

ISCO & THE ISCO NEWSLETTER

The International Spill Control Organization, a not-for profit organization 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 Intergovernmental, Governmental, NGO's and interested groups and individuals

ISCO holds consultative status at the International Maritime Organisation and observer Status at International Oil Pollution Compensation Funds

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INTERNATIONAL NEWS

CLICK ON THE BANNERS BELOW FOR MORE INFO ON THE EVENTS FEATURED

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UN SAYS ABANDONED TANKER NEAR YEMEN AT RISK OF EXPLODING



This image provided by I.R. Consilium taken in 2019, shows deterioration on the FSO Safer, moored off Ras Issa port, Yemen. (I.R. Consilium via AP)

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INTERNATIONAL NEWS (CONTINUED)

The United Nations said an abandoned oil tanker moored off the coast of Yemen loaded with more than 1 million barrels of crude oil is at risk of rupture or exploding, causing massive environmental damage to Red Sea marine life, desalination factories and international shipping routes.

Meanwhile, Houthi rebels who control the area where the ship is moored have denied UN inspectors access to the vessel. Internal documents obtained by The Associated Press shows that **seawater has entered the engine compartment of the tanker**, which hasn't been maintained for over five years, causing damage to the pipelines and increasing the risk of sinking. Rust has covered parts of the tanker and the inert gas that prevents the tanks from gathering inflammable gases, has leaked out. **Experts say maintenance is no longer possible because the damage to the ship is irreversible.** "Rust has covered some parts of the tanker along with equipment, fire extinguishing system stopped working, and what is more dangerous is that **the (inert) gas which was covering the oil inside the tanks has leaked out. It was used to protect the tanker from exploding,**" the letter read.

The Yemeni oil minister's letter recommended three different approaches to deal with the tanker: make repairs, pump the oil to another ship, or to pull the tanker away and safely unload it in another port. The minister wrote that because of the "collapsing condition" of the vessel, the best solution is to pull it away to another port. The UN has repeatedly warned that delays in taking action to fix the FSO Safer could lead to a man-made environmental disaster in the Red Sea four times greater than the Exxon Valdez oil spill. CTV News / [Read the whole of this report](#)

ISCO is extremely concerned by the lack of action and urges all parties that can contribute to breaking the current deadlock to move forward with utmost urgency to act in order to avert this imminent and entirely avoidable disaster.

THE MEDPROGRAMME: A NEW PUSH TO DEPOLLUTE THE MEDITERRANEAN SEA AND COAST AND UNDERPIN ECOSYSTEM INTEGRITY

The Mediterranean Action Plan of the UN Environment Programme (UNEP/MAP) announces the "Mediterranean Sea Programme (MedProgramme): Enhancing Environmental Security"—a 43 million USD endeavour funded by the Global Environment Facility (GEF) with the aim of reducing major environmental stresses, strengthening climate resilience and water security, and improving the health and livelihoods of coastal populations in the Mediterranean region.

The MedProgramme—an assortment of seven child projects—will deploy more than 100 coordinated actions at regional and national levels over the next 5 years (2020-2024). This is expected to lead, among other positive impacts, to the disposal of 3,250 tons of Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs) and of fifty (50) tons of Mercury, as well as the prevention of the use of 1,309 tons of POPs per year, an increase in volumes of water treatments, and improvements in coastal and water management. UNEP / [Read more](#)

REPORT: CONSUMERS AND BUSINESS CONCERNED ABOUT PLASTIC WASTE BUT EXPECT GOVERNMENTS TO DO MORE

The United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and Food Industry Asia (FIA) today released a [regional survey](#) of consumers and food and beverage businesses across South-East Asia that shows a significant disconnect between expectation and action on reducing plastic waste. The challenges of plastic pollution have only increased in the past few months, with the COVID-19 pandemic generating [a surge in waste](#).

The survey polled consumers and businesses in five countries that are estimated to be among the top 10 sources of plastic marine debris globally - Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines, Thailand and Viet Nam. UNEP / [Read more](#)

OSPAR COMMISSION: NORTH SEA NETWORK MEETING 2020

The 2020 meeting of the North Sea Network of Investigators and Prosecutors (NSN) was held online on 11 June and was chaired by Dr. Ewald Brandt (Germany) and attended by participants from Belgium, Denmark, the European Union (European Commission and European Maritime Safety Agency –EMSA-), Ireland, the Netherlands, Norway, Spain, Sweden, the United Kingdom and the Bonn Agreement. OSPAR News / [Read the report of the meeting](#)

AUSTRALIA: AMSA STATE AND TERRITORY OFFICES

AMSA offices will reopen to the public for face to face services on Monday 29th of June.

To ensure the safety of our people and all those visiting shopfronts, novel coronavirus (COVID-19) social distancing measures will remain in place at all office locations. All visitors to shopfronts will be required to provide contact details to ensure efficient and effective COVID-19 contact tracing.

As we transition back to face to face service delivery many locations will be providing service on an appointment only basis. Please contact AMSA Connect on 1800 627 484 or email amsaconnect@amsa.gov.au to find out what services are available in your area and to make an appointment.

AMSA's emergency and critical operations for search and rescue remain fully operational. AMSA / [Read more](#)

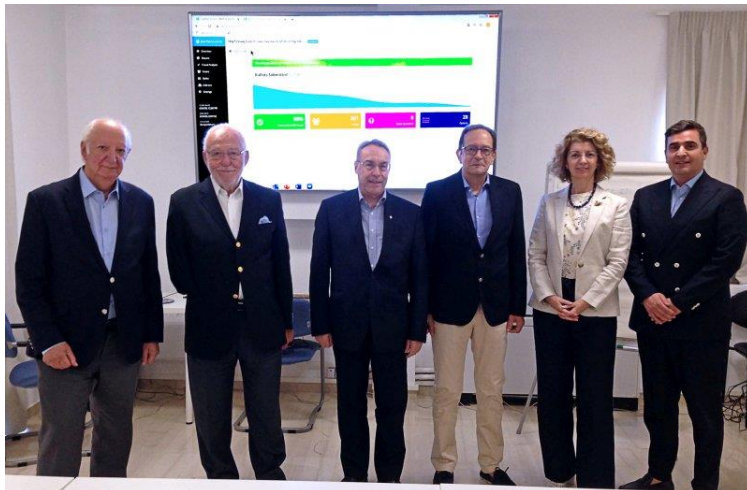
BRAZIL: WINNER : PORT OF AÇU – EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS PROJECT

June 25 - This project was implemented in response to a 2019 oil spill off the coast of Brazil. It highlights the important role ports can play in emergency response actions. Port of Açú is strategically located with its terminals providing specialised offshore support to oil companies. The Port set up a multi-faceted taskforce, carrying out drills, community engagement, wildlife monitoring and drone flights as part of the project.

In 2019 an oil spill reached more than 2,000 km of the Brazilian coast in an unprecedented incident of catastrophic proportions. More than 5,000 tons of oil waste was collected from shores in 11 states, a volume 20 times larger than the sum of all oil incidents reported since 2012. The origin of the spill remains unknown.

The incident shed light on the challenges related to the ability to respond to major oil incidents. As connecting nodes between land and sea, ports are key stakeholders for collaborating on emergency response actions. They concentrate significant emergency resources, act as support base for sea operations and are ideally placed to gather those involved in an emergency response. Hellenic Shipping News / [Read more](#)

GREECE: HELMEPA MEMBERS ONLINE GENERAL MEETING



In the picture: (A-D) M. Frangias, S. Livanos (Hellas) SA, D. Mitsatsos, General Manager of HELMEPA, N. Gerasimou, Legal Adviser of HELMEPA, E. Sapunadelis, Danaos Shipping Co. Ltd., C. Prekeze, Executive Coordinator of HELMEPA and N. Kambouris, Chandris (Hellas) Inc.

June 25 - The 38th annual General Meeting of the Members of the Hellenic Association for the Protection of the Marine Environment – HELMEPA and the appointment of a new Board of Directors took place on Wednesday, June 24, 2020, and for the first time online.

Welcoming the present representatives of 261 shipowners of Member companies, the President of the Assembly, outgoing Chairman of the Board, Dr. G. G. Gratesos, among others, said that "we should all be proud because HELMEPA has earned the appreciation of the international shipping community, an

appreciation that reflects the volunteerism of all of us". "And this is due" he added "the consistency with which HELMEPA informs all Members, from shipowner to sailor, to prevent pollution from ships and continuously improve safety in them". After thanking everyone for their contribution, he wished success to the new Board of Directors, adding that "those who serve helmepe's mission through the Council must leave out our professional status and concerns". Helmepe / [Read more](#)

NIGERIA: BRITISH SUPREME COURT HEARS NIGERIANS' CASE IN SHELL OIL SPILL CLAIM

June 23 - Britain's supreme court will on Tuesday hear Nigerian farmers and fishermen appeal to pursue claims against oil major Shell over spills in the Niger Delta.

The appeal re-opens the possibility for British multinationals to be held liable at home for their subsidiaries' actions abroad. It comes after a setback in 2018 when a London court ruled that the claim could not be pursued in England.

The Ogale and Bille communities allege that Shell's oil operations have polluted their land and waters. They are seeking justice through British courts because cases heard in Nigeria can take decades to resolve, said Leigh Day, the law firm representing the farmers and fishermen. Economic Times / [Read more](#)

SOUTH AFRICA: CAPE'S BIGGEST OIL SPILL, 20 YEARS ON



June 23 - Exactly two decades ago today on the morning of June 23, 2000, a bulk ore carrier called the MV Treasure was transporting oil from China to Brazil when it sank between Dassen and Robben islands. The sinking caused a massive oil spill which threatened to wipe out the African penguin population and resulted in the largest animal rescue effort of all time.

The MV Treasure was transporting 1 344 tonnes of heavy fuel oil, 56 tonnes of marine diesel and 64 tonnes of lube oil. According to UN Patron of the Oceans Lewis Pugh, about 400 toxic tons of bunker oil was released into the ocean, in an area that hosts the world's third-largest African penguin colony.

At the time, the African penguin's species was already in jeopardy. By the year 2000, only 100 000 African penguins existed. CapeTownetc.com / [Read more](#)

USA: LATEST ACTIVITY REPORTS FROM NOAA OR&R

June 22 - Please click on the links below to read the latest News Reports from NOAA OR&R

[Disaster Preparedness Program Plans for the Next Fiscal Year](#)

On June 1-5, 2020, The [Disaster Preparedness Program \(DPP\)](#) held a virtual all-staff operational planning meeting to start planning for FY2021.

[OR&R Provides Scientific Support for Oil Spill Response Efforts in Ecuador](#)

OR&R provided scientific support through the U.S. [National Response Team \(NRT\)](#) (link is external) in response to the Ecuador pipeline spill that occurred in early April.

[Marine Debris Program Presents Virtually to 90 Cadets from the U.S. Naval Sea Cadet Corps](#)

On June 6, Jennifer Simms, NOAA Marine Debris Program's Communications and Education Specialist, presented virtually to 90 Cadets and four instructors.

[Marine Debris Program Publishes Delaware Marine Debris Emergency Response Guide](#)

On June 17, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's (NOAA) Marine Debris Program released the "[Delaware Marine Debris Emergency Response Guide: Comprehensive Guidance Document](#)" (Guide).

[Abandoned and Derelict Vessels Featured in Clean Pacific Virtual Panel Discussion](#)

On June 12, 2020, Doug Helton participated in a "virtual" conference panel for 2020 Clean Pacific Conference on the challenges posed by abandoned and derelict vessels.

[OR&R Lecture Series: Dr. Bill Lehr on Liquefied Natural Gas Releases](#)

On June 18, Dr. Bill Lehr, Scientist Emeritus for the National Ocean Service and OR&R retired senior scientist presented to 300 participants as part of the OR&R Lecture series, YOU DON'T KNOW WHAT YOU DON'T KNOW, for a ride through the world of liquified natural gas (LNG) or liquified methane releases into the sea.

USA: CSB ISSUES NEW VIDEO SAFETY MESSAGE AND SAFETY ALERT FOCUSING ON THE PREVENTION OF CHEMICAL INCIDENTS DURING 2020 HURRICANE SEASON

June 22 - The U.S. Chemical Safety and Hazard Investigation Board (CSB) today issued a video safety message and a safety alert entitled "2020 Hurricane Season: Guidance for Chemical Plants During Extreme Weather Events."

The **video** and **safety alert** highlight recent actions by the Center for Chemical Process Safety (CCPS) to produce industry guidance meant to help hazardous chemical facilities better prepare for extreme weather events.

CSB Chairman Katherine Lemos said, "As the nation faces this year's hurricane season, it is critical that the chemical industry understand and prepare for the potential safety hazards posed by extreme weather events."

The Board does not issue citations or fines but makes safety recommendations to companies, industry organizations, labor groups, and regulatory agencies such as OSHA and EPA. Please visit our website, www.csb.gov.

For more information, contact Communications Manager Hillary Cohen at public@csb.gov or by phone at 202.446.8094.

USA: MICHIGAN COURT ORDERS ENBRIDGE TO TEMPORARILY SHUT DOWN LINE 5 PIPELINE

June 25 - Canadian pipeline operator Enbridge Inc has to halt Line 5 operations and disclose information related to the recent damage caused to a part of the oil pipeline, a Michigan circuit court judge ordered on Thursday.

The company has been asked to keep the damaged east line of the pipeline shut and also close the currently operating west line within 24 hours of receipt of the court's order

https://www.michigan.gov/documents/ag/Order_Granteeing_Motion_for_TRO_in_Nessel_v_Enbridge_Energy_et_al_19-474-CE_695012_7.pdf

Both legs would remain closed pending the outcome of a hearing to be held next Tuesday, according to the order. Edmonton Journal / [Read more and watch video](#) [Thanks to Dr Merv Fingas, Hon.FISCO, Member of ISCO Council for Canada]

BSEE PROMOTES RESPONSE PREPAREDNESS ON THE OUTER CONTINENTAL SHELF

June 24 - The Bureau of Safety and Environmental Enforcement continues to facilitate response preparedness efforts to ensure safe and environmentally sustainable, robust energy [development](#) on the U.S. [Outer Continental Shelf](#). BSEE today is publishing its [inaugural report](#) that summarizes the key lessons learned from 2018 and 2019 government initiated unannounced exercises.

The inaugural report, whose purpose is to improve domestic and international response preparedness, summarizes the key lessons learned from 28 exercises conducted in calendar years 2018 and 2019. The report focuses on three elements – [Operator Lessons Learned](#), [Operator Best Practices](#), and [BSEE Lessons Learned](#), and serves to assist contingency planners and emergency responders with improving their processes and deliverables for addressing offshore responses.

“BSEE continues to develop effective ways to enhance preparedness,” said **Director Scott Angelle**. “Over time, these annual summaries will provide BSEE and industry with data that can be used to identify trends and emerging issues that affect our nation’s offshore environment.”

According to the U.S. Geological Survey, oceans hold about 96.5 percent of all Earth's water. With more than 3 million American jobs dependent on our oceans and roughly 18.6 percent of our Nation’s oil and gas [production](#) conducted offshore, our oceans are critical to the economic future of many American families.

Further, 50 percent of United States is made up of ocean, and studies estimate 84 percent of our planet’s fossil fuels are located beneath oceans. BSEE recognizes the importance of our nation’s oceans in providing nourishment and economic opportunity for many Americans and promotes preparedness by conducting research, planning and preparedness exercises that strengthen operators’ responses and reduce environmental impacts to America’s waters.

During government initiated unannounced exercises, BSEE preparedness analysts witness and evaluate, a plan holder’s capabilities to effectively use public and private equipment, resources, and staff. Offshore facility owners and operators maintain response plans that document their resources and capabilities for responding to an offshore incident.

BSEE regularly plans and executes unannounced exercises in close coordination with federal partners, such as the U.S. Coast Guard and the Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration, and state government partners – all of whom have key roles associated with offshore preparedness and response. After each exercise, BSEE documents lessons learned based on categories adapted from the Homeland Security Exercise and Evaluation Program classification system. During the current administration, BSEE has employed 54 of these exercises as a tool for verifying the proficiencies of owners/operators, and the contractors on which they rely, in following their approved response plans.

The Bureau of Safety and Environmental Enforcement (BSEE) is the lead federal agency charged with improving safety and ensuring environmental protection related to the offshore energy industry, primarily oil and natural gas, on the U.S. [Outer Continental Shelf \(OCS\)](#). BSEE is also responsible for ensuring facilities in State waters are maintaining response plans as required by the Oil Pollution Act of 1990. Under President Trump, BSEE is conducting more inspections, increasing the number of safety initiatives and ensuring more offshore oil and gas workers receive critical safety information.

Download the complete report - [Government Initiated Unannounced Exercises - Summary of Lessons Learned for Calendar Years 2018 and 2019](#)

ISCO NEWS

ABOUT THE MEMBERS’ AREA OF THE ISCO WEBSITE

In their “Welcome to Membership” letter new members are given a link where they can self-register to gain access to the Members’ Area of the ISCO website but we have recently found that staff members of Corporate Members and Industry Partners are not always aware that they are entitled to access the Members’ Area.

ISCO NEWS (CONTINUED)

Corporate Members and Industry Partners who have not already shared their organization's nominated User Name and Pass Word with their staff may find it useful to create a new group User Name and Pass Word that can be more easily shared with their employees.

Corporate Members and Industry Partners who have not yet registered or who may not have kept a record of their User Name and Pass Word should get in touch – info@spillcontrol.org – to request details of how to register their account.

Currently the Members' Area is overdue for an overhaul to update, repair broken links, etc. but it does contain a great deal of information including links for downloading numerous oil and chemical spill response guidelines, manuals, and technical articles.

As you probably know all of the ISCO management team are unpaid volunteers and overloaded with work. We are currently looking for someone to work on the Members' Area. If you could be interested in helping, please get in touch.

LITTLE OR NO NEWS FROM MEMAC, NOWPAP, PERSGA, RECISO, ROPME, IBAMA, MSA CHINA, EAAA EGYPT

Thankfully most regional and national organizations keep ISCO well informed by forwarding their latest news. In other cases your editor monitors relevant websites in order to keep ISCO members and readers of the ISCO Newsletter up-to-speed on what's happening in their own countries or regions. But it can be quite frustrating when, in some cases, the "latest" news can be up to two years out-of-date or can't be easily accessed. Members and readers are invited to help "fill the gaps" by forwarding interesting news to the editor.

The ISCO Newsletter is also particularly interested in receiving news from national associations – SCAA, UK Spill, SYCAPOL, NOSCA, SWEMARPOL, SRGH, AUSMEPA, CYMEPA, HELMEPA, TURMEPA, URUMEPA and others. If news from your association is not currently being reported in the ISCO Newsletter, please contact john.mcmurtrie@spillcontrol.org

PEOPLE IN THE NEWS

PEMSEA NETWORK OF LOCAL GOVERNMENTS NAMES NEW SECRETARY GENERAL



The PEMSEA Network of Local Governments for Sustainable Coastal Development (PNLG) has named Mr. Zeng Dongsheng as the new Secretary General of the PNLG Secretariat effective April 15, 2020. Mr. Dongsheng has long been engaged in publicity, culture, education, political and legal work in various government agencies in Xiamen.

Ms. Aimee Gonzales, PEMSEA Executive Director, thanked outgoing PNLG Secretary General Mr. Wang Chunsheng for "the leadership he has rendered to the secretariat over the past years. We are especially grateful for his steady leadership under the recently completed government restructuring." The PNLG has 50 regular members in 10 countries in the East Asian region. PEMSEA / [Read more](#)

USA: NEW COMMANDER AT HELM OF COAST GUARD 14TH DISTRICT

The Coast Guard 14th District held a change of command ceremony bidding farewell to Rear Adm. Kevin Lunday and welcoming Rear Adm. Matthew Sibley at Coast Guard Base Honolulu, Tuesday. Vice Adm. Linda L. Fagan, commander, Coast Guard Pacific Area presided over the ceremony.

Sibley is arriving from a tour as assistant commandant for capability, responsible for identifying and providing capabilities, competencies, and capacity along with developing standards for the staffing, training, equipping, sustaining, maintaining, and employing Coast Guard forces to meet mission requirements. United States Coast Guard / [Read more](#)



CASE HISTORY

USA: CHALLENGING HILO, HAWAII WRECK REMOVAL

The S/V MIDWAY ISLAND was a sailing / fishing vessel that became grounded at the base of a cliff in Hilo Bay near Waikaku, a community just north of the city of Hilo, HI. Global Diving & Salvage, Inc. was contracted by the US Coast Guard to respond. Sea Engineering, Inc., Global's Hawaii-based teaming partner, utilized Global's pre-staged defueling equipment and provided personnel

CASE HISTORY (CONTINUED)

to conduct defueling operations under Global's supervision. Between February 6th and 7th, 2020, 1,320 gallons of diesel, 35 gallons of lube/hydraulic oil, and 2 cubic yards of miscellaneous household hazardous waste and batteries were removed from the vessel.

Due to being hard against the cliff, the starboard side fuel tank was not completely accessible for defueling. The Coast Guard directed Global to develop a plan to recover the vessel from the shoreline and deliver it to a safe location for final pollution mitigation. Based on the damage to the vessel and her proximity to the main shipping channel, a recovery plan was devised to fill the vessel's internal compartments with expanding foam to eliminate the possibility of the vessel sinking.



Global's team had many challenges to overcome. The vessel was stranded in heavy surf at the bottom of a cliff requiring a helicopter to deliver personnel and equipment to the vessel. Trees overhanging the cliff needed to be trimmed to provide the helicopter with a safe approach. Rotting fish in the cargo hold presented the possibility of hydrogen sulfide (H₂S) exposure requiring air monitoring and appropriate PPE. The 2-part foam mixture generated heat when mixed, presenting the risk of fire if misapplied. This risk was mitigated through mixing appropriately sized batches of foam, and by monitoring core temperatures before laying additional layers of foam on top of other pours. In

addition, the threat of the COVID-19 outbreak was growing by the day.

When the vessel was filled with foam, the recovery plan was put into action and the S/V MIDWAY ISLAND was successfully towed off the shoreline and delivered to a dock at the Port of Hilo. There she was demobilized and transferred to the State of Hawaii for final disposition. *Thanks to SCAA for permission to reprint this interesting case history* <http://www.scaa-spill.org/>

WEBINARS & ONLINE TRAINING

This is a new section in your newsletter. We have often given you news about webinars before but, with many members in "lockdown" and continuing restrictions on travel, webinars are becoming increasingly popular as an alternative to attending traditional training courses and workshops. Send entries to john.mcmurtrie@spillcontrol.org

WEBINAR WEDNESDAYS: CRISIS COMMUNICATIONS AND MEDIA MANAGEMENT

This July, Navigate Response invites you to join our brand-new Wednesday Webinar series on maritime crisis communications.

Join us once a week at 1100 UTC for 20-minute bite-sized sessions covering the key aspects of communicating effectively in a crisis.

Aimed at maritime professionals who may be involved in managing a crisis within their organisation, we'll be covering some of the topics we're asked about most often, including:

- 01 July: **How to manage social media during an incident** with Tom Adams, Crisis Response Manager, Navigate Response
- 08 July: **The intricacies of responding to an incident in the USA** with Dustin Eno, COO & Crisis Response Manager, Navigate Response
- 15 July: **How to communicate with employees during difficult times** with Sean Fitzgerald, Managing Director, Witt O'Brien's
- 22 July: **How to build and maintain a strong brand** with Nicolle Bloomfield, Account Manager, Navigate PR
- 29 July: **The essential components of an effective crisis communications plan** with Dustin Eno and Tom Adams, Crisis Response Managers, Navigate Response

By the end of the series, you'll take away some key tips for how your organisation can improve its response to a crisis.

[More info and registration](#)

Can't attend all the sessions? No problem. Sign up and we'll send you a recording of any sessions you miss.

Have something you think we should cover? Drop us an email [here](#).

For more information about Navigate Response, visit www.navigateresponse.com

CLEAN EVENTS: CLEAN PACIFIC *ON DEMAND*

CLEAN PACIFIC On-Demand is an online portal you can access on your time, with curated and customized content specifically for those involved in spill prevention, response and remediation. All of the sessions included in the portal were originally planned for CLEAN PACIFIC 2020.

The online portal will be accessible starting on July 6th and will contain at least five sessions and panel discussions and our sponsor directory, which includes virtual business cards, company collateral, and general company information for each of our CLEAN PACIFIC On-Demand sponsors. Watch sessions and browse the sponsor directory on your time. You'll even be able to reach out to our speakers and sponsors directly with questions.

To register or view the sessions and panel discussions that will be available in the online portal, [click here](#).

Webinar: Preparedness & Response Considerations During the Coronavirus Pandemic

Wednesday, July 1, 2020 | 11:00 AM CDT | Cost: FREE | Sponsored by ISCO Corporate Member CTEH and The Response Group

Moderator: Stephen Pepper, Director, Crisis Management, Phillips 66

Speakers:

Response Site Health and Safety Considerations

Paul Hart, CIH, CSP, CTEH

Response and Exercise Programs in a Virtual World

Dustin White, Response Manager & Training Advisor, The Response Group

Managing Incident Investigations in the COVID Era

Matt Kuryla, Partner, Baker Botts

[Click here](#) to register for this free webinar. If you can't attend on July 1st, be sure to still register. You'll be able to view the webinar recording on-demand after.

CONTRIBUTED ARTICLE

DISPERSANT IMPACTS ON OIL DROPLETS AND GAS BUBBLE DURING A BLOWOUT

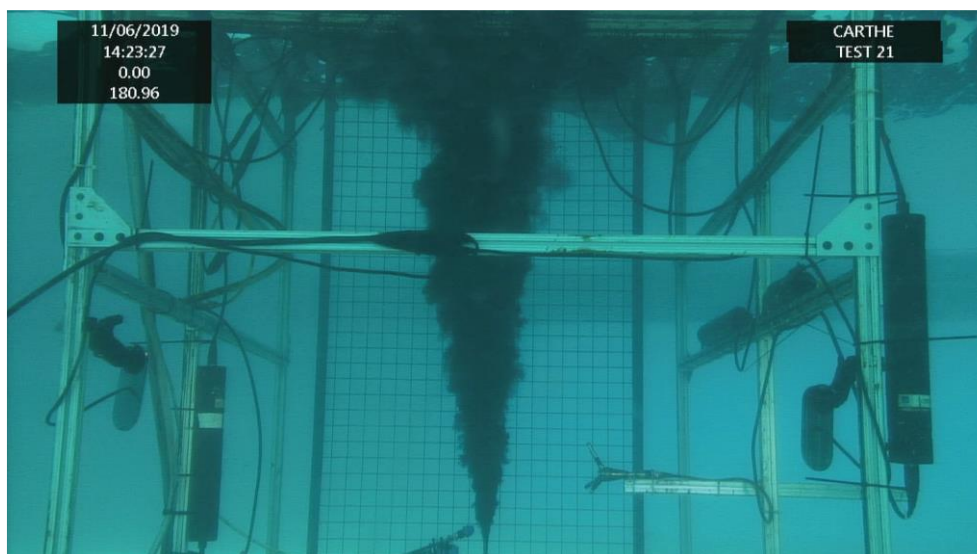


Photo: A simulated oil well blowout was created in the Ohmsett test tank to study oil droplet size distribution and gas bubble size distribution with and without dispersant.

In October 2019, the Boufadel group from the New Jersey Institute of Technology (NJIT) came to Ohmsett to conduct follow-on research to evaluate the oil droplet and gas bubble size distribution with and without dispersant during a simulated oil well blowout. They were joined by researchers from the University of Miami (the Ozgokmen group), and scientists from the Department of

Fisheries and Oceans Canada. The study was funded both by the Gulf of Mexico Research Initiative (GOMRI) and the Multipartner Research Initiative (MPRI) from Canada.

Previous studies conducted in 2018 at the facility used a vertical pipe with a diameter of 25 mm (one-inch) for underwater oil discharge, and the pipe apparatus with instrumentation was towed to allow the oil to move in a crossflow direction. This method poses a challenge in determining the full droplet size distribution of the plume.

CONTRIBUTED ARTICLE (CONTINUED)

During the current research, to create the underwater discharge of oil, the NJIT team used a fixed vertical pipe (no towing) with two different diameter nozzles where premixed oil and air were released from the pipe. For the test, 1000 gallons of Thunderhorse crude oil and 10 gallons of COREXIT 9500 dispersant were used. With the system stationary, the discharge was released and dispersant was applied to the discharge. “The droplet and bubble size were measured at 1.4-meter vertical distance from the orifice using shadowgraph camera and LISST-200X. Three Acoustic Doppler Velocimeters (ADV) and two fluorometers were placed at different locations in the water column to acquire velocity and dissolved oil concentration, respectively,” explained Cosan Daskiran, NJIT senior engineer and postdoctoral research associate.

According to Michel Boufadel, principal investigator for NJIT, the preliminary findings indicated the increase in the flow rate decreased the droplet size as the dispersant reduced the size of bubbles. “We believe a fraction of the dispersant was used up by the bubbles. The results will be also used to validate numerical simulations and models to allow prediction of oil droplets from various releases.”

Acknowledgement: The above article was first published in the Spring 2020 issue of the Ohmsett Gazette and is reprinted here with the kind permission of the Bureau of Safety and Environmental Enforcement (BSEE). Ohmsett, The National Oil Spill Response Research & Renewable Energy Test Facility will be exhibiting at Clean Waterways 2020, August 3-5, 2020 in Indianapolis, IN (Booth #314) and at Clean Gulf 2020, October 20-22, 2020 in San Antonio, TX (Booth #415). You are invited to call in by for more information on Ohmsett’s testing, training and research facilities. The Spring 2020 issue of the Ohmsett Gazette can be downloaded at <https://www.ohmsett.com/Gazette/Ohmsett%20Gazette%20Spring%202020.pdf>

NEWS FROM ISCO MEMBERS

OSRL LAUNCHES ACCREDITED REMOTE TRAINING OPTIONS FOR IMO AND OPEP MODEL COURSES

Drawing from our experience of delivering fully remote customised training, OSRL is pleased to announce that remote published training courses are now available to book on our website. Multiple time zone options for courses are available.

The need for oil spill response training continues despite the ongoing impact of the COVID-19 pandemic. We have been working hard to transform the most popular oil spill response training courses to remote courses, and the Nautical Institute now accredits most under the COVID endorsement, which lasts until 31st March 2021. [More info](#)

MPC COVID-19 (CORONAVIRUS) PREVENTION AND DECONTAMINATION

Marine Pollution Control is performing SARS-CoV-2 decontamination services following guidance published by the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). We have implemented best industry practices in responding to this unprecedented global pandemic. Our SARS-CoV-2 facility decontamination program is based around a customizable project template with written Standard Operating Guide and Health and Safety Protocol.

Scalable from single vehicle projects to industrial facilities. All workers are OSHA 1910.120 HAZWOPER-trained, OSHA General Industry - Bloodborne Pathogen Standard 1910.1030 and Infectious Disease-Trained. Workers are monitored daily by a COVID-19 Employee Wellness Program, enrolled in a written fit test program and medical surveillance program. [More info](#)

LAMOR – OWN OR RENT YOUR SPILL RESPONSE EQUIPMENT ?

If you deal with large amounts of oil, it is responsible to be prepared for possible oil spills and to have oil-spill response equipment on-site. But should your company rent or own the equipment? How do the options from Lamor compare? [More info](#)

CONTRACTS, TENDERS & BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

INTERNATIONAL OPEN TENDER NOTIFICATION SERVICE

This is a subscription service. [Have a look to see examples of open tenders.](#)

OTHER OPPORTUNITIES: USA & EUROPE

USA - Government solicitations are frequently posted in Technology Innovation News Survey and US EPA Tech Direct.

EUROPE – European Maritime Safety Agency invitations to tender are often posted in The EMSA Newsletter.

See “Links for other publications” for links to download current issues.

ISCO Members are welcome to post tender invitations in this section.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Event organisers are requested to notify ISCO immediately if a listed event is cancelled or postponed

Your Editor is doing his best to keep this listing up-to-date but it should not be assumed that listed events have not been cancelled or postponed. It is recommended that you check with event organisers before finalising your attendance plans.

If an event title is not printed in blue ink it is not hyperlinked to the event website. This may be because the website is not yet available or because the link for the website has not yet been sent to the Editor.

COUNTRY	2020	TITLE OF EVENT	LOCATION
For more information click on Title of Event			
USA	July 6 -	Clean Pacific Conference	Internet
USA	August 3-5	Clean Waterways Conference & Exhibition	Indianapolis, IN.
USA	August 17-20	Science of Chemical Releases (SOCR)	Seattle/Online TBA
ESTONIA	August 25-27	BALEX DELTA 2020 pollution response exercise	Talinn
USA	CANCELLED	HazMat Emergency Response Workshop	Sacramento, CA
USA	Sept. 8-11	Oil Spill Response Strategies & Tactics Training	Leonardo, NJ
AUSTRALIA	Sept. 15-17	Ecoforum Conference & Exhibition (Virtual)	Internet
ICELAND	Sept. 28-30	International Symposium on Plastics in the Arctic and Sub-Arctic Region	Reykjavik
MALTA	October 6-7	Regional Meeting of National Experts on the Post-2021 Mediterranean Strategy for Prevention of and Response to Marine Pollution from Ships	Valetta
UK	October 12-13	EI Hazardous Area Classification	London
UK	October 19-23	IMO Marine Environment Protection Committee	London
USA	October 20-22	Clean Gulf Conference & Exhibition	San Antonio, TX
CANADA	October 27-29	Arctic Shipping Forum North America	Montreal
MONACO	October 27-29	Regional Workshop to enhance Marine Oil and HNS regional cooperation in the Mediterranean (MEDEXPOL 2020)	Monaco
UK	November 2 -	Meetings of the IOPC Funds' governing bodies	London
NETHERLANDS	November 4-5	European Environmental Ports Conference 2020	Rotterdam
GREECE	POSTPONED	Posidonia 2020	Athens
UK	December 2-3	Salvage & Wreck Removal Conference	London
BAHREIN	December 7-8	EI Middle East HSE Forum	Bahrein
COUNTRY	2021	TITLE OF EVENT	LOCATION
USA	May 10-13	International Oil Spill Conference (IOSC 2021)	New Orleans, LA
MALTA	May 25-27	Fourteenth Meeting of the Focal Points of the Regional Marine Pollution Emergency Response Centre for the Mediterranean Sea (REMPEC)	Valetta
CANADA	June 8-10	43rd AMOP Technical Seminar on Environmental Contamination and Response	Edmonton, Alberta
USA	June 28-30	Clean Pacific Conference & Exhibition	Seattle, WA
COUNTRY	2022	TITLE OF EVENT	LOCATION
NETHERLANDS	Details TBA	Interspill Conference & Exhibition	Amsterdam

MESSAGES FROM EVENT ORGANISERS

USA: CLEAN GULF CONFERENCE & EXHIBITION

The [CLEAN GULF Conference & Exhibition](#) is different this year. And it's not because of the content offered; it's because we've all emerged from our health, economic and social crises different.

CLEAN GULF is one of the few in-person events happening this year, and while we're looking forward to getting together this Fall to celebrate our 30th anniversary, we know it will be different. We're working with the Henry B. Gonzalez Convention Center and our host hotels to ensure your health and safety. You can view the safety and hygiene protocols in place [here](#). We're also working to add a virtual component should you be unable to attend the in-person event.

MESSAGES FROM EVENT ORGANISERS (CONTINUED)

We're constantly considering how to best support this community and deliver a valuable event while following strict health and safety precautions. Though there is a lot of change and uncertainty, we know you see CLEAN GULF as your opportunity to build important relationships and share best practices. We know the road to recovery is far from over, but there's also never been a more important time to come together as a community.

This Fall in San Antonio, we hope CLEAN GULF will be your chance to see peers you've been missing and exchange stories and lessons-learned from battling coronavirus and adopting to this new normal. It will be a different way to celebrate 30 years than we originally planned, but this industry is resilient and has overcome many other obstacles and challenges throughout the years.

[REGISTER FOR CLEAN GULF](#)

Register now and plan to attend the face-to-face event in October! Should any health concerns or travel restrictions prevent you from attending, your registration will easily transfer to the virtual experience.

Exhibit and sponsorship sales are open for CLEAN GULF 2020! To secure your participation and celebrate 30 years with us, contact Anastasia Bisson at 530-363-3506 or abisson@accessintel.com

USA: CLEAN WATERWAYS CONFERENCE & EXHIBITION

We're continuing to plan for a face-to-face event, but we are adding virtual components for those who can't attend in person. Providing this community with a platform where they can attend or view sessions covering spill prevention and response in the inland environment and experience the latest solutions and technologies is our top priority, and we're dedicated to making CLEAN WATERWAYS 2020 as accessible as possible.

Attendees can [register today](#) and plan to attend the face-to-face event in August, and should any health concerns or travel restrictions prevent them from attending, their registration will easily transfer to the virtual experience, which will also feature expert-led sessions and a directory of all the exhibitors and sponsors.

LINKS FOR DOWNLOADING & READING OTHER PUBLICATIONS

ALGA Cronicle	News from Australasia on Contaminated Land Remediation	April 2020
AMSA Update	Latest News from the Australian Maritime Safety Authority	Current issue
ATRAC Newsletter	News from the Adriatic Training and Research Centre	December 2019
AUSMEPA Bulletin	News from the Australian Marine Environment Protection Assoc'n	Summer 2020
BIMCO Bulletin	Marine and shipping-related news from BIMCO	June 2020
Newsletter from George Holliday	News and commentary on HSE issues from George Holliday	On request email
Cedre Newsletter	News from Cedre in Brittany, France	May 2020
Clean Nigeria Associates Newsletter	News from CNA about Oil Spill Response in Nigeria	December 2018
EMSA Newsletter	News from the European Maritime Safety Agency	Current issue
Environmental Expert	Environmental News from Environmental Expert	Current issue
GEF Newsletter	Monthly Newsletter from the Global Environment Facility	December 2019
GESAMP	Group of Experts on the Scientific Aspects of Marine Environmental Protection	Latest news
GISEA Quarterly Newsletter	News from Global Initiative for South-East Asia	Q1 2020
IMO News Magazine	News from the International Maritime Organization	Summer 2020
IMO Publishing Newsletter	New and forthcoming IMO publications	June 2020
ITOPF Ocean Orbit	News magazine from ITOPF with interesting spill response articles	October 2019
JOIFF "The Catalyst"	Int'l Organisation for Industrial Hazard Management	Q2 2020 issue
Maritime Executive Magazine	Often contains articles of interest to the spill response community	Jan.-Feb. 2019
MEDNEWS	News from UNEP Mediterranean Action Programme	01 / 2020
MOIG Newsletter	News from the Mediterranean Oil Industry Group	January 2020
NCEC Newsletter	News from the National Chemical Emergency Centre	March 2020
Nautical Institute News	News from the Nautical Institute	Jan.-Feb. 2020
Navigate Response	Global crisis communications network for shipping & marine	June 2020
NOAA OR&R	Weekly round-up of news from NOAA's Office of Response & Restoration	Latest issue
Oceanbuzz	Newsletter giving news on the Ocean Technology Industry	Current issue
OCIMF Newsletter	News from the Oil Companies International Marine Forum	May 2020
OHMSETT Gazette	Oil Spill Response Research & Renewable Energy Test Facility Quarterly	Spring 2020
OSPAR Newsletter	Protecting & Conserving the N.E. Atlantic and its resources	End of year 2019
PEMSEA Newsletter	Healthy oceans, people and economies in the East Asian Seas	September, 2019
Pollution Online Newsletter	News for pollution prevention & control professionals	Current issue
Safe Seas, Clean Seas	Quarterly Newsletter from Maritime New Zealand	July 2018 issue
Salvage World	Quarterly Newsletter of the International Salvage Union	Current issue

LINKS FOR DOWNLOADING & READING OTHER PUBLICATIONS (CONTINUED)

[Sea Alarm Foundation Newsletter](#)
[Technology Innovation News Survey](#)
[USA EPA Tech Direct](#)
[WestMOPoCo](#)

Oiled wildlife Preparedness and Response news from Sea Alarm
News from US EPA – Contaminated Site Decontamination
Remediation of contaminated soil and groundwater
Western Mediterranean Region Marine Oil & HNS Pollution Cooperation

Current issue
May 1-15, 2020
June 1, 2020
January 2020

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

INCIDENT REPORTS

Editor – Very few spill reports in the press recently – probably not because there's only a few spills – but because the news media is focused on the Coronavirus Pandemic. Currently I depend on readers who send me reports and on Mikhail Voytenko of the Maritime Bulletin. He regularly advises on vessel abandonments, groundings and sinkings – several every week – but, unless there is an immediate release of oil or chemicals, spillages are not reported in the Maritime Bulletin. However, some of his reports cover incidents that are likely to result in significant pollution by oil or chemicals.

USA: WHITMER: LINE 5 SHUT DOWN AFTER 'SIGNIFICANT DAMAGE' TO ANCHOR SUPPORT

June 19 - Michigan Gov. Gretchen Whitmer revealed Friday that Enbridge had shut down Line 5 in the Straits of Mackinac after an anchor support sustained "significant damage" from an "unknown" cause. In a letter to Enbridge CEO Al Monaco, Whitmer detailed the situation, saying Enbridge informed the state of the damage to the anchor support on Thursday night. Whitmer's office released the letter Friday evening.

Enbridge spokesman Ryan Duffy said as part of seasonal maintenance work, the company discovered a screw anchor support had shifted from its original position. "This is an issue affecting that anchor support and not the pipeline itself," Duffy said. "We immediately shut down the Line as a precaution and are inspecting the area with divers and the entire pipeline with remotely operated vehicles," he added. The Detroit News / [Read more](#)

June 19 - Enbridge reports 'significant damage' on Line 5 pipeline to state Gov. Gretchen Whitmer is asking Enbridge to shut down the second leg of Line 5 after the company reported the [pipeline suffered "significant damage"](#) to an anchor support. Enbridge shut down both legs of the oil and natural gas pipeline that runs through the Straits of Mackinac after maintenance workers discovered the damage Thursday. But the company resumed operation of the west leg Saturday afternoon after determining it was not damaged. "Given the gravity of this matter, I was taken aback to learn the company has unilaterally resumed operation of the west leg without even opportunity for discussion," Whitmer wrote Saturday.

"At this moment, Enbridge is pumping crude through the Great Lakes on state-owned bottomlands without any explanation for the cause of this damage to the pipeline structure and no assurance that Enbridge has taken sufficient steps to mitigate future harm." MLive / [Read more](#)

June 21 - Enbridge rebuffs Whitmer, won't close Line 5 after damage to anchor support. The company indicated in a statement, also released Saturday, it did not plan to shut down the second leg as the damaged leg is reviewed. "Our federal regulator, (the Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration), has no objections to this plan," wrote spokesperson Ryan Duffy. In a letter to Whitmer sent Saturday, Enbridge CEO Al Monaco said the company is assessing damage to the pipelines by deploying divers and using a remote-operated vehicle. Whitmer asked that the company provide engineering reports, photographs, video and other evidence of the damage to the state by Monday and said the "incident leaves many unanswered questions as to the cause of this damage." Bridge / [Read more](#)

June 25 - Michigan judge orders temporary Enbridge Line 5 shutdown. Enbridge Energy must temporarily cease operations of the Line 5 pipeline beneath the Straits of Mackinac, an Ingham County judge ruled Thursday. Bridge / [Read more](#) [Thanks to Marc K. Shaye, Hon.FISCO for forwarding the above reports]

UK: SUNKEN BOAT LEAKS FUEL INTO GLASSON DOCK MARINA IN LANCASTER

June 23 - Sunken boat leaks fuel into Glasson Dock Marina in Lancaster. Crews are working alongside multi-agency partners to mitigate the environmental impact of the incident. A 150m boom was deployed around the vessel at around 12.30pm to assist in containing the spill. Lancaster Guardian / [Read more](#)

USA: HAWAII - 21 CONTAINERS LOST OVERBOARD FROM CONTAINER BARGE

June 23 - Some 21 containers were lost overboard from barge HO OMAKA HOU, towed by tug HOKU LOA from Honolulu to Hilo, Hawaii, some 8 miles north of Hilo, early in the morning Jun 22 local time, when caravan was approaching Hilo. The crew understood to notice missing and collapsed containers on arrival, weather seems to be good, so probably, stacks collapse is the cause of loss. 9 containers have been reportedly located, 12 remain missing. The Maritime Bulletin / [Read more](#)



June 24 - Salvors Work to Locate and Retrieve Overboard Containers Off Hilo.

The U.S. Coast Guard is continuing to oversee the response to shipping containers lost overboard from a Hawaiian inter-island barge in Hilo Harbor on Monday. A Cates Marine salvage team was hired by the shipping company, Young Brothers, to continue to search for and locate missing containers. As of Tuesday, twelve containers of the 21 lost overboard remain unaccounted for. Two containers have been successfully towed and secured in Hilo Harbor. Another two containers are located and marked. These four containers retrieved or marked were part of cluster of nine containers located about 8 miles north Hilo. gCaptain / [Read more](#)

UK: BERKSHIRE - CHEMICAL SPILL IN EMM BROOK RIVER

June 24 - A post on Dinton Pastures Country Park's Facebook page said: "The Environment Agency have reported that there was 8000 litres of Nutriox discharged to ground about 1.5 miles up stream of the Emm Brook at Dinton. "The chemical source has been identified and discharge ceased." It continued: "The chemical is dangerous to eyes and harmful if swallowed.

Reading Chronicle / [Read more](#)

SINGAPORE STRAIT: TUG MULTI SAHABAT 8 SANK IN ROUGH SEAS

June 25 - Tug MULTI SAHABAT 8 sank in Singapore Strait in the afternoon Jun 25, reportedly being unable to keep against high swell. Of 5 crew on board, 4 were rescued, and 1, skipper, went missing. SAR was suspended on Jun 26, skipper wasn't found.

Maritime Bulletin / [Read more](#)

AUSTRALIA: SHIP NAVIOS UNITE LOSES THREE CONTAINERS OFF CAPE LEEUWIN

June 26 - The Australian Maritime Safety Authority (AMSA) is responding to an incident involving the loss of about three shipping containers from the Liberian-flagged container ship, Navios Unite. The ship reported losing the containers overboard in rough weather about 33km south west of Cape Leeuwin in Western Australia at 8pm AWST last night (25 June 2020). AMSA is gathering information about the incident and will determine its course of action once the circumstances are understood. AMSA / [Read more](#)

SRI LANKA: SUEZMAX TANKER ALERT, INDIAN OCEAN

June 28 - Distress signal was received from Suezmax tanker MARAN HERMES at 1130 UTC Jun 27, in 00 20N 084 41E, Indian ocean SE of Sri Lanka. Tanker began to reduce speed at around 0930 UTC, reduced speed to some 7-8 knots, resumed cruising speed at around 1300 UTC. She's en route from Brazil to Singapore, ETA Jul 1. As of 0700 UTC Jun 28, was steaming at full speed, increased to 14+ knots from her previous 12-13 knots, towards Malacca Strait. The Maritime Bulletin / [Read more](#)

AND NOW FOR A DASH OF HUMOUR ...

The probability that one will spill food on one's clothes is directly proportional to the need to be clean. (Law of Campbell Scoop)

After discarding something not used for years, you will need it one week later. (Law of Fatal Irreversibility)

A door will snap shut only when you have left the keys inside. (Yale Law of Destiny)

When one's hands are covered with oil, grease, or glue, your nose will start to itch. (Law of Ichiban)

Do not take life too seriously, because in the end, you won't come out alive anyway. (Theory of Absolute Certainty)

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