



ISCO NEWSLETTER

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TYPHOON MORAKOT, THE WORST TYPHOON TO HIT TAIWAN IN 50 YEARS



In the picture: Marshall "W-O BUDMO" an oil tanker which ran aground in Bay Area, Pingtung County. Tonnage of 4950 tons and length 117 meters. It was carrying 100 tons of heavy oil and 70 tons of diesel oil. Containment Booms have been deployed. The residual oil has been removed. EPA is planning to remove the hull.

The following report has just been received from ISCO Member, Eco Equipments Inc. in Taiwan. Eco Equipments Inc. has been supporting the Taiwan EPA in the response to the disaster.

A total of 5 vessels ran aground along the coast when Typhoon Morakot hit Taiwan on Aug. 8th 2009. Fortunately, there are no serious oil spills. In order to avoid incidence of marine pollution, Taiwan EPA-Environmental Protection Administration has launched a second degree emergency response with machinery and equipment on standby. Eco Equipments Inc. is closely monitoring the situation.

On Tuesday 25th Aug. the island's disaster response authorities reported 376 deaths, 254 missing and 46 others injured.

Panama ship, "Vogo-2" tugboat ran aground in Pingtung County Haikou harbour. After on-scene evaluation, it was found that part of the diesel oil was leaking, but as the fuel is volatile it should not cause serious oil pollution. Containment booms have been deployed and we are removing residual oil.



Cambodian "Vogo-1" tugboat ran aground in Fangshan Township, Pingtung County, carrying 121 tons of diesel, confirmed that no hull rupture and sitting on the beach in a stable way. EPA plans to tow away the vessel.



There are two more vessels that ran aground in Kaohsiung area. The first one named "ZD TOPOINT" with 73 tons of heavy oil and 140 tons of diesel oil. The other is "BAI LI" with 441 tons of heavy oil and 140 tons of diesel oil. There is no evidence of

pollution at this stage. Kaohsiung City Bureau of Oceanography is monitoring these two vessels.

See also: Seatrade Asia Maritime News article at <http://www.seatradeasia-online.com/News/4476.html>

AUSTRALIA: WEST ATLAS OIL SPILL UPDATE

For previous reports see last week's ISCO Newsletter.

Opposition environment spokesman Greg Hunt says the Federal Government is playing down the severity of an oil and gas leak off WA's north-west coast. He has backed a call by the Greens for the Government to step in and deal with the clean-up.

Oil has been flowing from the West Atlas rig in the Timor Sea for the past week and the Greens Senator Rachel Siewert says the slick is close to reaching Australian shores.

But the [Government yesterday denied](#) Senator Siewert's claims that [the oil is only 20 kilometres off-shore](#).

The company responsible for the spill, PTTEP Australasia, says a rig to cap the leak is on its way from Singapore but will not arrive until September 8.

More: <http://www.abc.net.au/news/stories/2009/08/30/2670820.htm?section=australia>

Comments from AMSA -

The response to the incident will be protracted and will continue for some time. Aircraft including a Hercules and two fixed wing AMR aircraft are being used to apply dispersant to the area to break down the oil. AMSA's Dornier has also been providing communication and mapping assistance for the operation.

The use of dispersants is proving successful, with a reduction in size of the slick being observed. These aircraft will continue to assist in the clean up with supplementary dispersant stocks being deployed from the Australian Marine Oil Spill Centre (AMOSOC) in Geelong, Victoria. Along with their assistance, AMSA is well prepared for the protracted clean up involved.

AMSA is also continuing to work closely with PTTEP Australasia, who retain responsibility for the incident and the stopping of the leak. The company has indicated it will be weeks before the leak is able to be stopped. To read more please refer to the PTTEP Australasia [website](#).

At this stage there is no risk posed to the West Australian coastline and AMSA continues to work in close consultation with environmental specialists to monitor this aspect of the operation.

UK SPILL 09 – MARINE OIL SPILL SEMINAR AT SOUTHAMPTON

UK Spill has issued a draft programme for its 2009 seminar being held over 28-29 October.

Wednesday 28 October 2009 - At 1830hrs, delegates assemble at the National Oceanography Centre (NOC) for a presentation by the British Antarctic Survey Marine Pollution in Antarctic waters, followed by supper at the NOC café overlooking the Docks (tbc).

Thursday 29 October 2009 - Delegates board MV Ashleigh R at Ocean Village, Southampton Waterfront, at 0930, and at 1000 proceed to Shamrock Quay to visit the global base for Oil Spill Response Ltd. - Starting with a tour of the base, with equipment manufacturers on hand to discuss latest developments. Then on to the new Conference Centre for keynote presentations by ITOPF, on lessons from the latest spills, and IMO on the future for marine pollution legislation. Delegates will leave the base at 1230 for lunch cruising in the Solent.

ON WATER DEMONSTRATION - The afternoon will feature OSR marine vessels and MCA aircraft for a demonstration of counter pollution measures and activities.

The event will end at 1530hrs when the vessel returns to Ocean Village at 1600hrs.

For reservations and additional information contact info@ukspill.org

GIBRALTER: WORK ON M/V “FEDRA” IN GIBRALTAR MOVES FORWARD

Donjon Marine, Co., Inc. continues work on a contract awarded on March 24, 2009 for the wreck removal and disposal of the remnants of the M/V Fedra which, in October 2008, grounded and sank during a severe storm.

Donjon has removed thousands of gallons of fuel and related contaminants which remained in the hull from the initial clean up operation, accomplishing one of the primary goals of the project to protect the pristine waters off the coast of Gibraltar and surrounding area. Read the unabridged article at <http://www.maritime-executive.com/article/2009-08-26-donjon-work-mv-fedra-gibraltar-moves-forward/>

CANADA: NEIA APPOINTS NEW EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

The Newfoundland and Labrador Environmental Industry Association (NEIA) is pleased to announce that Ms. Linda M. Bartlett has accepted the position of the Executive Director beginning on September 8, 2009.

Linda brings to NEIA a wealth of technical and management experience from her service with the Government of Newfoundland and Labrador's Departments of Fisheries, Food and Agriculture, and Tourism, Culture and Recreation. In her capacity as Director and Chair of the Board of Mountain Equipment Co-op, she received the Award of Excellence for Governance Innovation in Canada from the Conference Board of Canada. In 2002, she also received the Public Service Award for Excellence, Government of Newfoundland and Labrador. Linda holds a B.Sc. (Agriculture) from McGill University. <http://www.neia.org/>

HELCOM FLEET STAGES A SUCCESSFUL DISASTER RESPONSE OPERATION OFF RIGA, MARKING 20TH ANNIVERSARY OF BALEX DELTA EXERCISE

Helsinki, 26 August (HELCOM Information Service) - A flotilla of oil-combating ships joined under the HELCOM flag conducted a successful operation to contain and recover a simulated major oil spill from a grounded tanker off the Latvian coast in the Gulf of Riga, as part of the annual pollution response exercise BALEX DELTA 2009.

This operational exercise, the largest maritime emergency and counter-pollution drill of its kind in the Baltic Sea area and one of the largest worldwide, involve the release of simulated oil, the deployment of pollution response vessels from the coastal countries, the establishment of a unified command structure and communication system, and a full-scale oil recovery operation at the site of the accident, including actual deployment of oil containment booms and skimming equipment.

Eight oil-pollution-combating ships and smaller vessels from five HELCOM Member States - Finland, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland and Sweden took part in the exercise. Also, the European Commission (which is one of the HELCOM Members) was represented by one response vessel chartered by the European Maritime Safety Agency (EMSA). In addition, over 30 observers from Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Germany, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, Russia, Sweden, USA as well as EMSA monitored the actions of the response units. The Exercise Evaluation Team consisted of representatives of Latvia, Lithuania and Russia. http://www.helcom.fi/press_office/news_helcom/en_GB/HELCOM_fleet_stages_a_successful_disaster_response_operation_off_Riga/

PUBLICATIONS: COASTAL PREDICTION SYSTEM AS AN EVENT RESPONSE TOOL

Particle tracking simulation of an anhydrous ammonia ◀spill▶ in Tampa Bay.

A coastal prediction system for Tampa Bay, comprised of a numerical circulation model and Lagrangian particle transport model, rapidly produces hindcast/forecast simulations that alert authorities to high impact areas following the introduction of hazardous material into the bay. The effectiveness of the prediction system as an event ◀response▶ tool is evaluated during an anhydrous ammonia ◀spill.▶ A week-long simulation predicts the trajectory of the material due to winds and currents. Physical transport of the model particles alternates from being tidally driven to being driven both by wind action and residual circulation. A forecast simulation showing particle distribution drove field sampling that resulted in the detection of a *Pseudo-nitzschia* bloom likely initiated from excess

ammonium in the bay. An online component of the coastal prediction system is in development to better manage ◀response▶ and mitigation efforts for future hazardous material ◀spills▶ in Tampa Bay.

Heather Havens, Mark E. Luther and Steven D. Meyers; Ocean Monitoring and Prediction Laboratory, College of Marine Science, University of South Florida, St. Petersburg, FL 33701, USA. More info: http://www.sciencedirect.com/science?_ob=ArticleURL&_udi=B6V6N-4W232F9-3&_user=10&_coverDate=08%2F31%2F2009&_alid=991599772&_rdoc=51&_fmt=high&_orig=search&_cdi=5819&_sort=r&_docanchor=&view=c&_ct=1412&_acct=C000050221&_version=1&_urlVersion=0&_userid=10&_m_d5=7c70e03ddbe57d9202fc68c49e53cd84

UK: VIKOMA ANNOUNCES MOVE TO NEW FACTORY AND NEWS ON TECHNICAL IMPROVEMENTS TO ITS STAR 20 HEAVY OIL SKIMMER



In the picture: Vikoma's new factory is taking shape.

Vikoma will soon be moving to new premises. The new factory, set on a 2.5 acre site will provide 50,000 sq. ft. of production space. The new premises are just a couple of miles from Vikoma's current headquarters. Building work will be completed at the end of the year and it is planned to be manufacturing in the new factory by March, 2010.

Vikoma engineers have redesigned the Komara Star 20 heavy oil skimmer to give 180° access to the disc bank, which ensures the viscous oil has an unobstructed flow path to the recovery zone. This is especially important for viscous oils which act almost like a sheet of solid material. The sheet of oil has a tendency to tear or break if drawn into narrow channels inhibiting the pull of oil towards the disc bank, hence a wider capture width makes recovery more effective.

CANADA: INDUSTRIAL EMERGENCY CONFERENCE

The 4th Annual Canadian Industrial Emergency Conference and Expo takes place over October 5-7 in Edmonton, Alberta, Canada. For more information, visit the website at - http://www.industrialemergencyexpo.com/2009/pdf/ConferenceProgram_CIE_2009.pdf

USA: PETROLEUM ENVIRONMENT RESEARCH FORUM REMEDIATION WORKSHOP

Chevron and BP will host the 2009 PERF remediation workshop at the Chevron Briarpark facility on the September 9-10. This meeting will be the occasion for all the professionals of remediation to discuss new technologies and best practices and to follow up the work that has been done since the [2008 PERF remediation](#) workshop. Download the [agenda](#) and the [registration form](#) to participate in this event.

INDIA: FIRST INDUSTRIAL EMERGENCY CONFERENCE

For the first time the launch of an industrial emergency response conference will be held in India - Industrial Emergency Conference November 5-6, 2009 Hyderabad, India.

This conference will be dedicated to the training, education, enlightenment and information related to all aspects of industrial emergency. Delegates targeted to attend the conference are from large manufacturing sectors, oil and gas, chemical and construction. They will consist of emergency response personnel, first responders, environmental coordinators, hazardous materials managers and other personnel that influence or require first response plans on their premises.

More info: <http://www.hazmatmag.com/issues/ISArticle.asp?aid=1000337396>

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