



## ISCO NEWSLETTER

*The Newsletter of the International Spill Response Community*  
Issue 285, 25 May 2011

[info@spillcontrol.org](mailto:info@spillcontrol.org)

<http://www.spillcontrol.org>

**COME AND VISIT  
ISCO AT IOSC 2011  
BOOTH No 242**

**INTERNATIONAL DIRECTORY  
Spill Response Supplies and  
Services**

Use our directory to find the company you need. It's the quick and easy way to contact the key suppliers in the industry. Click on the links below.

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Clicking on any entry will display the advertiser's website.

### Reach your Market

Advertising in the International Directory is FREE for ISCO Corporate Members. For non-members one advert is just GBP 500 per annum. Entries should be submitted in JPG format, size approx. 490 x 120 pixels.

Contact [info@spillcontrol.org](mailto:info@spillcontrol.org) for more information.

**HAVE THIS NEWSLETTER  
DELIVERED DIRECTLY  
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### BECOME A MEMBER OF ISCO

ISCO aims to raise worldwide preparedness and co-operation in response to oil and chemical spills, to promote technical development and professional competency, and to provide a focus for making the knowledge and experience of spill control professionals available to IMO, UNEP, EC and other organisations.

## WOW II WRECKS OF THE WORLD II



*Evaluating & Addressing Potential Underwater Threats  
Washington DC – June 6-7, 2011*

**A SPECIAL EDITION OF THE ISCO NEWSLETTER  
INTRODUCING PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIP**

### PROFESSIONAL RECOGNITION FOR INDIVIDUALS IN OIL AND CHEMICAL SPILL RESPONSE

The International Spill Control Organisation (ISCO) is today pleased to announce the launch of new 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".

Students, apprentices and trainees can join ISCO as student members and pursue a career development path that, as qualifications and experience are gained, can lead to eligibility for Associate Membership (AMISCO), Membership (MISCO) and, eventually, Fellowship (FISCO).

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. Academic qualifications are not a requirement if applicants can demonstrate the necessary levels of competence through their experience, skills and professional development.

The key word is "professional" when applied to men and women who are making a success in their careers and have the necessary levels of knowledge and expertise. Professional recognition is a visible mark of quality, competence and commitment, and can offer a significant advantage in today's competitive environment.

ISCO is a not-for-profit organisation with members in 37 countries and holds consultative status at IMO. Established in 1984, ISCO's mission is to raise worldwide preparedness and co-operation in response to oil and chemical spills, to promote technical development and professional competency, and to provide a focus for making the knowledge and experience of spill control professionals available to IMO, UNEP and other organizations.

## BACKGROUND TO THE INTRODUCTION OF PROFESSIONAL RECOGNITION

This is a matter that has been deliberated on for many months by a small working group – David Usher, Simon Rickaby, John McMurtrie and Michael Stacey – and discussed in detail at two specially convened meetings.

When the concept was first introduced by Simon Rickaby there were concerns that the implementing of the idea might have an adverse effect on the good standing of ISCO and that awards of Professional Recognitions might not command a proper respect.

A great deal of care has been taken to ensure that this will most certainly not be the case. The procedure for evaluating the suitability of candidates is rigorous as can be seen from the requirements detailed in the Application Form and, as a further safeguard, the Membership Standards Committee will arrange for the conduct of peer interviews in any case where there is doubt concerning the suitability of any candidate for the award being applied for.

What we are offering is Professional Recognition in a profession that traditionally has not required high academic attainment but rather intuition, experience and skills only found by being on the job rather than only from a class room. ISCO has decided to do something about it for the thousands of spill response professionals globally active who until now have not had the opportunity to show their skills and professionalism in a comparable light to lawyers, accountants and engineers.

Professional Recognition is being introduced only after extended discussions within the Executive Committee and consultation with the ISCO Council. For your further information, here is an extract from the letter introducing the initiative to Members of ISCO Council:

### **INTRODUCTION OF PROFESSIONAL RECOGNITION**

*Summary of Proposal made by Simon Rickaby*

- 1. With his background as Past President of the Institute of Marine Engineering, Science and Technology (IMarEST) Simon sees a significant opportunity for ISCO.*
  - 2. ISCO has redefined itself as an organisation for those (companies and individuals) that have a professional interest in spill control. One thing that does not at present exist for professionals in the industry is a means of obtaining any formal recognition. IMarEST does provide this for its many thousands of members and it would not be difficult for ISCO to do this. Simon believes there are very large numbers of professionals in the industry who would value an opportunity to gain a formal qualification and become an Associate Member (AMISCO), Member (MISCO) or Fellow (FISCO) of the International Spill Control Organisation.*
  - 3. This rings a bell with a long felt belief that people working in the industry should have pride in their chosen profession and be recognised as professionals.*
  - 4. In practice, the adoption of Simon's suggestion is something that ISCO can embark on without incurring major costs, and once underway, will be self-sustaining and make a contribution to ISCO funding.*
  - 5. The mechanisms will generally follow those used by IMarEST.*
- A candidate wishing to gain a formal qualification would make application to ISCO, submitting his CV and supplementary information on his qualifications and experience. Note that a university degree or other formal qualifications would not be a requirement (but could be taken into consideration). The work experience of candidates would be a primary factor.*
  - Candidates would also have to provide details of a referee who would be a person of recognised standing acceptable to the Membership Standards Committee.*
  - Where appropriate, ISCO will arrange for a professional interview of the candidate to be carried out by two trusted referees, preferably resident in the country or region where the candidate lives. Some interviews might be carried out at conference events being attended by relevant parties. Another option will be to conduct interviews by Skype conference video link over the internet.*

- *The documentation provided by the candidate and a short report from the interviewers will be submitted to the Membership Standards Committee, (to ensure professional standards are maintained), This committee will determine level of professional recognition – Associate, Associate Member, Member or Fellow. Note that this committee will be able to reach its decisions using email communications.*
  - *A one-time-only Assessment Fee will be payable in advance before an application can be considered by the Membership Standards Committee.*
  - *Appropriate certificates will be prepared and issued to successful candidates on payment in advance of an annual fee to be determined.*
  - *Students / apprentices / trainees will start as Student Members. Those with more experience may be recognised as Associate Members, Members or Fellows. The Grade of Fellow will only be available to candidates who have very substantial experience acquired over many years together with a position or level of recognised and significant authority.*
  - *Professional awards given by ISCO will be announced in the ISCO Newsletter.*
  - *The existing list of Members in the members' area of the ISCO website will be modified to reflect awards of professional status.*
6. *It will thus be possible for Student or Associate Members to progress over time to becoming full Members and eventually Fellows, so setting in place ongoing professional development of individuals, and in turn the industry will benefit. This development can be accommodated within ISCO's existing structure. Corporate Members will continue to be Corporate Members and Associate Members will be reclassified as Industry Partners. Existing Individual Members may remain as such or may apply for professional membership and be assessed for the level they wish to apply for. Honorary Members would become Fellows. Existing individual members will be encouraged to apply to be regraded as a Student Member, Associate Member, Member or Fellow as appropriate.*

*After extended discussions the Executive Committee made a recommendation that the proposal made by Simon Rickaby be adopted and that the new classes of professional membership be launched at the AGM at IOSC in May, 2011.*

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## **UPDATING OF THE ISCO WEBSITE TO REFLECT THIS DEVELOPMENT**

Work has begun but it will be a week or two before all of the information about the new initiative will become available on the website.

It will soon be possible to download the Professional Membership Application Form from the website but, in the meantime, you can make use of the form published in this special edition of the ISCO Newsletter or, if you are attending IOSC, you can pick up a form at the ISCO booth – No. 242)

Completed forms should be sent to the Secretary by email to [john.mcmurtrie@spillcontrol.org](mailto:john.mcmurtrie@spillcontrol.org)

or by post to ISCO Secretariat, Balbithan House, Kintore, Inverurie, Aberdeenshire, AB51 0UQ, UK

Please be sure to include ALL of the required documentation.

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## **REVISIONS TO CLASSES OF ISCO MEMBERSHIP**

The introduction of Professional Memberships has made it necessary to revise the existing classes of membership. Details are given on the next page.

Changes will not affect Corporate Members.

Existing "Members" (individuals) will become "Individual Members" but may, if they wish, apply for Professional Recognition.

Existing "Honorary Members" will become "Honorary Fellows"

Existing "Associate Members" will be reclassified as "Industry Partners".

These changes will be phased in over coming weeks. Replacement Membership Certificates for existing members will be available on request. New Membership Certificates issued after 25 May, 2011 will reflect the new Classes of ISCO Membership.

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<b>CLASSES OF ISCO MEMBERSHIP</b>	
<b>Membership Class</b>	<b>Notes</b>
<b>Award at the Discretion of ISCO Council</b>	
<b>HONORARY FELLOW</b>	Only awarded at the Discretion of the ISCO Council to those persons who have had a very significant role in advancing the interests of the Spill Response Community. Entitled to use the letters Hon.FISCO after their names as recognition of achievement. Non Fee paying
<b>Classes of Professional Membership for Individuals</b>	
<b>FELLOW</b>	Awarded to those individuals who are senior managers / persons with significant professional and /or academic attainment. Entitled to use the letters FISCO after their names to indicate achievement of professional recognition. Fee paying except where Membership Committee recommends award of an Honorary Fellowship.
<b>MEMBER</b>	Category of professional membership for experienced individuals who have met required qualification criteria, likely to be at an experienced supervisory level or above. Entitled to use the letters MISCO after their names to indicate achievement of professional recognition at this level. Fee paying.
<b>ASSOCIATE MEMBER</b>	Class of individual membership for experienced individuals have met required qualification criteria. Candidates are likely to be professionals involved in the spill response community as experienced operators, charge hands, etc., interested in following a career within the spill response community. Entitled to use the letters AMISCO after their names to indicate achievement of professional recognition at this level. Fee paying.
<b>STUDENT MEMBER</b>	Class of membership for apprentices, students, trainees <u>as first step</u> in their career development process. Fee paying.
<b>Class of Membership for Individuals who are not Professional Members</b>	
<b>INDIVIDUAL MEMBER</b>	This class of membership is available to individuals who support the aims of ISCO and wish to receive the weekly ISCO Newsletter but do not wish to have or to seek Professional Membership. Fee paying.
<b>Classes of Membership for Companies and Organisations with involvement in Spill Response</b>	
<b>CORPORATE MEMBER</b>	This class of membership is open to companies involved in the infrastructure of Spill Response – for example, Manufacturers of equipment and materials, Response Contractors, Consultancies, Training Providers, etc. Fee paying.
<b>INDUSTRY PARTNER</b>	Class of membership available to international, regional and national organisations, universities and other academic institutions, governmental departments and agencies, research establishments and other entities including companies who have only a peripheral interest in spill control. Fee paying except where ISCO and the proposed Industry Partner both agree to formalising a relationship that is beneficial to both parties.



For Office Use Only	
<b>Class of Membership:</b>	<b>Membership Number:</b>

## APPLICATION FORM FOR ELECTION TO PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIP OF ISCO

Please complete and return to –  
ISCO Secretariat, Balbithan House, Kintore,  
Aberdeenshire, AB51 0UQ UK

### 1. PERSONAL DETAILS

Designation (Mr/Mrs/Miss/Dr/Prof/etc)	
First Name/s	
Last Name	
Current Position	
Address for Correspondence Home/Work (delete not applicable)	
Zip or Post Code	
Country	
Telephone No (including country code)	
Mobile Phone No (including country code)	
Fax No (including country code)	
Email Address	
Web Site	

Please tick box to indicate class of membership for which you are applying.

STUDENT MEMBER\*     ASSOCIATE MEMBER     MEMBER     FELLOW

Please note that the Membership Committee will make a determination on the level of Professional Membership appropriate to your qualifications and experience. At a later stage you may apply for an upgrade to a higher level of membership.

\* Note that Student Membership is for students, apprentices, and trainees as a first step in their career development.

Data Protection Act (1998) – I understand that ISCO will hold and use my personal data for administration purposes, to keep me informed of activities and to offer me goods and services provided by, or on behalf of the Organisation, including the delivery of the ISCO Newsletter.





## 6. DECLARATION

I hereby confirm that the statements made in this application are, to the best of my knowledge and belief, correct.  
I agree to abide by ISCO's Code of Professional Conduct (please see ISCO website for details), to maintain my Continuing Professional Development and to uphold the values and principles of ISCO.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## 7. MEMBERSHIP AND PAYMENT DETAILS (2011)

Assessment Fee	Student Member	Associate Member	Member	Fellow
Once only payment	Free	Free	£60 / US\$100 / €70	£60 / US\$100 / €70
Annual Subscription		Associate	Member	Fellow
Annual payment *	£30 / US\$50 / €35	£75 / US\$120 / €85	£125 / US\$200 / €145	£150 / US\$240 / €175

\* Annual subscriptions will be discounted by 5% if member pays by Direct Debit or Bank Standing Order. Upon request a Direct Debit form or Bank Standing Order Mandate will be sent to you for completion and submission to your bank.

Rates are correct at time of printing. To check current rates, please visit the ISCO website.

Alternatively, tick box to indicate that you are happy for a price increase to be applied to your application

## 8. ACCESS TO RESTRICTED "MEMBERS ONLY" AREA OF THE ISCO WEBSITE

Members in good standing (subscription up-to-date) will be allocated a user name and password for access to the Members Only area.

You may choose your own username and password by indicating your preferences below. Note that user name and password are case sensitive.

Preferred User name	Preferred Password

## 9. ISCO NEWSLETTER

All members in good standing are entitled to receive the weekly ISCO Newsletter at no cost. Please be sure to advise any change in your email address.

## 10. REMINDER

Before submitting this form, please double check that all sections have been completed and that all required documents are attached.

Note that your application will not be considered by the Membership Standards Committee until the Assessment Fee has been received.

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