ISCO INTERNATIONAL SPILL CONTROL ORGANIZATION

# ISCO NEWSLETTER

***The Newsletter of the International Spill Response Community***

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## News

### CHINA: GLOBAL INITIATIVE WORKSHOP ON OIL SPILL RESPONSE ESTABLISHES TECHNICAL CONSULTATIVE GROUP AND PLANS NEW GI CHINA PROGRAMME


June 27 - This workshop and meeting was hosted by the China Maritime Safety Agency (China MSA) to enhance the cooperation of IMO, China MSA and IPIECA on preparedness and response to oil spills, and to promote China's capability building against marine oil spills. The event was held between 19 – 21 June 2012, in Qingdao, the People's Republic of China, and was attended by over 70 delegates from the relevant international organizations, government and industries.

The broad conclusions of the workshop were that there is a considerable and changing risk of oil spills in China. There are systems in place with significant capacity to meet that risk but given that these risks are constantly in flux, these systems need to be adjusted and improved in the light of lessons learnt from recent major incidents. One area for improvement is to strengthen cooperation between government and industry.

In the afternoon of the second day, the workshop turned into a meeting dedicated to the strengthening of cooperation between government and the industry on oil spill preparedness and response. With a view to achieving the objectives of the GI process through concrete and practical activities, the participants of the meeting agreed to the establishment of an informal oil spill preparedness and response technical consultative group, and approved the options for a biennial programme of joint GI activities. It is intended to launch the new GI China Programme in 2013.

[Note from Editor: The short report above is reproduced with acknowledgement to IPIECA who played a major part in the organization of the workshop. Read the original report from IPIECA

In this issue of the ISCO Newsletter we have also printed a report on the workshop received from Member of ISCO Executive Committee, Mr Li Guobin. ISCO was also represented by Member of ISCO Executive Committee Mr Jean Claude Sainlos, former head of the IMO Marine Environment Division.

ISCO's presence at the event afforded an opportunity to better inform attendees on the work being done by the organization and generated much interest.]

## CANADA: TEAMS WORK TO CLEAN UP RED DEER RIVER OIL SPILL

*An interesting article in the Calgary Herald gives an insight into the recent spills in Alberta*

Floating booms — along with skimmers and absorbent materials — have been used to collect some of the sour crude oil that spilled into the Red Deer River following the Plains Midstream pipeline rupture. Three such spills in Alberta recently have fuelled calls for a pipeline safety review.Photograph by: Jeff McIntosh , THE CANADIAN PRESS

June 25 - Stewart Rood has spent much of the past week in an inflatable zodiac boat with a team of University of Lethbridge environmental science researchers scouring the Red Deer River and its swollen tributaries looking for signs of oil.

In the days since a pipeline rupture spilled as much as 480,000 litres of sour crude oil into the important central Alberta river system, teams have been working to clean up the spill, but also to gain insight into how oil spills impact fresh water.

Rood didn't know what to expect when he arrived at the waterway that supplies drinking water to close to 90,000 people. He had heard the June 8 spill by Plains Midstream described as everything from catastrophic to minor. "You see very little impact from the spill" said Rood. "It's a fairly small spill on a fairly large river . . . you actually only rarely find small pools of oil".

The pipeline rupture into the river system cutting through farm and vacation country northwest of Calgary near Sundre coincided with spring rains and early flows from the mountains to the west. The result left what Rood describes as a "bathtub ring" of oil deposits on shoreline plants. Read the complete article

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## CANADA & USA: FRACKING WITH PROPANE INSTEAD OF WATER

*Another interesting article exploring alternatives to using water for fracking – Transcript of an interview conducted by Matt Richmond with Bruce Gellernan and others featured on the Living on Earth programme. It gives a good insight into the fracking process.*


*Workers at a Cabot Oil & Gas drilling site in Susquehanna County Pennsylvania (Photo: Matt Richmond)*

June 22 - Hydraulic fracturing uses millions of gallons of water at each well site in order to release oil and gas. A Canadian company has found a method that uses propane instead of water. Gasfrac says the propane technique uses biodegradable chemicals and doesn't pollute groundwater. But as The Allegheny Front's Matt Richmond reports, others say propane fracking is risky business.

About a quarter of the natural gas produced in the US comes from the drilling process know as hydraulic fracturing or fracking. That's a lot of gas…and it takes a lot of water to extract it from shale formations deep in the ground. A lot of water.

For example: It takes anywhere two to eight million gallons of water to open a single well in the Marcellus Shale in the gas rich Appalachian Basin. That's where a Canadian company called Gasfrac comes in. It's developed a fracking technique that eliminates the need for all that water. But as The Allegheny Front's Matt Richmond reports, the technology is proving to be a hard sell.
Read the complete transcript

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## USA & CANADA: KEYSTONE XL'S FIRST PERMIT APPROVED

June 26 - The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers has granted TransCanada Corp one of three permits it needs to build the $2.3 billion southern section of the Keystone XL pipeline, a project President Barack Obama had pledged to move forward quickly.

TransCanada, which seeks to build the overall project in stages after Obama rejected the contentious first incarnation, said the approval covers wetland and water crossings in the Galveston, Texas, district.

The company needs two other permits from the agency's Tulsa, Oklahoma and Fort Worth, Texas districts for the project, which it has rebranded the Gulf Coast project. Tulsa is expected to decide on the permit on Thursday when a 45 day period of consideration draws to a close, said Lavonna Davis, an Army Corps public affairs specialist.

*U.S. President Barack Obama arrives at the southern site of the Keystone XL pipeline on March 22, 2012 in Cushing, Oklahoma. Obama is pressing federal agencies to expedite the section of the Keystone XL pipeline between Oklahoma and the Gulf Coast.*

The Fort Worth district has asked TransCanada for more information, so there is no estimate when the agency might decide on the permit, she said. “Their clock hasn’t started ticking, not until they get the full package of information.”

The southern section would initially carry 700,000 barrels a day of crude to Texas refineries from the glutted Cushing, Oklahoma, *storage* hub with the aims of helping to raise deeply discounted prices and providing the region more secure oil supplies. It could be expanded to 830,000 bpd. *The Montreal Gazette* Read More

## USA: BP OIL SPILL HASTENED LOSS OF LOUISIANA MARSHES, STUDY SAYS

June 25 - The 2010 BP oil spill accelerated the loss of Louisiana’s delicate marshlands, which were already rapidly disappearing before the largest oil spill in U.S. history, a new study reports.

As the oil washed into the marshlands, it coated and smothered thick grasses at their edge. When the grass died, deep roots that held the soil together also died, leaving the shore banks of the marshlands to crumble, said Brian Silliman, the University of Florida researcher who led the new study.

“We already knew that erosion leads to permanent marsh loss, and now we know that oil can exacerbate it,” Silliman said.

In Louisiana’s Barataria Bay, oiled marshes eroded at about twice the rate of non-oiled marshes, receding nearly 10 feet per year, Silliman’s team found.

“Doubling the rate of erosion is a huge number,” said Zoe Hughes, a marsh researcher at Boston University who was not involved in the research. “It’s very significant in areas where you have erosion anyway.” *The Washington Post* Read more

## CHINA: 3-YEAR PLAN TO HEAL WOUNDS OF BOHAI BAY OIL SPILL

June 23 - Environmental authorities have mapped out a three-year plan for the restoration of Bohai Bay, which was severely damaged by oil spills last year, China's ocean watchdog said Thursday.

According to a statement by the State Oceanic Administration, the Ministry of Agriculture aims to rebuild the area's fishery industry by 2015, including putting about 3.4 billion aquatic animals into the bay.

The agency also announced that money from a 1 billion yuan ($157 million) compensation fund has already been allocated to Hebei and Liaoning provinces to be used to help fishermen affected by the leaks from the Penglai 19-3 oilfield.

ConocoPhillips China, the operator of the oilfield, has also agreed with the government to set up another 1.1 billion yuan fund based on estimated damages. The company, based in the United States, and its Chinese partner, China National Offshore Oil Corporation, will also jointly pay another 600 million yuan. *China Daily* Read more

## YEMEN: OIL SPILL NEAR BAB AL-MANDAB RESULT OF PIRATE ATTACK

June 30 - An oil leak this week contaminated coastal areas near Ras Al-Ara, near the Bab Al-Mandab strait on the Red Sea.

According to Murad Al-Halimi, the deputy director of the General Authority of Maritime Affairs, the oil overflowed from a Somali ship’s fuel tank as it traveled from Dubai to Somalia. A Somali businessman, he said, owns the ship.

Al-Halimi said the oil spill occurred following the ship's run-in with Somali pirates nine miles off Yemen's coast, near Ras Al-Ara and close to Bab Al-Mandab.

## NIGERIA: OIL SPILLS DRENCH AND SICKEN DELTA COMMUNITIES

*A Nigerian tries to separate crude oil from water in a boat at the Bodo waterways polluted by oil spills attributed to Shell equipment failure August 11, 2011. The Bodo community in the oil-producing Niger Delta region sued Shell oil company in the United Kingdom, alleging that spills in 2008 and 2009 had destroyed the environment and ruined their livelihoods. The UN released a report this month saying decades of oil spills in the Nigerian region of Ogoniland may require the biggest cleanup ever undertaken, with communities dependent upon farmers and fishermen left ravaged.*

June 25 - When he was a child, Tonye Emmanuel Isenah saw men in the Niger Delta who were 70 and even 80 years old. But these days, he said, people just don't live that long.

Isenah is now the deputy leader of the state assembly in Bayelsa State, part of Nigeria's oil rich Niger Delta region — a land that for decades has suffered annual devastating oil spills. Experts say the yearly spills are each comparable to the Exxon Valdez spill. And the environmental degradation is causing the local people to become ill and die at earlier ages.

"At the age of 45, people are beginning to have strokes," he said. "I used to see people that lived up to 70 years and beyond."

Life expectancy in Nigeria now hovers above 50 years, nearly 20 years below the world average, but Isenah says that in the Niger Delta, the life span is shorter. Isenah's assertion that pollution in the Niger Delta is weakening the people, is as obvious to any observer as the oil that coats the mangrove roots in the creeks.

Nigeria is Africa's largest oil producer, exporting about 2.5 million barrels of oil a day, almost entirely from the Niger Delta. It is the United States' fifth largest oil supplier and the proceeds from sales of crude oil made up 80 percent of Nigeria's national revenue and nearly all its foreign currency earnings. *Global Post* Read more

## PUERTO RICO: UNIFIED COMMAND CONTINUE RESPONSE TO JIREH GROUNDING

June 25 - The Unified Command comprised of Coast Guard and other federal, state, local agencies and industry stakeholders continue to respond Sunday to the 185-foot cargo vessel Jireh, that grounded Thursday off Uvero Beach in Mona Island, Puerto Rico.

"Divers conducted underwater damage assessments surrounding the grounded vessel and found minimal coral impact in the area," said Tom Moore, representative of NOAA's Damage Assessment and Restoration Program (DARP).

Currently 800-feet of hard containment boom have been deployed around the vessel to limit any environmental impact in the area. At this time, there are no reports or signs of pollution in the water.

Due to weather conditions in the Mona Passage, response crews were unable to conduct any fuel removal operations. Coast Guard is conducting periodic aerial over flights to monitor on scene conditions.

"Since the initial notification, multiple Coast Guard and Incident Command crews have been on scene responding to the grounded vessel," said Cmdr. David Berliner, Coast Guard Incident Commander. "Our priority is to ensure the necessary steps are taken to protect the environment and safety of our crews as we continue to make preparations to remove approximately 2,000 gallons of diesel fuel and oily water mixture onboard." *The Maritime Executive* Read more Read the initial report in *The Maritime Executive*

## USA: TWO YEARS AFTER BP OIL SPILL, RESTORE ACT BECOMES LAW

June 29 - Two years, two months, and nine days after the explosion of the Deepwater Horizon off the coast of Louisiana, the RESTORE Act is on it's way to becoming law. Thanks to the hard work of Senators in several Gulf Coast states, the Act was included in the final version of the Highway Bill, and was today passed by both chambers of Congress.

Under the Clean Water Act, BP faces as much as $20 billion in fines for its responsibility in the 2010 oil spill that devastated the Gulf Coast. The RESTORE Act (Resources and Ecosystems Sustainability, Tourist Opportunity and Revived Economics of the Gulf States Act of 2011) mandates that at least 80 percent of fines collected from BP and other parties be sent directly to areas affected by the disaster.

Previous bipartisan surveys showed that an overwhelming 83 percent of voters supported efforts to dedicate the BP oil penalties to restoration of the Mississippi River Delta and Gulf Coast. Shockingly, over 20 senators, all Republicans, voted against a version of the measure in March, saying that it increased taxes and created "a new environmental bureaucracy."

"Today's agreement demonstrates the conference committee's commitment to restoring the Gulf Coast, one of our nation's most valuable economic and ecological assets," said Sen. Richard Shelby, R-Ala. "Communities affected by the Deepwater Horizon oil spill have waited long enough for relief and should not be subject to the whims of future Congresses."

Once enacted, RESTORE will channel the money to coastal restoration and economic development projects in the region, and has broad support from business interests, environmental groups, the seafood industry and tourism organizations. A new commission in each state, made up of local officials, will decide how the money is spent.

"The Restore act has been an absolute top priority while negotiating a deal on the highway bill," said Sen. David Vitter, R-La. "This is a huge step toward vital, long-overdue coastal restoration work along the Gulf Coast in Louisiana and our neighboring states. The RESTORE language will go a long way in addressing the impacts of the environmental and economic damage from last year's oil spill, and we think it's more than fair to have 80 percent of the fines for this event dedicated for restoration along the Gulf Coast." *Care 2* Read more

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## USA: SHELL TRAINS OIL SPILL RESPONDERS IN ALASKA

June 25 - Against the backdrop of Alaska's snow-topped Chugach Mountains and in the same waters that were spoiled by the Exxon Valdez oil spill more than two decades ago, Shell Oil Co. has been training recruits in skills it hopes they never have to use.

The company has put scores of people through oil spill response training in the Valdez port, ahead of expected drilling in Arctic waters north of Alaska. If regulators approve the plans, Shell anticipates drilling up to five wells in the Beaufort and Chukchi seas this summer.

The company's recruits – mostly men and mostly longtime Alaskans – spent weeks learning how to deploy inflatable booms to corral floating crude and then suck it up with skimmers. They practiced on the same ships that Shell plans to station around its drilling operations in case something goes wrong.

Steven O'Connor, an Inupiat who lives in Anchorage, said he signed up for the job to protect the environment and wildlife valued by his family. "It's my backyard," O'Connor said, noting that his family is from Barrow, the northernmost point in Alaska, near Shell's proposed drilling. "I go fishing and hunting everywhere," O'Connor said. "I want to make sure it stays clean."

Shell's flotilla includes the Nanuq and Aiviq, two ice-class oil recovery and supply ships that will carry six smaller oil spill response boats on board. There also are barges and tugboats to push them along. The vessels are outfitted with equipment for tackling floating oil in an emergency – down to the Tyvek suits that responders would wear while handling the crude.

"In the Arctic, you've got to bring it with you if you think you're going to need it," said Geoff Merrell, superintendent of emergency response for Shell Alaska, part of Houston-based Shell Oil Co. *Fuel Fix* Read more

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## CANADA: $75M CLASS-ACTION SUIT LAUNCHED OVER ALBERTA OIL SPILL

June 22 - Residents, vacationers and business owners are launching a class-action lawsuit against a Canadian oil company and are seeking $75 million in damages after they say a major spill earlier this month devastated property value.

Merchant Law Group filed the suit Friday against Plains Midstream Canada after a pipeline spilled 475,000 litres of sour crude oil into Red Deer River and Gleniffer Lake near the town of Sundre earlier this month — one of three major spills in the last six weeks.

Lawyer Tony Merchant, who's representing 30 plaintiffs, said realtors consulted suggest property values have been halved as a result of the spill. *The Star* Read more

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## Cormack's Column

**In this issue of the ISCO Newsletter we are printing No. 83 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

### CHAPTER 83: KNOWLEDGE OF MECHANICAL RECOVERY

Returning to weirs, BP/Vikoma developed the figure-8 configuration of the original free-floating boom, initially designed to operate with the Vikoma disc skimmer, to produce the Weir Boom System by placing 10 weir slots each 1.2 metres wide and 75mm deep between the air and water tubes of a 60 metre length of figure-8 boom. The weirs are in this manner located at the water-oil-air interface and because of the general flexibility of this boom system are thus enabled to follow this interface in the presence of waves. Thus, pollutant and water pass over the lower weir lips to enter a collection gallery which runs behind the figure-8 and connects the individual weirs. This gallery is formed by another figure-8 system consisting of a second air buoyancy tube and a lower discharge tube, the latter being fitted with 10 weir pumps in series and with the former carrying the hydraulic power lines and stabilising the main boom profile and presentation of the 10 weirs to the floating pollutant. The positioning of the pumps in the horizontal discharge tube allows pollutant and free water to flow from the upstream weirs towards the recovery ship and its deck-mounted lift pumps.

Having developed an axial flow propeller and a vane pump for the discharge tube, the latter was chosen for its suction-induced flow, its higher viscosity/entrained-air tolerance, its action as a non-return valve and its blockage clearance by flow-reversal. This pump weighed 30 kg in air, was hydraulically driven by a 4kw motor, and delivered 62.5 tonnes per hour at 320rpm with a head up to 0.7 bar, while the two deck-mounted 150mm centrifugal pumps had a combined capacity of 625 tonnes per hour (10 weir pumps), could self-prime to 8.6 metres and could operate against discharge pressures up to 2 bar. In addition, the ship could hydraulically operate a dump valve at the far end to drain the system prior to its retrieval onboard. In use, a 120m length of this boom containing the 60m weir section was to be connected to the recovery vessel at one end and to a 500 m long deflection boom at the other in an splayed J-configuration with a ship at each end and with the possibility of a 3-Ship W-configuration with the recovery ship at the central apex. In the event, a prototype J-configuration was deployed at the Ixtoc Blow-Out under two distinct wave conditions as observed and reported by WSL.

Thus, the system showed good wave following ability in a 6 knot wind with a 0.7 metre swell of 12 second period in which emulsion rafts/windrows of an estimated thickness of ~ 1mm were estimated to be covering ~ 50% of the sea surface and to be entering the boom array at a relative speed of 0.5-1.0 knot, while recovery rates where between 355-520 tonnes per hour of which 40% was emulsion and 60% free seawater, all of which was recovered onboard by the deck-mounted pumps operating at ~ 70% capacity. Again, in the less favourable conditions of a 15-25 knot wind with a 2 metre swell and 5 second period the recovery rates were 350-480 tonnes per hour at the same emulsion/free-water ratio of 40/60% while the viscosity throughout was estimated to be in the range 5,000-8,000cSt. For this evaluation of performance, deployment was achieved in 160 minutes and recovery in 145 minutes.

Further to the weir approach and intended for use within a towed boom, Vikoma offered the circular weir, Cascade LP3000 skimmer, with lip-depth adjustable by three floats equilaterally arranged outside the weir, and with a nominal pump capacity of 183 tonnes per hour.


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.


## Science and Technology

### MATHS FORMULA LEADS RESEARCHERS TO SOURCE OF POLLUTION

*The algorithm itself is modelled on the general transport of a pollutant and takes three phenomena into account: diffusion, convection and reaction.*

June 28 - The leaking of environmentally damaging pollutants into our waters and atmosphere could soon be counteracted by a simple mathematical algorithm, according to researchers. Presenting their research in IOP Publishing's journal Inverse Problems, the researchers, from Universite de Technologie de Compiegne, believe their work could aid efforts to avoid environmental catastrophes by identifying the exact location where pollutants have been leaked as early as possible.

In the event of an oil spill across a region of the sea, researchers could collect samples of pollutants along certain sections of the body of water and then feed this information into their algorithm.

## Science and Technology (continued)

The algorithm is then able to determine two things: the rate at which the pollutant entered the body of water and where the pollutant came from.

This isn't the first time that mathematical algorithms have been used to solve this problem; however, this new approach is unique in that it could allow researchers to 'track' the source of a pollutant if it is moving or changing in strength. *TerraDaily* Read more

## Special report

### REPORT ON IMO / CHINA MSA / IPIECA GI WORKSHOP ON OIL SPILL RESPONSE

***This is a report contributed by ISCO Executive Committee Member Mr Li Guobin and his assistant, Mr Robin Kuang, both of Sunic-Ocean marine Technical & Service Co. Ltd.***


*Picture on left: The opening ceremony of the workshop*

June 19, 2012 - Organized by MSA of China Ministry of Transport, hosted by the Shandong Maritime Safety Administration, a three-day (from June 19 to June 21) symposium of "International Maritime Organization (IMO), China Maritime Safety Administration, and International Petroleum Industry Environmental Conservation Association (IPIECA) workshop on Oil Spill Emergency Response" was successfully opened in Qingdao China.

Jose Matheickal. head of IMO Marine Environment Division, Anton Rhodes, project manager in International Petroleum Industry Environmental Conservation Association (IPIECA), Hugh Parker, former head of International Tanker Owners Pollution Federation (ITOPF), Mr. Wang Haiyu, vice-director of Shandong Maritime Safety Administration, E Hailiang director of the of Ship Management Department of China MSA, as well as more than 70 delegates from relevant international organizations, Environmental Protection Department, State Oceanic Administration, domestic oil industry, shipping industry, scientific research institutes, maritime systems directly under MSA, oil spill equipment manufacturers (including Sunic-Ocean) and environmental protection enterprises (SPROs) attended the opening ceremony.

*Mr.Huanghe (on left) Deputy Director General of China MSA and Mr. Jean Claude Sainlos (centre), former head of Marine Environment Division, IMO attended a buffet reception held after the day meeting of June,20.*

During this three-day event, Sunic-Ocean, as a long standing provider of oil spill response knowledge and technology, as well as a distributor and manufacturer of internationally advanced spill response equipment in China, was invited to set up a exhibition booth at the conference hall just beside the entrance.

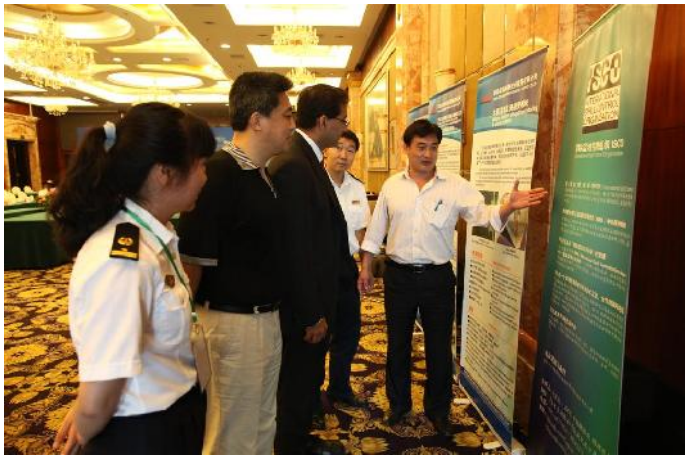
ISCO deputy representative Robin Kuang and his colleagues introduced Sunic-Ocean's GPS satellite orientated UAV helicopter-based spill monitoring system together with a profile of ISCO China branch to the symposium participants. This received wide attention from China MSA officials, international organization officials and entrepreneurs in environment protection industry who attended the workshop.

## Special report (continued)

*Robin Kuang introducing Sunic's UAV Spill Monitoring system to Mr. Wang Haiyu (front left), Vice-Director of MSA Shandong China.*

For the further development of ISCO in China Robin Kuang had a very positive discussion with the most senior oil spill trainer in China Mr. Song Shoukui who is the director of Technical Training Section of Ynatai Oil Spill Response Technical Center of MSA. Mr. Song agreed that ISCO, as an international oil spill experts group which holds permanent consultative status at IMO, would definitely be useful in helping to develop China's spill response knowledge-base and training. He was happy to agree to help in promoting ISCO within China's MSA System and promised a detailed study of the benefits that would accrue.

*Pictured below on the left Mr. Song Shoukui and Robin Kuang posed in front of Sunic-Ocean's booth, and on the right, Robin Kuang was introducing ISCO in China to China MSA officials and IMO official*


## Events

### OIL SPILL INDIA 2012 – CALL FOR PAPERS

The Oil Spill India International Conference & Exhibition takes place over 13-15 September 2012 at the Holiday Inn Resort in Goa, India. OSI 2012 is now accepting papers for the conference. You can submit your abstracts by 16th July 2012, focusing on the following topics and take the advantage of this opportunity to share your insight with the industry.

Offshore and Onshore Oil Spills: Oil Spill Emergency- Prevention & Response □ Govt. Issues/ New Regulatory/ Companies □ Response/ Operators Expectations □ Lessons Learned/ Case studies/ Emergency Response Case Studies/ Future □ Crisis Assets Identification, Allocation, Transportation, Tracking & Relocation □ Public Info System, Communication in Crisis, Managing Public opinions/ Claims □ Training, Equipments, Salvage, Use of Technology, Volunteers & Temp Workers □ Contingency Planning, Response Plan, Preparedness, Emergency Planning against Natural Disasters, Managing and Keeping Data □ The history of Oil Spill and different stages of R & D in Oil Spill and its future □ The importance of Oil Spill Response Exercise □ The compensation for Oil Spill, Present/ Future □ Oil Spill Emergency - Transportation of Equipments □ Importance of HR/ Training etc. □ The fate of Spilled oil □ Investment opportunities pertaining to Oil Spill □ Legal Issues Related to Oil Spills

Abstracts for proposed papers can be submitted electronically using an online submission system. To access this online system, please log on to and review the "Papers and Presentation" tab. Authors will find here the instruction and the means for posting an abstract. More info

## Events (continued)

### SINGAPORE: KEMIRA PRESENTING SEVEN WATER TREATMENT SOLUTIONS AT SINGAPORE INTERNATIONAL WATER WEEK

Kemira is proud to present seven technical posters in the poster session at SIWW 2012 held on July 1 – July 5, 2012. Singapore International Water Week (SIWW) is the global platform for the sharing and co-creation of innovative water solutions attended by global water leaders and practitioners from the public and private sectors to debate in water dialogues, network with key industry players, show case leading-edge technologies and best practices and identify viable solutions to address this common challenge. More info

### UK: ENVIROTECH & CLEAN ENERGY 2012 INVESTOR SUMMIT

We are pleased to announce that New Energy World Network's Envirotech & Clean Energy Investor Summit 2012 will be taking place in London on the 7th and 8th November 2012. The Summit follows on from sold-out events over the past five years and will bring together hundreds of the industry's most active and influential investment decision-makers, financiers, company leaders, entrepreneurs and technology pioneers.

The agenda will focus on key issues of growth, investment and new business opportunities concerning the whole investor spectrum of private equity and venture capital firms, asset management firms, listed company investors, corporate investors, corporate acquirers, hedge funds, project financiers, family offices, pension funds, endowments, foundations and impact investors. More info

### UK & IRELAND: NEXT MEETING OF ISAA ALL-IRELAND SPILL RESPONSE ORGANISATION STEERING GROUP

The next meeting will take place at 10.30 a.m. on Tuesday 28 August 2012 at the NIEA office in Lisburn, Northern Ireland. The Notice of Meeting and Agenda will be sent out to all stakeholders on the mailing list. More info – john.mcmurtrie@spillcontrol.org

## Training

### UK: SEMINAR ON CHLORINATED SOLVENT REMEDIATION

**SHEFFIELD**: Tankersley Manor Hotel, Church Lane, Tankersely, S75 3DQ Date: 11th July 2012 More info

## Publications

### REPORT ON ENBRIDGE OIL SPILL IN KALAMAZOO RIVER RELEASED BY INSIDE CLIMATE NEWS

A new report published on June 26 2012 details the events leading up to and following Enbridge's July 2010 oil spill in Marshal. **"The Dilbit Disaster: Inside The Biggest Oil Spill You've Never Heard Of"** published by Inside Climate News and written by Elizabeth McGowan and Lisa Song. The report comes after a seven-month investigation into federal and state documents, as well as interviews with the major players involved with the response. Read the report

### NEW PUBLICATIONS AVAILABLE FROM IMO PUBLISHING

Details in the June 2012 IMO Publishing Newsletter

### NEW PUBLICATIONS FROM THE US EPA

May 1-15, 2012 *Technology Innovation News Survey*

June 2012 issue of Technology News and Trends

July 1, 2012 issue of TechDirect Newsletter

## Products and services

### PUREDRY RECOVERS MORE THAN 150 TONS OF FUEL OIL ONBOARD SILJA SYMPHONY

June 25 - In November 2010, the Baltic ferry MS Silja Symphony installed PureDry, a new high-speed separator from Alfa Laval with the capability to recover re-usable fuel from waste fuel oil. Symphony's Chief Engineer Mats Göras relates that since commissioning, the PureDry unit has recovered more than 150 m3 of oil, which has been returned to the bunker tanks for re-use. "With bunker oil at today's prices, this has meant a significant reduction in fuel costs for us," says Göras, "we have also cut our costs for landing waste oil." Read this article in *The Maritime Executive*

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### A NOVEL WAY TO CLEAN WASTEWATER

Seven years ago, Paul Edmiston was working in his laboratory on a potential way to detect the presence of explosives. By accident, he created a material that acted as a powerful sponge that could absorb small organic compounds like gasoline, motor oil, and pesticides dissolved in water.

Today Dr. Edmiston, a professor of chemistry at the College of Wooster in Ohio, is hoping that his invention, dubbed Osorb, will have a new commercial application: cleaning the wastewater created by the drilling process called hydraulic fracturing. Read this article in the *New York Times*

## Correspondence

**From ISCO Member, Brian O'Connor, Secretary of the Canberra and Regions Emergency Response Group in Australia**

"I have been very impressed by the three articles "Anatomy of an Oil Spill" - Real down-to earth stuff. Would it be OK for us in Australia to reproduce these in a small booklet for our distribution to our membership and also for students at our emergency responder training courses?"

Your editor replied - "As you may have guessed, the article was based on a real spill event that took place in 1990. At that time I was the owner and MD of the spill response company. The factory was a distillery.

The original story was written up by a former colleague but did require quite a lot of editing. No problem for you to reproduce in your booklet but please acknowledge the ISCO Newsletter - it could help us increase our readership and perhaps even add to the number of ISCO members in Australia (currently around a dozen).

The company didn't have a great many people available at the time and to secure enough manpower I contracted in some friends who had a garden landscaping business. Because the distillery had to shut down, with the manager's agreement, we were also able to draft in some of the distillery workers to help. Although a small spill, I count it as one of our most satisfying clean-up actions. Clients very happy with the outcome and when the bill was sent, they sent a cheque by return of post !

On completion of the main part of the work, we had a ceilidh in the local hotel - fiddle and accordion music, with dancing and lots of drams, until the small hours of the morning. Great fun. In those days it was still the custom for distillery workers to be given their "morning" every day (whisky), like the grog ration that used to be the custom in the British Navy (both now casualties of the modern Health and Safety culture. I remember how happy we all were on the first morning to have a break from filling sandbags in the pouring rain when the distillery manager himself appeared bearing a tray of glasses filled with the golden nectar !

I'd like to print your letter in the Newsletter. I do want to encourage readers to send in stories about real experiences. I sometimes struggle to find interesting news for the Newsletter and "surfing" to find stories is very time consuming - so please let me know about anything interesting that CROIERG is doing or give me an article about the organisation."

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**From John Brinkman of ISCO Corporate Member, Imbibitive Technologies.**

A mini-view of Canadiana in the midst of the Niagara Region. Here you travel the Welland Canal in Time Lapse. NEAT! http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Welland_Canal . (Info on the Welland Canal). You are about to travel the Ontario, Canada - Welland Canal in Time Lapse (Sent by a retired pilot of the Niagara Canal system) http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=U15Fwo9tbJ4

Editor – Nothing to do with spills, but the You Tube time lapse video is amazing – Well worth watching. Many thanks, John, for sharing this. The other link (Wikipedia) gives historical information about the Welland Canal

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