



ISCO NEWSLETTER

The Newsletter of the International Spill Response Community

Issue 192 10th August, 2009

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USA: 2009 CLEAN PACIFIC CONFERENCE AND EXHIBITION.

Many ISCO members will be attending Clean Pacific as delegates, exhibitors, conference speakers, and panellists. Other members of ISCO and readers of the ISCO Newsletter are encouraged to attend and we're pleased to be able to announce that individual members of ISCO will qualify for a special \$50 reduction on the standard fee for Conference Registration

With 100+ exhibitors, more than 65 speakers and over 25 conference sessions, panel discussions and workshops, Clean Pacific promises to be the region's leading emergency planning and response event for operators, responders and regulators.

Dick Pedersen, the Oregon Task Force Member, will chair the opening session. After introductions of all Pacific States/British Columbia Oil Spill Task Force Members, Jessica Hamilton, Natural Resource Policy Advisor for Governor Ted Kulongoski, will welcome participants to Oregon. U.S. Coast Guard VADM (Select) Jody Breckenridge will give the Keynote Address. The Pacific States/ British Columbia Oil Spill Task Force Executive Coordinator, Jean Cameron, will honor the Task Force's 20th anniversary with a review of accomplishments as well as future goals. She and Dick Pedersen will then present the Task Force's 2009 Legacy Awards. Legacy Awards are given to industry, non-profit or public agency organizations and individuals, or for team efforts that demonstrate innovation, management commitment, and improvements in oil spill prevention, preparedness, or response. The 1999-2008 Legacy Award Honor Roll will also be reviewed in honor of the Oil Spill Task Force's 20th Anniversary.

For more information and registration please go to <http://www.cleanpacific.org>

Individual members of ISCO who wish to take advantage of the discounted conference registration should call Barbara Blair (712-343-1876) or Jill Dean (713-343-1880) to register with the \$50 discount off the registration price.

ISCO: NEW MATERIAL ON MARINE HNS INCIDENT RESPONSE UPLOADED ON WEBSITE

Description of technique used to recover Freon 12 (an environmentally damaging CFC) from a vessel grounded on a rocky shoreline.

ISCO members who have registered at <http://www.spillcontrol.org> and had their access to the Members' Area enabled (usually done within 24 hours of registration) can access new information on HNS incident response. Simply log in and go to IMO>Work Groups>HNS Incidents

HAZMAT / CBRNE RESPONDERS ANNUAL CONFERENCE



This year's Hazmat / CBRNE Conference takes place on 13-14 October 2009 at the Hilton London Stansted Airport Hotel, United Kingdom.

Aimed at the practitioner, the conference will enhance your knowledge and abilities in hazard planning, decision making and response when faced with complex incident management situations found with HAZMAT and CBRN incidents.

HazMat 2009 will also provide insight into current thinking and emerging technologies related to HAZMAT/CBRN response.

The new venue at the Hilton London Stansted allows for easy travel for both national and international delegates and speakers, and offers a top-class, international venue for this leading industry event.

On the afternoon before the conference, there will be an FTIR / Raman technology workshop. This will be free for all attending the conference however, places will be limited. Attendees should register via the conference website below.

Attendance at Hazmat 2009 is recommended for Fire & Rescue Services, Police Forces, Emergency Medical Services, Environmental Agencies, Local authorities, People with Civil Contingency responsibilities, Military, Private Industry responders, Spill response organisations and any responder that may become involved in a hazmat or CBRN incident.

For more information and registration, click on <http://www.hazmatconference.com/>

USA: EPA ANNOUNCES \$55 MILLION FOR CONTAMINATED LAND CLEAN UP AND LOCAL JOB CREATION

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Administrator Lisa P. Jackson announced on August 4 that \$55 million in supplemental funding is being awarded for cleanup efforts at contaminated sites known as brownfields. The funds provide revolving loans and subgrants to help communities carry out cleanup activities, redevelopment projects, and create jobs for people living near brownfields sites. Of the \$55 million grant, \$42 million is funded through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 and \$13 million is funded through the EPA Brownfields funding program.

"These recovery act investments will help our communities create good jobs for local workers, and clean up development sites for even more long-term economic opportunities," said EPA Administrator Lisa P. Jackson. "By protecting human health and the environment, we're building a new foundation for prosperity. EPA is providing solutions in these challenging economic times, and making clear that we don't have to choose between a growing economy and a green environment." Read the complete report at <http://yosemite.epa.gov/opa/admpress.nsf/d985312f6895893b852574ac005f1e40/7efc746c082b03598525760800716063!OpenDocument>

UK: ENVIRONMENT AGENCY CRACKS DOWN ON ORGANISED CRIME IN WASTE INDUSTRY

According to a report in the Times Newspaper, investigations by the Environment Agency have found that gangs are illegally dumping, burying and burning commercial rubbish and setting up waste businesses as a legitimate front for illegal activities, including drug trafficking.

The agency is examining 36 waste businesses across Britain and intends to confiscate £25 million of criminal proceeds. It has discovered that most of the businesses are being run by known criminals whose previous convictions include drug trafficking, fraud, possession of firearms, rape, grievous bodily harm and threats to kill.

Like the Mafia did in New York and the Camorra did in Naples, British criminals regard controlling the waste industry as a way to generate income and launder money. They are setting up bogus companies and running them in a seemingly professional manner, with business cards, logos and legitimate-sounding answering machine messages. They are undercutting legitimate waste companies on price, especially in the high-cost area of disposing of hazardous materials such as asbestos and engine oil.

Read more at: <http://www.timesonline.co.uk/tol/news/environment/article6740662.ece>

CANADA, CALGARY: LANDOWNERS, CRITICS PUSH FOR QUICKER CLEANUP AT OIL AND GAS SITES



Alberta Environment reports that reclamation certification --supposed to be completed after wells are abandoned to show the land has been restored to a more natural state -- is progressing at a much slower rate than abandonment. "This is resulting in a buildup of uncertified wells," says a recent department report on the state of the environment. The report said there were more than 45,000 uncertified abandoned wells at the end of 2008, compared to less than 25,000 uncertified wells in 2001. Of the 45,000 wells that have not yet been cleaned

up, 11,505 were abandoned between 1963 and 1998. And according to the most recent numbers available from the Energy Resources Conservation Board, Alberta's energy regulator, there are also about 10,000 wells that have been inactive for more than 10 years.

Read more: <http://www.calgaryherald.com/technology/Fight+brewing+over+dormant+wells/1830205/story.html>
[Thanks to Don Johnston of DG & Hazmat Group for relaying this story]

UK: THOSE WHO EXPORT AND DUMP HAZARDOUS WASTES AS A CHEAP DISPOSAL ROUTE WILL BE PROSECUTED

With the "fallout" and legal recriminations still in the air in the wake of the "Probo Koala" affair, when poisonous waste was dumped in the Ivory Coast, you might be forgiven for thinking companies might be a little more wary about what they send, and where.

However, that hasn't stopped someone from transporting hundreds of tonnes of hazardous waste to Brazil. The waste, found in about 90 shipping containers, included syringes, condoms and bags of blood. Not unsurprisingly, Brazil has demanded that the waste be sent back to Britain.

The anger and furore caused by the waste in Brazil, has prompted the UK Environment Agency to remind companies and individuals responsible that they could face prosecution. The Environment Agency's Liz Parks says British courts take the dumping of hazardous waste very seriously.

"We've got the powers that we can take action," she said. "We do prosecute people. We've had a number of successful prosecutions in recent years, and prison sentences can be imposed. The UK courts do take this kind of activity very, very seriously."

With acknowledgement to Shiptalk Newsletter: <http://www.shiptalk.com/newsletter.html#slow>

FRANCE: PIPELINE LEAK CAUSES OIL SPILL IN SOUTHERN FRANCE

French emergency units were dispatched Friday to contain an oil spill from a pipeline in farm fields west of the southeastern city of Marseille, officials said.

Some 3,000 cubic metres of oil spilled over two hectares (five acres) of agricultural land near Saint-Martin-de-Crau but officials said the area was far from residential areas and water sources.

Environment Minister Chantal Jouanno travelled to the site to see the damage and an investigation was opened to determine the causes of the leak.

The pipeline is managed by the South European Pipeline (SPSE) operator, which supplies crude to plants from Fos in southern France to Karlsruhe in Germany.

Read more: <http://www.terradaily.com/2007/090807162117.eip93p1v.html>

HOMELAND DEFENCE: USEFUL LINKS FOR PROFESSIONALS INVOLVED WITH PUBLIC HEALTH, MEDICAL AND EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT ISSUES

We are indebted to Gregory T Banner, MS, CEM, Regional Emergency Coordinator, Region I (New England) US Department of Health and Human Services, for the provision of the following links –

Chemical Response, "Manual for the Public Health Management of Chemical Incidents." World Health Organization. 2009.

http://whqlibdoc.who.int/publications/2009/9789241598149_eng.pdf

Full compendium of web links for medical and emergency management web sites: http://www.ynhhs.org/emergency/US_DHHS_web_sites.pdf

CHANNEL ISLANDS: GUERNSEY OIL SPILL RESPONSE EXERCISE

An exercise three miles south-east of the island on 5th August tested what would happen in a worst-case scenario.

In it, 200 tons of oil was 'spilt' into the sea following a collision between a passenger ferry and tanker.

The programme was designed and run by Oil Spill Response, an international company contracted by the States to provide resources and help to the island should it have to manage a major oil spill. <http://www.thisisguernsey.com/2009/08/06/slick-response-to-oil-spill-exercise/>

CORRECTION: DATE AND VENUE OF NEXT ASTM COMMITTEE F20 MEETING

Jeff Adkins, ASTM Manager for Committee F20, has written in to correct an error that appeared in last week's ISCO Newsletter. The editor of the Newsletter apologises for the mistake.

Jeff advised as follows - "The meeting you listed is in error. F20 will not be meeting in Miami this fall, rather their meeting will be in Atlanta, October 20th and 21st, 2009. The remaining information about F20 is correct."

TECHNOLOGY: WI ENVIRONMENTAL RELEASES NEW ENVIRONMENTAL TECHNOLOGY TO REMEDIATE HEAVY METAL CONTAMINATION

WI Environmental LLC., a company dedicated to the treatment of heavy metal contaminants, announces it has a product to actualize the clean up of Puget Sound as well as assist worldwide in the remediation of contaminated soil, water and air. WI Environmental has created a trademarked product to solve the world's problems with heavy metal contamination. The signature product- XR-88(TM) encapsulates and renders benign a multitude of toxic heavy metals and poisons including arsenic, lead, nickel, chromium and chromium hexavalent 6. More: <http://www.pollutiononline.com/article.mvc/WI-Environmental-Releases-New-Environmental-0001>

Legal disclaimer: Whilst ISCO takes every care to ensure that information published in this Newsletter is accurate, unintentional mistakes can occur. If an error is brought to our attention, a correction will be printed in the next issue of this Newsletter.