

ISCO & THE ISCO NEWSLETTER

The ISCO Newsletter is published weekly by the International Spill Control Organisation, a not-for-profit organisation supported by members in 45 countries. ISCO has Consultative Status at IMO, Observer Status at IOPC Funds and is dedicated to raising worldwide preparedness and co-operation in response to oil and chemical spills, promoting technical development and professional competency, and to providing a focus for making the knowledge and experience of spill control professionals available to IMO, UNEP, EC and other organisations.

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International Oil Spill Conference
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International news

EUROPE: SAFESEANET INTERFACE GETS MAKEOVER



Two recent upgrades have improved the SafeSeaNet service EMSA offers to users. Firstly, the interface now displays data on nautical charts, making it easier and faster to obtain information. Secondly, the 'incident report exchange' has been expanded based on feedback from a two-year consultation.

Details on a vessel involved in an accident or incident will now be updated and distributed to Member State authorities along the planned route of the ship.

Member States tested the new functions during a series of training sessions held in EMSA and Belgium and gave very positive feedback. Further training will be given in 2014 and Member States are invited to express their interest to participate. Source: [EMSA Newsletter February 2014](#)

IMO: POLLUTION PREVENTION AND RESPONSE (PPR)

The first meeting (PPR1) of the new PPR Sub-Committee took place at IMO in London last week. As explained in last week's Newsletter the work formerly carried out by the MEPC OPRC-HNS Technical Group has been integrated in the new PPR Sub-Committee together with a wider range of related pollution prevention and response activities formerly addressed by BLG and a number of other sub-committees.

ISCO was represented at PPR1 by Dr Douglas Cormack and, to give a flavour of the scope of matters addressed, he has submitted the following brief summary of document items 1-16 below.

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International news (continued)

1. The unanimous election of Mr. Sveinung Oftedal (Norway) as Chairman and Dr Flavio Fernandez (Brasil) as Vice-chairman, and the Opening Address by the Secretary General (available on the IMO website).
2. Decisions of other IMO bodies relevant to the work of the PPR as set out in documents PPR 1/2 and PPR 1/2/1
3. Evaluation of Safety and Pollution Hazards of Liquid Chemicals and Preparation of Consequential Amendments to the IBC Code.
4. Development of the OSV Chemical Code.
5. Guidelines for Implementation of the Ballast Water Management Convention.
6. Manual entitled 'Ballast Water Management - How to do it'.
7. Improved and New Technologies Approved for Ballast Water Management Systems and Reduction of Atmospheric Pollution.
8. Consideration of the Impact on the Arctic of Emissions of Black Carbon from International Shipping.
9. Review of Relevant Non-Mandatory Instruments as a Consequence of the amended MARPOL Annex VI and the NOx Technical Code.
10. Implementation of the OPRC Convention and the OPRC-HNS Protocol and Relevant Conference Resolutions (TG 16 report).
11. Consideration of IACS Unified Interpretations.
12. Casualty Analysis. (recently deleted from PPR consideration by the controlling committees).
13. Biennial and Provisional Agendas for PPR 2 (c.f. 'Draft Report' of PPR 1 as above).
14. Election of Chairman and Vice-Chairman for 2015 (both re-elected).
15. Any Other Business, disposal of cooking oil.
16. Action Requested of the Committees (c.f. the current draft status of the report).

The Draft Report (PPR 1/WP.1) to the Marine Environment Protection Committee duly noted within paragraphs 10.1 and 10.2 that matters related to pollution preparedness, response and cooperation for oil and hazardous noxious substances had been added to its terms of reference; and that the TG 16 report had been submitted to it by its chairman Mr. Woo-Rack Suh as document PPR 1/WP.7. This Draft Report then indicated that additional text would be prepared by the Secretariat in consultation with the Sub-Committee Chairman, after the session based on the report of TG 16 and the actions requested therein, taking into account the decisions taken by the Sub-Committee during subsequent discussions.

Incident reports

USA: PHOSPHORIC ACID LEAK IN NORTH ESCAMBIA COUNTY AFTER TRAIN DERAILMENT

January 30 - A train derailment has caused a phosphoric acid leak in North Escambia County, according to state officials.

At about 6:55 p.m. Tuesday night, 23 cars of a CSX freight train traveling from Waycross, Ga., to Mobile came off the railroad tracks near Cantonment, said Brandy Smith, an external affairs manager for the Department of Environmental Protection. Four cars carrying phosphoric acid cars landed in Fletcher's Creek, a body of water that flows into Cotton Lake. *PNJ.com* [Read more](#)

USA: JET FUEL SPILLED INTO AREA CREEK, FORT HOOD SAYS

January 30 - A faulty valve caused a 14,000-gallon jet fuel spill early Thursday morning at Fort Hood and some of the fuel did end up in the Reese Creek waterway, the post said.

A public works team was able to contain the fuel in dry portion of the creek about three-quarters of mile from the fuel farm where the spill occurred at around 7 a.m. *KWTX.com* [Read more](#) [Thanks to Don Johnston of ISCO Industry Partner, DG & Hazmat Group]

UK: ENVIRONMENT AGENCY APPEALS FOR HELP OVER OIL SLICK IN RIVER WHARFE AT OTLEY

January 31 - The Environment Agency is appealing for help to trace the cause of an oil leak on the River Wharfe.

A large slick of some kind of oil could be seen flowing through the middle of Otley today (Thursday, January 30). *Ilkley Gazette* [Read more](#) [Thanks to Don Johnston of ISCO Industry Partner, DG & Hazmat Group]

Incident reports (continued)

USA: 50 EVACUATED AFTER CHEMICAL TRAIN DERAILMENT IN MISSISSIPPI



Photo: A train carrying chemicals derailed in New Augusta, Miss. on Friday, Jan. 31, 2014. Courtesy of Regina Hall

February 1 - About 50 people in southeast Mississippi were forced from their homes Friday after 18 cars of an 85-car train carrying chemicals derailed, officials said.

The train traveling from Jackson, Miss., to Mobile, Ala., derailed at 9 a.m. local time (10 a.m. ET) Friday in New Augusta, Miss., according to the Mississippi Department of Motor Vehicles.

No one was hurt in the accident, but the 50 people living within a half-mile radius were evacuated because the train was carrying an ethanol-based product that spilled, said New Augusta Sheriff Jimmy Smith. *NBC News* [Read more](#)

YEMEN: TRIBESMEN RESORT TO BOMBS AGAIN

February 1 - Armed tribesmen bombed Yemen's main oil pipeline on Saturday, halting crude flow to the country's main export terminal less than a month after it was repaired, oil and local officials said.

The attack occurred in the Serwah district in the central oil-producing province of Maarib, they said, and caused a huge fire that prompted the closure of the pipeline and stopped oil flow from the Maarib fields to the Ras Isa oil terminal on the Red Sea. *The Maritime Executive* [Read more](#)

SOUTH KOREA - CLEANS UP AFTER VLCC STRIKES OIL PIPELINE

Photo: Crude oil from a cracked pipeline run by GS Caltex Corp is seen in the sea off Yeosu, about 460 km (286 miles) south of Seoul, January 31, 2014. REUTERS/Yeosu Maritime Police/Yonhap

February 3 - Teams of workers, aided by ships and aircraft, will complete on Monday the sea cleanup of 164,000 litres of oil that leaked off South Korea's southern coast, the coast guard said, after a pipeline run by GS Caltex Corp cracked at the weekend.

A cleanup of shore areas will take up to two weeks.

The crack and subsequent leak occurred on Friday at a quay off Yeosu, more than 300 km (185 miles) south of Seoul, while the 318,445 deadweight tonne Very Large Crude Carrier Wu Yi San was preparing to berth and offload crude. *gCaptain* [Read more](#)
Related report in [The Maritime Executive](#)



USA: MPCA INVESTIGATES 12,000-GALLON OIL SPILL IN SE MINNESOTA

February 4 - The Minnesota Pollution Control Agency was investigating Tuesday after a Canadian Pacific Railway train dribbled about 12,000 gallons of crude oil along 68 miles of track between Winona and Red Wing in southeastern Minnesota.

MPCA spokeswoman Cathy Rofshus said no major cleanup was planned because the oil splattered between the rails onto the track bed as the train was moving Monday. *PostBulletin.com* [Read more](#)

USA: USCG CUTTER SPILLS DIESEL FUEL

February 4 - The Coast Guard reported a diesel fuel discharge Tuesday afternoon from the Coast Guard Cutter Mackinaw while the ship was taking on fuel in the Detroit River in the vicinity of the Ambassador Bridge.

The crew immediately secured the source of fuel and conducted initial clean-up operations onboard. Crewmembers also deployed boom around the fuel to prevent further spread. *MarineLink.com* [Read more](#)

FRANCE: SPANISH CARGO SHIP SPLITS ON FRENCH COAST AT ANGLET



Photo on left: Crew members were winched to safety one by one

February 5 - France has raised a pollution alert after an empty Spanish cargo ship split in half on a breakwater near Bayonne on the Atlantic coast.

Drifting after its engine failed, the Luno crashed into the breakwater at Anglet, snapping neatly in two, with one half either side of the rocks.

All 12 crew members were winched to safety by helicopter, one at a time. One person suffered a nose injury. As the wreck leaked fuel oil, a maritime pollution alert was declared. *BBC News* [Read more](#)



Photo above right: 6 Feb 2014: The stern of the MV Luno capsized overnight and is pounded by large breaking waves. Image (c) REUTERS/Regis Duvignau

February 6 - A Spanish cargo ship broke in two on Wednesday after hitting a sea wall off the southwestern coast of France in high winds and was leaking some fuel into the water, French officials said.

However the government said initial fears that the ship was loaded with fertilizers were unfounded.

"It was an empty freight ship," Transport Minister Frederic Cuvillier told BFM-TV television. *gCaptain* [Read more and watch video](#)
Related report and video in [The Maritime Executive](#)

February 6 - Teams from a salvage company and a French coast guard anti-pollution squad are to start Friday pumping fuel out of a Spanish cargo ship which has broken into three sections after a spectacular shipwreck in bad weather.

The operation will be a race against time as it must be carried out in the two hours of low tide and before new storms forecast for the weekend hit France's Atlantic coast. *TerraDaily* [Read more](#)

MICRONESIA: A CALL FOR INTERNATIONAL HELP TO GET A FISHING BOAT OFF FSM REEF

In the Federated States of Micronesia, a state of emergency has been in force for more than a week after Ping Da 7, the ship that ran aground on Pohnpei reef in early December, started leaking oil.

A call for international help to get a fishing boat off FSM reef (Credit: ABC)

All attempts to refloat the giant Chinese-owned fish transport vessel have failed so far, and a Presidential declaration has warned that the Kiribati registered ship poses "a substantial environmental threat."

The Conservation Society of Pohnpei says while the oil spill has been contained, international assistance is desperately needed to get the ship off the reef.

Radio Australia [Read transcript of interview and listen to audio tape.](#)

NEWS REPORTS FROM THE USA

January 25 - DEP order: Dismantle Freedom tank farm - Chemicals must be out by March 15

The Freedom Industries tank farm responsible for the Elk River chemical contamination is going to be shut down and dismantled, according to an order from the West Virginia Department of Environmental Protection that was announced Saturday by Gov. Earl Ray Tomblin.

All chemicals must be removed from the facility by March 15. *Saturday Gazette-Mail* [Read more](#) [Thanks to Don Johnston of ISCO Industry Partner, DG & Hazmat Group]

February 3 - Top Players Focus on Well Control in Gulf of Mexico

150 GoM stakeholders meet at the Offshore Well Control Conference in Houston on the 28-29 May, 2014.

The Offshore Well Control Conference, Gulf of Mexico (OWC 2014) will ensure executive level decision makers, subject matter experts and senior drilling & HSEQ managers intimately involved in well control have a platform to share information across the entire industry. Key stakeholders including Shell, ConocoPhillips, Halliburton, Schlumberger, Baker Hughes, Oceaneering and Boots & Coots are already confirmed to take part in this industry forum on May 28 – 29 at the Royal Sonesta Hotel in Houston. Up to 200 leading industry figures will gather for two days of presentations, panel discussions and networking to share original content and experience. With more than 25 expert speakers sharing analysis, case studies and lessons learnt, this meeting comes at a critical time.

Onsite, as well as the unique networking opportunity, there will also be a Technology Showcase Hall, demonstrating best in class well control technologies and services. This will enable delegates to widen the current pool of service providers to ensure they have the right tools available. *The Maritime Executive* [Read more](#)

February 6 - U.S. Charges Saudi for 2002 Oil Tanker Bombing



The Pentagon has decided to proceed with a war crimes case against a Saudi man accused of planning the suicide bombing of an oil tanker off Yemen that took place two months after he was already imprisoned at the U.S. Navy base at Guantánamo Bay, reports The Miami Herald.

On October 6, 2002, the Limburg was carrying 397,000 barrels of crude oil from Iran to Malaysia, and was in the Gulf of Aden off Yemen to pick up another load of oil. It was registered under a French-flag and had been chartered by the Malaysian petrol firm, PETRONAS.

While it was some distance offshore, an explosives-laden dinghy rammed the starboard side of the tanker and detonated. The vessel caught on fire and approximately 90,000 barrels of oil leaked into the Gulf of Aden. Although Yemeni officials initially claimed that the explosion was caused by an accident, later investigations found traces of TNT on the

damaged ship. One crew member was killed, and 12 other crew members were injured. The damage to the tanker was around USD\$45 million. *The Maritime Executive* [Read more](#)

NEWS REPORTS FROM CANADA

February 2 - Oil spill risks would rise from three major projects: U.S. study

Trans Mountain pipeline, Deltaport container terminal and bulk terminal near Bellingham to increase large ship traffic - A U.S. study that takes a wider examination than Canadian research into oil spill risks in the Salish Sea shows the greatest potential increase in spills is off the San Juan and Gulf Islands.

The potential for oil spills in the Haro Strait-Boundary Pass passage increases by 4.75 times as a result of the anticipated increase

Other news reports from around the world (continued)

of 1,250 large ships annually from three planned projects in the waters shared by British Columbia and Washington state, according to the draft findings of a U.S. Environmental Protection Agency-funded study.

The potential for oil spills without the three projects is in the hundreds of barrels of oil a year in Haro Strait, which means the increased risk pushes the potential oil loss to more than 1,000 barrels of oil. *The Vancouver Sun* [Read more](#) [Thanks to Gerald Graham of World Ocean Consulting] Related report in [Ship & Bunker](#) See also *VTRA Final Report* in *PUBLICATIONS*

February 4 - Pipeline rupture report raises questions about TransCanada inspections

A CBC News investigation has unearthed a critical report that the federal regulator effectively buried for several years about a rupture on a trouble-prone TransCanada natural gas pipeline.

On July 20, 2009, the Peace River Mainline in northern Alberta exploded, sending 50-metre-tall flames into the air and razing a two-hectare wooded area. Few people ever learned of the rupture — one of the largest in the past decade — other than the Dene Tha' First Nation, whose traditional territory it happened on.

Members of Dene Tha' First Nations community of Chateh, about 50 kilometres away from the site of the blast, also want to know why the report was not released until now. *CBC News* [Read more](#)

NEWS REPORTS FROM NIGERIA

January 30 - Bonga Oil Spill - FG Fines Shell N1.84 trillion

Shell Nigeria Exploration and Production Company, SNEPCO, was, yesterday, ordered by Nigerian Maritime Administration and Safety Agency, NIMASA, and the National Oil Spill Response and Emergency Agency, NOSREA, to pay a total of \$11.5 billion, about N1.84 trillion, as fines and compensation for the 2011 Bonga oil spill incident.

Speaking at a public hearing organised by the House of Representatives Committee on Environment, Mr. Patrick Akpobolokemi, Director General, NIMASA, said the maritime agency calculated a total of \$6.5 billion, about N1.04 trillion, as compensation to be paid to the communities affected by the spill. *Vanguard Newspaper* [Read more](#)

February 6 - Ogoniland: FG begins implementation of UNEP report

THE Federal Government has started implementing the UN Environment Programme (UNEP) report on Ogoniland by addressing some emergency measures to provide alternative facilities for the affected communities.

Mr Peter Idabor, the Director-General of the National Oil Spill Detection and Response Agency (NOSDRA), disclosed this in an interview with the News Agency Nigeria (NAN) in Abuja on Wednesday.

Idabor said that the government had initiated a Hydrocarbon Pollution Remediation Project (HPRP) to provide alternative facilities for the Ogoni communities. He said: "What we are dealing with now are emergency measures that UNEP has requested to start with - providing alternative sources of drinking water, putting signs to ward off people from having their bath in dangerous areas. *Nigerian Tribune* [Read more](#)

ISRAEL: HIGH SCHOOL PUPILS REACH COMPETITION FINALS WITH INNOVATIVE OIL SPILL COMBAT PROJECT

Avi Dubovsky, Tamer Hamoud, and Roey Shafran of Ort P'sagot High School, Karmiel, Israel have reached the finals of two competitions for their oil spill combat ideas. Their project has been entered for a few competitions. They made it to the finals of the "Young Scientists and Engineers" competition hosted by the "Bloomfield Science Museum" in Jerusalem and "Intel". And they also entered the first stage of the "Stockholm Junior Water Prize" competition.

The main target they have set themselves is to design a system that makes the most efficient use of oil spill dispersants and reduces their harmful effects. The system does that by reducing the response time to practically zero and making the most accurate application of the dispersants.

The system is fully computerized and it is placed on the oil tanker itself. Using computer vision methods, the system tracks the oil level inside the tanker and detects leaks immediately when they occur. When detected, the leak is then classified in to one of 2 categories - a small leak or a big leak.

When a big leak has been detected, a sub-system is activated which applies the dispersant into the damaged tank, before the oil has started to leak into the ocean and in the exact amount needed. If the leak is a small leak, the system will make attempts to stop and seal the leak instead of applying dispersants to it. The way they have chosen to do that is by using sealing balls that are located inside the oil tank and at the time of a leak are pushed, by the oil itself, toward the hole to seal it.



In this issue of the ISCO Newsletter we are printing No. 162 in a series of articles contributed by Dr Douglas Cormack.

Dr Douglas Cormack is an Honorary Fellow 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 162: KNOWLEDGE ONLY INITIATIVES

Having announced its intention at MEPC 64 to invite environmentalist NGOs to answer the questions cited in article 161, ISCO formally invited them to do so on 15 November 2012 and having as yet received no acknowledgement, it may be concluded as expected that believers prefer not to have their beliefs so openly refuted by knowledge or so openly exposed to the likelihood of future refutation by knowledge acquired by reality-evaluation of specific hypotheses. Instead, as ought to be clear by now, believers hope their assertion of absolute need will quickly lead to a debate as to means and thence to a displacement debate as to the visual impact/non-impact of such belief-only means as wind farms, tidal barrages, or whatever.

Thus, while the hypothesis that wind farms produce electricity without wind can easily be reality-refuted thus obviating all debate as to whether or not they offer an on-demand supply, a debate as to their visual impact/non-impact may be winnable in around 50% of proposed locations. However, as to the stage now reached in our knowledge-accepting/belief-rejecting initiative on spill response and discharge control, we have reality-refuted the belief in species-extinction/ecological-disaster and have shown the need to suspend belief in anthropogenic global warming until specific hypotheses are either reality-validated or reality-refuted. Either way, our initiative has already made the MEPC/OPRC-HNS Technical Group aware of the ubiquitous need for knowledge-only policy.

As of now, it can be announced that the ISCO approach to knowledge-only response to marine incidents is nearing completion as a contingency plan which relates the physicochemical properties of released substances to their fates and effects and to the range of possible responses, and which is made incident-specific by the values of the physicochemical properties relevant to each incident; that with seawater concentrations being non-toxic for all such property values and being biodegraded to carbon dioxide and water as is the entire biomass of land and sea, belief in species-extinction/ecological-disaster is thus reality-refuted; and that with this biomass being continuously replaced by photosynthesis from carbon dioxide and with 'fossil' fuels arising only when its cyclic biodegradation is interrupted, belief/disbelief in its combustive resumption being the cause of global warming is only resolvable by reality-evaluation of belief/disbelief to knowledge and is un-resolvable by debating partially selected facts/counter-facts.

Since 15 November 2010, this weekly Column has thus been reviewing knowledge and its counter-beliefs to culminate in a contingency plan from which will derive all future incident-specific action/non-action plans for all aspects of oils/HNS response onboard casualties, at sea and onshore, all of which is and will be down-loadable for collective reference, though publication as an available-on-demand book is now under consideration. Again, while this knowledge-only approach to response planning will thus be preserved in some such form against staff changes in coastal states, being thus useable even by fresh recruits, it was nonetheless judged necessary to present it gradually in the series of documents submitted for awareness to MEPC/OPRC-HNS/TG at meetings 10-15 and more recently for TG 16.

Thus, with the invitation to environmentalist NGOs remaining open, the ISCO document for TG 16 invites individual coastal states to compare the advantages of our approach to knowledge-only response planning (article 161) and those of their own approach to fuel-saving/emission-reductions (article 155) with the disadvantages of believing in non-existent species-extinction/ecological-disaster (articles 160 & 161) and in as yet unproven anthropogenic global warming; and to conclude that these beliefs will continue to create resource-wasting claims for release compensation and resource-wasting charges for carbon dioxide emissions until the former are rejected by already available reality-validated knowledge and the latter are suspended pending acquisition of reality-validated knowledge for or against (articles 160 & 161). However, while acceptance of our new knowledge-only approach to response planning would be welcomed by ISCO in completing the plans themselves, their finalisation is now underway subject only to consultation with the IOPCF and IGP&I secretariats as to how customer-contractor interaction can best be optimised for Fund conservation within existing Convention provisions.

Thus, in expectation of achieving the widest possible understanding of how to optimise the cost-effectiveness of customer-contractor interactions, the ISCO and ISAA secretariats will consider how best to accredit response contractors as to their competence to execute our new knowledge-only planning approach in association with coastal states similarly competent to use our new contingency plan to create each and every subsequent incident-specific action/inaction plan; to use the latter as the framework for reporting assessments made, actions taken, results achieved and costs incurred; and thus to prepare their compensation claims in a format uniformly assessable by IOPCF and P&I Club secretariats.

Only by such means will each and every marine incident cease to be treated as the first one ever despite the first one having been nearly fifty years ago.

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

FOR YOUR INTEREST – LINKS FOR RECENT ISSUES OF PERIODICALS

ASME EED EHS Newsletter	News and commentary on HSE issues from George Holliday	Most recent issue
Bow Wave	Sam Ignarski's Ezine on Marine & Transport Matters	Current issue
Cedre Newsletter	News from Cedre in Brittany, France	December 2013
The Essential Hazmat News	Alliance of Hazardous Materials Professionals	January 6 issue
USA EPA Tech Direct	Remediation of contaminated soil and groundwater	February 1 issue
USA EPA Tech News & Trends	Contaminated site clean-up information	May 2013 issue
Technology Innovation News Survey	From US EPA - Contaminated site decontamination	Dec 16-31 2013 issue
Intertanko Weekly News	International news for the oil tanker community	No 6 2014
CROIERG Enews	Canberra & Regions Oil Industry Emergency Response Group	February 2014 issue
IMO Publishing News	New and forthcoming IMO publications	January 2014
IMO News Magazine	News from the International Maritime Organization	No 4, 2013
Pollution Online Newsletter	News for prevention & control professionals	February 5 issue
EMSA Newsletter	News from the European Maritime Safety Agency	February 2014 issue
JOIFF "The Catalyst"	Int'l Organisation for Industrial Hazard Management	January 2014 issue
Environmental Technology Online	Environmental Monitoring, Testing & Analysis	January 2014 issue
OCIMF Newsletter	News from the Oil Companies International Marine Forum	September 2013 issue
IPIECA eNews	Int'l Petroleum Industry Environmental Conservation Assoc'n	February 2014 issue
WMU Newsletter	From the World Maritime University in Malmo, Sweden	December 2013 issue

NEW OGP-IPIECA GOOD PRACTICE GUIDELINES FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF SHALE OIL AND GAS

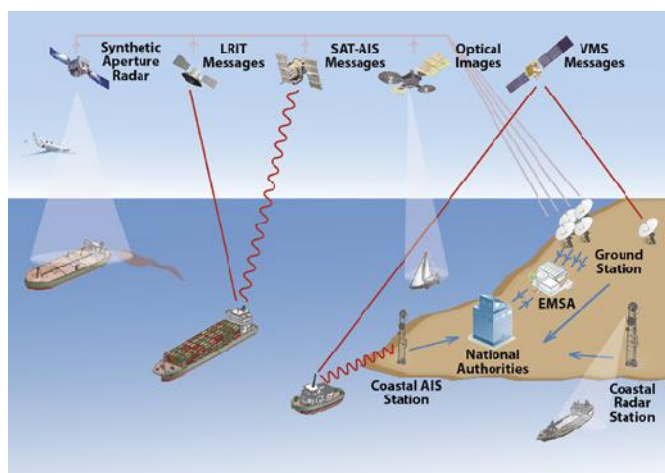
The OGP-IPIECA good practice guidelines for the development of shale oil and gas provide global principles for operations under which more detailed standards and/or practices may be developed to meet regional and local circumstances. These guidelines provide stakeholders with an overview of how the oil and gas industry manages the risks associated with its operations.

The scope includes all areas of shale gas and oil development, including water protection and the management of waste water, well integrity, air emissions and stakeholder engagement. In some instances, the guidelines may describe practices that reflect the obligations companies have under existing regulation.

Given the high level of public interest in shale oil and gas operations, these insights into how safety, environmental, health and community aspects may be addressed are particularly relevant. This information may also be used to structure discussions between stakeholders and operators at local level.

In developing these good practices, OGP and IPIECA reviewed various national and regional standards and practices from operators and industry organisations including API, ASRPG, UKOOG, as well as existing OGP and IPIECA guidelines. [Download the guidelines.](#) [Thanks to IPIECA]

NEW VIDEO SHOWS POTENTIAL VALUE OF EMSA'S INTEGRATED MARITIME SERVICES



Integrating data for a more safe, secure and clean maritime environment. Recognising the benefits of exchanging information between different government entities and ensuring more effective integration of maritime information is a key element within the Commission's Integrated Maritime Policy. EMSA is uniquely positioned to help the Commission achieve this aim.

Pollution response, border control, anti-piracy, fisheries monitoring and drug surveillance are just some of the areas now benefiting from enhanced maritime monitoring services.

A new video released in January explores EMSA's integrated maritime services and captures those who are already tapping into their potential.

[Check out the video on our website.](#)

CANADA - FINAL REPORT: VESSEL TRAFFIC RISK ASSESSMENT (VTRA)

Preventing Oil Spills from Large Ships and Barges in Northern Puget Sound & Strait of Juan de Fuca

This is a very large document (163 pages) and may take some time to download. [Download the report](#) [Thanks to Gerald Graham of World Ocean Consulting for providing this link]

Publications (continued)

10TH EDITION WORLD CATALOG OF OIL SPILL RESPONSE PRODUCTS

The World Catalog of Oil Spill Response Products, along with its web site OilSpillEquipment.com, is the leading resource in the response industry for reliable and up-to-date information on spill response products.

The World Catalog started out as a basic listing of equipment specifications in 1986, and has since evolved to be a useful reference book with descriptions of how equipment works, how to select equipment for different applications, and summaries of field and tank tests.

As always, it includes comprehensive data listings with information on currently available containment booms, skimmers, sorbents, oil/water separators, pumps, dispersant application equipment, and temporary storage devices.

The Catalog is available in its usual hard-copy form as well as a CD version. The price of the Catalog is US\$250, plus shipping and handling. More information on the Catalog is available at: OilSpillEquipment.com or email us at WorldCatalog@siross.com to order your copy.

ITOPF'S TECHNICAL INFORMATION PAPERS NOW AVAILABLE IN KOREAN

ITOPF's series of Technical Information Papers (TIPs), providing practical guidance on oil and chemical spill response in the marine environment, is now available in Korean.

We are grateful to the Korean Coastguard (KCG) for their translation of the 17 papers, and to the Korea Marine Environment Management Corporation (KOEM) and the Korea Institute of Ocean Science & Technology (KIOST) for their additional assistance.

The TIPs are based on the experience of ITOPF's technical staff at 700 pollution incidents worldwide, including over 50 in South Korea. They also reflect recent developments and technological advances in spill response.

Dr Karen Purnell, ITOPF's Managing Director, commented "We are delighted that, with the kind support of KCG, ITOPF's technical expertise can now reach a far wider audience in a country that has experienced many spills, including the largest tanker spill in recent years, the HEBEI SPIRIT."

The new translations can be freely downloaded from the [publications page](#) of our website along with Chinese, Russian, French and English versions. Spanish TIPs are due later this year. View [Korean publications](#) page.

Events

INDIA: MUMBAI SEMINAR

Government & Industry Co-operation - Global Good Practice in Developing Tier 2 Mutual Aid

We are pleased to invite you to a forum to consider the latest review of India's National Oil spill Disaster Contingency Plan (NOSDCP), with a particular focus on the potential option of forming an Indian Oil Spill Response Organisation (OSRO), co-hosted by Oil Spill Response Limited & the International Tanker Owners Pollution Federation Limited (ITOPF). This seminar builds on the successful [seminar in New Delhi](#) in November 2013 on Government and Industry collaboration, which will need to be at the heart of any future plans for an Indian OSRO.

While the New Delhi seminar in November 2013 had a focus on response to oil spills at sea, at this seminar in Mumbai we will have a particular emphasis on the approaches to coordination of the offshore and shoreline response operations. Hence, we would particularly welcome the additional participation of members of Coastal Administrations at this seminar.

Distinguished speakers have been invited to present from a variety of perspectives both Government and Industry including Deputy Inspector General AA Hebbar, TM Director (Environment), Indian Coast Guard who will lead the discussion relating to the latest review of India's National Oil spill Disaster Contingency Plan (NOSDCP). Formal invitation with details to follow.

[Click here to register your interest.](#) (Booking Form, 1MB) www.oilspillresponse.com / www.itopf.com

SRI LANKA: REGIONAL MEETING ON OIL SPILL PREPAREDNESS AND RESPONSE

Colombo, Sri Lanka, 26/02/2014 - The First Regional Meeting of the National Authorities responsible for Oil Spill Preparedness and Response will take place in Colombo, Sri Lanka.

This event has been jointly organised by the South Asia Co-operative Environment Programme (SACEP) and IMO.

Events (continued)

USA: IOSC 2014 KEYNOTE SPEAKER ANNOUNCED

Daniel Yergin, Pulitzer Prize-winning Author and Energy Expert will be the Keynote Speaker at IOSC 2014

He is a highly respected authority on energy, international politics, and economics, as he delves into the world of energy and its implications for the future. Dr. Yergin is Vice Chairman of IHS and founder of IHS Cambridge Energy Research Associates, as well as a Pulitzer Prize winner and recipient of the United States Energy Award. His new book - *The Quest: Energy, Security, and the Remaking of the Modern World* - has been hailed by *The Economist* as "a masterly piece of work" and "a comprehensive guide to the world's great energy needs and dilemmas." Make sure you don't miss out on this superb opportunity to be there when one of the premier energy experts of our time shares his in-depth knowledge.

To learn more about Dr. Yergin, or for information on the conference program, special events, and sponsorship opportunities, visit www.iosc.org. Questions? Email IOSCEXHIBITS@courtesyassoc.com or call (011) 202-973-8689. Email Sign Up - Receive email updates on Speakers, Topics, Program Info and Special Events. Send your email address to iosc@courtesyassoc.com

KAZAKHSTAN: INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE AND MINI-EXHIBITION "OFFSHORE AND ONSHORE OIL SPILLS: PREVENTION AND RESPONSE" ALMATY, 17-18 MARCH 2014

Against a backdrop of rising production and oil and gas megaprojects in the Caspian, issues of environmental protection and industry safety are becoming a regional priority. Environmental control, reduction of the environmental cost of industrial activity, oil spill prevention and response and the rehabilitation of oil contaminated land undoubtedly rank among the most important issues that the industry now faces. FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT: Ekaterina Poluyanova e_poluyanova@ccapital.co.uk

AUSTRALIA: DANGEROUS GOOD FORUM – PERTH - MARCH 19TH & 20TH 2014

The aim of this forum is to explore the variety of dangerous goods incidents that occur locally and nationwide every year and to provide practices and strategies to prevent accidents and reduce the overall number of incidents. A strong focus on regulatory reforms, legislation and compliance will feature throughout this event as safety is paramount when dealing with hazardous substances and dangerous goods. [Download the detailed programme](#)

Training

UK & IRELAND: ONLINE BOOKING NOW OPEN FOR 2014 TRAINING DAYS EVENT



This event is being held in Spring 2014 (April 28-29) in the beautiful environment of Lough Erne at Castle Archdale Country Park near Enniskillen in Northern Ireland. It will be an enjoyable and sociable occasion combining training with an opportunity to network with others who share your interest in protecting our environment.



Course options include an Accredited MCA Level 2 Oil Spill Response Training Course, a Practical Oil Spill Response Exercise, and an Introductory Course on Contaminated Soil and Groundwater Remediation including a demonstration of exploratory well drilling.. Click [EVENT PROGRAMME](#) to view the full details and make your booking online at http://isaa.org.uk/form/castle_archdale_booking_form_2014.html Course fees are not expensive and early booking is recommended.

AUSTRALIA: UPCOMING CROIERG TANKER ROLLOVER TRAINING COURSES



The Transport Industries Skills Centre (TISC) has put in place an "EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST LIST" for the training courses.

ALL TRAINING COURSE BOOKINGS & ENQUIRIES SHOULD BE MADE TO:
Paul Harrison Executive Manager, Transport Industry Skills Centre (TISC) 441 Sutton Road, Canberra ACT, TISC PO Box 6074 Queanbeyan NSW 2620 Tel.(02) 6297 7187 Mobile 0407 223 125 Email : pharrison@suttonroad.com.au

More info in February issue of [CROIERG News](#)

Training (continued)

NEW TRAINING VIDEO PACKAGES FROM EMERGENCY FILM GROUP

Emergency Film Group has put together the [Radiological Terrorism Response Package](#) to provide training for radiation threats and response.

Emergency Film Group has put together the [Crude Oil Spill Response Package](#).

Corrections

Rob Cox and Rob Self – Amongst my circle of friends and acquaintances there are two Robs and I managed to mix them up in last week's report on the OPRC-HNS TG meeting. It was Rob Cox who gave the presentation on the work of the OGP-IPIECA Joint Industry Project. Rob Cox is Technical Director of IPIECA and Program Manager of the OGP-IPIECA JIP. Rob Self is a director of the spill response consultancy company SpillConsult based in Southampton, UK. My apologies for the error.

Article on oil spill research being undertaken by the University of Rhode Island – I omitted to provide the link for readers to access the unabridged article. Here it is - <http://narragansett.patch.com/groups/schools/p/uri-researchers-developing-tiny-weapons-to-combat-big-oil-spills>

Vancouver WA and Vancouver BC – Gerald Graham of World Ocean Consulting in Canada has gently ticked me off twice for confusing the two Vancouvers in recent news reports. I was never good at geography when I was at school and that was a very long time ago. Gerald said "When Britain lost the Oregon Territory to the US, the Hudson's Bay Company moved its western HQ from Vancouver, WA to Fort Victoria (now Victoria), Vancouver Island. Around the same time, Vancouver, BC was established. No big deal. I mean, it's not like you're flying a plane- right?"

Too many mistakes ... Maybe it's time to think about retiring and handing over the production of the newsletter to someone else. Any volunteers?

End note

WOMAN STOPS GRIZZLY ATTACK WITH .25 CALIBER PISTOL



This is a story of self control and marksmanship.



A woman survived a grizzly bear attack with one well placed shot from her it'sy bitsy .25 caliber Beretta Jetfire.

These are her own words.:

While out hiking in Alberta Canada with my boyfriend, we were surprised when a huge grizzly bear came charging at us out of nowhere.

She must have been protecting her cubs because she was extremely aggressive.

If I had not had my little Beretta Jetfire I would not be here today!

I yanked it out of my purse and fired one shot. It hit my boyfriend in his kneecap and the bear caught him easily.

While the grizzly mauled the poor cripple, I was able to escape by just walking away at a brisk pace.

I love that pistol. I'll find other boyfriends.

[Thanks to John S. Brinkman of ISCO Corporate Member, Imbibitive Technologies America Inc.]

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. Products and services featured in the ISCO Newsletter and/or the ISCO website, including the International Directory of Spill Response Supplies and Services, have not been tested, approved or endorsed by ISCO. Any claims made by suppliers of products or services are solely those of the suppliers and ISCO does not accept any liability for their accuracy. Subscription is subject to acceptance of ISCO's Terms and Conditions as published on the website www.spillcontrol.org
