

## ISCO & THE ISCO NEWSLETTER

The ISCO Newsletter is published weekly by the International Spill Control Organisation, a not-for-profit organisation supported by members in 45 countries. ISCO has Consultative Status at IMO, Observer Status at IOPC Funds and is 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 IMO, UNEP, EC and other organisations.

## ISCO COMMITTEE & COUNCIL

ISCO is managed by an elected executive committee members of which are **Mr David Usher** (President, USA), **Mr John McMurtrie** (Secretary, UK), **Mr Marc Shaye** (USA), **Mr Dan Sheehan** (USA), **M. Jean Claude Sainlos** (France), **Mr Kerem Kemerli** (Turkey), **Lord Peter Simon Rickaby** (UK), **Mr Li Guobin** (China), **Captain Bill Boyle** (UK) and **Mr Matthew Sommerville** (UK)

The Register of ISCO Members is maintained by **Ms Mary Ann Dalgleish** (Membership Director). She is also responsible for collecting membership dues.

The Executive Committee is assisted by the non-executive ISCO Council composed of the following national representatives – **Mr John Wardrop** (Australia), **Mr Osman Tarzumanov** (Azerbaijan), **Mr John Cantlie** (Brazil), **Dr Merv Fingas** (Canada), **Captain Davy T. S. Lau** (China, Hong Kong), **Mr Li Guobin** (China, Mainland), **Mr Darko Domovic** (Croatia), **Eng. Ashraf Sabet** (Egypt), **Mr Torbjorn Hedrenius** (Estonia), **Mr Pauli Einarsson** (Faroe Islands), **Prof. Harilaos Psarafitis** (Greece), **Captain D. C. Sekhar** (India), **Mr Sanjay Gandhi** (Kenya), **Chief Kola Agboke** (Nigeria), **Capt. Chris Richards** (Singapore), **Mrs Fatima B. Shaik** (South Africa), **Dr Ali Saeed Al Ameri** (UAE), **Mr Kevin Miller** (UK), **Dr Manik Sardessai** (USA), **Mr Dennis van der Veen** (The Netherlands) and **Mr Carlos Sagrera** (Panama)

For more info on Executive Committee and Council Members go to [www.spillcontrol.org](http://www.spillcontrol.org)

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## International news

For more information on the events featured below, click on the banners



## EUROPE: REMOTELY PILOTED AIRCRAFT SYSTEMS TO BE TESTED IN REAL TIME FOR MULTIPURPOSE MISSIONS



May 11 - A demonstration is being held on 11 May in Huelva, Spain, to show the potential of Remotely Piloted Aircraft Systems (RPAS) as valuable maritime surveillance tools in operational scenarios for multipurpose missions, including pollution monitoring, border control, illegal fishing detection, anti-drug trafficking, and search and rescue.

The European Maritime Safety Agency was tasked to carry out this demonstration in cooperation with the European Border and Coast Guard Agency (Frontex) and the European Fisheries Control Agency (EFCA) as part of the European Coast Guard Pilot Project initiated by the European Parliament to stimulate the implementation of the adopted coast guard package.

The demonstration is an opportunity for Member State representatives with an operational role in civil maritime surveillance to become familiar with the benefits and constraints of RPAS use in different scenarios. As RPAS services become available from EMSA over the course of the year, this awareness will be instrumental in guiding future requests for RPAS mobilisation.

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All REMPEC official Governmental Focal Points as well as, relevant United Nations Organizations, other governmental and non-governmental organizations, the industry and international professional organizations and associations, whose activities are relevant for the work of REMPEC have been invited to participate in the Twelfth Focal Points Meeting. *REMPEC* [Read more](#)

## APRIL 2017 IOPC FUNDS' MEETINGS

May 4 - The governing bodies held meetings on Monday 24, 25 and Friday 28 April 2017 at its headquarters and that of the International Maritime Organization (IMO) in London. Sixty-eight States, representing 61 Member States of the 1992 Fund, 22 Member States of the Supplementary Fund and 7 observer States, as well as 11 observer organisations, attended sessions of the 1992 Fund Administrative Council, the 1992 Fund Executive Committee and the Supplementary Fund Assembly. A brief summary of the key decisions taken is available [here](#) and a full Record of Decisions of the meetings will be made available via the [Document Services](#) section very soon.

<http://www.iopcfunds.org/> *ISCO was represented at the IOPC Funds meetings by Dr Douglas Cormack and Matthew Sommerville*

## SEA ALARM - EP ARCTIC REPORT: OILED WILDLIFE RESPONSE PLANS SHOULD BE DEVELOPED

May 10 - The European Parliament (EP) Resolution of 16 March 2017, an integrated EU policy for the Arctic (2016/2228(INI)), includes wording suggested by Sea Alarm encouraging all Arctic states to develop oiled wildlife response plans.

By including it in their policy report, the Members of the European Parliament (MEPs) have made a strong statement that preventing impacts on Arctic wildlife and being prepared to respond to affected animals is important to the European Union. Managing these risks is a focus area of the Arctic Council, "the leading intergovernmental forum promoting cooperation, coordination, and interaction among the Arctic States, Arctic indigenous communities and other Arctic inhabitants on common Arctic issues, in particular on issues of sustainable development and environmental protection".

The European Parliament includes MEPs from three countries which are Members of the Arctic Council: Denmark, Sweden, and Finland. An additional seven EU Member States (France, Germany, Italy, The Netherlands, Poland, Spain, and the United Kingdom) hold Observer status on the Arctic Council. *Sea Alarm* [Read more](#)

## International news (continued)

The specific flight scenarios will be carried out with the essential cooperation of and on the premises of Spain's Instituto Nacional de Técnica Aeroespacial (INTA) in Huelva using the assets and expertise of specifically contracted companies as well as of Spain's national Maritime Safety Agency (SASEMAR) and customs authorities. The scenarios will follow and help to test the Concept of Operations developed jointly by EFCA, EMSA and Frontex to mirror actual operational requirements across a range of coast guard activities.

The preliminary results are expected to be presented at the closing workshop of the pilot project to be held in EMSA on 2 June 2017. <http://www.emsa.europa.eu/>

### TWELFTH MEETING OF THE FOCAL POINTS OF THE REGIONAL MARINE POLLUTION EMERGENCY RESPONSE CENTRE FOR THE MEDITERRANEAN SEA (REMPEC), MALTA, 23-25 MAY 2017

The Regional Marine Pollution Emergency Response Centre for the Mediterranean Sea (REMPEC) will host its Twelfth Meeting of the Focal Points, from 23 to 25 May 2017 in Malta.

The principal objectives of the Meeting will be to examine the implementation of the Programme of Work of REMPEC since the Eleventh Meeting of the Focal Points of REMPEC; and to discuss and approve the proposed Programme of Work of REMPEC for the biennium 2018-2019, prior to its submission to the Meeting of the Focal Points of the Mediterranean Action Plan (MAP) and to the Twentieth Ordinary Meeting of the Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention and its Protocols for adoption.

## Incident reports

### AUSTRALIA: EHP OVERSEEING CLEAN UP OF CHEMICAL SPILL IN NARANGBA CREEK



April 30 - Environmental officers from the Department of Environment and Heritage Protection were on site at Toxfree's Narangba facility on April 29, to observe clean-up operations following a spill of firefighting foam at the site Friday afternoon.

Toxfree advised that a bulk transport container holding liquid mixed with Aqueous Film Forming Foam had ruptured with some 550 litres of the contaminant escaping from their land to a neighbouring property and an adjoining Council Reserve.

EHP officers observed surface foam within a culvert offsite and associated with a waterway running adjacent to the Toxfree site and flowing into Lagoon Creek. *Sunshine Coast Daily* [Read more](#) [Thanks to Don Johnston of ISCO Industry Partner, DG & Hazmat Group]

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### USA: WASHINGTON - WORKERS PREPARE TO TACKLE HANFORD'S POTENTIALLY DEADLY SPILL

May 2 - The initial work has begun to clean up a spill of Hanford waste so radioactive that it would be lethal within two minutes of contact. Workers have entered the airlock of the nuclear reservation's 324 Building for the first time in 15 years. Beneath the Cold War-era building lies the spill of cesium and strontium, a nasty surprise found by workers in 2010. *Tri-City Herald* [Read more and watch video](#) [Thanks to Don Johnston of ISCO Industry Partner, DG & Hazmat Group]

#### May 9 - Hanford waste tunnel collapses, no airborne radiation detected –

An emergency was declared at the Hanford nuclear reservation in Eastern Washington state on Tuesday after the roof of a tunnel used to store highly radioactively contaminated waste collapsed.

Several thousand workers were ordered to take shelter, most of them for several hours, in buildings with ventilation systems shut down to protect against any possible airborne contamination. The emergency was declared Tuesday morning after workers conducting routine monitoring in central Hanford noticed an anomaly on the Hanford landscape. *Tri-City Herald* [Read more and watch video](#)

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### ARGENTINA – BUENOS AIRES - TANKER SPILL IN THE PORT OF DOCK SUD

May 5 - At 11.45 am on Saturday, at the B Pier at an oil terminal in the Dock Sud port, in the Avellaneda party, the tanker "Colpo" of the oil company Antares Naviera SA was inexplicably collided by tugboat "Ona Don Lorenzo", in charge of assisting in the docking maneuver. The force of the collision made a course in one of the fuel tanks of the ship (Fuel Oil) and the spill quickly caused spread throughout the so-called "Flammable Dock".

The oil terminal is part of the petrochemical complex Dock Sud, located just 150 meters in a straight line from the now famous Demarchi Island, the place chosen by Cristina Kirchner for an urban project that at the time received questions from specialists in the sector due to the danger Involves urbanizing an area so close to the largest concentration of fuel tanks and chemicals in Greater Buenos Aires.

The Argentine Naval Prefecture, in its capacity as national maritime and fluvial authority, took swift action to try to minimize damages. In this sense, the provision of mechanical barriers to prevent the spread of spilled fuel was arranged, as well as the transit of ships to and from the terminal. In addition, an administrative summary was initiated that includes the captain and the tanker, the captain of the tugboat that apparently originated the incident and also the one of another unit belonging to the company Maruba that participated in the maneuver.

Sources from the maritime authority told Infobae that by this time the fuel spill that emanated from the "Colpo" has been controlled, subtracting still the tasks of neutralization of the pollution. *Infobae.com* [Read more and watch video](#) [Thanks to Don Johnston of ISCO Industry Partner, DG & Hazmat Group]

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### FIJI: SHIP SINKS, CONTAINERS FLOATING IN HARBOR

May 6 - Around 10 shipping containers are floating in Suva Harbour, Fiji, after the general cargo ship they were being loaded on to sank.

The Panama-flagged MV Southern Phoenix listed and sank during loading operations in the early hours of Saturday morning.

## Incident reports (continued)

The crew had to evacuate as the vessel took on water. Mooring lines were cut and the vessel was towed away from berth where she sank. *The Maritime Executive* [Read more](#)



### May 7 - FPCL and MSAF work on mitigating possible oil spill

The Fiji Ports Corporation Limited says the sunken MV Southern Phoenix has been towed away from the south end of the Princes Wharf to avoid damage to the infrastructure and allow traffic clearance. FPCL in collaboration with the Maritime Safety Authority has also deployed oil spill equipment on the scene to mitigate any possible oil spill or damage to the environment. *FBC News* [Read more](#)

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## UAE: THIRD OIL SPILL IN FUJAIRAH IN TWO MONTHS LEAVES HOTELIERS FUMING

May 7 - Hoteliers on the coast of Fujairah fear for the future of their businesses after a third oil spill in recent weeks. They say tankers deliberately dumping their oily ballast water into the sea is affecting tourism and they are losing out on thousands of dirhams – not to mention the environmental effects.

"People were covered in black oil and we immediately closed the beach when it first appeared about 2pm on Thursday." The 2 kilometre-long spill forced beaches to be closed in all the hotels and dead fish lay on the shores. *The National* [Read more](#)

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## CANADA: SASKATCHEWAN - HUSKY RESUMES CLEAN-UP AFTER MAJOR OIL SPILL LAST SUMMER

May 8 - Husky Energy is going to see how much more oil — if any — can be cleaned up from a major spill last July along the North Saskatchewan River.

The company has started more shoreline cleanup and assessment of the leak, which spilled 225,000 litres of heavy oil mixed with diluent onto the bank of the river near Maidstone, Sask., last July. About 40 per cent reached the river and the oil plume flowed hundreds of kilometres downstream. *City News* [Read more](#)

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## USA: NEW YORK - CON EDISON SPILLS GALLONS OF OIL INTO EAST RIVER

May 9 - A Con Edison substation spewed gallons of oil into the polluted waterway — prompting a clean-up effort that delayed ferry commuters Tuesday, according to reports.

Officials set up a "safety zone" blocking all water vessels from the area while cleaning up mineral oil that gushed from the company's substation on John Street in DUMBO Sunday, Gothamist reported. A "catastrophic" transformer failure caused a 37,000-gallon tank of dielectric fluid — mineral oil used to prevent electric discharges — to leak into the river at around 12:20 p.m. Sunday, Coast Guard Chief Warrant Officer Allyson Conroy told the site. *New York Post* [Read more](#)

### May 10 - Coast Guard assists in East River dielectric fluid spill response

The U.S. Coast Guard is evaluating the safety zone that was created in the East River Monday as a response to a spill of dielectric fluid from a ConEdison power station.

The Coast Guard, ConEdison, the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) and the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), continue to work together responding to the spill, which occurred Sunday when a transformer failed on the ConEdison Farragut Substation in Brooklyn.

At the time of the failure, approximately 31,000 gallons of dielectric fluid was released from a 37,000 gallon capacity transformer into a containment area on the ConEdison substation. An unknown amount of the fluid subsequently spilled into the East River. A total of 6,300 gallons have been recovered from the containment area and 520 gallons have been recovered from the water. The Coast Guard estimates approximately 10 times of what has been recovered from the water may have seeped into the waterway, impacting areas along the East River and the Buttermilk Channel. *Coast Guard News* [Read more](#)

## News reports from around the world (countries listed in alphabetical order)

### AUSTRALIA: EXXONMOBIL CRITICISED OVER RESPONSE TO BASS STRAIT OIL SPILL

May 10 - Failure to properly respond to an oil spill near an ExxonMobil rig in the Bass Strait increased the risk of contamination and posed a "significant threat to the environment", an investigation has found.

The spill was reported to the National Offshore Petroleum Safety and Environmental Management Authority (Nopsema) on 1 February after an oily sheen was spotted in the water near the West Tuna oil platform, about 45km off the coast of Lakes Entrance in Gippsland. The platform is operated by Esso Australia Resources Pty Ltd, an affiliate of ExxonMobil, as part of the Kipper Tuna Turrum gas project.

A spokesman from Esso confirmed they had not been able to identify the source of the oil but disagreed with the assumption that it had come from their oil rig, saying: "Esso is of the view there is no credible scenario which confirms our operations to be the source of the sheen." *The Guardian* [Read more](#)

### BANGLADESH: OIL AT SEA: DANGERS OF SHIPBREAKING



*Photo: Oil floats on water after being spilled into the Bay of Bengal at a shipbreaking yard at Sitakunda in Chittagong. Burnt oil thrown into the water during dismantling ships can pose a serious threat to the environment. Though dumping of oil in the sea is prohibited, many of the shipbreaking yards in the area continue to do so. The photo was taken recently. Photo: Star*

May 7 - Dumping oil in the sea is prohibited as per the environmental act, but many of the shipbreaking yards in Sitakunda upazila of Chittagong do not follow the rule while dismantling ships.

As a result, the burnt oil, which is being thrown into the Bay of Bengal from the dismantled ships, is posing a serious threat to the environment.

According to sources, more than a hundred shipbreaking yards have mushroomed in the upazila over the last 20 years. Of them, around 50 to 60 yards are active at present.

Azhar-ul-Islam, inspector of the Department of Environment (DoE), Chittagong, said according to the oil management guideline of the environmental act, the authorities of the shipbreaking yards will have to remove the oil from the dismantled ships in a way that it does not harm the environment. *The Daily Star* [Read more](#)

### CURACAO: REGIONAL WORKSHOP ON CRISIS COMMUNICATION AND EMERGENCY RESPONSE

May 5 – News received from IOPC Funds - On 6 April 2017, the Head of the External Relations and Conference Department, Mr Thomas Liebert, travelled to Curaçao to participate in a conference on public communication during crises, including oil spills, where he gave a presentation on oil spill management, including the handling of claims and ran a short oil spill communication exercise organised by the Government of Curaçao . The conference was attended by 50 delegates representing all six Caribbean islands of the Kingdom of the Netherlands. This trip was also an opportunity for Mr Liebert to meet with an important 1992 Fund contributor operating in Curaçao to discuss reporting and contributions obligations. <http://www.iopcfunds.org/>

### NIGERIA: BAYELSA COMMUNITY SUES ITALIAN OIL GIANT ENI OVER OIL SPILL



*Photo: Negligence and nonchalance from ENI and its subsidiary NAOC has left the Ikebiri community suffering from the impacts oil pollution for seven years. PHOTO:Pius Utomi Ekpei / AFP*

May 8 - The Ikebiri community, from Bayelsa state, Nigeria, have launched an unprecedented legal case against the Italian oil giant ENI, seeking cleanup and compensation for damages from an oil spill that has affected their community in the Niger Delta.

The leak was closed in 2010, and NAOC claims to have cleaned up the site. However, according to the community, the leaked oil in the surrounding area was

simply burnt, without their consent. To date, no adequate compensation has been offered, or cleanup completed. *Guardian Nigeria* [Read more](#)

## News reports from around the world (continued)

### PORTUGAL - MARINER PROJECT, LATEST PROGRESS

May 9 – News received from Cedre - Two engineers from Cedre were sent to Porto from 26th to 28th April for the European project MARINER which aims to improve preparedness and response to HNS spills at sea. The first two days comprised presentations on the progress of each of the project tasks. The discussions confirmed the programme for the pilot training course scheduled to be held at Cedre from 12th to 14th September 2017. The third day was devoted to a workshop on the use of technology to ensure better preparedness for HNS spills. This workshop gave rise to interesting discussions with Portuguese operational stakeholders and was the opportunity to present Cedre's experimental facilities. <http://wwz.cedre.fr/en/>

### SOUTH KOREA: WRECK REMOVAL TREATY RATIFIED BY DEMOCRATIC PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF KOREA

May 8 - IMO's Nairobi International Convention on the Removal of Wrecks has been ratified by the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, bringing the total number of States to accede to the treaty to 35. The Convention, which entered into force in 2015, provides the legal basis for States to remove, or have removed, shipwrecks that may threaten the safety of lives, goods and property at sea, as well as the marine environment.

The Convention was adopted in 2007 and its Contracting States currently represent just over 60% of the world's merchant fleet tonnage. Mr. Kim Kwang Min, Counsellor, Deputy Permanent Representative of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to IMO, Embassy of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea in London, met IMO Secretary-General Kitack Lim to deposit the instrument of accession. <http://www.imo.org/EN/Pages/Default.aspx>

### UK: IN SITU BURNING TRIALS IN ENGLAND

May 9 – News received from Cedre - Oil slick burning is a controversial response technique which has been the focus of renewed interest since the Deepwater Horizon spill. Although this technique is not recognised in France, Cedre is permanently monitoring advances in this field and takes part in studies on this issue. On 13th April, a researcher from Cedre was invited to the Serco International Fire Training Centre (IFTC) in Teesside, Darlington (England) as a spectator at burning trials. These trials, undertaken by MERL Consulting, aimed to assess the efficiency of a smoke inhibitor during oil burning. The trials were carried out on Jet A1 floating at the surface of a 10 cm layer of fresh water. Clear differences in the amount of smoke produced were observed by those present. The tested product would appear to be of interest for in situ burning operations and is worthy of further study. <http://wwz.cedre.fr/en/>

### USA: HILARIOUS RESPONSE TO A LETTER FROM THE STATE ENVIRONMENTAL AGENCY

*This is an actual letter sent to a man regarding a pond on his property. It was sent by the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality, State of Michigan. This guy's response is hilarious, but read the State's letter before you get to the response letter.*

Dear Mr DeVries:

It has come to the attention of the Department of Environmental Quality that there has been recent unauthorized activity on the above referenced parcel of property. You have been certified as the legal landowner and/or contractor who did the following unauthorized activity:

Construction and maintenance of two wood debris dams across the outlet stream of Spring Pond. A permit must be issued prior to the start of this type of activity. A review of the Department's files show that no permits have been issued.

Therefore, the Department has determined that this activity is in violation of Part 301, Inland Lakes and Streams, of the Natural Resource and Environmental Protection Act, Act 451 of the Public Acts of 1994, being sections 324.30101 to 324.30113 of the Michigan Compiled Laws annotated. The Department has been informed that one or both of the dams partially failed during a recent rain event, causing debris dams and flooding at downstream locations. We find that dams of this nature are inherently hazardous and cannot be permitted. The Department therefore orders you to cease and desist all unauthorized activities at this location, and to restore the stream to a free-flow condition by removing all wood and brush forming the dams from the strewn channel. All restoration work shall be completed no later than January 31. Please notify this office when the restoration has been completed so that a follow-up site inspection may be scheduled by our staff. Failure to comply with this request, or any further unauthorized activity on the site, may result in this case being referred for elevated enforcement action. We anticipate and would appreciate your full cooperation in this matter.

Please feel free to contact me at this office if you have any questions.

Sincerely, David L Price, District Representative Land and Water Management Division.

## News reports from around the world (continued)

Dear Mr Price:

Your certified letter has been handed to me to respond to. You sent out a great deal of carbon copies to a lot of people, but you neglected to include their addresses. You will, therefore, have to send them a copy of my response.

First of all, Mr. Ryan DeVries is not the legal landowner and/or contractor at 2088 Dagget, Pierson, Michigan — I am the legal owner and a couple of beavers are in the (State unauthorized) process of constructing and maintaining two wood “debris” dams across the outlet stream of my Spring Pond. While I did not pay for, nor authorize, their dam project, I think they would be highly offended you call their skillful use of natural building materials “debris.” I would like to challenge you to attempt to emulate their dam project any dam time and/or any dam place you choose. I believe I can safely state there is no dam way you could ever match their dam skills, their dam resourcefulness, their dam ingenuity, their dam persistence, their dam determination and/or their dam work ethic.

As to your dam request the beavers first must fill out a dam permit prior to the start of this type of dam activity, my first dam question to you is: are you trying to discriminate against my Spring Pond Beavers or do you require all dam beavers throughout this State to conform to said dam request? If you are not discriminating against these particular beavers, please send me completed copies of all those other applicable beaver dam permits. Perhaps we will see if there really is a dam violation of Part 301, Inland Lakes and Streams, of the Natural Resource and Environmental Protection Act, Act 451 of the Public Acts of 1994, being sections 324.30101 to 324.30113 of the Michigan Compiled Laws annotated.

My first concern is — aren't the dam beavers entitled to dam legal representation? The Spring Pond Beavers are financially destitute and are unable to pay for said dam representation — so the State will have to provide them with a dam lawyer. The Department's dam concern that either one or both of the dams failed during a recent rain event causing dam flooding is proof we should leave the dam Spring Pond Beavers alone rather than harassing them and calling them dam names. If you want the dam stream “restored” to a dam free-flow condition — contact the dam beavers — but if you are going to arrest them (they obviously did not pay any dam attention to your dam letter-being unable to read English) — be sure you read them their dam Miranda rights first.

As for me, I am not going to cause more dam flooding or dam debris jams by interfering with these dam builders. If you want to hurt these dam beavers — be aware I am sending a copy of your dam letter and this response to PETA. If your dam Department seriously finds all dams of this nature inherently hazardous and truly will not permit their existence in this dam State — I seriously hope you are not selectively enforcing this dam policy, or once again both I and the Spring Pond Beavers will scream prejudice!

In my humble opinion, the Spring Pond Beavers have a right to build their dam unauthorized dams as long as the sky is blue, the grass is green, and water flows downstream. They have more dam right than I to live and enjoy Spring Pond. So, as far as I and the beavers are concerned, this dam case can be referred for more dam elevated enforcement action now. Why wait until January 31? The Spring Pond Beavers may be under the dam ice then, and there will be no dam way for you or your dam staff to contact/harass them then. In conclusion, I would like to bring to your attention a real environmental quality (health) problem: bears are actually defecating in our woods. I definitely believe you should be persecuting the defecating bears and leave the dam beavers alone. If you are going to investigate the beaver dam, watch your step! (The bears are not careful where they dump!) Being unable to comply with your dam request, and being unable to contact you on your dam answering machine, I am sending this response to your dam office.

Sincerely, Stephen L. Tvedten [https://ihavethetruth.com/2017/04/30/hilarious-](https://ihavethetruth.com/2017/04/30/hilarious-response-environmental-agency/)

[response-environmental-agency/](https://ihavethetruth.com/2017/04/30/hilarious-response-environmental-agency/)

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### USA: NTSB VIDEO CELEBRATES FIFTY YEARS OF SAFETY ADVANCES

May 9 - Transportation safety improvements spurred by the U.S. National Transportation Safety Board recommendations are highlighted in a video released on Monday as part of the NTSB's ongoing commemoration of its 50th anniversary.

On average the NTSB investigates 1,600 aviation accidents and incidents, 22 highway crashes, nine rail accidents, three pipeline or hazardous materials accidents and 30 maritime accidents each year, and issues more than 280 safety recommendations. *The Maritime Executive* [Read more and watch the video](#)

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### USA: AN ARCTIC OIL SPILL IS A SECURITY CONCERN, U.S.SAYS

May 9 - Shipping and the possibility of an oil spill in Arctic waters is a security concern for parties to a multilateral monitoring committee, a U.S. official said. Littoral states to Arctic waters made the first steps toward forming the Arctic Council in the 1990s to address sovereignty, aboriginal rights and security issues. During a conference in Alaska this week, the United States hands the rotating leadership of the council over to Finland. *UPI.com* [Read more](#)

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## News reports from around the world (continued)

### USA: DAKOTA PIPELINE IS READY FOR OIL, WITHOUT SPILL RESPONSE PLAN FOR STANDING ROCK

May 10 - Oil is set to flow through the controversial [Dakota Access pipeline](#), but there is still no oil spill response plan in place for the section of pipe that crosses the Missouri River just upstream from the Standing Rock reservation. The company won't be required to have emergency response cleanup equipment stored near the river crossing for another year, either.

The lack of rigorous safety measures for the crude oil pipeline is raising concerns from lawyers and pipeline consultants for the Standing Rock Sioux tribe, whose protests and legal fight against the Dakota Access pipeline became a flashpoint for environmental justice and indigenous rights last year.

Despite the prolonged resistance, the pipeline is scheduled to [begin operating on June 1](#) after President [Donald Trump](#) issued an order [expediting its approval](#). *Inside Climate News* [Read more](#)

## People in the news

### A MESSAGE FROM "PCJR" OF THE HAZMAT 101 GROUP

May 8 – "Hello friends of the Hazmat 101 List(tm). I am the creator and facilitator of the Hazmat101 List(tm), currently our yahoo group. As some of you know, the Hazmat 101 List evolved from and is associated with the Hazmat 101 web(tm) [www.hazmat101.com](http://www.hazmat101.com)

Due to changes in my life priorities, I will not be able to continue the web site of the Hazmat 101 Web. The site will be discontinued later this month and its content will be archived. The Hazmat 101 List will continue.

Thank you for 18 years of memories and hazmat news".

*The Editor of the ISCO Newsletter thanks PCJR for his many years of sending on useful news on Hazmat topics and wishes him all the very best.*

### BMT: PETER FRENCH TO RETIRE AND NEW CEO APPOINTED



May 9 - When BMT Group Ltd (BMT) current CEO Peter French retires in September, he will be succeeded by Sarah Kenny, who joins BMT on August 1. "Sarah is well qualified to take on this role," said BMT's Chairman, Sir John Hood. Kenny comes from QinetiQ where most recently she established and led the Maritime, Land & Weapons business as Managing Director, reporting to the Group CEO.



Commenting on Peter's retirement, Sir John Hood says: "Peter is a man of enormous integrity who has contributed very considerably to BMT over the past 27 years, the last 12 as Chief Executive. During his leadership tenure, he has overseen a remarkable period where BMT has played a major role in delivering engineering excellence internationally. The Board and staff of BMT wish Peter a long and fulfilling retirement." *BMT* [Read more](#)

## ISCO news

### REMINDER: ISCO AGM AT IOSC

An especially important AGM this year because it will introduce Matthew Somerville who will be taking over as the new Secretary General of the organization. The meeting will focus on discussing options for the future development of ISCO. Please make your best effort to attend. The meeting will be in Room 101A at 1700hrs. on Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> May.

A briefing paper was circulated to all members on 12th April and members are requested to read this before coming to the meeting.

With the extension of the exhibition opening time to 1730hrs we realise that exhibiting members may find it difficult to join the meeting at 1700hrs but please come along just as soon as you can.

### VISIT ISCO AT BOOTH 408 IN THE EXHIBITION HALL

ISCO President David Usher, Membership Director Mary Ann Dalgleish, John McMurtrie and Matthew Sommerville are looking forward to seeing you. If you are interested in becoming a member, it's a good opportunity to find out about all the benefits of ISCO membership and complete an application form

## Publications

### NEW OPERATIONAL GUIDES PUBLISHED BY CEDRE

Cedre has just published two new operational guides in English. The first, entitled "Skimmers", covers the question of skimmers and their ancillary equipment with a sole objective: to provide support in the choice of the most appropriate equipment and systems in a given situation. The second, entitled "Response in Mangroves", details the response options for two scenarios: environments at threat and oiled environments. Several practical datasheets illustrate the crucial technical and organisational aspects required for an efficient response. <http://wwz.cedre.fr/en/News/New-guides-in-English>

### EUROPE: SUMMARY OVERVIEW OF MARINE CASUALTIES AND INCIDENTS

EMSA has recently published the first Summary Overview of Marine Casualties and Incidents. The Overview presents key accident and incident data for the years 2011-2015, as reported to the European Marine Casualty Information Platform (EMCIP). This new handy format highlights, in an easily interpreted presentation, the figures that are of most widespread interest. Based on over 12 000 individual reports, the Overview demonstrates the power of the central data base and its potential as a decision support tool for policy makers. *EMSA* [Read more](#)

### NEW ISSUE OF "SPILLALERT" FROM UK SPILL

Copies of the latest SpillAlert Newsletter, issue 17, are available by download from the UKSpill website. This issue features the recent Annual Dinner and Awards, together with news about the launch of the Interspill 2018 Conference and Exhibition in March 2018. See [www.interspillevent.com](http://www.interspillevent.com) or [www.interspill.org](http://www.interspill.org) Download the Newsletter at <http://www.ukspill.org/>

### Links for recent issues of other publications (in alphabetical order)

<a href="#">AMSA Aboard</a>	News from the Australian Maritime Safety Authority	December 2016
<a href="#">ASME EED EHS Newsletter</a>	News and commentary on HSE issues from George Holliday	Most recent issue
<a href="#">Bow Wave</a>	Sam Ignarski's Ezine on Marine & Transport Matters	Current issue
<a href="#">Cedre Newsletter</a>	News from Cedre in Brittany, France	April 2017
<a href="#">CROIERG Enews</a>	Canberra & Regions Oil Industry Emergency Response Group	Current issue
<a href="#">EMSA Newsletter</a>	News from the European Maritime Safety Agency	May 2017 issue
<a href="#">Environmental Technology Online</a>	Environmental Monitoring, Testing & Analysis	April 2017 issue
<a href="#">IMO News Magazine</a>	News from the International Maritime Organization	Spring 2017 issue
<a href="#">IMO Publishing News</a>	New and forthcoming IMO publications	April 2017
<a href="#">Intertanko Weekly News</a>	International news for the oil tanker community	May 5, 2017
<a href="#">JOIFF "The Catalyst"</a>	Int'l Organisation for Industrial Hazard Management	Q2 2017 issue
<a href="#">MOIG Newsletter</a>	News from the Mediterranean Oil Industry Group	April 2017 issue
<a href="#">NOWPAP Quarterly</a>	News from the North West Pacific Action Plan	Quarter 1, 2016 issue
<a href="#">Ocean Orbit</a>	Newsletter from the International Tanker Owners Pollution Federation	May 2016
<a href="#">OCIMF Newsletter</a>	News from the Oil Companies International Marine Forum	April 2017 issue
<a href="#">Pollution Online Newsletter</a>	News for prevention & control professionals	May 10 2017
<a href="#">Safe Seas, Clean Seas</a>	Quarterly Newsletter from Maritime New Zealand	December 2016 issue
<a href="#">Sea Alarm Foundation Newsletter</a>	Oiled wildlife Preparedness and Response news from Sea Alarm	Spring 2017 issue
<a href="#">Technology Innovation News Survey</a>	News from US EPA – Contaminated Site Decontamination	December 16-31, 2016
<a href="#">Transport Canada Newsletter</a>	News and articles re transport of dangerous goods in Canada	December 2016 issue
<a href="#">USA EPA Tech Direct</a>	Remediation of contaminated soil and groundwater	May 1, 2017
<a href="#">USA EPA Tech News &amp; Trends</a>	Contaminated site clean-up information	Spring 2016 issue
<a href="#">WMU Newsletter</a>	News from the World Maritime University	December 2016 issue

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

## Events

### USA: CLEAN WATERWAYS – JUNE 27-28, LOUISVILLE, KENTUCKY

May 10 - This past week, representatives from Marathon Petroleum Company, Phillips 66, Valero Energy Corporation, The Response Group, BNSF Railroad, Ohio Environmental Protection Agency, Canadian Pacific Railway and many more have registered to attend the Inaugural [CLEAN WATERWAYS](#) event! Don't miss your chance to join them and hundreds more at the event designed specifically for those involved in oil and hazardous materials spill prevention and response for inland waterways!

The CLEAN WATERWAYS [Advisory Committee](#) has programmed fourteen conference sessions that cover some of the most pressing topics while remaining unique to rivers. With that in mind the program will touch on the patchwork of State and Federal regulations, hazardous materials and unconventional oil transportation, and working in a challenging operating environment. [Click here to view the full conference agenda online or download a PDF of the program here.](#) [Click here](#) to be added to the CLEAN WATERWAYS email list to receive registration reminders and updates. More info - [Conference Website](#)

## Upcoming events summary

COUNTRY	2017	TITLE OF EVENT	LOCATION
For more information click on Title of Event			
UK	Jan 16 – July 7	<a href="#">IMO Exhibition – 50 Years Gov't &amp; Industry Co-op'n</a>	London
USA	May 15-18	<a href="#">International Oil Spill Conference</a>	Long Beach CA
MALAYSIA	May 15-16	<a href="#">Root Cause Failure Analysis</a>	Kuala Lumpur
USA	May 16	<a href="#">ISCO-BIMCO Presentation &amp; Reception</a>	Long Beach CA
UAE	May 16-18	<a href="#">Middle East HSE Technical Forum</a>	Dubai
USA	May 17	<a href="#">ISCO AGM</a>	Long Beach CA
MALTA	May 23-25	<a href="#">12<sup>th</sup> Mediterranean Focal Points REMPEC Meeting</a>	St. Julians
USA	May 23-26	<a href="#">INTERTANKO Annual Tanker Event</a>	Houston TX
UK	May 24-25	<a href="#">HAZMAT 2017 Conference &amp; Exhibition</a>	Stratford on Avon
CANADA	June 6-8	<a href="#">40th AMOP Tech.Seminar on Contam'n &amp; Response</a>	Alberta
BELGIUM	June 7-8	<a href="#">European Environmental Ports Conference 2017</a>	Antwerp
UK	June 20-21	<a href="#">Wreck Removal Contracts &amp; Operations Seminar</a>	London
GHANA	June 26-30	<a href="#">NOSCP Table-top Exercise</a>	Accra
USA	June 27-28	<a href="#">Clean Waterways</a>	Louisville KY
UK	July 3-7	<a href="#">IMO Marine Environment Protection Committee</a>	London
CHINA	July 14	<a href="#">6th NOWPAP DELTA Exercise</a>	Weihai
SENEGAL	July 17-20	<a href="#">International Workshop on Dispersant and NEBA</a>	Dakar
NIGERIA	Sept. 5-7	<a href="#">National Workshop on Liability and Compensation</a>	
UK	Sept. 5-8	<a href="#">SPE Offshore Europe</a>	Aberdeen
UK	Sept. 6-7	<a href="#">8<sup>th</sup> Maritime and Salvage Response</a>	London
FRANCE	Sept. 28	<a href="#">CEDRE Information Day – "Spills in Ports"</a>	Paris
UAE	Nov. 13-16	<a href="#">Abu Dhabi Int'l Petroleum Exhibition &amp; Conference</a>	Abu Dhabi
USA	Dec. 5-7	<a href="#">Clean Gulf Conference and Exhibition</a>	Houston, TX
	<b>2018</b>		
UK	March 13-15	<a href="#">2018 INTERSPILL Conference and Exhibition</a>	London
UK	March 13-15	<a href="#">Oceanology International 2018</a>	London
USA	June 19-21	<a href="#">Clean Pacific Conference and Exhibition</a>	Portland, OR
To request posting of an event of interest to the Spill Response Community please send details to the Editor			

## Contracts and tenders

### EUROPE: CALL FOR PROPOSALS FOR THE PROVISION OF CONSULTANCY SERVICES FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF OFFSHORE COMMON STANDARDS AND GUIDELINES

May 8 - The Nineteenth Ordinary Meeting of the Contracting Parties to the Convention for the Protection of the Marine Environment and the Coastal Region of the Mediterranean ("the Barcelona Convention") and its Protocols, which was held in Athens, Greece from 9 to 12 February 2016, adopted Decision IG.22/3 related to the Mediterranean Offshore Action Plan in the framework of the Protocol for the Protection of the Mediterranean Sea against Pollution resulting from Exploration and Exploitation of the Continental Shelf and the Seabed and its Subsoil, hereinafter referred to as the Mediterranean Offshore Action Plan (UNEP(DEPI)/MED IG.22/28).

In accordance with Specific objective 3 of the Mediterranean Offshore Action Plan and Article 23 of the Offshore Protocol, as the core substance of the Offshore Protocol aims at establishing common standards and guidelines to harmonise regional practices in the Mediterranean region, Contracting Parties agreed to consider relevant existing standards and guidelines in this field (vide REMPEC/WG.35/INF.3), in line with overarching ecosystem-based ecological objectives, EcAp Roadmap and in particular with the Integrated Monitoring and Assessment Programme (IMAP) of United Nations Environment Programme/Mediterranean Action Plan (UN Environment/MAP). Contracting Parties further agreed to develop and adopt the regional offshore standards and guidelines identified in Specific objective 7 and Specific objective 8, respectively.

To support REMPEC in carrying out this activity, which is financed by the Mediterranean Trust Fund (MTF), proposals for the provision of consultancy services for the development of the above mentioned offshore common standards and guidelines should be sent to Ms Sheila Mifsud (smifsud@rempec.org) **not later than five (5) p.m. (Malta local time) on Monday, 5 June 2017** [More info](#)

## Contracts and tenders (continued)

### EMSA ISSUES TENDER FOR SKIMMERS

EMSA OP/03/2017 [www.emsa.europa.eu](http://www.emsa.europa.eu) Tenders are invited for a framework contract for the supply of high capacity skimmers for the performance of EMSA's at sea oil pollution response operations tasks. The contractor shall also provide equipment commissioning and training service on the operation of the equipment where applicable. [More info](#)

## Company news

### T&T SALVAGE SAVES GALVESTON BEACH FROM TUG AND BARGE GROUNDING

May 8 - T&T Salvage was called upon to respond to a disabled 700-foot long integrated tug and barge which had become separated due to heavy seas on the afternoon of Saturday, April 29th.

The incident was first reported roughly three nautical miles off the Galveston Island Pleasure Pier, posing a major threat to one of the island's most populous beach areas. In an attempt to prevent the barge from drifting closer to shore, crew members quickly deployed the barge's anchoring system; however, the sea conditions prohibited the anchor from holding. Additionally, during attempts to prevent the barge from going ashore, one of the propellers of the ITB tug became fouled with the tow wire.

The vessel's response plan was quickly activated and T&T Salvage was called upon to render assistance. *The Maritime Executive* [Read more](#)

<http://teichmangroup.com> **T&T Salvage is a Corporate Member of ISCO**

### FASTANK AT IOSC – WHISKEY TASTING

Come visit us at stand 1125 on Wednesday 17th May at 4.30pm where we will be launching our new FASTANK website. We will also be hosting our annual whiskey tasting event to celebrate the launch. It is not to be missed!!

### YOUR INVITATION TO VISIT BOOTHS OF ISCO MEMBERS AND ISCO LINKED ORGANIZATIONS

*Over the last few days many of our Corporate Members and other ISCO-linked organizations have sent members and other readers invitations to visit their booths at IOSC.*

*Too many to publish here but here is a list of members and, to help you find them, their booth location numbers.*

Abasco LLC	824	Fast Engineering Ltd.	1125
aL Briggs Environmental Solutions	1101	Foru-Solution BV	1205
Ampol	406	International Maritime Organization	408
Aqua-Guard Spill Response Inc.	803	Interspill / UK Spill	1211
Ayles Fernie International Ltd.	511	IOPC Funds	927
Canadyne Technologies Inc.	911	Lamor Corporation LLC	607
Cleanupoil.com	1008	Marine Pollution Control Corp.	1201
Crest Ecomaterials Ltd.	605	National Response Corporation	817
Crucial Inc.	925	Resolve Marine Group Inc.	508
Desmi	1002	Rutter Inc.	703
Elastec Inc.	813	Vikoma International Ltd.	701

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