ISCO NEWSLETTER

The Newsletter of the International Spill Response Community

Issue 288, 13 June 2011

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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.

Application Form

News

OIL INDUSTRY OUTLINES CLEAN-UP STRATEGY FOR ARCTIC SPILL

As the oil and gas industry works to convince Canada's energy regulator that it can safely drill in the Arctic's deep waters, it is proposing some creative – and controversial – methods to clean up spills in sea ice: using fires set from helicopters to burn oil and even the propeller blades of icebreakers to disperse it.

Filings submitted to the National Energy Board by Chevron Corp. and Imperial Oil Ltd. provide a glimpse into how companies would respond to a massive leak like the BP Deepwater Horizon fiasco in a northern setting. They outline the use of numerous techniques, including "herding agents" designed to chemically coalesce oil slicks, as well as huge aircraft to spray dispersants and crews to burn oil.

The documents form part of the NEB's Arctic Offshore Drilling Review, which is working to set new rules for the exploration of oil and gas in Canada's Far North. For the oil industry, the Arctic offers an alluring new frontier, a place with the potential for major new finds. For the country, however, drilling in such a sensitive and iconic region has stirred up concern, particularly in the wake of the BP spill. And for critics, the industry's bold cleanup plans give little cause for reassurance.

As they pursue wells in Beaufort Sea waters as deep as those of the Gulf of Mexico where the BP accident occurred, major energy companies have told the NEB that, in some ways, an Arctic spill could actually be easier to clean than an accident elsewhere. In its submission to the NEB's review, for example, Chevron says "unique aspects of the Arctic environment … can work to the responders' advantage."

Ice, for example, can work as a natural oil boom, corralling spilled crude, while long daylight hours during summer months can extend work days. The Chevron document also suggests Arctic conditions "can enhance spill response" by creating a cold environment where oil evaporates at a slower rate – making it easier to set it on fire – and by covering water in ice, which calms waves and makes cleanup easier.

Freezing ice can also lock oil inside its layers; crews could then track crude-impregnated ice floes over winter and, in spring, burn the oil from surface melt-water pools. Spilled oil can be set alight by heli-torches, the industry suggests. Even icebreaker propeller blades "could provide sufficient energy to create lasting dispersion of any exposed oil, even in close pack ice," Chevron states.

The arguments are designed in part to bolster industry arguments that its response ability is good enough that it should no longer need to drill an emergency relief well in the same season – an existing requirement designed to stop an out-of-control well, but one that makes some Arctic exploration impossible.

But critics doubt the effectiveness of some techniques, and say the uniquely fragile life in the Arctic will magnify the impact of any accident. They also point to statements from the U.S. presidential commission on the Deepwater Horizon spill, which concluded that there are “serious concerns” about oil spill response capacities in the Arctic, an area whose remoteness and hostile environment pose “special challenges.”

“It boggles the mind to think that industry is asserting that they are response-ready for a worst-case oil spill” in the Arctic, said William Amos, the director of the Ecojustice Environmental Law Clinic at the University of Ottawa, who has also participated in the NEB Arctic review. “Those assertions don’t strike me as credible.”

Spill removal companies have also testified before the Canadian government that many traditional techniques – like laying boom and skimming oil – either don’t work at all, or are substantially less effective in icy waters.

Read more (including comment from Ed Owens)

RUSSIA: MEDVEDEV ALARMED OVER TONNES OF 'DANGEROUS' WASTE IN RUSSIA

June 9 - President Dmitry Medvedev said on Thursday Russia had accumulated more than 30 billion tonnes of hazardous waste, calling on businesses to contribute to the country's environmental clean-up.

Speaking in Dzerzhinsk, site of Cold War-era factories producing chemical weapons ranked as one of the world's most polluted cities, the Kremlin chief said many of Russia's ecological problems dated back to the Soviet era.

"More than 30 billion tonnes of dangerous waste have been accumulated across the country by now," Medvedev said after a helicopter flyover of the city named after Felix Dzerzhinsky, the founder of the feared Bolshevik secret police.

"There are plenty of environmental problems, both new as well as those inherited from the past. To be honest, we've inherited more from the past," he said, adding "the scale of the environmental disaster" in the city was impressive.

The governor of Russia's oil-rich northern region of Yamalo-Nenetsk said that pollution is getting worse over the entire country. Read more

GULF OF MEXICO: EMBARGO MAY BLOCK U.S. RESPONSE TO CUBAN OIL SPILL

June 6 - With oil exploration set to begin in Cuba’s Gulf of Mexico waters, pressure is mounting on the administration to relax a politically sensitive embargo that would prevent U.S. firms from responding swiftly to potential oil spills roughly 50 miles from Florida beaches.

The U.S. trade embargo against Cuba generally bars U.S. commerce with the nation and caps at 10 percent the portion of American-made components in offshore drilling equipment used in Cuba.

That means containment equipment developed after last year’s oil spill would be off-limits — at least initially – if the same thing happened in Cuba’s part of the Gulf. Oil spilled there could reach the U.S. in three days.

The embargo also would forbid use of chemical dispersants to break up oil, boom capable of corralling it and other spill response equipment manufactured in the United States. Nearby drilling rigs in the Gulf also would be barred from working on relief wells in Cuban waters.

But with companies planning to begin exploratory drilling off Cuba as early as September, industry and environmental interests alike are pressing the Obama administration to modify the embargo’s restrictions for firms that could respond to a disaster.

“Embargo or not, we cannot ignore Cuba drilling in the Florida Straits,” said Lee Hunt, the head of the Houston-based International Association of Drilling Contractors. Hunt said he is trying to persuade political leaders to prepare now by coordinating with companies that could help in an emergency. Read more

News (continued)

EUROPE: MARINE CASUALTY INVESTIGATION: DEADLINE KICKS IN ON 17 JUNE

Learning lessons from accidents: EMCIP enables marine accidents to be categorised according to an agreed taxonomy, enabling sharing of intelligence about the various factors involved in marine accidents (photo: Lisco Gloria fire, 2010; source: Havariecommando).

The countdown has begun to a day that safety-conscious European seafarers have been waiting for: 17 June 2011. This is the date of the Europe-wide transposition of Directive 2009/18/EC on marine accident investigation, when Member States are obliged to have in place independent safety investigative bodies, to investigate very serious marine casualties, to publish investigation reports within 12 months, and to notify marine casualties and incidents via the European Maritime Casualty Information Platform (EMCIP). EMCIP is database that is used to store and analyse accident related data about marine casualties and incidents. So far, EMCIP has been running on a voluntary basis for a couple of years, with mandatory population starting on 17 June. Ahead of this important deadline, on 4-6 and 25-27 May, EMSA played host in Lisbon to 23 delegates from Member States. At these meetings the new database functions were presented to EMCIP users, enabling them to compare the new and old versions, and test-run new features. Source:EMSA Newsletter. Read more: http://www.emsa.europa.eu

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ISRAEL: MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION HOLDS OIL POLLUTION COMBAT EXERCISE ALONG THE NORTHERN COAST OF ISRAEL

Marine pollution combat exercise simulating the cleanup of oil discharged from a drill near the northern coastal area. Photos: Ilan Malester

The Ministry of Environmental Protection held a national marine pollution by oil combat exercise, within the framework of the National Contingency Plan for Preparedness and Response to Combating Marine Oil Pollution , which was approved by the government in May 2008.

The aim of the exercise was to improve preparedness and response to marine and coastal pollution by oil in the northern shores of the country. It was found that despite the dramatic improvement in the professional capacity to combat marine and coastal pollution, Israel still lacks the necessary human resources, budgetary allocation and dedicated equipment which are enumerated in the contingency plan. This is especially so in light of the gas and oil discoveries in the deep sea water along Israel's coasts and in the wake of the ecological disaster which took place in 2010 in the Gulf of Mexico. Read more

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USA / CANADA: US TIGHTENS SCRUTINY ON TRANSCANADA'S KEYSTONE PIPELINE

The U.S. government is clamping down on TransCanada Corp.'s (TRP) Keystone pipeline system even as the Canadian company awaits federal approval to expand the key conduit for oil-sands crude.

Last Friday, the Department of Transportation's Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration barred TransCanada from restarting the pipeline after a minor spill until it conducted a safety inspection of the year-old system, and ordered it to submit regular updates on the line's performance. The Keystone pipeline, which has grown to 2,100 miles long in recent months, transports crude produced in the oil sands of Alberta, Canada, to the U.S. storage hub in Cushing, Okla.

PHMSA allowed Keystone to restart last Sunday, but its so-called corrective action order was the first TransCanada received since at least 2002. The intense scrutiny is "very unusual" for such a young pipeline, says Anthony Swift, an attorney who analyzes pipeline issues for environmental advocacy group Natural Resources Defense Council. The average age of a pipeline receiving such an order from PHMSA is 46 years, Swift says.

PHMSA says the aggressive policing is due to the fact that there have been 11 spills in the year since the pipeline opened -- including two similar leaks in less than a month. These leaks have occurred amid heightened concerns about pipeline safety stemming from natural gas pipeline explosions across the U.S. and from a major spill in July 2010, in which 20,000 barrels of oil escaped from an Enbridge Energy Partners LP (EEP) pipeline in Michigan. Read more

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OIL SPILL CLEANUP RELIES ON DECADES-OLD TECHNOLOGY

When the ominous black plume began gushing from the BP Deepwater Horizon oil rig last year, an army of workers was dispatched to protect the U.S. Gulf Coast using the latest technology -- vinyl-covered booms and dispersant sprays.

And if another major spill occurs offshore the United States anytime soon, this is the most protection a community can expect should oil begin leaking from a ruptured well near its shores.

Oil companies since the BP (BP.L) accident have pledged more than $1 billion to develop systems to cap a leaking underwater well, and the government has imposed a raft of rules to prevent another major blowout.

But as industry lobbies heavily to get offshore drilling going again, little progress is being made on the cleanup part of the spill process, to the consternation of the government and environmental groups.

"You can't make up for decades of neglect in a year," said Jackie Savitz of Oceana, an ocean conservation and anti-drilling organization.

Savitz said it could take more than two weeks to install a containment system after a deepwater blowout. That could mean hundreds of thousands of barrels of oil would be spewed into the ocean.

With hurricane season under way, the stakes are even higher as strong winds and choppy seas severely compromise conventional oil spill response technology.

From an article by Ayesha Rascoe in Reuters News, June 10, 2011. Read more

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NORWAY: ORDER TO SHELL FOLLOWING WELL INCIDENT ON DRAUGEN

The Petroleum Safety Authority Norway (PSA) has issued A/S Norske Shell (Shell) an order following completion of the investigation of the well incident on Draugen in December 2010.

The incident on the Draugen facility occurred in connection with a wireline operation in well 6407/9-A-01 on 4 December 2010. Shell was the operator and Seawell AS (Seawell) was the contractor for the wireline operation. The objective of the wireline operation was to replace a gas lift valve.

To replace the gas lift valve, the subsurface safety valve must first be extracted from the well. As the subsurface safety valve was pulled through the Xmas tree, it became stuck. The remaining barrier element in the Xmas tree, the upper master valve, was blocked.

Normalisation of this incident by re-establishing the well barrier situation was completed on 8 December 2010. To limit risk connected with this well, the subsurface safety valve was run back into the well. Subsequently, two mechanical bridge plugs were inserted in the well above the subsurface safety valve. The other valves in the Xmas tree were closed, pressure-tested and accepted. Read more [Thanks to JOIFF and ISCO Associate Member, DG & Hazmat Group for passing on this report]

USA: YUMA FIREFIGHTERS RESPOND TO CHEMICAL SPILL

June 7 - A special disposal team was called in from California to remove hazardous waste that was discovered and contained Tuesday afternoon by Yuma firefighters. Fire Inspector Kayla Holiman said the Yuma Fire Department responded to a medical call at 2130 W. 24th Street shortly before 1:00 p.m. While they were on scene, she said firefighters noticed an unknown substance leaking from the trailer of a semi truck that was parked in the same parking lot.

Holiman said a YFD Engine Company was called to the scene and found that a 270-gallon tote container was leaking a unknown corrosive liquid. The YFD's Hazardous Materials Team then responded and contacted CHEMTREC (a national chemical data base for emergency response procedures). The liquid was later identified as sodium potassium carbonate, which is a cleaning solution.

“It poses an inhalation and absorption hazard,” Holiman said. “It is also corrosive to metal.”

Holiman said the shipper of the product was also contacted, and a plan was formed on how to control and contain the product, with the HAZMAT Team carrying out the plan. Read more

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News (continued)

USA: AMERICAN SALVAGE ASSOCIATION RELOCATES TO ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA

The American Salvage Association (ASA) has relocated its offices from Arlington, Virginia, to Alexandria, Virginia. The new address is **103 Oronoco Street, Suite 200, Alexandria, VA 22314 USA.** The telephone and fax numbers remain the same, Tel: 1-703-373-2267; Fax: 1-703-373-2036, as does the website, www.americansalvage.org.

Previously at offices co-located with the American Waterways Operators (AWO), ASA now resides in office facilities maintained by the Passenger Vessel Association (PVA).

“ASA’s leadership team is grateful to AWO for the experience and support ASA received while a member of the “Vessel Alliance” program for the last eight years. With this move, ASA looks forward to the future with the Association’s staff operating from new offices in Alexandria and we encourage colleagues and friends to stop by for a visit,” said Mauricio Garrido, ASA President.

Read more

People in the news

OBITUARY: WILLIAM “BILL” KATZ

Received from ISCO Committee Member, Marc K. Shaye on June 5, 2011.

We were saddened to learn this weekend of the passing of our long time friend and colleague, Bill Katz.

Bill was a founding member of the Oil Spill Control Association of America, later known as the Spill Control Association of America. David Usher and I hope you will remember Bill with an article in the newsletter. Dave and I spoke last night and Dave reminded me of so many memories about our friend. He was as innovator in bringing to the industry technologies which we think of as common place today but which were cutting edge in their day. He was also the one who suggested the creation of the Howard Stanfield award and for many years advised as to its recipients as well planning the annual presentation ceremonies. His humanity transcended the business side of the response industry and he was always a gracious gentleman. His advice as an OSCAA (SCAA) Board member was always sound and you could count on him to speak with conviction while being objective. He was a leader in our efforts in making ASTM's F-20 committee a strong voice for the technology of spill response. His family became part of our families and we want to extend our heartfelt condolences to them.

Technology

A “GREEN” NANOMATERIAL TO REMOVE ORGANIC IMPURITIES FROM WASTE WATER

Water treatment is important for human consumption and environmental protection. Non-trivial purification of water involves removal of toxic ions, organic impurities, microbes and their by-products as well as scooping oil spills. The removal of organic contaminants from water is a major industrial concern. The contaminated water from industries usually contains considerable amounts of organic hydrocarbons such as BTEX (benzene toluene, ethyl benzene and xylene) prohibiting direct release into natural water bodies. The dissolved organic compounds cause bacterial growth, odor generation and biofouling bringing limitation on reuse (see: "The Challenge of Micropollutants in Aquatic Systems").

The challenging goal here is to detect, decompose and remove contaminants present usually in low concentrations (see: "Science and technology for water purification in the coming decades"). Towards this end, different types of sorbent materials have been developed to date, the most common being activated carbon. Though the use of activated carbon is still considered to be one of the best method, the disposal of adsorbed contaminants along with the adsorbent is a major concern. Thus, the decomposition of the adsorbed organic contaminants and regeneration of the adsorbent is a critical step to a cost-effective use of the porous adsorbents.

We have recently come up with an innovative method for organic pollutant removal from waste water (see: "Removal of Organic Compounds from Water by Using a Gold Nanoparticle–Poly(dimethylsiloxane) Nanocomposite Foam"). The issue of water purification was dealt from an environmental perspective, using a Au nanoparticle-polydimethylsiloxane (AuPDMS) nanocomposite in the form of a foam. With this nanocomposite, one is able to bring together the unique properties of Au nanoparticles and PDMS elastomer.

Read the complete text of this article in Nanowerk Spotlight.

Cormack's Column

In this issue of the ISCO Newsletter we are printing No. 30 in a series of articles contributed by Dr Douglas Cormack.

Dr Douglas Cormack is an Honorary Member of ISCO. As the former Chief Scientist at the British Government's Marine Pollution Control Unit and head of the UK's first government agency, the Warren Spring Laboratory, Douglas is a well known and highly respected figure in the spill response community. He is the Chairman and a founder member of the International Spill Accreditation Association

KNOWLEDGE OF WATER-IMMISCIBLE SYSTEMS (CHAPTER 30)

On the basis of the knowledge reviewed in article 29, we see that the mechanism of droplet formation is the shearing of one continuous liquid against a contacting continuous liquid; that the denser liquid pushes into the less dense as an accelerated spike, while the latter enters the former with lower acceleration and finally a constant speed as a blunt finger; and that the interface thus becomes a region in which 'threads' and 'fingers' of one liquid move into the other. Again, we see that these elongations become subject to sinuous and varicose deformations; that these become unstable and finally break into droplets; that the former applies to threads of constant radius which deform sinusoidally before breaking into small droplets; that the latter applies to fingers which deform through varying radius into large droplets. Yet again, we see that an initially formed droplet may deform through ever-thinner prolate spheroids (ellipses rotated about their major axis) to a thread which will break sinusoidally to produce droplets smaller than the parent droplet; and that an initially formed droplet may deform through ever-thinner oblate spheroids (ellipse rotated about minor axis) to a thin disc which through destabilising surface disturbances or through irregular deformation into depressions and protuberances will produce droplets smaller than their parent. Though this field has been pursued through consideration of turbulence related capillary ripples and Raleigh-Taylor/Kelvin-Helmholtz instabilities, it may be concluded that inter-phase droplet formation depends on differences in density, surface tension and viscosity between the phases.

On the above basis, we see that wave-induced shearing causes floating oil to disperse into the underlying water as small oil droplets the vertical separation distances of which increase with time as they dilute to background levels while the larger dispersed droplets concentrate through upward migration to re-coalesce with the un-dispersed surface oil, that meanwhile this same wave-induced shear causes water droplets to disperse into the floating oil within which they increasingly concentrate to a finite limit; that initially the dispersion of oil into water proceeds at a greater rate than the dispersion of water into oil; that nonetheless the initial oil slick progressively becomes a water-in-oil emulsion; that the emulsion has a higher viscosity than the initial oil; and that consequently the volume of the slick increases as its water-content increases to its natural limit while its rate of dispersion progressively decreases as the viscosity of the initial oil increases to the viscosity of the emulsion at its maximum natural water-content which at 80% equates four times the oil-content.

Again, on the above basis, we see that an applied water-based dispersant will need to penetrate the oil/emulsion slick for its surfactant components to facilitate its dispersion as droplets; that hydrocarbon-based dispersants could more easily penetrate by solution; and that penetration by either mechanism is more inhibited the higher the viscosity of the oil/emulsion layer. Yet again, we see that those crude oils and light distillates which have low initial viscosities and do not form water-in-oil emulsions, have the highest natural and dispersant-induced dispersion rates and recovery pumping rates; that some of these crude oils may form water-in-oil emulsions when some of their components oxidise on exposure to air and light to form emulsion stabilisers not naturally present in the fresh oil while other crude oils and heavy fuel oils already contain natural emulsifiers; and that the ensuing water-in-oil emulsions have natural and dispersant-induced dispersion rates and recovery pumping rates inversely proportional to their viscosities.

Yet again, while we know that fresh oils can lose up to 30% of their weight at evaporation rates and to extents depending on their distillation profiles (c.f. articles 3, 5 and 6) we now see that the non-volatile fraction can increase its weight by up to 4 times depending on the water-content of its water-in-oil emulsion. Thus, while dispersant efficiency for a given quantity of oil can be reduced by increase in its emulsion viscosity, the quantity of the latter presenting itself to mechanical recovery is four times larger than its residual oil-content and may be difficult/impossible to pump. Again, while we know that pandering to environmentalist beliefs in relative toxicity caused kerosene-based dispersants to be replaced with water-based formulations, (c.f. article 14) we now see that this replacement increased the likelihood of the surfactants of the latter being lost to the sea before effecting slick dispersion and eliminated the likelihood of the kerosene of the latter reducing the viscosity of the oils and thus facilitating the breaking of their water-in-oil emulsions.

1 The *Rational Trinity: Imagination, Belief and Knowledge*, D.Cormack, Bright Pen 2010 available at www.authorsonline.co.uk
2 *Response to Oil and Chemical Marine Pollution*, D. Cormack, Applied Science Publishers, 1983.
3 *Response to Marine Oil Pollution - Review and Assessment*, Douglas Cormack, Kluwer Academic Publishers, 1999.

Publications

LITTLE BLACK BOOK OF OIL SPILL CONTRACTORS

5th Edition now available! (June 2010)

After 18 months of revisions and updates the 5th Editon is now available. This directory has been in publication for 6 years and is the only directory dedicated to listing oil spill contractors worldwide.

The book spans over 140 pages, and lists the contact details of over 1,000 oil spill clean up contractors in 50 countries. You can see some sample pages here More info

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IOPC PUBLICATIONS

ANNUAL REPORT 2010
(Adobe Acrobat format, 3 817 KB)
Includes: an overview of the Funds, recent developments in oil spill incidents, financial statements, membership details, and the decisions of the governing bodies.

INCIDENTS INVOLVING THE IOPC FUNDS - 2010
(Adobe Acrobat format, 3 563 KB)
Detailed reports on incidents involving the IOPC Funds that were formerly included in the Annual Report.

NEW CEDRE CHEMICAL SPILL RESPONSE GUIDE ON CHLOROFORM

Just published: Chloroform - A new addition to the collection of CEDRE Chemical Response Guides.

French language edition available now. An English translation of the guide will be available shortly.

More info Download the Guide

Events

UKSPILL 11 MARINE SPILL SEMINAR POSTPONED

The Seminar planned for 5 July 2011 at Southampton, has been postponed to the Autumn. The bookings fell short of the number needed to go ahead with event.

Training

NEW TRAINING VIDEOS FROM FASTANK

Fast Engineering has just released a series of new training videos covering the quick assembly, dismantling and repacking of Fastank 1500, 2000, 3 and 5.

You can view these new training videos by clicking on the links below.

Fastank 1500 & 2000 Assembly

Fastank 1500 & 2000 Repacking

Fastank 3 & 5 Assembly

Fastank 3 & 5 Repacking

More info on these and other products More info about the company

Note that the Fastank Product Brochures are available for download in English, Spanish, French, German and Chinese languages

High definition copies of the DVD's can be obtained by emailing sales@fastank.com

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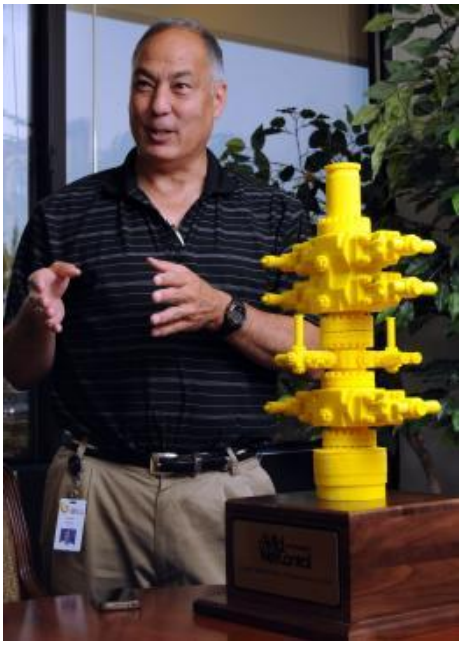
Company news

EMERGENCIES SPILL RESPONSE - COMPANY SAYS ITS CONTAINMENT SYSTEM CAN GO BEYOND GULF OF MEXICO



Randy Kubota, Wild Well Control's general manager of marine engineering, shows a model of an emergency containment system made to respond globally to offshore oil spills.

A Houston company says it has developed a system ready to respond to oil spills worldwide using concepts engineered for the Gulf of Mexico after last year's BP disaster.

Wild Well Control, a 36-year-old emergency well response company with 250 employees, has crafted a mammoth machine to plug out-of-control wells in deep waters around the world.

Its effort follows containment work by separate energy industry consortia — the Helix Well Containment Group and the Marine Well Containment Co.

While the three systems are similar in their approaches to bringing gushing wells under control, Helix and Marine Well Containment crafted theirs specifically for use in the Gulf of Mexico.

Wild Well's response system includes a plan to fly its equipment around the world to respond to emergency situations.

The company is betting that new U.S. regulations requiring drillers to have spill response plans in place - which sparked the creation of the Helix and Marine Well systems - will go global.

Wild Well's system boasts multi-functionality to attack underwater spill sites - clearing debris, dispersing oil and capping the well using a hydraulic power unit.

The key component, a 106-ton well-capping stack, was manufactured largely by Cameron International. Houston-based Cameron made the subsea blowout preventer that failed as the last line of defense against surging oil and gas in BP's Macondo well in April 2010, and it later assembled the capping stack that finally stopped the flow almost three months later.

Wild Well officials said their company participated in the response to the Macondo blowout, which destroyed the Deepwater Horizon drilling rig and killed 11 workers. Wild Well's efforts included firefighting, oil dispersing and well containment.

Six international companies operating subsea wells have committed to subscribe to the system, said Bill Mahler, Wild Well executive vice president and general manager. The company hopes to amass at least 16.

Wild Well expects the system to be ready by September. Read more

ISCO Notices

CLEAN GULF TRAINING EVENT AND EXHIBITION

ISCO has been appointed as a Media Sponsor for Clean Gulf 2011.

The event, which will take place in San Antonio, Texas, is scheduled for November 30 – December 1, 2011.

More information will be given in future issues of the ISCO Newsletter