

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.

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INTERNATIONAL DIRECTORY

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International news

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



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SANCHI TANKER – A MESSAGE FROM IMO SECRETARY-GENERAL KITACK LIM



January 8 - "Our thoughts and prayers are with the seafarers still missing from the oil tanker Sanchi, following a reported collision off the coast of China. I send my deepest sympathies to all their families and loved ones.

"I would like to commend all those who have been involved in the international

search and rescue operations so far and in the efforts to battle the fire and contain pollution from the ship.

"This is an ongoing situation which we are monitoring. IMO stands ready to offer any technical assistance that may be needed. In the longer term, it is expected that there will be a full investigation into this incident and that the results and findings will be brought to IMO so that we can do whatever may be necessary to reduce the chances of such an incident happening again." [IMO](#)

EXPANDING THE SUBSEA WELL CONTROL TOOLKIT



January 8 - A pending agreement with a pair of well intervention service companies will help the largest international oil spill response organisation complete its tool kit

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International news (continued)

The oil and gas industry co-operative Oil Spill Response (OSRL) is close to finalising an agreement with Halliburton and Trendsetter Engineering that the company says will beef up its ability to respond quickly to well control events worldwide.

Houston-based Trendsetter, which designed and delivered OSRL's well capping and containment systems, and Halliburton's Boots & Coots well control division will give OSRL member companies access to trained response personnel and subject matter experts and support the organisation's preparedness activities.

OSRL will still be responsible for maintenance and deployment of its well control equipment, which currently includes four capping stacks and two subsea incident response systems stored in locations with good proximity to major offshore oil producing regions.

The strategic alliance will be especially valuable for smaller operators, which may lack internal well control resources, says OSRL's Subsea Well Intervention Services director Matt Clements.

[UpstreamOnline.com](#) [Read more](#)

40 YEARS OF THE IOPC FUNDS

January 9 - 2018 marks forty years since the entry into force of the 1971 Fund Convention and the establishment of the original International Oil Pollution Compensation Fund.

This unique organisation, which brings governments, shipowners and the oil industry together to compensate victims of oil pollution damage has dealt with some 150 incidents since 1978. It has continued to grow, with the 1992 Fund now counting 115 States as Members.

The international liability and compensation regime has also developed and successfully adapted as necessary to new challenges presented by major oil pollution incidents over the past 40 years.

The IOPC Funds continues to successfully fulfil its mission and with the official anniversary falling on 16 October, the Funds will certainly mark this special occasion closer to the time.

In the meantime, a commemorative logo has been developed and will be used on various external documentation and online sources throughout the year.

[IOPC Funds](#)

EMSA: DOWNLOAD OF MARINE CASUALTIES AND INCIDENTS PUBLICATIONS TOPS 80 000

Jan 11 - The Annual Overviews of Marine Casualties and Incidents first published by EMSA on its website in 2014 have now been downloaded over 80 000 times, according to the combined figures.

The latest edition, made available in November 2017, has already been downloaded over 5 200 times. The publication offers a comprehensive analysis of the nature of marine accidents, ranging from high level key figures on fatalities, injuries, ships involved, etc. to detailed information on location, contributing factors and consequences analysed by ship type including cargo ships, fishing vessels and passenger ships.

[Links for downloading EMSA Marine Casualties and Incidents](#)



International news (continued)

INTERNATIONAL SPILL ACCREDITATION ASSOCIATION – SPRING TRAINING PLANS

Following the ISAA meeting in Lisburn on 12th December members decided that in Spring 2018 the Castle Archdale, Nr. Enniskillen training event would concentrate on dealing with oil spills which had affected property, usually following a domestic heating oil tank leak. The training will be available to both members and non-members. Further details will be issued in due course.

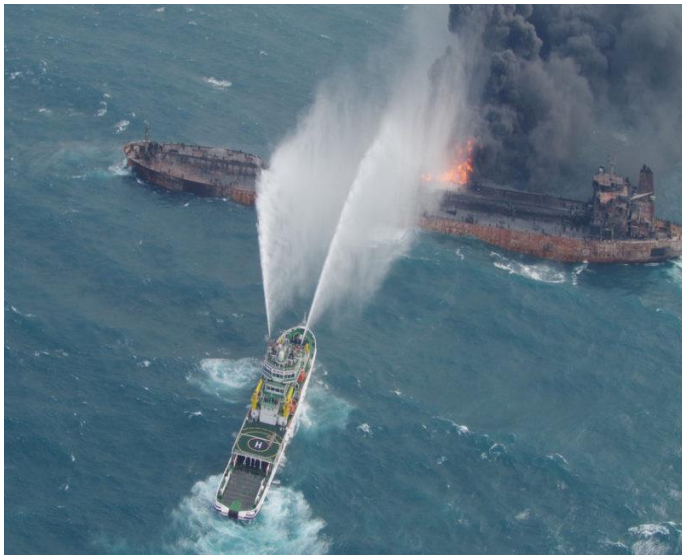
Capt. Bill Boyle reported that the meeting went well with a very good turnout. ISAA Administrator John Dawes gave a very good presentation of how ISAA is planning to move forward. <http://www.isaa.org.uk/>

Incident reports

SPAIN: ULTRA LARGE CONTAINER SHIP LOST SOME 40 CONTAINERS

January 7 - Ultra Large Container Ship MSC ELOANE at night Jan 5 reported to MRCC Spain loss of 30 – 45 containers, which went overboard some 40 nm off Galician coast, Spain, Atlantic coastline. Containers were lost in rough weather, heavy seas prevent rescuers from attempts to recover containers, some of which may already sink. *Maritime Bulletin* [Read more](#)

CHINA: SANCHI: BURNING TANKER OFF CHINESE COAST – PRESS REPORTS



Because there are so many reports on this developing incident selected headlines are given below with links for you to click on to read the reports and see more photographs.

January 8 - Sanchi: Burning tanker off Chinese coast 'in danger of exploding' [BBC News](#)

January 8 - Video: Tanker at Risk of Explosion off Shanghai [The Maritime Executive](#)

January 9 - Huge oil tanker at risk of exploding after collision; 1 body found [CNN News](#)

January 9 - No large-scale oil spill found after east China coast vessel collision [Xinhuanet](#)

January 10 - Explosion, Foul Weather Hamper Efforts to Fight Tanker Fire [The Maritime Executive](#)

January 10 - China Oil Spill Compensation Claims Face Iran Payment Snags [gCaptain](#)

January 10 - Explosion on Burning Tanker Sanchi Forces Rescue Crews to Retreat [gCaptain](#)

January 10 - China says no major oil spill after Iran tanker collision [Channel News Asia](#)

January 12 - Burning Tanker Suffers Multiple Explosions [The Maritime Executive](#)

January 12 - Stricken Iranian Oil tanker Drifts Into Japan's Economic Zone as Fire Rages On [gCaptain](#)

January 13 - Rescuers boarded Iranian tanker SANCHI: 2 bodies found [Maritime Bulletin](#)

USA: MINNESOTA - 500 BARRELS OF GASOLINE LEAK AFTER PIPELINE RUPTURES IN EAGAN, COMPANY SAYS

January 8 - Oil storage and transportation company Magellan Midstream Partners reports third-party excavation

Incident reports (continued)

equipment is responsible for a 500-barrel gas leak that occurred in one of its pipelines Monday afternoon in Eagan.

A release from the company stated the leak occurred around 1 p.m. in a 12-inch pipeline that is used to transport petroleum products from Rosemount to Minneapolis. Five-hundred barrels amounts to as much as 21,000 gallons of spilled gasoline. *KSTP.com* [Read more](#)

USA: TENNESSEE - NORFOLK SOUTHERN TAKES RESPONSIBILITY FOR FUEL SPILL IN CITICO CREEK, TN RIVER

January 10 - UPDATE: Norfolk Southern has been identified as the source of the fuel spill that was discovered late Monday afternoon.

A spokesperson for the Chattanooga Fire Department says the spill originated from DeButts Yard and Norfolk Southern has taken responsibility for the spill and assured city, state and federal authorities on Monday afternoon that it is making every effort to minimize the impact on Citico Creek and the Tennessee River. *Wrcbtv.com* [Read more](#)
Related report in [Times Free Press](#)

SAUDI ARABIA: SAUDI FORCES THWART BOMB BOAT ATTACK IN RED SEA

January 10 – The Saudi coalition backing the Yemeni government in Yemen's civil war announced Wednesday that it had thwarted an attempted bomb-boat attack on a tanker off Hodeidah.

A spokesman told media that over the weekend, coalition forces destroyed a boat laden with explosives that was headed for an unnamed tanker. He suggested that the attack was evidence that militants in Hodeidah pose a threat to merchant shipping in the Red Sea and at the chokepoint at its southern end, the Strait of Bab al-Mandeb. In addition, he said that militia members attempted to target a Saudi jet over the weekend using "advanced weaponry." *The Maritime Executive* [Read more](#)

USA: HAWAII - HECO CREWS CLEAN FUEL OIL SPILL IN PEARL CITY

January 10 - Crews from the Hawaiian Electric Company worked overnight to clean up an estimated 500 gallons of oil that leaked from an underground pipeline in Pearl City last night. *Star Advertiser* [Read more](#)

USA: KENTUCKY - SUNKEN TOWBOAT LEAKING OIL IN BIG SANDY RIVER



January 11 - Officials say a sunken towboat is leaking oil in the Big Sandy River on the West Virginia-Kentucky border, where crews are trying to contain the spill.

Chief Warrant Officer Chris Blank with the U.S. Coast Guard's Huntington Marine Safety Unit said they were notified around 7:45 a.m. Wednesday that the motor vessel "Gate City" from Gate City River Transportation of Catlettsburg, Kentucky, partially sunk at its mooring just south of Kenova in Wayne County and was leaking some type of oil.

Herald Dispatch [Read more](#)

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

BELIZE: BELIZE BANS OIL EXPLORATION TO PROTECT REEFS

January 11 - Late last year, the small Central American nation of Belize placed an indefinite moratorium on oil exploration to protect its marine environment.

The country is home to the largest barrier reef in the western hemisphere, and its economy is heavily reliant on tourism to natural attractions. It is estimated that tourism generates some \$200 million for Belize annually — a number that constitutes over 10% of its GDP.

IMarEST [Read more](#)



CANADA: JURORS BEGIN DELIBERATIONS IN 2013 LAC MEGANTIC OIL TRAIN DERAILMENT



January 11 - Jury deliberations began Thursday in the trial of three men charged with criminal negligence causing death for a 2013 train derailment that killed 47 people in Quebec.

Train engineer Tom Harding, traffic controller Richard Labrie and train operations manager Jean Demaitre are charged in connection with the accident in which a runaway train carrying crude oil derailed and exploded.

All three men have pleaded not guilty.

The prosecution contends Harding failed to perform a proper brake test and didn't apply enough handbrakes after he parked the 73-car oil train late on the night of July 5, 2013. Labrie and Demaitre are accused of failing to ensure the train was properly secure after a fire broke out on the locomotive and firefighters shut off its engine, compromising the braking system.

Harding's legal team maintains his actions were not a marked departure from the behavior of a reasonable person in similar circumstances and did not reveal a reckless disregard for the life of others. [Portland Press Herald](#) [Thanks to Don Johnston of ISCO Industry Partner, DG & Hazmat Group]

CHINA: MARITIME POLLUTION RESPONSE DEVELOPS FAST

January 8 - China's response mechanism on oceanic oil pollution has made sound progress in recent years and become internationalized, and these efforts will be taken into the Belt and Road (B&R) initiative as the country's comprehensive power strengthens and its investment rises in environmental protection, experts said.

The oil spill off China's east coast from the Sanchi tanker burned fiercely on Monday morning, China's Ministry of Transport said on its official WeChat account, noting there is a possible risk that the tanker will explode and sink. The toxic gas it produces through evaporation and explosions causes huge harm to the rescue crews, it said.

News reports from around the world (continued)

There are three professional rescue ships, four public service vessels, two cleaning boats and several fishing boats searching for the missing crew of the tanker, which included 30 Iranians and two Bangladeshis. The vessels are also controlling the oil spill, it noted.

The environmental impact of the oil spill might be mitigated thanks to the distance of the collision from the nearest coastline, Qiao Bing, deputy director of the Academic Committee with the China Waterborne Transport Research Institute, told the Global Times on Monday.

Qiao said that China has taken an international role in the area of oil spill response actions and made remarkable progress in sea transport management and accident controls in recent years.

China joined in 1990 the International Convention on Oil Pollution Preparedness, Response and Cooperation, an international maritime convention for dealing with marine oil pollution incidents nationally and in cooperation with other countries and regions.

In 2000, the Ministry of Transport and the Ministry of Environmental Protection of China announced national and sea area contingency plans, an oil-spill pollution response system at the national, provincial, municipal and port levels.

"Nonetheless, we need to further develop such technologies as navigation, satellite remote sensing, intelligent driving and emergent searching ability," Qiao noted.

The State Council, China's cabinet, approved in 2016 the country's first oil spill emergency response scheme to be ready by 2020 to tackle increasing risks from offshore leakages.

For the first time, it included enterprises in such sectors as oil exploration and pollution cleaning to be part of the national plan, to improve the market mechanism. *Global Times* [Read the unabridged text of this article](#)

COLOMBIA: SANTOS ORDERS CHIEF NEGOTIATOR WITH ELN TO RETURN TO COLOMBIA AFTER PIPELINE ATTACK



January 10 - President Juan Manuel Santos ordered the return to Colombia of the chief negotiator in peace talks with the ELN after the guerrilla group allegedly attacked an oil pipeline.

The attack took place hours after a bilateral ceasefire expired and hours before peace talks between the government and guerrillas were expected to resume.

Santos announced on television he had suspended the talks after hearing about the bomb that damaged an oil pipeline in Aguazul, a municipality in the Casanare province. *Colombia Reports* [Read more](#)

FRANCE: CEDRE ACTIVITY SUMMARY FOR DECEMBER 2017

January 11 - The stranding of a yellow block of an unknown substance on the beach of Saint-Martin-en-Campagne (Seine Maritime) was reported to Cedre's duty team and a sample was sent to the laboratory for analysis.

Cedre was also called upon several times following spills in inland waters. First, the Yvelines fire brigade informed Cedre of the presence of sheen on the Mauldre river in Villiers-Saint-Frédéric.

In late December, Cedre was questioned by the Regional Directorate for the Environment, Planning and Housing (DREAL) of the Provence-Alpes-Côtes d'Azur (PACA) region on the actions to be conducted after a tanker truck overturned and plunged into a river in Bours (Hautes-Pyrénées).

The Tarn-et-Garonne Departmental Territories Directorate also contacted Cedre in search of information on the composition and behaviour of a coolant (UN3082) spilt in the Dadou river.

Cedre was called upon as part of two exercises. The first was a shoreline pollution crisis management exercise organised by the Manche department. The duty team was questioned by the fire brigade and the Departmental Directorate for Territories and the Sea and provided information on the product involved (IFO 360), its behaviour and containment equipment. The second, organised through the ICE network by the Dutch focal point, was intended to test the efficiency of the duty team at providing a MSDS.

Finally, Cedre received an enquiry following a spill in the French department of Jura. [Cedre](#)

News reports from around the world (continued)

UK: UK NATIONAL STANDARD FOR MARINE OIL SPILL RESPONSE PROVIDERS

January 8 - Open Consultation Announcement by H.M. Government.

The proposed scheme will ensure minimum standards are adhered to among providers of marine oil pollution response services.

The Merchant Shipping (Oil Pollution Preparedness, Response and Co-operation Convention) Regulations 1998 (SI 1988 No.1056) (as amended) state that UK ports, harbours and oil-handling facilities must submit oil spill contingency plans (OSCP) to the Maritime and Coastguard Agency (MCA), or, for responsible persons for offshore installations, Oil Pollution Emergency Plans (OPEPs) to the Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy (BEIS), for approval.

As part of the approvals process for category A&B ports, harbours and oil handling facilities (as detailed in the OPRC Guidelines for Ports), the MCA require contingency plans to detail the contract they hold with accredited third-party Tier 2 Marine Pollution Response Service Providers (hereafter referred to as "provider").

BEIS similarly require responsible persons to detail in OPEPs any arrangements in place with a specialist oil spill response provider (as detailed in the [Guidance Notes for Preparing Oil Pollution Emergency Plans](#)).

As it stands, other than the requirement for the response provider to be accredited, there are no mandated standards for this service provision.

Through the implementation of a UK National Standard for Marine Oil Spill Response Providers, the MCA and BEIS seek to develop their oversight of an industry with strategic importance to the UK and to ensure that minimum standards are adhered to which are commensurate to the threat from marine oil pollution. The UK Standard will be applied by any accrediting body which submits a proposed scheme of accreditation to the MCA and BEIS for approval.

The UK Standard, as published on this website, is a draft version. The MCA and BEIS seek comments from all stakeholders on this document. Anyone can comment, but the MCA and BEIS would envision the main stakeholders to be accrediting bodies which may apply the Standard, the marine pollution response industry and those who do or may in the future contract a response provider. Comments and questions should be submitted to: ukresponderstandard@mcga.gov.uk

The consultation will run for two months from 08/01/2018 to 09/03/2018. During the consultation, any questions on the Standard will be answered; questions and answers may be published on the consultation page to ensure all stakeholders remain informed.

Upon conclusion of the consultation comments will be considered and reasonable amendments made to the Standard. The current timetable will see the implementation of the Standard in late spring to early summer 2018. Following implementation, response providers wishing to continue to hold Tier 2 contracts will have a one-year grace period during which to be re-accredited under a scheme which applies the UK Standard.

[Draft UK National Standard for Marine Oil Spill Response Providers](#) PDF, 1.04MB, 36 pages

This file may not be suitable for users of assistive technology. [Request an accessible format.](#)

Ways to respond - Email to: ukresponderstandard@mcga.gov.uk

See a Related Article published by [Energy Brokers](#)

UK: AN ENVIRONMENTAL PLAN FOR THE FUTURE

January 12 - The Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs has published a 25-year Environment Plan outlining the actions the government will take to 'protect and improve the environment both at home and abroad'. The report tackles prominent issues such as minimising plastic waste by increasing the effective use of natural resources and encouraging biodiversity through cleaning our oceans.

Launching the plan, Prime Minister Theresa May said: 'I want the Britain of the future to be a truly global Britain, which is a force for good in the world. Steadfast in upholding our values – not least our fierce commitment to protecting the natural environment.'

Included in the report are policies on reducing pollution and waste – particularly plastics – with the aim to eliminate all avoidable waste by 2050 and avoidable plastic waste by 2042.

The government will also work towards tackling the 'dangerous levels of pollution' in the UK's cities. This incentive will be closely linked to the Future of Mobility grand challenge announced by the government in its Industrial Strategy, as the transport sector accountable for 40% of the UK's total energy use.

News reports from around the world (continued)

Also announced in the Environment Plan, a new 'overarching' Chemicals Strategy is to be published. Priorities of the strategy will include the development of early-detection monitoring systems that can recognise emerging chemical issues and the standardisation of the tracking and safety of chemicals. There is no mention, however, of how the UK will continue to interact with EU chemicals legislation.

International leadership is at the core of the environment plan, says the report, with the UK 'leading by example in tackling climate change and protecting and improving international biodiversity'. Schemes to achieve this goal include the phasing out of coal-powered electricity by 2025 and supporting supply chains that do not involve deforestation.

'It is this government's ambition to leave our environment in a better state than we found it,' said Michael Gove, Environment Secretary. 'The success of the 5p plastic bag charge in reducing the use of carrier bags by 85% shows the difference which government action can make, and demonstrates that protecting our environment is a job for each one of us'.

Other policies outlined in the report include the development of a Nature Recovery Network – to help restore wildlife through schemes that re-introduce species into the countryside – and the introduction of more green spaces in towns and cities to improve public health and wellbeing.

The environment plan sets out 10 clear goals:

- Clean air
- Clean water
- Increase biodiversity in plants and wildlife
- Reduce harm from environmental hazards
- The sustainable use of natural resources
- Improve engagement with the UK's natural beauty and heritage
- Tackle and adapt to climate change
- Reduce waste
- Manage exposure to chemicals
- Enhance biosecurity

The full report – A green future: Our 25 year plan to improve the environment – can be found [here](#). Another related article from SCI/ [Read more](#)

USA: NOAA OR&R - OUR TOP 10 NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTIONS FOR 2018

January 3 - Another year has come and gone, and we're starting the new year off right with a list of resolutions to make this one as great (if not better) than the last.

With a [record number of incident responses](#) and ongoing pollution response to an above-average hurricane season, 2017 was a busy year. [We accomplished quite a bit last year](#), and while we always hope the new year will bring fewer oil spills and disasters than the year before, it's our job to be prepared for whatever 2018 throws our way.

So to keep us on track this year as we continue to grow and improve our efforts to protect the coasts from threats of oil, chemicals, and marine debris, here are our top 10 resolutions for the new year:

1. **Clean up.** Or more specifically, continue our work to [clean up our shores](#) of [marine debris](#)! We're working with partners to keep our trash out of the ocean and encouraging others to help by following the 4R's: reduce, reuse, recycle, refuse.
2. **Keep others safe.** This year we will continue to make improvements to the [CAMEO® software suite](#), which has been developed jointly by NOAA and the Environmental Protection Agency for over 30 years to help chemical disaster responders and planners get the critical data they need, when and where they need it.
3. **Connect more.** By strengthening our connections with our partner organizations, we put ourselves in a better place to succeed in our response to oil and chemical spills, assessment and restoration of damaged ecosystems, and marine debris reduction.
4. **Train up.** We pride ourselves on providing top-notch training opportunities, and in 2018, we have [Science of Oil Spill classes](#) planned in Mobile, Alabama, and Lewes, Delaware (with more to come). The [deadline to apply](#) is coming up quick, so hurry before they fill up!
5. **Collaborate.** Our annual conferences and events offer an opportunity to collaborate with other professionals in the spill response community. This year at the Gulf of Mexico Oil Spill and Ecosystem Science Conference ([GoMOSES](#)) we will be exploring the theme of "[Response, Restoration, and Resiliency in the Gulf.](#)"

News reports from around the world (continued)

6. **Be supportive.** By continuing to support long-term environmental restoration in the Gulf of Mexico using data visualization and mapping tools [DIVER](#) and [ERMA](#).
7. **Help others.** Following an above-average hurricane season, our work continues in [Florida](#) and [Puerto Rico](#) as we assess and safely remove vessels damaged or grounded during hurricanes Irma and Maria.
8. **Practice, Practice, Practice.** When an oil or chemical disaster occurs, it's important that we know how to respond quickly and efficiently. But to do that requires a lot of practice, so that's why each year we have exercises such as the [Spill of National Significance \(SONS\)](#) exercise to keep us at the top of our game and ensure interagency and private sector coordination when the time comes.
9. **Modernize.** We understand the importance of keeping up with trends, and that's why this year we are giving our website (response.restoration.noaa.gov) a face lift. Stay tuned this year to see the finished product.
10. **Act Strategically.** Our [five-year strategic plan](#) outlines some of our "big picture" goals for marine pollution prevention, preparation, response, and restoration. As we enter into the second year of our plan, we will continue to act strategically and be mindful of our long-term goals. [NOAA OR&R](#)

USA: DECONTAMINATION PLATOON AND IDENTIFICATION AND DETECTION PLATOON WITH CBIRF REFINE THEIR SKILLS



January 12 - Decontamination Platoon and Identification and Detection Platoon with Chemical Biological Incident Response Force (CBIRF), U.S. Marine Corps Forces Command, executed Advanced Decontamination/ Identification and Detection Training at Guardian Centers, Perry, Ga., Dec. 11-14.

During the week-long training the platoons refined their skills in setup and breakdown of decontamination sites, decontamination of role players, and identification and detection of known agents in several scenarios including mass casualty, radiation scenario and a subway scenario.

South Potomac Pilot [Read more](#)

People in the news

UK: LCM ENVIRONMENTAL WELCOMES STEWART OWER AS HEAD OF RESPONSE AND ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES

January 11 - Stewart Ower has joined LCM Environmental Ltd as Head of Response and Environmental Services. Stewart will lead our staff based at our 6 UK bases that support our existing clients and help the company bring in more clients in 2018. With a steady increase in work and with a growing set of business opportunities in this area he will ensure that our existing clients are thoroughly supported as new clients come onboard.

Overcoming challenges and maximising opportunities is what Stewart's career to date has been all about. He previously built OHES Environmental Services from 1 – 120 employees and over a decade grew its revenue line to £14M.



Mark Orr, Managing Director, LCM Environmental (left above) commented: 'It is great to have Stewart join our team. He successfully built and until recently ran a major business within the environmental and spill response industry so understands this market well. Having worked in the Environmental Agency he can look at incidents from their perspective as well as a client's which is a useful skill to have. Stewart joins at an exciting time for LCM, having built an excellent reputation for service and product delivery we want to grow this department over the next few years and I feel certain that Stewart can deliver this and bring a wealth of experience to our senior management team.'

LCM Environmental [Read more](#)

ISCO news

USA: ISCO SIGNS AGREEMENT WITH CLEAN EVENTS ORGANISER – BENEFITS FOR MEMBERS

January 9 – ISCO Secretary Matthew Somerville has negotiated a new contract under which ISCO Members will qualify for a \$50 registration discount for 2018 Conferences - Clean Waterways, Clean Pacific and Clean Gulf.

ISCO will be exhibiting at all three events – [Clean Waterways](#) (April 4-5 in St Louis, MO), [Clean Pacific](#) (June 19-21 in Portland, OR) and [Clean Gulf](#) (November 13-15 in New Orleans, LA).

ISCO commends these events and the role they have in improving oil and hazardous materials spill prevention, preparedness and response for inland, offshore and coastal incidents. Members will benefit from the opportunities to learn about new techniques, exchange of experience with colleagues and finding new opportunities for business development. Click on the links to find more information on the three events.

Publications

IPIECA RELEASES TECHNICAL SUPPORT DOCUMENT ON SPILL IMPACT MITIGATION ASSESSMENT (SIMA)

January 5 - IPIECA, API and IOGP have released a new publication – Guidelines on implementing spill impact mitigation assessment (SIMA) - produced in support of the [IPIECA-IOGP guidance on net environmental benefit analysis \(NEBA\)](#).

A key objective for any oil spill response is to minimize the impacts to ecological, socio-economic and cultural resources at risk through the development of a safe and effective response strategy. Contingency planners and incident managers have traditionally utilized a net environmental benefit analysis (NEBA) for selecting the most appropriate response option(s) to minimize spill impacts and promote recovery. The processes used to conduct a NEBA have varied considerably between industry operators, though the outcomes in terms of strategy development have been similar.

IPIECA, API and IOGP collaborated to develop a qualitative NEBA process; and in doing so, took the opportunity to rename the process 'spill impact mitigation assessment' (SIMA), which all parties felt better reflected the nature of the activity. This document explains the use of the SIMA process which can help the planner and responder select the response option(s) that will best mitigate the overall impacts of an oil spill. [Download the new document](#)

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

AMSA Aboard	News from the Australian Maritime Safety Authority	December 2017
Newsletter from George Holliday	News and commentary on HSE issues from George Holliday	On request via email
Bow Wave	Sam Ignarski's Ezine on Marine & Transport Matters	Current issue
Cedre Newsletter	News from Cedre in Brittany, France	November 2017
CROIERG Enews	Canberra & Regions Oil Industry Emergency Response Group	October 2017
EMSA Newsletter	News from the European Maritime Safety Agency	January 2018 issue
EUROWA Newsletter	European Oiled Wildlife Response Assistance Module	October 2017
IMO News Magazine	News from the International Maritime Organization	Winter 2017 issue
IMO Publishing News	New and forthcoming IMO publications	December 2017
Intertanko Weekly News	International news for the oil tanker community	January 12, 2018
JOIFF "The Catalyst"	Int'l Organisation for Industrial Hazard Management	Q4 2017 issue
Maritime Executive Magazine	Often contains articles of interest to the spill response community	Sept.-Oct. 2017
MOIG Newsletter	News from the Mediterranean Oil Industry Group	January 2018 issue
NOWPAP Quarterly	News from the North West Pacific Action Plan	Quarter 2, 2017 issue
Ocean Orbit	Newsletter from the International Tanker Owners Pollution Federation	August 2017
OCIMF Newsletter	News from the Oil Companies International Marine Forum	December 2017 issue
Pollution Online Newsletter	News for pollution prevention & control professionals	January 10, 2018
Safe Seas, Clean Seas	Quarterly Newsletter from Maritime New Zealand	August 2017 issue
Sea Alarm Foundation Newsletter	Oiled wildlife Preparedness and Response news from Sea Alarm	Winter 2017 issue
Spill Alert	Newsletter from the UK Spill Association	December 2017 issue
Technology Innovation News Survey	News from US EPA – Contaminated Site Decontamination	Nov. 16-30, 2017
Transport Canada Newsletter	News and articles re transport of dangerous goods in Canada	June 2017 issue
UK NCEC	News from the National Chemical Emergency Centre	July 2017 issue
USA EPA Tech Direct	Remediation of contaminated soil and groundwater	January 1, 2018

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 focuses on improving oil and hazardous materials spill prevention and response on and around inland river systems. It provides a powerful platform to share best practices, educate colleagues, and build relationships with stakeholders from industry, government, environmental, emergency planning and response industries throughout maritime, facilities, rail, and pipeline. [More info](#)

Upcoming events summary 2018

COUNTRY	2018	TITLE OF EVENT	LOCATION
For more information click on Title of Event			
UK	February 5-9	IMO Pollution Prevention & Response Committee	London
EGYPT	February 12-14	Egypt Petroleum Show	Cairo
CANADA	Feb. 21-22	12th Arctic Shipping Summit	Montreal
UAE	Feb 28 – Mar 1	Offshore Arabia Conference & Exhibition	Dubai
UK	March 13-15	2018 INTERSPILL Conference and Exhibition	London
UK	March 13-15	Oceanology International 2018	London
USA	March 20-21	SCAA Annual Meeting & Conference	Arlington VA
RUSSIA	March 22-23	Baltic Sea Day International Environmental Forum	St. Petersburg
BELGIUM	March 22-23	CONCAWE Oil Pipeline Experience Seminar	Antwerp
KUWAIT	April 3-5	Kuwait Oil Spill Conference	Kuwait
USA	April 4-5	Clean Waterways Conference	St. Louis, MO
UK	April 9-13	IMO Marine Environment Protection Committee	London
FINLAND	April 17-20	Arctic Shipping Forum	Helsinki
NEW ZEALAND	May 1-3	NZ 5th Contaminated Land Conference	Christchurch
USA	May 7-11	13th Int'l Effects of Oil on Wildlife Conference	Baltimore, MD
UK	May 15	IMO 70 High Level Forum	London
UK	May 23-24	HAZMAT 2018	Stratford on Avon
CANADA	Postponed	AMOP Tech. Seminar – Contamination & Response	Vancouver BC
ITALY	June 20-22	INTERTANKO Annual Event 2018	Rome
USA	June 19-21	Clean Pacific Conference and Exhibition	Portland, OR
INDIA	July 5-6	Oil Spill India 2018 Conference & Exhibition	New Delhi
UAE	October 2-4	EI Middle East HSE Forum	Dubai
UAE	October 9-10	RECSO EnviroSpill Conference & Exhibition	Abu Dhabi
UK	October 22-26	IMO Marine Environment Protection Committee	London
USA	Nov. 13-15	Clean Gulf Conference and Exhibition	New Orleans, LA
To request posting of an event of interest to the Spill Response Community please send details to the Editor			

Training

USA: IOWA - EICC OFFERS ENVIRONMENTAL, HEALTH AND SAFETY COURSES

January 8 - Eastern Iowa Community Colleges (EICC) will offer seven Environmental, Health, and Safety courses during the week of January 22, 2018. To register for any course, please call (563) 441-4100 or go online to <http://web2.eicc.edu/forms/mail.html> Our full list of upcoming courses is online at <http://eicc.edu/businesses/health-safety-environmental-training/upcoming-classes.aspx> For more information on these courses, please call (563) 441-4083.

Hazardous Waste Operations & Emergency Response (HAZWOPER) Refresher #185285

This course is the annual refresher to the 40-Hour Hazardous Waste Operations and Emergency Response course (29 CFR 1910.120). It fulfills the requirement for both workers and supervisors.

Monday, January 22, 2018 | 8:00am - 5:00pm | Cost: \$135

EICC Midwest Center for Public Safety Training, 8200 N. Fairmount, Davenport, IA 52806

Industrial Chemical Spill Response Refresher #185333

This course is the annual refresher to the Industrial Chemical Spill Response course. The session provides training for industrial hazardous materials and spill response teams, and industrial emergency response personnel as outlined in OSHA 29 CFR 1910.120(q). Hands-on exercises in full protective equipment are conducted. Fulfills the requirement for both technicians and operations level personnel. Tuesday, January 23, 2018 | 8:00am - 5:00pm | Cost: \$135

EICC Midwest Center for Public Safety Training, 8200 N. Fairmount, Davenport, IA 52806

[More info and details of other EICC courses](#)

Training

USA: OHMSETT OIL SPILL RESPONSE STRATEGIES & TACTICS TRAINING

May 14-17, 2018 Monday - Thursday: 8:00 am - 5:00 pm, Ohmsett | Leonardo, NJ

Course Topics:

- Factors Affecting Oil Spill Movement
- Fates & Effects of Spilled Oil
- Oil Skimmer & Containment Boom Selection & Use
- Booming & Recovery Strategies
- Site Safety Planning
- Incident Command System (ICS)
- Alternative Response Techniques
- Shoreline Characterization (Introduction to SCAT)

For more information call: 301.230.4565 / 732.866.7286

Email: jdelagado@marinc.com / scunneff@ohmsettnj.com

DISTANCE LEARNING: LLOYDS MARITIME ACADEMY CERTIFICATE IN HAZOPS

Starts 20 March 2018 Students who apply for our brand new Certificate in HAZOPS will benefit from a 10% discount on the course fees - apply before January 19th to claim your fee reduction

This course has been developed specifically to help you and your team analyse process safety incidents to prevent accidents and reduce risk, as well as costs. The key skills taught over the 14 weeks of study are essential for multi-disciplinary teams who may not have experienced a HAZOP or HAZID exercise previously. [More info](#)

Detailed modules outlining best practice for HAZOP teams

- Fundamentals of HAZOP Programmes
- HAZOP Conducting Methodology
- Application of HAZOP in Various Industries
- Developing Scenarios for HAZOP Study
- Application to Procedure-Based Operations
- Anatomy of a Process Safety Incident
- HAZOP for Risk Reduction
- Updating and Evaluating HAZOP Studies

FRANCE: STANDARD TRAINING COURSES FROM CEDRE

[Aerial observation of pollution at sea](#)

[Marine pollution crisis management - IMO level 3](#)

[Oil and HNS spill response in superficial waters](#)

[Oil and HNS spill response in superficial waters](#)

[Oil spill response in inland waters](#)

[Principles of chemical spill response at sea](#)

[Shoreline pollution crisis management - IMO level 3](#)

For more info on these courses click on the links above

Equipment for sale

INDIA - AlphaMERS announced that it is planning to sell off some existing oil spill response inventory from its earlier contracts. The equipment stored in the company's warehouse in Bangalore have been deployed only during drills. These inventory have never been used on oil or in actual response. Executive director of the company Capt. Sekhar shared that many contracts in India specified brand new inventory and thus did not utilize the full life cycle of the equipment. He added that such equipment can be purchased by those private ports and oil companies that have the flexibility in its procurement processes to inspect and procure low cost pre-owned inventory. www.alphamers.com

Stop Press – Breaking News

OIL TANKER BURNING IN THE EAST CHINA SEA SINKS

January 14 - The oil tanker burning in the East China Sea has sunk a week after it collided with another vessel, according to Chinese state media. The Panama-registered Sanchi tanker sank Sunday after an explosion rocked it and sent flames shooting up, CCTV reported. [CNN](#) [Read more](#)

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