



ISCO NEWSLETTER

The Newsletter of the International Spill Response Community

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info@spillcontrol.org

<http://www.spillcontrol.org>



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 Matthew Sommerville** (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 John McMurtrie** (UK)

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 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), **Mr Carlos Sagrera** (Panama), and **Major Ben Benny** (Israel)

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

INTERNATIONAL DIRECTORY

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International news

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IMO POLLUTION PREVENTION & RESPONSE (PPR) SUB-COMMITTEE MEETING HELD IN LONDON

February 9 – A Report from ISCO Secretary, Matthew Sommerville

Last week ISCO attended the International Maritime Organisation and specifically the sub-committee on Pollution Prevention and Response (PPR). This is one of the standing sub-committees of the Marine Environmental Protection Committee MEPC which ISCO also regularly attends.

As always this was a busy week with some 80 documents submitted before the meeting which had to be studied by the national government and NGO delegations in advance and presented, discussed and future directions and actions to be agreed. Some of the issues discussed are of direct relevance to ISCO members and spill control activities while others are relevant in that they will influence the risk, frequency and nature of the incidents which will occur in the future.

The biggest issues for most delegations were clearly related to the ongoing work to reduce the impact of emissions from ships. These including addressing NOX emissions, Black Carbon and the urgent actions needed to implement the 2020 sulphur limit. The latter programme will see a change in the sulphur content of fuels being used in ships bunkers and will require ships to install exhaust gas scrubbers or move away from heavier grades of oil toward diesel, LPG etc. There will be an exception for ships fitted with an approved “equivalent arrangement” to meet the sulphur limit – such as an exhaust gas cleaning system (EGCS) or so-called “scrubber”.

There remains a lot of work to be done to ensure consistent implementation of the new regulations and draft amendments to the MARPOL Convention on the prevention of pollution from ships (MARPOL Annex VI) which will need to go forward to the Marine Environment Protection Committee (MEPC 72) meeting in April 2018, for urgent consideration.

Once approved by MEPC 72 the amendments could be adopted and enter into force on 1 March 2020

Therefore while the technical issues, problems of supply and demand with the short transition period were the focus of the IMO discussions for ISCO members the impact is more related to the nature of the products that could be spilled. No information appears to yet be in

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIP

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All who have the relevant qualifications and the required level of experience can apply for Professional Membership of ISCO.

The organization offers independent validation and integrity. Each grade of membership reflects an individual's professional training, experience and qualifications.

You can apply for Student Membership, Associate Membership (AMISCO), MEMBERSHIP (MISCO) or FELLOWSHIP (FISCO)

[All about Professional Membership](#)

[Application Form](#)

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Go to <http://www.spillcontrol.org> and enter your name and email address in the Registration Form (located on the right hand side of the home page) then click on "subscribe".

with a limited number of face to face meetings but Norway have invested in external consultants to help prepare and deliver a very advanced first draft document and as a result it is hoped that it will require few changes. A correspondence group, in which ISCO will participate, will be set up to make sure that comments and ideas are incorporated before the next PPR meeting.

In addition to these main items there were updates from member states and NGO delegations regarding incidents, exercises and other preparedness and research activities.

A PROBLEM-SOLVING FORUM ON THE TOPIC OF OIL SPILLS

February 8 - On January 14, 2018, the Iranian oil tanker 'Sanchi', carrying nearly a million barrels of ultra-light crude oil, sank in the East China Sea. The tanker had been burning for days, and all 32 crew members were killed in the disaster.

Reuters reported that the catastrophic event could result in the worst oil spill for 35 years, with water contaminated by the toxic cargo of condensate and the ship's heavy fuel oil reaching as far as Japan or South Korea, placing fishing grounds and reefs under serious threat. ('How the Sanchi's oil could spread', Reuters Graphics, January 26, 2018.)

A TIMELY FORUM

There could scarcely be a more apposite illustration of the importance of Interspill 2018, the industry-leading oil spill conference and exhibition at the ExCeL in London which runs from March 13-15, 2018. Co-located with the Oceanology International ocean technology exhibition, Interspill 2018 is co-organised by Interspill Ltd and Reed Exhibitions. The event provides an essential platform for oil spill industry professionals, academics and government regulators to network and discuss in detail the planning, technology, logistics and legislation required to deal effectively with future oil spills, concentrating upon Spill Prevention, Preparedness, Response and Restoration.

"We are fortunate to live in an era when the threat of large-scale oil spills at sea has been greatly reduced," comments Roger Mabbott, Executive Director of the UK Spill Association (stand S100), members of the Interspill Committee alongside Interspill co-founders NOSCA (stand S200) and SYCOPOL (stand S500). "Nevertheless, the appalling Sanchi oil tanker disaster proves categorically that complacency can never be an option. Interspill 2018 represents an invaluable forum in which industry experts and official bodies can discuss and consider methods of preventing, containing and ameliorating oil spills. Visitors will be reassured that our across-the-board efforts to safeguard the environment against oil and chemical spills, both at sea and on land, are strenuous and tireless."

International news (continued)

circulation regarding how differently these low sulphur fuels may behave when spilled. The Sub-Committee forwarded the proposed draft amendments to MEPC, (just two months after the 0.50% limit comes into effect).

The main focus for ISCO during the week however was to participate in the working group looking at the

- Updated IMO Dispersant Guidelines Part IV Sub Sea Application
- Guide on practical methods for the implementation of the Oil Pollution Preparedness and Response Convention and HNS Protocol.

The first of these items has been in preparation for some time under the lead a correspondence group, in which ISCO participated, having been led by the USA. This was in effect a final effort to finalise the document before it could be prepared and forwarded to MEPC for consideration and approval. The proceedings updated guidelines parts I to III which had already been completed but not yet released. Part IV focused on the sub-sea use of dispersants highlighted in the response to the Deepwater Horizon and as such naturally drew on a lot of US experience but also on the oil industry's research and investment post the incident which now make a repeat of its use possible.

The second related to the 1990 OPRC convention which may seem to be less current but is being developed, with Norway in the lead role, to assist many nations that have not yet fully implemented the conventions. Again this has a relevance to ISCO members as it is drives forward the needs for risk assessment, planning, preparedness and for national, regional and international cooperation which affects us all. Such international documents can take time to develop especially

International news (continued)

This year marks the twentieth anniversary of Interspill, launched in 1998, with the first exhibition and conference taking place in Brighton in 2000. Interspill's 2015 event in Amsterdam was attended by more than 1,200 visitors, delegates and exhibitors from over 70 countries, and a greater number of attendees is anticipated for the 2018 show in the ExCel, London. Among key exhibitors confirmed thus far are Interspill Committee members the European Maritime Safety Agency (EMSA, stand T500) and Oil Spill Response Ltd (OSRL, stand U400), the largest international industry-funded cooperative specialising in tackling oil spills.

Other confirmed exhibitors include Darcy Spillcare Manufacture (stand T400), long-standing UK specialists in economically-viable pollution control products and services; OPTIMARE Systems GmbH (stand S501), makers of airborne and stationary oil spill remote sensors and alarms; Fast Engineering Ltd (stand S403), manufacturers of the FASTANK liquid storage container for use in oil and chemical clean-up operations; and NRC (stand U300), an international service contractor providing environmental, industrial and emergency solutions to the oil and energy sectors.

"Interspill 2018 makes sound business sense for exhibitors and visitors," says Event Manager David Ince. "There can be no greater concentration of current clients and possible new customers under one roof, so products and services will be showcased to their fullest extent. Taking the co-located Oceanology event into consideration, the potential for establishing new working relationships with a global reach is effectively limitless."

CONFERENCE PROGRAMME

Before Interspill 2018 proper gets under way there are two Educational Short Courses on Monday, March 12 (ExCeL South Gallery Room 16), each formulated to provide an introductory context and overview. Oil Spill Fundamentals (11.00-14.45), arranged by OSRL and ITOPF, will introduce attendees to the first principles of appropriate oil spill response, while Claims & Compensation (15.00-18.30), organised by IOPC Funds, will examine the claims process involved in legitimate cost recovery following a tanker spill.

The main conference programme will take in a series of thorough, in-depth Technical Tracks. Key topics for these include Effective Preparedness (South Gallery Rooms 15 & 16, 13.00-15.00, Tuesday, March 13); Offshore/E&P (South Gallery Rooms 15 & 16, 16.00-17.30, Tuesday, March 13); Dispersants Experts Panel Session (South Gallery Rooms 15 & 16, 11.30-13.00, Wednesday, March 14); Government/Industry Partnerships (South Gallery Rooms 15 & 16, 14.00-15.30, Wednesday, March 14); Inland Spill Issues (South Gallery Rooms 18 & 19, 16:00-17:30, Wednesday, March 14); Shipping and Salvage Risks (South Gallery Rooms 15 & 16, 09.30-11.00, Thursday, March 15); and Strategic Aspects of Preparedness (South Gallery Rooms 15 & 16, 11.30-13.00, Thursday, March 15). The full conference programme can be found at <https://www.interspillevent.com/Conference/Conferences/#>

"The broad variety of themes and incentives covered in the conference programme will help to bring delegates up to speed with the most progressive thinking in preventing and combating oil spills," remarks David Ince. "The conference speakers, each one a recognised specialist in his or her chosen field, will range from project managers, team leaders and consultants to scientists, engineers and technical advisers. The magnitude of the collective knowledge base cannot be underestimated. It bodes extremely well for the development of new concepts and solutions to prepare for oil or chemical spills occurring, and to manage such spills as scrupulously as possible should they happen." *The Maritime Journal* [Read more](#)

IOPC FUNDS OFFERING HALF-DAY COURSE ON CLAIMS AND COMPENSATION AT INTERSPILL

February 6 - As an active member of the Interspill Committee, the IOPC Funds is supporting the 2018 conference and exhibition in various ways, including the delivery of a short course on Claims & Compensation, the day before the opening of the event, on Monday 12 March 2018, from 3.00 to 6.30 pm.

This course is aimed at providing regulators and responders with background information on how to maximise legitimate cost recovery. It will follow what happens after a tanker spill and explain how claims are submitted and assessed under the international liability and compensation regime. Case studies and practical examples will be included to help attendees obtain a better understanding of the claims process. Also available earlier that day is the Oil Spill Fundamentals short course run by OSRL and ITOPF. Registration is open to all, with a small fee of £100 payable for attendance at either of the short courses. For further information and to register to attend please visit: <http://www.interspillevent.com/en/Sessions/51946/Claims-Compensation>

INTERSPILL OPENING AND CLOSING PLENARY SPEAKERS ANNOUNCED

Opening and closing plenary speakers include: Henk Renken, Oil Spill Technology Advisor, BP; Markku Mylly, Executive Director, EMSA; Tom Coolbaugh, Oil Spill Response Advisor, ExxonMobil; Kitack Lim, Secretary-General of the International Maritime Organization; Hugh Shaw, Secretary of State's Representative for Maritime Salvage & Intervention; Johan Marius Ly, Director of Emergency Preparedness, Norwegian Coastal Administration.

International news (continued)

DILUTED BITUMEN: CONCERNS REACTIVATED BY THE CONTROVERSY ABOUT THE TRANS MOUNTAIN PIPELINE

Readers of last week's ISCO Newsletter will be aware of the current proposal for new restrictions on pipeline transportation of diluted bitumen, commonly called "dilbit". The question of how dilbit will behave following a spill is again being posed.

In fact, much research has been done on this subject and a large body of information is available. In the next issue of the ISCO Newsletter we will provide comment on this matter.

UPDATED INFORMATION FOR ISCO MEMBERS AND SUBSCRIBERS TO THE ISCO NEWSLETTER

Welcome to Membership of ISCO

All new members joining ISCO receive a "standard" letter (reproduced below) but over the years ISCO has developed many additional services for its members and has added new guidance information to assist its members.

This "Welcome to Membership" letter and guidance information have recently been updated.

For existing members of ISCO we are publishing the current version of this letter, which contains much that you may not have seen before.

Learning more about what ISCO does may make you think of becoming a member. If you are a past member who has allowed your membership to lapse, you may want to reactivate your membership. In either case you can quickly apply online at <http://spillcontrol.org/2013-02-05-10-50-47/membership-application>

Membership fees and non-member access to the newsletter are both under review and therefore we would encourage lapsed or new members to act before these things change.

New member welcome letter

Dear New Member,

Your application to join ISCO has been approved and I am pleased to welcome you / your company to Membership of ISCO.

Your Membership Certificate will now be prepared and sent to you via air mail upon receipt of your first year's membership subscription.

If you have not already paid your first year's subscription, you will shortly receive an invoice. Payment instructions are detailed on the invoice which is due for payment within thirty days.

As a Member of ISCO, you have the right to access the Members' Area of the ISCO website where you will be able to find a large number of operational guidelines, technical articles and other useful information.

You can set up your own account on the website by clicking on [\[This link is available to members only\]](#)

If you complete the form on this page your user profile will be set up and you will then be able to log into the website to access the members' area. The website log-in button is located at the top of the home page www.spillcontrol.org

Alternatively you can send your preferred user name and password to the Administrator at info@spillcontrol.org

The Administrator will add your name / the name of your organisation to the list of Members on the website and you are invited to provide a few words about yourself / your organisation by way of an introduction to other Members.

You will receive ISCO's weekly Newsletter which we hope you will find useful and interesting. Please remember to let us know if your email address changes in order that the mailing list can be kept up-to-date.

If you have joined as a Corporate Member, your company will be listed in the classified Supplies & Services section of the website. Please check that your entries have been made in the appropriate section/s of the Directory and that the hyperlink to your company website is working correctly. Entries in the directory are free for members. If you would like to add a banner to your standard entry, just send a ready-made banner. If you don't have a banner we can make one for you at a small cost.

In addition please provide names and email addresses for any of your colleagues that would be interested to receive the Newsletter.

Additional information for your guidance is listed below.

I look forward to your participation in the activities of the Organisation and hope you find your membership will be of real benefit in your professional and business life.

International news (continued)

ISCO is always looking for new ways to further develop the support it provides to the spill response community. If you would like to take a more active part in the organization – for example, joining in a project working group, becoming a national representative on the ISCO Council, participation in meetings attended by ISCO or suggesting new initiatives – I would very much like to hear from you. Please drop me a line at matthewsommerville@hotmail.co.uk

With best wishes,



Matthew Sommerville, Secretary General

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION FOR THE GUIDANCE OF MEMBERS

Objectives of the Organization – You can find these on the website at <http://www.spillcontrol.org/home/objectives>

Terms and Conditions of Membership – These can be found on the ISCO website at www.spillcontrol.org

Use of the ISCO logo - All Corporate Members in good standing (annual subscriptions paid up-to-date) are entitled to reproduce the ISCO logo on their websites, company brochures, headed notepaper, etc. to denote that your company is a member of an organisation dedicated to improving response preparedness, encouraging technical development and raising professional competency. <http://www.spillcontrol.org/2013-02-05-12-47-53/logo>

Emergency Assistance – Corporate Members and Industry Partner Members will receive forwarded emails received from governments, requesting parties and other entities who are seeking emergency resources in support of response to major pollution incidents. See <http://www.spillcontrol.org/emergency-assistance>. **To ensure receipt of forwarded emails it is vital for you to notify the Secretariat immediately if the contact person and email address listed in our mailing list requires to be updated. Please notify changes by email to info@spillcontrol.org**

Professional Membership of ISCO

The International Spill Control Organisation (ISCO) provides classes of professional membership that recognise the qualifications and experience of spill responders and others in the international spill response community.

ISCO President David Usher said “This fills a long felt need and will help meet the aspirations of many in the industry who have long felt that their qualifications and experience should be recognised. The creation of professional memberships will encourage all who are making a career in the field of oil and chemical pollution control to take pride in their chosen profession”.

You can find out more about Professional Membership under “Membership” at <http://spillcontrol.org> See under “About Professional Membership”, “Application Form”, “Code of Conduct”, “Assessment Guidelines”, “Appeals Policy” and “Complaints Procedure”.

Helping Students/Apprentices/Trainees in their professional development –

Professional Membership of ISCO offers individuals a career path with an option to progress towards higher levels of professional recognition. Nominated individuals will receive a Certificate of Student Membership and be able to access technical information such as spill response tools, manuals, response guidelines on the ISCO website. They will also receive the ISCO Newsletter which has an educational role and be able to seek additional help and advice from other members via the ISCO Groups facility (currently under construction)

Lecturers at training establishments and relevant managers at companies that carry out their own internal training are invited to nominate candidates for a free one year trial student membership of ISCO. Please send an email to john.mcmurtrie@spillcontrol.org with names and email addresses of the candidates you wish to recommend.

Availability of free one year “student membership” for students, apprentices and trainees. These awards are made to individuals upon recommendation of training organisations or companies undertaking internal training programmes. The intention is to encourage young people who show promise and interest in making a career in the spill response industry.

ISCO Newsletter – The ISCO Newsletter is sent out weekly to about 3,000 subscribers in over 65 countries. All members receive the weekly ISCO Newsletter free of charge. The addressee on the mailing list is usually the name of the person who completed the original Joining Form at time of joining the organization. Members (other than Individual Members) can request the addition of their colleagues to the mailing list – please send names and email addresses to the Secretariat at info@spillcontrol.org

If at any time you find that you are no longer receiving the ISCO Newsletter it may be because –

(1) The email of the addressee has changed or is no longer valid (for example if that person has left the company)

You can correct this by notifying the Secretariat and advising an updated contact person and email address.

(2) Your computer is labelling the incoming newsletter email as “spam”.

(3) Your Internet Service Provider is blocking receipt of the newsletter

To correct non-delivery for reasons (2) or (3) you will need to ask your IT person to take appropriate action.

International news (continued)

Annual Renewal of Membership – In order to maintain your membership status and benefits you must pay the invoice for your annual subscription promptly. Subscriptions are invoiced annually on each anniversary of the date on which you first joined. If you do not receive an invoice it may be because the contact person and email address held by our Membership Director is not up-to-date. To avoid being removed from the Register of members for non-payment of dues, you should advise the Secretariat of the correct contact information for invoicing. To avoid problems, we prefer to send invoices to the “Accounts Payable” department within your organization and to be able to quote a purchase order reference where applicable.

RESPONSECON free standard emergency response contracts

Members providing emergency response to spill events (contracting to mobilise response resources) can find and download the ISCO-BIMCO standard contracts at <https://www.bimco.org/contracts-and-clauses/idea/free-contracts>

The RESPONSECON contracts were developed in order to speed up spill response by creating a standard internationally recognised contract for spill response that would avoid the delays that arise from prolonged contract negotiations.

The RESPONSECON Contracts have application for both MARINE and ONSHORE spill response.

The Contracts were drafted by a project sub-committee representing industry and chaired by a representative from the International Group. They conform with the International Group of P&I Clubs’ Guidelines on Vessel Response Contracts.

RESPONSECON is tailored for international use, whereas US RESPONSECON is specifically for use in the United States. Terms and conditions are set out in standard clauses with accompanying annexes for the parties to insert detailed descriptions of the required services and rates for personnel and equipment. Both contracts are available free of charge from BIMCO’s website, subject to Conditions of Use”.

NEWSLETTER POLICY ON HANDLING OF PRESS RELEASES

1. The Editor has sole discretion over what is accepted for publication
2. The Editor reserves the right to edit press releases
3. Information in press releases must be factual and free from sales hype and exaggerated claims
4. Members of ISCO are given priority over non-members in allocation of editorial space.
5. Subject matter of press releases must be relevant to the interests of the spill response community
6. Space availability for printing press releases is limited and they should be kept short
7. If a press release is too long only part of it will be printed but a link can be included for downloading its entirety
8. Links for downloading additional information or viewing video material can be included
9. Depending on space availability press releases may be included in the next issue or held over for a future issue
10. The placing of press releases is usually allocated within sections as follows –

PEOPLE IN THE NEWS – Announcements of new appointments, retirements, honours, awards, etc. relating to senior people in a company or organisation. Photo/s usually included.

SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY – Reserved for technical content relating to new developments that represent a significant technological advance – photos, diagrams, etc. should be included.

CASE HISTORIES – Welcomed for publication subject to educational content criteria. In publishing case histories the objective is to pass on experience and lessons learned that will be of interest to other professionals in our community. There is a benefit for contributors because publication of case histories raises the profile of the company concerned.

NEW PRODUCTS & SERVICES – Announcement of the launch of a completely new product or service. Photo/s usually provided.

COMPANY NEWS - Change of address, phone numbers, etc.; Award of a major new contract, Other news of significance concerning the company or organisation. ISCO Corporate Members are given priority publication.

EQUIPMENT FOR SALE - For corporate members only – to assist in disposal of equipment that is surplus to requirements.

MEMBER PROFILES IN THE ISCO NEWSLETTER – For corporate members only – For a contribution of £185 to ISCO funds publication of a one page company profile. Restricted to one profile a year only per member. Only one profile will be printed in any issue of the newsletter.

THE EDUCATIONAL ROLE OF THE ISCO NEWSLETTER

The ISCO Newsletter has in the past published excellent serialised articles on such matters as inland spill response, aerial observation of oil spills, in-situ burning, etc. by respected experts including Dr Merv Fingas and Mark Francis. Your editor is currently looking for more interesting articles of this kind. If you think you can help, please get in touch with the Editor at john.mcmurtrie@spillcontrol.org

Disseminating news about new technical developments is of value to our community. Corporate Members and others are invited to contribute articles.

International news (continued)

Your editor is also interested to receive interesting case histories for publication. Dealing with spill events often requires an innovative approach and you are invited to share your experiences.

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 If not in English language, please include a headline in English to introduce the submitted item.

YOUR COMPANY'S BANNER DISPLAYED FOR FREE IN ISCO'S INTERNATIONAL DIRECTORY

Many of our Corporate Members are taking advantage of the option to display their company banners in ISCO's Directory of Supplies and Services. All members are listed under one or more classifications – Consultants; Equipment & Materials; Response Organizations; and Training Providers – and every entry is hyperlinked to give one click access to your company's website.

As an example, to see how your banner might look click on <http://www.spillcontrol.org/2013-02-05-12-36-12/equipment-materials> Send a copy of your banner to info@spillcontrol.org or, if you don't have a banner, our designer can create one for you at a modest cost. The option to display your banner is a free benefit only available to paid-up Corporate Members of ISCO.

Incident reports (in chronological order)

USA: LOUISIANA - OIL SPILL NEAR AREAS WHERE YOUNG WHOOPING CRANES RELEASED

January 31 - The Coast Guard says nearly 1,300 gallons of oil spilled from an oil production facility into southwest Louisiana wetlands near the areas where young endangered whooping cranes are released into the wild.

A floating barrier was set up to keep the spill out of adjacent waterways just east of White Lake and cleanup began Tuesday, the day the oil spilled from Peak Operating Co.'s production facility there, the Coast Guard said. *US News* [Read more](#)

CHINA: SANCHI TANKER SPILL UPDATES

February 1 - **Bunker fuel removal attempts continue at sunken Sanchi** - Chinese salvage crews were continuing to try to remove an estimated 1,900 tonnes of bunker fuel from sunken Iranian oil tanker Sanchi, the Chinese Ministry of Transport said on February 1st, 25 days after Sanchi collided with freight ship CF Crystal, exploded, caught fire, and, six days later, exploded and sank.

The MoT said that if the fuel was not cleaned up it could pollute the marine environment. Most of the fuel on the tanker was condensate, but around 1,000 tonnes of bunker fuel was initially thought to be in the vessel's fuel tanks. That estimate seems to have been almost doubled by the Chinese MoT. Bunker fuel is less toxic than condensate, but is harder to remove from the ocean once it is spilled.

Five Chinese vessels, one Japanese ship and one from South Korea are involved in the clean-up effort over an area spanning 226 sq nm. *Insurance Marine News* [Read more](#)

February 6 - **Sanchi Oil Spill Puts Coral Reefs at Risk** - Now scientists say water polluted by the Sanchi oil tanker may reach coral reefs in the Ryukyu Island chain, based on the latest ocean model simulation by researchers from the National Oceanography Center (NOC) and the University of Southampton, using the leading edge, high-resolution global ocean circulation model, NEMO.

These latest predictions have been made possible following new information about the suspected arrival of some of the oil from the Sanchi oil tanker at Amami-Oshima, an island at the edge of the East China Sea. This arrival underscores the critical importance of international monitoring to understand the spill, and reduce the uncertainty on its fate and ultimate impact on the region. *Marine Technology News* [Read more](#)

UK: DIESEL SPILL IN WILDLIFE FILLED SAFFRON BROOK UNDER INVESTIGATION BY ENVIRONMENT AGENCY

February 2 - The Environment Agency is investigating after a large amount of diesel was spilled into a brook. Saffron Brook, which runs through Oadby and Knighton Park in Leicester before flowing into the River Soar, had a thick film of diesel on it on Tuesday morning. *Leicester Mercury* [Read more](#)

Incident reports (continued)

USA: NEW JERSEY - HAZMAT RESPONDS TO DIESEL SPILL IN LAKE HOPATCONG



Photo by Daniel Freel/New Jersey Herald - Workers in hazmat suits try to contain and clean a diesel fuel spill in the Prospect Point section of Lake Hopatcong Monday

February 5 - An unknown amount of diesel fuel began flowing into Lake Hopatcong on Sunday and state and Morris County hazmat crews were still on the scene Monday chopping through ice to install additional containment booms.

On Monday, Jefferson police officers at the scene said the Morris County Prosecutor's Office had assumed authority of the investigation. A spokesman for the prosecutor confirmed the recovery of the spilled diesel fuel was being handled by the county and state. *New Jersey Herald* [Read more](#)

USA: CONNECTICUT – SPILL SIZE UNDERESTIMATED BY FACTOR OF 20

February 6 - The mill reported 100 to 200 gallons had spilled, and Waterbury fire chief David Martin had no reason to think otherwise. About two hours later, Martin got another call: The Naugatuck River was blanketed in oil. As Waterbury firefighters scrambled to corral the oil with booms, Somers Thin Strip checked the leaky tank's pressure and reported that the amount of spilled oil numbered not in the hundreds of gallons, but in the thousands — anywhere from 4,500 to 6,000 gallons were gone, at least 1,000 of which ended up in the river, DEEP said later. *Hartford Gazette* [Read more](#)

BRAZIL: OIL LEAKING FROM BULK CARRIER, PROBABLY THROUGH HULL CRACKS

February 7 - Oil stains on water near bulk carrier MARCOS DIAS, docked at Santos Port, Brazil, were spotted on Feb 6. It is believed, that the fuel is leaking from ship's tanks via cracks in hull, divers were to survey underwater hull at night Feb 6, results yet unknown. All ship's operations are suspended, she's fenced off by booms. *Maritime Bulletin* [Read more](#)

USA: NORTH CAROLINA - AT LEAST 1,000 GALLONS OF OIL SPILL INTO RIVER

February 7 - At least 1,000 gallons of petroleum fuel has spilled into a river in North Carolina. The Asheville-Citizen Times reports authorities warn people to stay out of the French Broad River following Sunday's spill in Asheville. North Carolina Division of Waste Management spokeswoman Laura Leonard says the oil spilled from an above-ground storage tank at the Mountain Energy Bulk Fuel Facility, around 100 feet from the river. *New York Post* [Read more](#)

AMERICAN SAMOA: GROUNDED WRECK BREAKS UP



February 9 - The Chui Zai Fa No. 1, the Taiwanese longliner that went aground in American Samoa on Monday, has broken up in the surf zone off Leone Bay, Tutuila.

The Coast Guard estimates that the 88-foot fishing vessel had as much as 30,000 gallons of diesel on board at the time it went onto the reef, based on its estimated tank capacity. Light sheening has been reported in the vicinity of the wreck.

Responders were not able to address the spill on Friday because of the approach of Tropical Cyclone Gita. As of Friday afternoon, the storm's center was about 55 nm to the south of the Independent State of Samoa (west of American Samoa) and moving east-southeast at 15 knots. Maximum sustained winds at Tutuila are expected to peak Friday at 50 knots, with gusts to 60 knots. *The Maritime Executive* [Read more](#)

UK: CYANIDE SPILL AFTER FORKLIFT TRUCK ACCIDENT

February 7 - Around 1,000 litres of diluted cyanide has been spilled – with some of the hazardous liquid leaking into a nearby brook. Seven people were decontaminated at the scene after a forklift truck pierced the container carrying the toxic chemical at an industrial estate in Heanor Gate Industrial Estate, in Adams Close, Derbyshire. *Metro* [Read more](#) [Thanks to Don Johnston of ISCO Industry Partner, DG & Hazmat Group]

Incident reports (continued)

BELGIUM: AFRAMAX TANKER GROUNDING, BELGIUM, NORTH SEA UPDATE

February 9 - Update: Tanker said to be in full load, no damages reported so far, as tanker grounded on a sandbank.

Crude oil tanker SEA BAY drifted aground at around 0500 LT Feb 9 off Zeebrugge approaches fairway, after a blackout. Tanker was refloated some 5 hours later with the help of high tide and tugs, understood she is to be anchored on tankers anchorage northwest of Zeebrugge, most probably for survey. *Maritime Bulletin* [Read more](#)

NO LESS THAN 25 ROAD TANKER SPILLS REPORTED IN THIS WEEK'S "NEWSY STUFF"

ISCO tends to focus on marine, river lake, rail and pipeline spills and doesn't report on road tanker, fuel station and static tank spills. Two reasons for this (1) There are just too many and (2) Don Johnston of ISCO's Industry Partner, the DG & Hazmat Group, reports very comprehensively every week on these kinds of spills in his publication "Newsy Stuff". It would be superfluous for ISCO to duplicate the work done by Don. In "Newsy Stuff" he also reports on incidents involving Chemicals, CO and Gas Leaks, Confined Space, Contamination, Ethanol/Biodiesels, Fireworks/Armaments Explosions, Gas stations, Grain/Silos, LNG/LPG/CNG/Propane, PFOS/PFOA, Pipeline, Radioactivity, Rail, Refinery/Terminals, Road Tankers/Transport, Storage Tanks, and Wells. "Newsy Stuff" can be up to about 40 pages. It's a free publication but you do need to be a member of the DG and Hazmat Group. To Join the Group click on dangerousgoods-subscribe@yahoo.com

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

BELIZE: GOB TO HOST OIL SPILL DISASTER CONSULTATIONS

February 3 - In the upcoming week, the Government of Belize will gather with with non-governmental organizations and private sector partners for a consultation aimed at improving the country's capability to respond to an oil spill.

GOB, through the Department of the Environment in the ministry of Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry, Fisheries, and Environment & Sustainable Development, and Immigration (MAFFESDI), will host the two-day consultation at the Best Western Belize Biltmore Plaza Hotel on February 5 and 6, with the end goal of improving the Working Draft of the National Oil Spill Contingency Plan. The Doe explained that the major points of discussion at the consultation will be the prevention, preparedness and coordinated emergency response nationally for an oil spill event in terrestrial, aquatic and marine environment, and align the plan to meet international standards for Oil Pollution Preparedness, Response and Co-operation (OPRC). *Reporter* [Read more](#) [Update published on February 5](#)

MEXICO: MEXICO REPORTS RECORD NUMBER OF ILLEGAL TAPS INTO FUEL PIPELINES

February 7 - Fuel thieves in Mexico drilled 10,363 illegal taps into state-owned pipelines in 2017, or an average of about 28 every day. The government-owned oil company Pemex reported Wednesday that illegal taps rose about 50 percent last year, from 6,873 in 2016. *New York Times* [Read more](#) [Thanks to Don Johnston of ISCO Industry Partner, DG & Hazmat Group]

UAE: GULF SHIP-TO-SHIP TRANSFER SPILLS COMMON AND NEGLECTED?

February 3 - It appears that the oil transfers often result in spills in the region, which are not known to the public, and often neglected by the authorities.

In 2005, the Fujairah Port issued an order to tankers to conduct ship-to-ship transfers outside the port area amid common oil slicks that were reaching the port waters. Most of these anchorages where ship-to-ship transfers take place are rocky and pertain to the international waters, which makes it even harder to hold those accountable for damages. Furthermore, as the area is a transit point for many ships it is very difficult to find the source of the spill. Tanker Trackers has made it its mission to help find these sources of spills by utilizing satellite imagery. *World Maritime News* [Read more](#)

UK: SHIPS DUMPING NOXIOUS PALM OIL OFF BRITISH COAST WITHOUT LEGAL CONSEQUENCES

February 3 - Ships are regularly dumping large quantities of noxious palm oil off the coast of Britain without legal consequences, the Telegraph has learned. During 2016 and 2017 seven instances of palm oil contaminating British waters were documented by satellites operated by the European Maritime Safety Agency (EMSA).

Daily Telegraph [Read more](#) [Thanks to Don Johnston of ISCO Industry Partner, DG & Hazmat Group]

News reports from around the world (continued)

USA: WASHINGTON - DEPT. OF ECOLOGY PROPOSING UPDATES TO UNDERGROUND STORAGE TANK RULE

February 1 - The Washington Department of Ecology is proposing updates to its underground storage tank rule which the public can review and comment on through March 15th. The underground storage tank compliance program is one of the agency's largest pollution prevention programs. *WA Dept. of Ecology* [Read more](#) [Thanks to Don Johnston of ISCO Industry Partner, DG & Hazmat Group]

USA: FLOODS ARE GETTING WORSE, AND 2,500 CHEMICAL SITES LIE IN THE WATER'S PATH

February 6 - Flooding nationwide is likely to worsen because of climate change, an [exhaustive scientific report](#) by the federal government warned last year. Heavy rainfall is increasing in intensity and frequency. *NY Times* [Read more](#)

USA: LAWMAKERS SUPPORT HOMELAND SECURITY LAB FUNDING

February 7 - Sen. Kirsten Gillibrand (D-NY) recently joined 10 congressional colleagues in demonstrating support for funding of three Homeland Security labs.

Officials said correspondence to the Senate and House Appropriations Committees backs full funding of the National Urban Security Technology Laboratory (NUSTL), the National Biodefense Analysis and Countermeasures Center (NBACC) and the Chemical Security Analysis Center (CSAC). *Homeland Preparedness News* [Read more](#)

USA: WASHINGTON - BILL TO TAX OIL IN PIPELINES, UPDATE STATE OIL SPILL PLANS ADVANCES IN STATE SENATE

February 7 - A bill that would tax oil in pipelines to fund oil spill prevention planning passed out of a state Senate committee — but only after a proposed tax hike was dropped.

The legislation, SB 6269, would levy taxes on oil transported in Washington state, including oil that travels by pipeline, to fund oil spill prevention and response programs. *The Chronicle* [Read more](#) [Related article in Lake Chelan Mirror](#)

USA: OIL SPILL TAX ON OIL COMPANIES REINSTATED AS PART OF BUDGET DEAL

February 9 - Oil companies will once again have to pay a tax to fund oil spill cleanups thanks to Congress's new budget signed into law early Friday morning.

Senators voted to reinstate the 9 cents per barrel tax on both domestic crude oil and imported crude and petroleum products as part of an "extenders" tax bill package. The package was included in the Senate's budget deal passed Thursday and would put the oil tax back into effect starting March 1, according to Politico. *The Hill* [Read more](#)

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

[AMSA Aboard Newsletter from George Holliday Bow Wave](#)
[Cedre Newsletter](#)
[CROIERG Enews](#)
[EMSA Newsletter](#)
[EUROWA Newsletter](#)
[IMO News Magazine](#)
[IMO Publishing News](#)
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[Sea Alarm Foundation Newsletter](#)
[Spill Alert](#)
[Technology Innovation News Survey](#)
[Transport Canada Newsletter](#)
[UK NCEC](#)
[USA EPA Tech Direct](#)

News from the Australian Maritime Safety Authority
News and commentary on HSE issues from George Holliday
Sam Ignarski's Ezine on Marine & Transport Matters
News from Cedre in Brittany, France
Canberra & Regions Oil Industry Emergency Response Group
News from the European Maritime Safety Agency
European Oiled Wildlife Response Assistance Module
News from the International Maritime Organization
New and forthcoming IMO publications
International news for the oil tanker community
Int'l Organisation for Industrial Hazard Management
Often contains articles of interest to the spill response community
News from the Mediterranean Oil Industry Group
News from the North West Pacific Action Plan
Newsletter from the International Tanker Owners Pollution Federation
News from the Oil Companies International Marine Forum
Healthy oceans, people and economies in the East Asian Seas
News for pollution prevention & control professionals
Quarterly Newsletter from Maritime New Zealand
Oiled wildlife Preparedness and Response news from Sea Alarm
Newsletter from the UK Spill Association
News from US EPA – Contaminated Site Decontamination
News and articles re transport of dangerous goods in Canada
News from the National Chemical Emergency Centre
Remediation of contaminated soil and groundwater

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

Company news from ISCO members

AQUA-GUARD CLIENT WINS TOP HONORS IN THE PETROBRAS PEOTRAM AWARDS

February 5 - Asgaard Navegação, a wholly-owned subsidiary of MLog S.A, and was declared the winner in Petrobras' Peotram Program of Operational Excellence in Air and Maritime Transportation in 2017, repeating last year's performance. The ranking measured numerous performance indicators of 47 Brazilian and foreign shipping companies operating in Brazil in the offshore area. *Aqua-Guard* [Read more](#)

Upcoming events summary 2018

COUNTRY	2018	TITLE OF EVENT	LOCATION
For more information click on Title of Event			
CANADA	Feb. 21-22	12th Arctic Shipping Summit	Montreal
UAE	Feb 28 – Mar 1	Offshore Arabia Conference & Exhibition	Dubai
AUSTRALIA	March 6	2018 National Major Hazard Facilities Forum	Sydney
FINLAND	March 6-8	Oil Spills in Arctic Areas -seminar	Oulu
UK	March 8	Land Condition Symposium 2018	London
UK	March 13-15	2018 INTERSPILL Conference and Exhibition	London
UK	March 13-15	Oceanology International 2018	London
FRANCE	March 16	CEDRE Information Day	Brest
UK	March 20-22	Flood & Coast Exhibition and Conference	Telford
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 11-12	Castle Archdale 2018 Inland Response Training	Enniskillen, N.I.
UK	April 9-13	IMO Marine Environment Protection Committee	London
FINLAND	April 17-20	Arctic Shipping Forum	Helsinki
UK	Apr 30-May 2	April 2018 IOPC Funds meetings	London
NEW ZEALAND	May 1-3	NZ 5th Contaminated Land Conference	Christchurch
CHINA	May 3-5	IO Expo China	Shanghai
USA	May 7-11	13th Int'l Effects of Oil on Wildlife Conference	Baltimore, MD
UK	May 15	IMO 70 High Level Forum	London
BELGIUM	May 16-17	European Environmental Ports Conference 2018	Antwerp
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
SWEDEN	August 27-30	HELCOM BALEX DELTA 2018 spill recovery ex'cise	Karlskrona Area
UK	Sept. 12-13	Contamination Expo	Birmingham
UAE	October 2-4	EI Middle East HSE Forum	Dubai
AUSTRALIA	October 2-4	Ecoforum Conference & Exhibition	Sydney
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			

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