

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

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The Register of ISCO Members is maintained by **Ms Mary Ann Dagleish** (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. Harilaous Psaraftis** (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), **Mr Carlos Sagrera** (Panama), and **Major Ben Benny** (Israel)

For more info on Executive Committee and Council Members go to www.spillcontrol.org

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International news

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WORLD'S BIGGEST WILDLIFE RESERVE PLANNED FOR ANTARCTICA IN GLOBAL CAMPAIGN



January 13 - A global campaign is being launched to turn a huge tract of the seas around the Antarctic into the world's biggest sanctuary, protecting wildlife and helping the fight against climate change.

The huge 1.8m sq km reserve – five times the size of Germany – would ban all fishing in a vast area of the Weddell Sea and around the Antarctic Peninsula, safeguarding species including penguins, killer whales, leopard seals and blue whales.

The proposal already has the support of several countries – including the UK – and will go before a conference of the Antarctic nations in October. *The Guardian* [Read more](#)

2017 TANKER OIL SPILL STATISTICS: POSITIVE DOWNWARD TREND CONTINUES

January 16 - Statistics for oil spills from tankers for close to five decades show a progressive downward trend. The average number of spills greater than, or equal to, 7 tonnes in size has continuously reduced and, since 2010, averages around 7 per year. When we look

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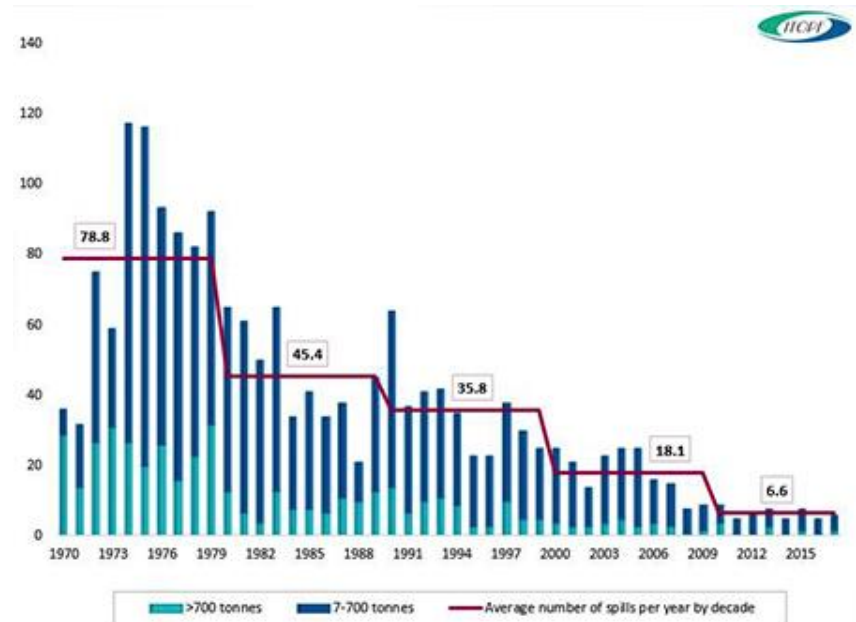
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International news (continued)

at large spills, i.e. greater than 700 tonnes, the yearly average, which was around 25 in the 1970s has reduced dramatically to less than 2 since 2010.



In 2017, two tanker incidents resulting in spills of over 700 tonnes were reported. The first occurred in the Indian Ocean and the second, which ITOPF attended on site, occurred in the Aegean Sea. Four medium sized spills (7-700 tonnes) were also recorded in 2017.

The estimated total amount of oil lost to the environment through tanker incidents in 2017 was approximately 7,000 tonnes, the majority of which can be attributed to the two large incidents mentioned above.

Despite an overall increase in oil trading over the past few decades, it is reassuring to note that oil spills involving tankers have decreased significantly meaning that some 99.99% of oil transported by sea arrives safely at its destination. However, accidents still happen, as demonstrated on 6th January by the tragic incident that occurred off the coast of China involving the oil tanker SANCHI. Learning lessons from incidents such as these will assist tanker owners and governments to continue to work together to reach the highest level of safety and environmental stewardship. *ITOPF* [Read more](#)

BP STILL PAYING GULF OIL SPILL CLAIMS AS COURT BATTLES WIND DOWN

January 16 - BP Plc raised the amount it will pay this year for the Deepwater Horizon accident as thousands of lawsuits related to the biggest oil spill in U.S. history start to wind down.

The 2010 explosion at a well in the Gulf of Mexico threatened BP's existence after 11 people were killed and millions of barrels of oil spilled into the sea. While the latest liabilities will add to the more than \$60 billion of penalties the company has already racked up, Chief Executive Officer Bob Dudley will see an end in sight to the largest court battles.

The London-based company will record a new \$1.7 billion charge in the fourth quarter of 2017 and pay \$1 billion of that bill in 2018, it said in a statement Tuesday. The remainder will be distributed over a number of years.

"With the claims facility's work very nearly done, we now have better visibility into the remaining liability," Chief Financial Officer Brian Gilvary said in the statement. "The charge we are taking as a result is fully manageable within our existing financial framework, especially now that we have the company back into balance at \$50 per barrel." *Insurance Journal* [Read more](#) [Editor - Brent Crude is currently hovering at around \$70/barrel]

MARITIME FORUM – PUBLIC CONSULTATION ON MARINE LITTER

January 11 – Letter received by ISCO - The European Commission has published a stakeholder survey ["Reducing marine litter: actions on single use plastics and abandoned, lost or otherwise discarded fishing gear"](#) as part of the follow up to the EU Strategy on Plastics scheduled for adoption in January 2018.

International news (continued)

Plastics are an important material in our economy and present in many aspects of our daily lives, but they also have relatively low rates of reuse and recycling and are prone to littering.

The European Commission Action Plan for a Circular Economy (2015) therefore identified plastics as one of 5 priority areas. A Communication outlining the strategy for plastics is currently under preparation and scheduled for adoption in January 2018. Rising amounts of plastic waste and marine litter are among the key problems that the strategy seeks to address.

Consumption patterns have shifted towards single-use items, rather than reusable alternatives. Single-use plastics are usually thrown away after one brief use; they are rarely recycled and are particularly prone to end up as litter in the natural environment. They represent half of marine litter, which has become an issue of acute public concern.

Another issue of concern is plastic waste from the fisheries and aquaculture sectors, in particular from fishing gear, that is lost by accident (for example due to weather conditions) or discarded when it is no longer fit for use.

The UN Environment Programme estimates that damage to marine environments from marine litter is at least USD 8 billion per year globally and it has been forecast that by 2050 there will be more plastics than fish in our oceans.

The Commission's Plastic Strategy will also address approaches to reduce single-use plastic items and marine litter including lost or abandoned fishing gear. On the basis of available data and analysis follow-up action will be considered in the near future. This consultation is intended to contribute to developing this knowledge base and guide such future actions.

As key stakeholders in the maritime sector, we would very much welcome your input to the consultation. The consultation consists of different parts, of which one is directed at the general public and the two others at audiences with some expert knowledge or interest for single use plastic and fishing gear respectively. The consultation is currently available in English - and from 21 December in all official EU languages - and is open until 12 February.

We thank you in advance for taking the time to respond to the survey and providing us with valuable input for future action addressing waste from the fishing sector and lost or discarded fishing gear.

Please feel free to share the information on the survey with other stakeholders and please accept our apologies for potential cross-postings.

The consultation is here - https://ec.europa.eu/info/consultations/reducing-marine-litter-action-single-use-plastics-and-fishing-gear_en European Commission Directorate General for Maritime Affairs and Fisheries

Editor – Concerned stakeholders are invited to contribute to the consultation. Interested readers may also wish to read a report of 17th January – [“EU maps out plastics vision in new strategy”](#)

Incident reports

COLOMBIAN REBELS ATTACK OIL PIPELINES HOURS AFTER CEASEFIRE EXPIRES

January 10 - Colombia's Marxist ELN rebels have resumed attacks on oil installations and the armed forces, threatening the future of peace talks just hours after the expiration of a ceasefire agreement with the government.

The talks in Quito, Ecuador, had been scheduled to restart on Wednesday after a recess between the National Liberation Army (ELN) and the government of center-right President Juan Manuel Santos.

Santos said he ordered his chief negotiator back to Bogotá after the attacks, however, to weigh the future of a process that began early last year in an effort to end more than 53 years of fighting.

The rebels carried out three bomb attacks in the early hours against the Caño Limón oil pipeline, which takes crude from the Caño Limón oil field, operated by Occidental Petroleum Corp, to the Caribbean port of Covenas. The bombings against the pipeline, which is Colombia's second most important, forced the suspension of pumping operations, the government said. *The Guardian* [Read more](#)

Read a related report and see video [“Pumping of Colombian Pipeline halted after Bomb Attack”](#) in *TeleSurTV*

CHINA: CONTINUING NEWS REPORTS ON THE SANCHI TANKER FIRE, SINKING AND OIL SPILL

*The developing story continues to dominate the headlines with a great many reports. Here is a selection of links for readers who want to follow the timeline. I have printed out more detail from the most recently received report in *The Maritime Executive*.*

January 15 - [East China Sea slick fire from sunken oil tanker burns out](#) *ABC News*

January 15 - [Update: Sunken Iranian Oil Tanker Causes Large Oil Slick in East China Sea](#) *Insurance Journal*

January 15 - [‘No hope of finding survivors’](#) *Hong Kong Free Press*

Incident reports (continued)

January 15 - [Stricken Tanker Leaves Large Oil Slick in East China Sea](#) *gCaptain*

January 16 - [Japan Sees Little Chance of Oil Slick from Sunk Tanker Reaching its Coast](#) *GCaptain*

January 16 - [After Tanker's Sinking, Debate Over Response Begins](#) *The Maritime Executive*

January 17 - [Iran Oil Tanker Creates Oil Slicks Covering 42 Square Miles](#) *Insurance Journal*

January 17 - [Chinese Salvors Prepare to Examine Tanker Wreck](#) *The Maritime Journal*

January 17 - [Oil Slicks From Sunken Iranian Tanker Spread, Raising Environmental Concerns](#) *Radio Free Europe*

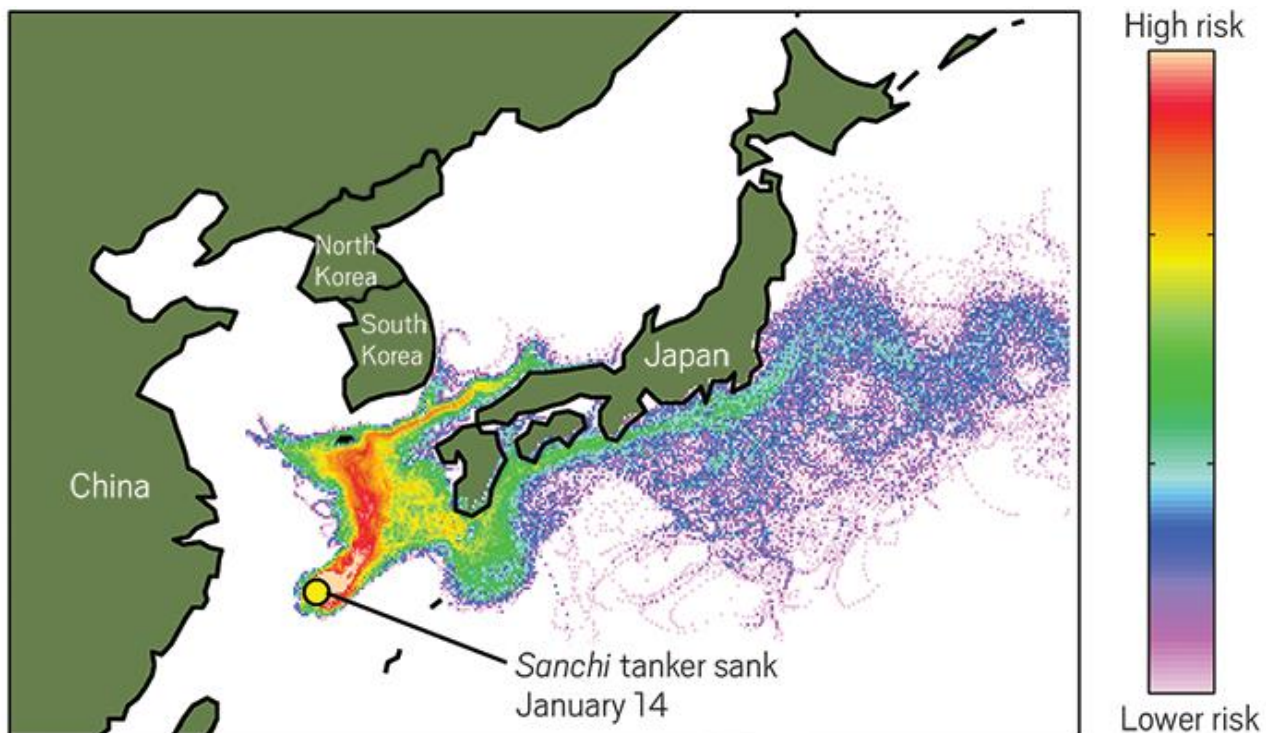
January 17 - [Sanchi Tanker Wreck Produces Two Oil Slicks in East China Sea](#) *gCaptain*

January 18 - [China oil spill: warning over seafood contamination](#) *The Guardian*

January 19 - [Nations unite over threat of oil slicks in East China Sea](#) *South China Morning Post*

January 19 - [The World Has Never Seen an Oil Spill Like This](#) *The Atlantic*

SANCHI'S WRECK MAY BE LEAKING BUNKER FUEL



Above: Red areas indicate likeliest concentration of spilled cargo over time (University of Southampton National Oceanography Centre)

January 19 - China's State Oceanic Administration said Friday that the surface slick above the wreck of the tanker Sanchi may indicate that she is leaking bunker fuel. Her heavy bunkers will persist in the marine environment for longer than her cargo of ultra-light natural gas condensate, experts warned.

The 40-square-mile spill's shape has changed and now takes the form of four separate slicks. While it may inflict environmental damage on marine life in the East China Sea, the petroleum is not expected to reach shore in significant quantities.

The Chinese spill response team will deploy an ROV to investigate the state of the Sanchi's wreckage. The wreck site is shallow enough for technical diving, and salvors may be able to reduce the extent of the spill by pumping out Sanchi's tanks, depending on conditions at the bottom. Experts have estimated that she had 1,000 tonnes of fuel on board at the time of the sinking, though the exact amount is unknown.

"The residual oil [HFO] would be a main problem. Compared to spilled oil on the surface, which could be cleaned easily, the residual oil in the sunken tanker will continue to spill under the sea. That's why salvage operations are important," said Ma Jun, director of China's Institute of Public and Environmental Affairs, speaking to the Global Times on Friday. The joint Chinese and Iranian investigation into the cause of the accident is under way. The salvage team retrieved the Sanchi's charred VDR unit before she sank, and investigators are now examining its contents to learn more about the circumstances leading up to her collision with the freighter CF Crystal. *The Maritime Executive*
[Read more](#)

Incident reports (continued)

AUSTRALIA: VICTORIA - CLEAN-UP AFTER OIL SPILL INTO YARRA RIVER AT RICHMOND

January 16 – A clean-up is underway after lubricant spilled into the Yarra River in Richmond.

MFB crews placed temporary booms around the area and have identified the chemical as being similar to transmission oil. Crews were called to the scene about just before 7.30am on Tuesday when a liquid was reported spilling from between Gipps St Bridge, Abbotsford to Bridge Rd Bridge in Richmond. *Herald Sun* [Read more](#)

USA: TENNESSEE - RAILROAD COMPANY STILL PROBING TENNESSEE OIL SPILL CAUSE

January 17 - A Norfolk Southern Railway official says the company still doesn't know how thousands of gallons of oil ended up in the Tennessee River and Citico Creek. The Chattanooga Times Free Press quotes company spokesperson Susan Terpay as saying spill cleanup is complete, but groups investigating last week's spill on the company's behalf are still searching for a cause. *Kansas City Star* [Read more](#)

USA: ARKANSAS - WEST MEMPHIS CREWS RESPOND TO LEAK AT FORMER CHEMICAL PLANT

January 18 - A chemical leak forced West Memphis fire officials to evacuate several businesses shortly after noon Thursday.

West Memphis Fire Department responded to a possible bromine leak at the former Diaz Chemical Company on Wyanoke Road off Port Road. Hazardous Materials crews say they saw a brownish-red colored cloud at the back of the property when they arrived. They sent a drone up to investigate. *News Channel 3* [Read more](#)

INDIA: PHOTOS: TANKER BURNS OFF KANDLA PORT



January 18 - On Wednesday evening, the product tanker Genessa caught fire at an anchorage off Kandla Port, Gujarat. All crew members were evacuated, but two were seriously injured in the fire, and one died after arriving at the hospital, according to a defense spokesperson.

Three Coast Guard vessels and nine tugs from operators KPT, Reliance, Essar, Adani and ICG Dornier responded to the scene to combat the blaze. In social media updates posted overnight Wednesday and Thursday morning, little smoke was visible. However, on Thursday afternoon, images released by Defence Gujarat showed dense clouds emanating from the Genessa once more, along with an extensive, multi-vessel firefighting effort.

The Maritime Executive [Read more](#)

USA: OHIO - THE ROVER PIPELINE SPILLS AGAIN, IN THE SAME SPOT WHERE IT SPILLED 2 MILLION GALLONS LAST YEAR

January 18 - The Rover pipeline, owned and operated by Energy Transfer Partners, has spilled 150,000 gallons of drilling fluid into wetlands near the Tuscarawas River in Stark County, Ohio. Last April, the pipeline spilled 2 million gallons in the same area.

The Ohio Environmental Protection agency inspected the newest spill on January 10 and reported 146,000 gallons of drilling fluids had been leaked down the pilot hole installation under the Tuscarawas River. Three attempts to seal the hole have failed. *Nation of Change* [Read more](#)



Thanks to Gregor S. McMurtrie, Don Johnston of ISCO Industry Partner, DG & Hazmat Group, and other readers who sent in links for the above reports in the Incident Reports section

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

AUSTRALIA: CONSULTATION ON THE REGULATION IMPACT STATEMENT FOR A NATIONAL PHASE OUT OF PFOS

The Department of the Environment and Energy has released a Regulation Impact Statement (RIS) on options for a national phase out of perfluorooctane sulfonic acid (PFOS) and related chemicals, including its salts and perfluorooctane sulfonyl fluoride (PFOSF).

The consultation RIS proposes a national approach to managing PFOS chemicals to minimise future emissions, in accordance with the globally accepted standards established by the Stockholm Convention. The consultation RIS presents four options: two options consistent with the requirements of the Convention, an option for light touch regulation, and the base case of no regulation. Together with other information these options are intended to inform the Government's decision on ratification of the PFOS amendment to the Stockholm Convention.

Related issues, such as existing contamination and decontamination, and the management of other per- and poly-fluorinated alkyl substances (PFASs) more broadly, are outside the scope of this RIS which necessarily reflects the requirements of the Stockholm Convention

One of the key areas of focus for this consultation will be what additional data and information can be provided to refine and improve the assumptions in the RIS regarding ongoing uses of PFOS, stockpiles, destruction, and waste management capacity. This information is critical to enable informed decisions regarding effective and efficient management of PFOS-related chemicals.

The consultation period closes on Monday 26 February 2018.

Comments on the RIS are sought from all stakeholders including state, territory and local governments, industry and the wider community. The Department will be holding public consultation sessions in each state and territory capital city during the consultation period. *Australian Government Department of the Environment and Energy* [Read more](#)
[Thanks to Don Johnston of ISCO Industry Partner, DG & Hazmat Group]

FINLAND: OIL SPILLS IN ARCTIC AREAS – SEMINAR

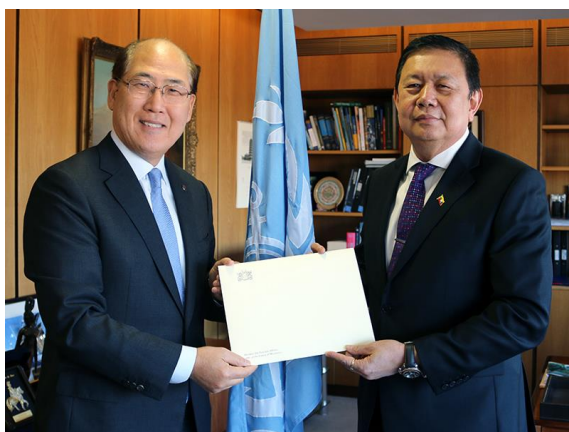
Finland, in a close co-operation with Sweden, will host an international arctic event in the Northern City of Oulu 6-8 March 2018. The event will consist of both an oil recovery exercise in ice conditions and parallel international conference focusing pollution prevention aspects in the Arctic. Event will be run under the Agreement on Cooperation on Marine Oil Pollution Preparedness and Response in the Arctic (MOSPA) and the Copenhagen agreement. Event is supported by the Finnish Ministry of the Foreign Affairs, Finnish Ministry of the Environment and the E.P.P.R. working group of the Arctic Council.

The seminar is expected to host some 200-250 participants and the conference has following themes:

- Arctic Council and its working group on Emergency Prevention, Preparedness and Response (EPPR) and the work under the Arctic MOSPA agreement,
- Technology for oil in ice response,
- Search and rescue in Arctic areas,
- Ecological consequences of oil spills in the Arctic
- Ice management and weather services in the Arctic
- Latest research related to oil spills in cold climate.

Finnish Environment Institute [Read more](#)

MYANMAR ACCEDES TO TREATY COVERING BUNKER OIL POLLUTION DAMAGE



January 19 - The IMO treaty ensuring that adequate compensation is available to persons that suffer damage caused by oil spills, when carried as fuel in ships' bunkers, has been ratified by Myanmar. The International Convention on Civil Liability for Bunker Oil Pollution Damage (BUNKER) applies to damage caused on the territory, including the territorial sea, and in exclusive economic zones of States under the Convention.

Under the Convention, the registered owner of a vessel is required to maintain compulsory insurance cover, and there is also the requirement for 'direct action' – which allows a claim for compensation for pollution damage to be brought directly against an insurer.

H.E. Mr. Kyaw Zwar Minn, Ambassador of Myanmar to the United

News reports from around the world (continued)

Kingdom, met IMO Secretary-General Kitack Lim at IMO Headquarters, London to deposit the instrument of accession (19 January). Myanmar's ratification brings the number of States to accede to the treaty to 87, representing 92.5% of the world's merchant fleet tonnage. IMO <http://www.imo.org/en/About/Pages/Default.aspx>

PHILIPPINES: CLAIMS AND COMPENSATION WORKSHOP HELD IN MANILA



January 15 - The IOPC Funds were invited by the Philippine Coast Guard to run a workshop on the international liability and compensation regime from 9–11 January 2018, in Manila, the Philippines.

The Director, José Maura, and Claims Manager, Mark Homan, presented on various aspects of the legal framework of the international regime applicable to tanker spills. They also delivered a series of presentations on the admissibility of claims arising from pollution damage and, in particular, claims for pure economic losses, environmental damage, wreck removal and clean-up operations.

The presentations generated interesting discussions among the audience members of lawyers and representatives of the Philippine Coast Guard and other government authorities. *IOPC Funds* [Read more](#)

USA: 28TH ANNUAL NO-SPILLS CONFERENCE IN MICHIGAN

January 12 - LT Michael E. Doig represented NOAA at the 28th Annual No-Spills Conference which was held January 3 - 5, at the Grand Traverse Resort in Acme, Michigan.

The conference was an opportunity for federal, state and local agencies, as well as industry partners to meet and discuss environmental and emergency response in the Great Lakes.

The theme for this year's conference was Protecting the Great Lakes: Ownership, Resurgence and Renewal.

Steven R. Keck, Chief of Contingency Planning and Force Readiness, USCG, Sector Sault Sainte Marie, Michigan was the keynote speaker. He discussed growing up around Lake Michigan and the growing number of threats that face the Great Lakes. He put forth the idea of the OODA Loop, which was developed by military strategist and United States Air Force Colonel John Boyd. OODA stands for: observe, orient, decide, and act. Mr. Keck urged the audience to use the OODA loop to address the environmental challenges in the Lakes, such as invasive species, pollution, and a growing population.

Other notable presenters included Mike Popa from T&T Marine Salvage and Bill Hazel from Marine Pollution Control speaking about the M/V Calumet and M/V Roger Blough responses, Jeff Gray from NOAA speaking about the Thunder Bay Marine Sanctuary, and Matthew Goddard from Michigan Department of Environmental Quality speaking about Enbridge Line 5. There were numerous other talks from EPA, USCG, Sea Grant, and other industry and educational organizations. *NOAA OR&R* [Read more](#)

USA: TOXIC POLLUTANTS IN CALIFORNIA MUDSLIDE PRESENT CLEANUP CHALLENGES



Photo: Workers dump debris from the California mudslide on Goleta Beach in Santa Barbara on Jan. 12. Photo Courtesy of Eric Lyman

January 18 - A potential environmental emergency is looming as cleanup continues from California's deadly mudslide: pollution from toxic mud and sludge, some of which is being dumped on local beaches.

"When the mud is 10 feet high on a telephone pole on Danielson Road [in Montecito] and people are still missing, maybe buried in mud ... we have only a few options," said Tom Fayram, deputy director of public works for Santa Barbara County, responding to concerns about the dumping from a local environmental group.

According to Santa Barbara county, 1,700 cubic yards

News reports from around the world (continued)

of mudslide cleanup has been dumped on nearby Goleta Beach and the Carpinteria Salt Marsh Reserve, which protects an estuary supporting many sensitive plant and animal species. Without these efforts, the county contends, subsequent storms that are expected this weekend could cause more destruction.

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers confirmed to Bloomberg Environment that the beach dumping was permitted under emergency waivers.

“This is really an event of unprecedented magnitude for this location,” said Colin Jones, a spokesman for the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans).

Caltrans has deployed more than 300 workers and some 200 dump trucks, loaders and excavators to manage the cleanup along a 2-mile stretch of the 101 Freeway, which has served as a catch basin for most of the mud.

Bloomberg [Read more](#)

USA: BISHOP BILL WOULD SAFEGUARD GREAT LAKES FROM OIL SPILLS, TOUGHEN ACCOUNTABILITY RULES

January 19 - U.S. Rep. Mike Bishop (R-MI) has unveiled a bill to help preserve the Great Lakes and protect the region’s resources and related economies.

The Great Lakes Oil Spill Prevention Act, H.R. 4787, introduced on Jan. 12, would “impose additional requirements on portions of petroleum pipelines that cross waters of the Great Lakes,” among other purposes, according to text of the bill in the congressional record.

“The Great Lakes are more than just water,” Rep. Bishop said. “The lakes represent our heritage, our recreation, our resources and our jobs. As a lifelong Michigan resident, I believe each of us has a responsibility to ensure our lakes are preserved for future generations.”

Specifically, according to the bill’s text, tougher owner and operator standards would be set for pipeline structural integrity and safety to prevent pipeline ruptures, as would more stringent rules for pipeline structure testing and reporting. *The Ripon Advance* [Read more](#)

NO NEWS FROM YOUR PART OF THE WORLD ?

Members and other readers are invited to help rectify the balance of world news reporting. News stories from North America, UK, Australia, etc. are much more accessible on the internet than reports from other parts of the world and especially from non-English-speaking countries. To make it easier for readers in other parts of the world to contribute stories your editor is considering options to include links for interesting articles in other languages.

If you come across a report or an article that you think worth sharing with other members of the response community, why not send it to the editor at info@spillcontrol.org

ISCO news

IMO POLLUTION PREVENTION AND RESPONSE SUB-COMMITTEE MEETING

This year’s PPR Sub-Committee takes place at IMO in London on 5-9 February.

ISCO will be represented by Secretary Matthew Sommerville and Hon.FISCO Dr Douglas Cormack

ISCO has not submitted a paper this year but it is anticipated that there will be a “break-out” meeting to address OPRC and OPRC-HNS Convention matters.

Any ISCO member who would like an issue to be raised at the break-out meeting should get in touch with Matthew at matthewsommerville@hotmail.co.uk

ISCO WECOMES ANOTHER NEW MEMBER

ResilientRM, based in Texas, USA has joined ISCO as a new Corporate Member. The company helps prepare its clients for any process or event that could or does expose an organization to risk. ResilientRM is an international consulting organization assisting clients with superior risk mitigation, and ultimately helping them become more resilient. Its experienced staff of respected industry leaders, risk consultants, training experts, and data managers can deliver the best solution for organizations - before, during, or after any potential liability.

The company’s website can be found at <http://www.resilientrm.com/>

ISCO news (continued)

RECENT SURGE IN NEW MEMBERS JOINING ISCO

In recent months no less than 20 new members have joined ISCO.

New Corporate members are **National Response Corporation** (USA), **Clean Sea S.A.** (Argentina), **Antipollution Environmental Pollution Services** (Greece), **Marine Pollution Services Ltd.** (Israel), **Ocean Pollution Control S.A.** (Panama), **Oil Spill Response Ltd.** (OSRL), **Enviroguard Solutions LLP** (India), **Canberra & Regions Oil Industry Emergency Response Group (CROIEG)**, and, **Oil Spill Products Ltd.** (UK), **OceanPact Group** (Brazil), **Polaris Applied Sciences Inc.** (USA) most recently, **ResilentRM**. Additionally, the **Spanopoulos Group** (Greece) has also just re-joined ISCO as a Corporate Member.

New Individual Members are **Mr Abduljabbar Saifaldeen** (Qatar), **Mr Scott-Andrew Smith** (Australia), **Dr Esra Billur Balcioglu** (Turkey), and **Mrs Nicole Franks** (USA).

New Professional Members are –

Captain Ahmed Mostafa Fahmy (Egypt) has been elected as a new Professional Member (**MISCO**) – he has many years of oil spill response experience and is Manager of the Sharm El Sheikh Spill Response Base in Egypt.

Allan Howarth has joined ISCO as a new Professional Member. The Professional Standards Committee has elected him as a Fellow of the organization (**FISCO**). Allan has more than 28 years experience in oil spill response, mainly in senior positions in the industry.

Ben Benny has also been appointed as the new Member of ISCO Council for Israel following on the retirement of Dan Arbel. He is Chief Operating Officer with ISCO Corporate Member M.Danchor Ltd. and is a former Major in the Israeli Navy.

If you would like to submit an application for Membership of ISCO you can do this online at <http://spillcontrol.org/2013-02-05-10-50-47/membership-application> or, for Professional Membership at <http://spillcontrol.org/2013-02-05-10-50-47/professional/application-form> Please note that applications for Professional Membership must be submitted by post.

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	December 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 19, 2018
JOIFF "The Catalyst"	Int'l Organisation for Industrial Hazard Management	Q1 2018 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 17, 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	December 2017 issue
Spill Alert	Newsletter from the UK Spill Association	December 2017 issue
Technology Innovation News Survey	News from US EPA – Contaminated Site Decontamination	Dec. 1-15, 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

EI MIDDLE EAST HSE TECHNICAL FORUM - INVITATION TO SUBMIT ABSTRACT

Abstract submission deadline: 9 February 2018.

[Read more about the Technical Forum being held in Dubai, UAE in October 2018](#)

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
FINLAND	March 6-8	Oil Spills in Arctic Areas -seminar	Oulu
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
UK	Sept. 12-13	Contamination Expo	Birmingham
UAE	October 2-4	EI Middle East HSE Forum	Dubai
UAE	October 9-10	RECSCO 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			

Company news from ISCO members

KOSEQ B.V. COMPLETES MAINTENANCE WORK FOR EMSA



Koseq has already completed two 10-year overhaul projects for EMSA, where all equipment has been taken off, reconditioned and re-installed. These ships are ready for another 10 years of service to the European Community.

The last maintenance operation was with the Brezzamare, a vessel operated by EMSA. The vessel is based in Genoa, Italy, and the overhauling took place at TB Shipyards Kampen. The operation involved overhaul of Koseq sweeping arms, pumps and powerpacks. In November the equipment was transported back to Genoa and commissioned.

We are aware that the world of shipping is changing, some existing routes are being used more intensively and some new routes in vulnerable areas are being used for the first time.

Although shipping has become safer over the last years, risks are growing with the increased volumes that are being shipped around the world. We see areas which do nothing at all (despite a high average of spills per month). Also, areas that only invest in nearshore equipment, but forget the offshore disasters of the not too far distant past.

We are working jointly with our customers to design and build combined equipment to reduce cost and protect the environment. Even combinations of oil-spill recovery and renewable energy/recycling are being investigated. Read more at <http://www.koseq.com/>

OSRL LAUNCHES OFFSET INSTALLATION EQUIPMENT FOR SWIS MEMBERS

Oil Spill Response Limited (OSRL) has announced that its latest development in subsea well capping technology is now available to its members. Designed specifically for scenarios where direct vertical access to a well head is not viable, the new Offset Installation Equipment (OIE) enables capping or related equipment to be installed at a safe distance from an incident.

Developed in collaboration with the Subsea Well Intervention Project (SWRP), OIE is now available to OSRL members through a Subsea Well Intervention Services (SWIS) supplementary agreement. Current OIE members include BP, Chevron, ConocoPhillips, ExxonMobil, Petrobras, Shell, Statoil and Total – all of which represent the founding members of SWRP.

The OIE's arrival represents a true industry first and coincides with the final phase of SWRP, following completion of the related capping and containment projects, as OSRL's Chief Executive, Robert Limb, explains: "For us, and all those involved in SWRP, the launch of the OIE is final piece of the puzzle and the culmination of over six years' hard work. Since the formation of the project in 2011, we had one core objective; to design and build a comprehensive range of well capping solutions, with the flexibility to meet the current and future requirements of the industry. With the OIE now available, that objective is met."

SWRP Project Lead Eli Bøhnsdalen adds "It is with great pride SWRP is completing its final delivery, the Offset Installation Equipment (OIE), an industry-first tool for capping a subsea well blowout where direct vertical access is unsafe. Saipem has been responsible for the design, fabrication and testing and it has been a tremendous effort from all parties to take this new development project to the finish line.

"Delivery of the OIE marks the end of SWRP, a cross industry cooperation between the eight major oil and gas companies. Since 2011, SWRP has delivered a wide range of tools to enhance the industry's capability to respond to a subsea well incident. These tools are made available through OSRL subscription. SWRP has been a fantastic project in a unique setting, and those of us involved feel like we were part of something important"

OIE can be deployed up to 500m from an incident site and is suitable for use at a working depth of 75 to 600 metres. Importantly, OIE is also fully compatible with OSRL's capping equipment, creating an end-to-end capping and containment solution suitable for almost all subsea scenarios.

The OIE will be stored and maintained in Trieste, Italy, by oil and gas industry specialist, Saipem, which has extensive experience operating in harsh environments, remote areas and deepwater.

In line with OSRL's approach, each member organisation will be provided with training to enable their own experienced personnel to understand the capabilities of the system and operate the OIE during an incident. Following the end of SWRP, the International Association of Oil and Gas Producers (IOGP) through the Well Experts Committee (WEC) will work with OSRL to ensure that all stakeholders gain awareness of OIE's capabilities as part of the process of promoting the adoption of good practice worldwide.

Commenting on this role, IOGP Executive Director Gordon Ballard says "We welcome the opportunity to promote this innovative OIE within the global upstream oil and gas industry. After all, SWRP itself came about through an IOGP initiative. Now, in that same spirit of collaboration and cooperation we want to ensure wide awareness among our global membership of the OIE's unique capabilities."

Information for ISCO members

PASSING ON KNOWLEDGE AND EXPERIENCE

By contributing articles and case histories for publication you can help ISCO achieve its objective of advancing response preparedness, professional development and competency. As the years go by, hard won knowledge and experience is lost as people retire or move on. The benefits of past learning and new R&D work both need to be widely shared.

Articles that pass on valuable know-how are particularly useful – overcoming difficult challenges, innovating, relating what you did, why you did it that way, how you did it and what was achieved. info@spillcontrol.org

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