oil in the ocean," Jim Abernethy, a conservation photographer told the Weather Channel. "I saw oil slicks everywhere I went. In between the islands. Whatever way the wind is blowing, there’s oil on the water,” Abernethy said. Weather.com / Read more   Watch the Video: Oil Spill at Dorian-Damaged Equinor Facility Raises Concerns  [Thanks to Don Johnston of ISCO Industry Partner, DG & Hazmat Group]

**September 8 – Concern that oil spill could result in a fire** – The agency Coral Vita has called this oil spill “absolutely catastrophic” and is concerned that the oil spill could result in a fire.   Weather Network / Read more   [Thanks to Don Johnston of ISCO Industry Partner, DG & Hazmat Group]

**ABANDONED CARGO SHIP FOUND DRIFTING IN THE MID-ATLANTIC**

September 5 - The Royal Navy ice patrol ship stumbled upon a mysterious ghost ship while in underway in the mid-Atlantic Ocean earlier this week. The Royal Navy’s HMS Protector came across the abandoned vessel on August 30 as it sailed towards the Bahamas to assist with hurricane relief efforts. gCaptain / Read more

**BRAZIL: EMERGENCY OFFLOADING OF FPSO IN CAMPOS BASIN**

September 6 – Follow up to report in last week’s ISCO Newsletter - Production risers were being disconnected from wells on the seabed when "structural failures, or cracks," were discovered in the hull Friday, the ANP said in a separate statement. The ship is listing about 12 degrees, the ANP said. According to the ANP, Petrobras and Modec hired a company to stabilize the vessel and carry out emergency offloading operations to empty the FPSO of the remaining 450,000 liters of crude stored onboard. S&P Global / Read more

**CHINA: CARGO SHIP SANK, DOZENS OF CONTAINERS AFLOAT NEARBY**

September 6 - General cargo ship JI SHUN 16 on Sep 6 reported sank in vicinity 30 11N 122 29E, 20 nm NE of Zhoushan, China, East China sea. 46 containers spotted drifting in vicinity 30 11N 122 37E, though containers may fall from another ship, a Greek ship was mentioned. Maritime Bulletin / Read more   [Thanks to Voytenko Mikhail, vmd@odin.tc]

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