



ISCO NEWSLETTER

The Newsletter of the International Spill Response Community
Issue 441 21 July 2014

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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.

ISCO COMMITTEE & COUNCIL

ISCO is managed by an elected executive committee members of which are **Mr David Usher** (President, USA), **Mr John McMurtrie** (Secretary, UK), **Mr Marc Shaye** (USA), **Mr Dan Sheehan** (USA), **M. Jean Claude Sainlos** (France), **Mr Kerem Kemerli** (Turkey), **Mr Paul Pisani** (Malta), **Mr Simon Rickaby** (UK), **Mr Li Guobin** (China), **Captain Bill Boyle** (UK) and **Mr Dennis van der Veem** (The Netherlands).

The Register of ISCO Members is maintained by **Ms Mary Ann Dagleish** (Membership Director) and the list of members is on the website at <http://www.spillcontrol.org>

The Executive Committee is assisted by the non-executive ISCO Council composed of the following national representatives – **Mr John Wardrop** (Australia), **Mr Namig Gandilov** (Azerbaijan), **Mr John Cantlie** (Brazil), **Dr Merv Fingas** (Canada), **Captain Davy T. S. Lau** (China, Hong Kong), **Mr Li Guobin** (China, Mainland), **Mr Darko Domovic** (Croatia), **Eng. Ashraf Sabet** (Egypt), **Mr Torbjorn Hedrenius** (Estonia), **Mr Pauli Einarsson** (Faroe Islands), **Prof. Harilaous Psarafitis** (Greece), **Captain D. C. Sekhar** (India), **Mr Dan Arbel** (Israel), **Mr Sanjay Gandhi** (Kenya), **Mr Joe Braun** (Luxembourg), **Chief Kola Agboke** (Nigeria), **Mr Jan Allers** (Norway), **Capt. Chris Richards** (Singapore), **Mr Anton Moldan** (South Africa), **Dr Ali Saeed Al Ameri** (UAE), **Mr Kevin Miller** (UK) and **Dr Manik Sardessai** (USA).

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Oil Spill India 2014
International Conference & Exhibition
18-20 September 2014, Holiday Inn Resort, Goa



International news

International Forum on Group V (Non-buoyant) Heavy Oils
9-10 September, 2014 Detroit, Michigan, USA

New info for Exhibitors and Additions to the Program –
Dr Jaqueline Michel (Research Planning)
and Ralph Dollhopf (US EPA, FOSC) See pages 8-9

BSEE RESEARCHER HIGHLIGHTS CURRENT RESEARCH PROJECTS AT NOSCA SEMINAR

July 18 - Kristi McKinney, a research specialist in the Bureau of Safety and Environmental Enforcement's Oil Spill Response Division, went to Bergen, Norway, last month to speak at the annual international seminar hosted by the Norwegian Oil Spill Control Association. McKinney highlighted current **research** within the Oil Spill Response Division and explained BSEE's and operators' requirements for oil spill planning and preparedness in U.S. territorial waters, according to BSEE, which reported the seminar was attended by more than 90 international researchers and responders. *OHSonline* [Read more](#)

Incident reports from around the world

BANGLADESH: OIL SPILL TAKES TOLL ON FISH

July 11 - On Wednesday morning, the engine and six furnace oil-laden tankers of Area Shuttle, an oil-carrier train of Bangladesh Railway's East Zone, derailed when its driver tried to enter Faujdarhat Railway Station ignoring the signal.

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Incident reports from around the world (continued)



Picture: A child catches fish floating up to the surface of a canal in Faujdarhat, Sitakunda, following an oil spill from a derailed train. Photo: Anurup Kanti Das

Each tank contained around 26,821 litres of oil. Over 53,000 litres of furnace oil was lost in the incident and most of this oil spread to the nearby canal, locally known as Cadet College Chhara. *The Daily Star* [Read more](#) [Thanks to Don Johnston of ISCO Industry Partner, DG & Hazmat Group]

YEMEN: TRIBESMEN BOMB OIL PIPELINE AGAIN

July 12 - Tribesmen bombed Yemen's main oil export pipeline on Saturday, halting crude flows, local officials said, disrupting an important source of revenue for the impoverished state.

The attack took place in the al-Habab area of the central oil-producing province of Maarib and the tribesmen blew up the pipeline that carries crude from the Safer Oilfield to Ras Isa oil terminal. *The Maritime Executive* [Read more](#)

USA: DEP INVESTIGATING 'SIGNIFICANT' SPILL IN LACKAWANNA RIVER

July 13 - The Department of Environmental Protection is investigating a "significant" petroleum-based spill in the river as fuel oil leaking from an old steam energy plant has covered plants along the shoreline for as far as 2 miles, according to an initial inspection by DEP.

"We've got quite an investigation on our hands," DEP spokeswoman Colleen Connolly said. She said the fuel was traced to a former steam energy. *The Times-Tribune* [Read more](#)

SOUTH AFRICA: RACE TO CONTAIN OIL SPILL AT RICHARDS BAY

July 14 - Authorities are currently addressing an oil spill that occurred in Richards Bay after an underground corroded pipeline burst.

According to a report on the SABC the pipeline belongs to one of South Africa's huge petroleum conglomerates. The report failed to say which company owns the pipeline. The oil began to spill out into the bay on Sunday and continues to spread. *News 24* [Read more](#)

USA: BELLE CHASSE CRUDE OIL SPILL BRINGS CLEANUP CREWS NEAR RESIDENTIAL AREA

July 15 - About 160 barrels of a crude oil and water mixture spilled on Monday near a residential community in [Belle Chasse](#), according to the Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality and State Police.

While cleanup crews and [DEQ](#) officials remained on the scene Tuesday, residents were told that there was nothing to worry about in terms of health effects. "It was an overflow of a Wagner Oil storage tank," said DEQ spokeswoman Jean Kelly. *The Times Picayune* [Read more](#)

Incident reports from around the world (continued)

MALAYSIA: ANOTHER OIL TANKER FALLS VICTIM TO ROBBERY

July 16 - Pirates attacked a Malaysian oil tanker in the Malacca Straits and siphoned off its load, the Malaysian navy and officials said on Wednesday, the latest in a series of hijackings raising tension in Southeast Asia's busy sea lanes.

The attackers stole 2,500 metric tonnes of oil and damaged the navigation equipment of the MT Oriental Glory late on Tuesday.
The Maritime Executive [Read more](#)

CANADA: PRINCE RUPERT SHIP GROUNDING HIGHLIGHTS RISK OF OIL SPILL, CRITICS WARN



Photo: The 228-metre Amakusa Island ran aground Monday night in Prince Rupert's outer harbour while it moved to an assigned anchorage from a berth at the Ridley Terminals coal terminal.

July 16 - Bulk carrier ripped hole in hull while moving to anchorage from terminal - The grounding of a bulk carrier ship near Prince Rupert this week highlights the grave risk of an oil spill if tanker traffic is allowed to increase dramatically on the North Coast, environmentalists and First Nations warn.

The 228-metre Amakusa Island ran aground Monday night in Prince Rupert's outer harbour while it moved to an assigned anchorage from a berth at the Ridley Terminals coal terminal. The incident ripped a gash in the ship's hull and caused the flooding of two ballast tanks.
The Vancouver Sun [Read more](#)

SPAIN: OIL SPILL AFFECTS NATURAL AREA IN CANARIES

Workers cleaning the oil from El Cabrón beach. / BORJA SUÁREZ (REUTERS)

July 17 - Several oil stains were spotted on Wednesday afternoon near the beach of El Cabrón, on the island of Gran Canaria. This is an area known for its diverse marine wildlife and is popular with divers.

The origin of the slick is still unclear, although authorities think that it probably came from a ship that cleaned out its bilge on the portion of international waters located between the islands of Gran Canaria and Fuerteventura.

Preliminary damage assessments talked about one kilometer of coastline affected by the spill. Bathing areas have apparently not been damaged.

El Pais [Read more](#) [Thanks to Don Johnston of ISCO Industry Partner, DG & Hazmat Group]



THAILAND: CHEMICAL LEAK AT THAI PORT SICKENS LOCALS

More than 100 people have been sickened by a chemical leak from a Hong Kong ship in eastern Thailand, authorities reported. Fumes from the leak spread inland on Thursday, affecting at least 139 locals.

Hazardous flammable liquids leaked from containers on Thursday after one container fell onto the liquid tank as the ship anchored in Laem Chabang port in Chonburi province. The leak on the ship was contained within a few hours. The chemicals, identified as butyl acrylates, are used for polymer manufacturing and in industrial production.

The Maritime Executive [Read more](#)

Incident reports from around the world (continued)

INDIA: COAST GUARD CHOPPER HELPS TO CHECK MAHARASHTRA OIL SPILL

The Indian Coast Guard (ICG) Saturday rushed to help in checking a massive leak in a HPCL oil pipeline in Thane, an official said here.

This is for the second time in two days that the coast guard has been called for help. An ICG helicopter carried out sorties to detect if any high speed diesel had been spilled into the eco-sensitive Taloja Creek in Raigad district. On Friday, the ICG had helped evacuate around a dozen firemen trapped in a Mumbai building which had caught fire. On Saturday, officials said they feared that some quantity of the over 50 tonnes of oil may have mixed with rainwater and flowed into the creek. This, in turn, has raised apprehensions of a possible oil slick in the sea water which has mangroves and a variety of marine life.

"We have also started retrieving oil with the help of the HPCL officials and so far recovered around 10 tonnes from the spillage," an official said, requesting not to be identified. Besides the ICG, the HPCL has sought help from the Maharashtra Pollution Control Board (MPCB) to help contain the crisis arising out of a leak in the pipeline near Kamothe late Thursday. Though the oil spilled from the pipeline has already traversed some surrounding areas, officials are trying to detect and seal the leakage - the cause of which is not yet clear. *Headlines India* [Read more](#)

Other news reports from around the world

NEWS REPORTS FROM USA

July 12 - On reservation near saltwater spill, Native Americans wrestle with impact of oil development



Saltwater leaks into this stream after running downhill, Thursday, July 10, 2014, near Mandaree, N.D. A pipeline leak on Fort Berthold Indian Reservation spilled 1 million gallons of saltwater, a byproduct of oil and gas production. Company officials say the leak likely started over the Fourth of July weekend. (AP Photo/Tyler Bell)

For many Native Americans on Fort Berthold Indian Reservation — a land that accounts for 300,000 of the 1 million barrels of oil produced by North Dakota daily — there is a difficult balance between the potential prosperity that oil and gas development can bring and the preservation of a land considered by cultural and religious tradition to be sacred. That dilemma has been brought to the fore this month since 1 million gallons of saltwater, a byproduct of oil and gas production, spewed from an underground pipeline into the badlands near Mandaree.

Crestwood Midstream Partners LP, whose subsidiary Arrow Pipeline LLC owns the pipeline, says the toxic fluid travelled a snaking, nearly 2-mile path down into a ravine, eradicating a 200-yard stretch of vegetation along its way. But the company says there is no evidence the saltwater made its way into Lake Sakakawea, which provides drinking water for the reservation. *News Science* [Read more](#)

July 12 - Envisioning Profit in Environmental Good Works

Equity Firm Restores Louisiana Marshland to Earn Credits It Can Sell - Aboard the dredge Butcher, off the Louisiana Coast — All day and all night, this ship off a knob of Louisiana at Alligator Bend sucks up silt from the floor of Lake Borgne and pumps it through a half-mile of fat steel pipe. At the other end, a slurry gushes noisily out into what was until recently a stretch of open water. New land is rising here, forming mud flats that will soon be covered with waving spartina grass.

This is the unglamorous, mucky — and, to be honest, smelly — work that goes into restoring the fragile marshlands that help protect southern Louisiana from hurricanes and that provide a haven for wildlife.

What is most interesting about this project, however, is who is paying the bills. While the state government has developed a detailed master plan for wetlands restoration in the region, and money has been promised from the federal government and the BP settlement of the 2010 oil spill, this project is getting its funding from a private equity firm. *International New York Times* [Read more](#)

July 14 - The U.S. Startup That's Cleaning Up Fukushima's Radioactive Mess

A rare new entry in the nuclear waste world is airlifting its equipment to Japan to try to speed up the clean-up process.

NEWS REPORTS FROM USA

The cleanup of Fukushima, the nuclear plant where catastrophe struck after the 2011 tsunami, is progressing about as quickly as a hamster running in a wheel. Every 2.5 days, the site's owner, TEPCO, fills a new 1,000-ton tank with freshly contaminated groundwater that seeps continuously into the radioactive reactor site.



Ongoing efforts to stem the flow of water from the surrounding hills include building an underground ice wall, but in the meantime, the utility is treating its growing farm filled with hundreds of tanks of radioactive liquid waste. The eventual end goal is to safely dump clean water back into the ocean.

At the center of much of these efforts so far has been Kurion, a venture capital-backed California startup founded in 2008

that's been involved in the cleanup at the U.S. Department of Energy's Hanford nuclear waste site in Washington, a former plutonium-making facility that provided fuel for the first nuclear bomb.

To date, Kurion's cesium removal system has processed 50 million gallons of water. *Fast Company* [Read more](#)

July 14 - North Dakota wrestles with radioactive oilfield waste

Last winter, when Rick Schreiber saw the photos of two abandoned flatbed trailers heaped with thousands of pounds of low-level radioactive garbage, some spilling onto the ground, he'd had enough. A landfill director in western North Dakota's Bakken oil field, near where the waste was left, Schreiber turns illegal industrial rubbish like that away from the McKenzie County municipal landfill weekly.

Schreiber and other landfill operators in North Dakota have been catching unscrupulous or uninformed oil producers and their subcontractors trying to unload hazardous radioactive waste into the municipal dump for years. *High Country News* [Read more](#)

July 15 - Feds Hit Hard Against Those Making False BP Claims, Maybe Too Hard

After the Deepwater Horizon explosion and oil spill in 2010, BP set up the Gulf Coast Claims Facility (GCCF) to compensate individuals and companies harmed by the spill. BP hired Ken Feinberg to oversee claims processing and set up a method for paying them. Feinberg told *60 Minutes* that he was finding major problems and only about one-third of the claims seemed to be legitimate. "There were two kinds of applicants, the deserving and the devious," Feinberg said of his observations of the claims reviews. One of those devious ones belonged to nail salon operator Luom Van Ngo (pronounced No). *Forbes* [Read more](#)

July 17 - North Carolina: Coal Ash Clean-up Ends

Duke Energy has completed the removal of large pockets of coal ash from the Dan River following a large spill at a North Carolina power plant, federal environmental officials said Thursday. The federal Environmental Protection Agency's on-scene coordinator said that Duke had dredged up about 2,500 tons of ash and contaminated sediment that settled against a dam in Danville, Va.

An additional 500 tons was recovered from other pockets in the river and settling tanks at two municipal water treatment plants in Virginia. *International New York Times* [Read more](#) [Thanks to Mike Rancilio of ISCO]

July 18 - Alaskan Oil Spill Drill Wraps Up With Assessment of All That's Yet Unknown

The first spill response drill conducted by the state, fuel shippers, and cleanup crews in the Bering Strait has given a measure for how much is still unknown about handling to oil spills in the region. Representatives from the Department of Environmental Conservation and the Coast Guard worked with Alaska Chadux, a company paid to handle cleanup in case of a spill, on a drill run this week in Teller. *Knom Radio Mission* [Read more](#)

NEWS REPORTS FROM USA (continued)

July 18 - OMB Receives PHMSA Rail Oil Spill Response ANPRM

Yesterday OMB's Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs (OIRA) announced that it had received an advance notice of proposed rulemaking from DOT's Pipeline and Hazardous Material Safety Administration (PHMSA) for revisions to requirements for oil spill prevention and response plans for rail transport.

This proposed rulemaking was not included in the latest Unified Agenda published by the Administration so there is no official record of what the proposed rulemaking would address. It would seem to me that a primary focus would be the ending of the current de facto exemption from oil spill and response planning requirements that railroads and crude oil shippers have based upon the amount of oil in a single railcar. *Chemical Facility Security News* [Read more](#) [Thanks to Mike Rancilio of ISCO]

July 18 - Obama opens Eastern Seaboard to oil exploration, upsetting environmentalists

The Obama administration is reopening the Eastern Seaboard to offshore oil and gas exploration, approving seismic surveys using sonic cannons that can pinpoint energy deposits deep beneath the ocean floor.

Friday's announcement is the first real step toward what could be a transformation in coastal states, creating thousands of jobs to support a new energy infrastructure. But it dismayed environmentalists and people who owe their livelihoods to fisheries and tourism.

The cannons create noise pollution in waters shared by whales, dolphins and turtles, sending sound waves many times louder than a jet engine reverberating through the deep every ten seconds for weeks at a time. Arguing that endangered species could be harmed was the environmental groups' best hope for extending a decades-old ban against drilling off the U.S. Atlantic coast. *Dallas News* [Read more](#)

NEWS REPORTS FROM CANADA

July 4 - B.C. Government Calls on NEB to Compel Kinder Morgan to Answer Oil Spill Questions

The province of British Columbia has filed a [motion with the National Energy Board](#) (NEB) to compel pipeline company Kinder Morgan to answer the province's questions on its Trans Mountain expansion project.

In the motion, the province argues the company has failed to supply adequate answers to dozens of questions on issues such as oil spill response. A [41-page chart](#) submitted to the NEB by the province outlines all of the instances in which Kinder Morgan did not adequately answer its questions. *Desmog Canada* [Read more](#)

July 14 - CNRL's 'uncontrollable' bitumen spill in Alberta may have been caused by business as usual



A new report by Canadian Natural Resources Limited admits that the company's practice of high-pressure steaming may have contributed to a large oil spill that released over 12,000 barrels of bitumen for 14 months near Cold Lake, in northern Alberta. CNRL's recent admission is at odds with its previous claim that the bitumen spill was caused by flaws in legacy wellbores.

The report said steaming operations are conducted within the oil sands of the Clearwater reservoir. The company injects steam deep underground to soften and melt the bitumen so that it can be brought to the surface in a method called high pressure cyclic steam stimulation. Another cause for the ongoing leaks could be "vertical hydraulic induced fractures", which are cracks in the deeper rock layers or in the top layers of shale caused by steam pressure. *Vancouver Observer* [Read more](#)

July 18 - The Final Frontier: Canada's National Energy Board Raises the Specter of Deep Offshore Drilling in the Arctic Ocean

Last week, Canada's major oil and gas regulator, the National Energy Board (NEB), acquiesced to the requests of two of the world's largest oil companies—Imperial Oil (a subsidiary of ExxonMobil) and Chevron—by agreeing to fast track a decision that could grant each company an exemption from a key safety regulation meant to guard against catastrophic oil spills in the Arctic

Other news reports from around the world (continued)

NEWS REPORTS FROM CANADA (continued)

Ocean. The NEB's decision is a surprise—and sets a troubling precedent—because the Board's own regulations suggest this review should have taken place at a much later date, and after the receipt of substantially more information from each company. *NRDC Switchboard* [Read more](#)

NEWS REPORTS FROM UK

July 19 - River faces 'pollution tsunami' at 'illegal' dump, warn experts

The stark warning about waste at Campsie on the outskirts of Londonderry which was uncovered as one of the biggest allegedly illegal dumps in Europe last year will have a huge detrimental impact not just on the environment but also on human health.

The head of waste management at Northern Ireland Environmental Agency, Mark Livingstone, said that despite 1.5 million litres of contaminated fluid being removed already, a wet winter could spell disaster. *Belast Telegraph* [Read more](#)

NEWS REPORTS FROM NIGERIA

July 6 - Oil Spill: Akwa Ibom Community Shuts Down ExxonMobil

Operations of Exxon Mobil, a multinational firm has been shut down by protesting youths from the host communities in Ibeno, Akwa Ibom State following what they described as recurrent oil spills and strings of unfulfilled promises made to the communities. *Leadership* [Read more](#) [Thanks to Don Johnston of ISCO Industry Partner, DG & Hazmat Group]

NEWS REPORTS FROM MALTA

July 14 - Auditor examines Malta's level of preparedness to deal with oil pollution

The Auditor General reported that, to varying degrees, the implementation of the National Marine Pollution Contingency Plan is subject to administrative and operational limitations. Government approved the Plan, which covers Malta's territorial waters and beyond, in 2010. However, the Plan is based on environmental and socio-economic risk assessments, which only extend to four rather than the twelve nautical miles from the coastline demarcating Malta's territorial waters. Although the Plan also lists the required specializations to effectively carry out an oil spill response (OSR) operation, the relative contact details are not always indicated.

Transport Malta (TM), as the Competent Authority, has limited influence over the contribution of other key players namely the Armed Forces of Malta, the Civil Protection Department as well as the Malta Environment and Planning Authority. This situation materialises since TM does not have jurisdiction over the prioritisation of respective operations managed by the key players. Moreover, historically, insufficient funds have been allocated to enable national entities to strengthen their capabilities, in terms of organisational structures, operational processes, technical and administrative capacity, as well as oil combating craft and equipment. *Malta Independent* [Read more](#)

NEWS REPORTS FROM BRAZIL

July 8 - Oil leaks raise environmental concerns over Brazil's Santos Basin – study

Brazil's most promising offshore oil province, the Santos Basin, has 400 times the number of oil leaks as its older and more prolific neighbor, the Campos Basin, a Brazilian university study says, raising concern about the environmental sustainability of the country's new oil wealth.

The Santos Basin, south of Rio de Janeiro likely contains more than 30 billion barrels of recoverable oil, enough to supply all U.S. oil needs for more than four years. *Reuters* [Read more](#) [Thanks to Don Johnston of ISCO Industry Partner, DG & Hazmat Group]

NEWS REPORTS FROM ITALY

July 12 and later – Costa Concordia updates

July 12 - Costa Concordia Refloat Given Green Light - *Maritime Executive* [Read more](#)

July 14 - Refloating the Costa Concordia – Day 1 Time-Lapse Videos - *gCaptain* [Read more and watch videos](#)

July 14 - Costa Concordia's Unprecedented Refloat Successful - *Maritime Executive* [Read more and watch video](#)

Other news reports from around the world (continued)

NEWS REPORTS FROM ITALY (continued)

July 15 - Underwater Footage Shows Refloated Costa Concordia – gCaptain [Read more and watch video](#)

July 19 - Costa Concordia being prepped for final voyage to scrap yard – CBC News [Read more and watch video](#)

NO NEWS FROM YOUR PART OF THE WORLD ?

Members and other readers are invited to help rectify the balance of world news reporting. News stories from North America, UK, Australia, etc. are much more accessible on the internet than reports from other parts of the world and especially from non-English-speaking countries. To make it easier for readers in other parts of the world to contribute stories your editor is considering options to include links for interesting articles in other languages.

One option could be to print the report headline only in English and another language. A short introductory paragraph in the reader's own language could follow together with the source (for example, name of the publication) and a link that would allow the reader to access the complete article in his/her own language.

If you come across a report or an article that you think worth sharing with other members of the response community, why not send it to the editor at info@spillcontrol.org

ISCO News

FROM DAVID USHER, PRESIDENT OF ISCO

One constant in the world is change. In our world, the environment, that change is the increased production and movement of Heavy Oil.

Join us in meeting the challenges ahead, be part of the solution!

Emerging Issues: The International Forum on Group V (Heavy) Oils provides an important opportunity for professionals from the international response community, private sector, government, and non-governmental organizations to come together to discuss and examine the challenges that come with increased production, storage and transportation of heavy, sinking oils and the emergence of Oil Sands products and Dilbit and Bitumin processes.

The Response Community will present the latest in spill prevention, response and recovery techniques with the latest technologies available for sinking oils. This Forum is ideal for government agencies, contractors, researchers, industry, and other stakeholders to work together to meet the objective of insuring our respective communities that safe handling and best practices are being employed through the panel discussions, presentations, research and lessons learned by case studies from around the world.

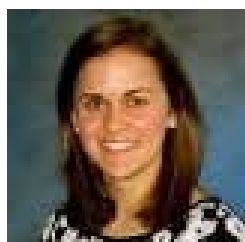
For more information about attending the Forum see the attached and follow us at www.spillcontrol.org. For exhibit or sponsor opportunities call Michael Rancilio 248-914-3915 Sign up for our weekly newsletter to stay abreast of world-wide spill response news and current events!

The International Spill Control Organization (ISCO) is a not for profit organization celebrating 30 years of supporting the spill response community www.spillcontrol.org forumdetroit3@gmail.com
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CLICK ON THE FOLLOWING LINK FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION REGARDING THE FORUM.

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/0B2GH4v-5BsLU2xGbzM1eXNFSDQ/edit?usp=sharing>

ADDITIONS TO FORUM SPEAKERS ANNOUNCED



ISCO is delighted to announce that Dr Jaqueline Michel of Research Planning and Ralph Dollhopf, US EPA, FOSC will be joining the panel of speakers at the upcoming Forum.

ISCO News (continued)

Dr Jaqueline Michel will present a paper jointly authored by herself and Mark Ploen, QualiTech, Inc. on "The API Study on Detection and Recovery of Sunken Oil"

The American Petroleum Institute has funded a study to 1) identify and document current best practices and alternative technologies possessing the potential to more effectively identify and recover sunken oil, defined as the accumulation of bulk oil on the bottom of a waterbody; and 2) establish a framework and priorities for ongoing research and development for the highest potential alternative technologies.

Dr. Michel is a geochemist specializing in terrestrial and marine pollution studies, coastal geomorphology, and environmental risk assessments. She has specialized expertise in the behavior, tracking, recovery, and effects of submerged oil. Having worked in 32 countries, she has extensive international experience and has worked in many different coastal and marine environments.

Dr. Michel has been recognized for her achievements through appointments to many respected committees and panels, including four National Academies committees: Spills of Nonfloating Oil (1999); Oil in the Sea (2002); Chairman of Spills of Emulsified Fuels: Risks and Response (2001); and Chairman of Committee on Understanding Oil Spill Dispersants: Efficacy and Effects (2005). She was on the Oceans Studies Board for 2001-2005 and is a Lifetime Associate of the National Academies. She was on the Science Advisory Panel to the U.S. Commission on Ocean Policy. She is currently on the Applied Sciences Analysis Group supporting the NASA Earth Science Division. She is an Adjunct Professor in the School of the Environment, University of South Carolina. She has written over 185 technical publications.

Ralph Dollhopf will speak on "Lessons Learned from Marshall, MI - Activation of the Necessary Response Components for Sinking Oils"

Ralph Dollhopf joined the EPA after graduating from Michigan Technological University with a degree in environmental engineering, immediately working with an EPA emergency response program and was stationed in Grosse Ile, near Detroit. He spent the first 10 years of his career doing response work in Detroit and in Ohio, including Cleveland, Akron and Cincinnati. He was appointed to the Region 5 EPA Emergency Response branch, which serves Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Minnesota, Ohio, and Wisconsin. Dollhopf responded primarily in the northern lower part of Michigan and UP, and in 2011 he was stationed in Marshall as the EPA liaison for the Kalamazoo oil spill. He was also the EPA on-scene coordinator and the incident commander for the oil spill.

MORE INFORMATION FOR INTERNATIONAL FORUM EXHIBITORS

Don't miss your exclusive opportunity to access oil spill prevention & response professionals interested in the latest products and services!

The International Forum on Group V (Heavy) Oils is bringing together operators, responders and regulators to discuss best practices, latest research developments, and look for new solutions and technologies for the emerging production and movement of Heavy Oil.

The Forum agenda examines issues of sinking oil detection, containment and recovery techniques as well as planning, preparedness and regulatory perspective.

There are scheduled breakfast, morning and afternoon breaks, and lunch each day in the exhibit area for maximum viewing opportunity.

The Forum is taking place at the Detroit/Wayne County Port Authority along the Detroit River. The facility provides an upscale setting for business in a state of the art building where displays will be in an optimum position to all attendees to browse and view table top offerings.

Table Top Exhibit 10x5 includes table, two chairs, and skirt. Standard electric outlets and wi-fi included. \$1,500.00 this includes 2 attendee passes. Exhibitors will receive, at no extra cost, two passes for attending the Forum proceedings.

To register for a Booth contact ISCO at 844-393-6333 or email Mike Rancilio at forumdetroit3@gmail.com

SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES AT THE INTERNATIONAL FORUM

Some sponsorship opportunities for Forum hospitality events have already been allocated but others remain available.

For further information contact Michael Rancilio at 844-393-6333 or 248-914-3915cell or Michael.rancilio@gmail.com

STUDIES SHOW CARBON BLACK PARTICLES AS AN ALTERNATIVE OR SUPPLEMENT FOR OIL DISPERSANTS



Photo: University of Rhode Island Chemical Engineering Ph.D. student Amitesh Saha uses a cryogenic scanning transmission electron microscopy to image crude oil-in-water emulsions. (Photo provided by Arijit Bose)

Scientists with the University of Rhode Island, Tulane University, and the Cabot Corporation conducted tests using Carbon Black (CB) particles for more effective, safe, and low-cost oil spill remediation as compared to traditional dispersants.

In one study, researchers found that CB particles can be a viable substitute for emulsifying crude oil with the added benefit of absorbing polycyclic-aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs). In another study, researchers found that a combination of CB particles and a surfactant dispersant may provide a better environment to emulsify more oil and stabilize it longer than using either CB particles or dispersants alone.

Scientists published their findings in the March 2013 issue of *Applied Materials & Interfaces*: [Oil emulsification using surface-tunable carbon black particles](#) and the May 2013 issue of *Langmuir*: [The response of carbon black stabilized oil-in-water emulsions to the addition of surfactant solutions](#).

Surfactant dispersants, such as those used during the *Deepwater Horizon* oil spill, are intended to accelerate natural dispersion and minimize damage by reducing floating oil at the sea surface and dispersing it into the water column where micro-organisms can consume it. However, surfactants become destabilized in large amounts of water, limiting bacterial consumption. Scientists are testing CB particles for use in oil spill remediation because of their established ability to stabilize emulsions, absorb toxins, and because they are generally regarded as nontoxic although their impact on microorganisms has yet to be determined. Dr. Arijit Bose, an author in both studies, said that even though particle-stabilized emulsions were discovered over 100 years ago, “the combination of CB particles and crude oil is new.” This new combination is the basis of these two studies. *Gulf of Mexico Research Initiative* [Read more](#) [Thanks to SAC News and Dr Merv Fingas]

Case History

IN BEMIDJI, A RESEARCH SITE REVEALS SECRETS OF AN OIL SPILL



At the site of 1979 spill near Bemidji, scientists have dotted the landscape with bore holes to study of the lingering underground pollution. Here, crews bore 27 feet below the surface to survey the groundwater for oil from the 1979 spill. Photo: Brian Peterson, *Star Tribune*

June 15 - The rusty, 1950s-era drilling rig bored noisily in the sandy soil, stopping at a depth of 27 feet. As workers lifted out the spiral bit, a whiff of petroleum drifted up the hole. “That’s some Bemidji crude oil,” said Jared Trost, a hydrologist for the U.S. Geological Survey in charge of the rig.

Thousands of gallons of crude oil gurgled underground at this spot off a gravel road 12 miles northwest of Bemidji, Minn. It isn’t a new shale oil discovery.

The crude oil is the stubborn remnant of a massive 1979 pipeline rupture. Over the past three decades, this site has become a science center unlike any other in the world. Using data collected mostly from bore holes, scientists have produced a gusher of research discoveries, including some that have influenced U.S. pollution cleanup policy.

Pollution control experts once doubted that subsurface microbes could break down oil because of the lack of oxygen. But scientists working at the Bemidji site published scientific studies in the 1990s that showed otherwise. “Those results got nationwide attention,” said Barbara Bekins, a USGS research hydrologist based in Menlo Park, Calif., who coordinates research at the Bemidji site.

As a result, “natural attenuation” was recognized as a cost-effective way to remove underground pollution, especially from urban gas station tanks where digging up blocks of property isn’t an option. Scientists on the Bemidji Crude Oil Research Project also have made discoveries about the spread of pollution “plumes” underground, pioneered ways to measure natural breakdown of oil and learned about how petroleum-eating bacteria work. *Star Tribune* [Read more](#)



In this issue of the ISCO Newsletter we are printing No. 182 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 182: CONCLUDING REMARKS

Again, the IOPCF/Oct/15 document will recall that between 1974-79 WSL reality-evaluated hypotheses to the knowledge that the effectiveness of both dispersants and mechanical recovery decrease with increase in pollutant viscosity, the former more quickly than the latter; that the latter varies with individual design principles; that for both, the encounter rates for response units are limited by layer thickness, the swath width of the system, and its travel speed during the encounter; that for a system of 1 metre swath width travelling at 1 knot the encounter rate is $0.18\text{m}^3\text{h}^{-1}$ and *pro rata*; that for ship-mounted spray sets the effective swath width can up to 20 metres and travel speed 5 - 10 knots; that aerial spraying can have swath widths of 10-15 metres and much higher speeds than ships; that for mechanical recovery swath widths can be 100 metres or more but the speed is limited to 1 knot; that a large swath width of boom need two ships to tow it and one to recover the pollutant; that the recovery of each ship is 1/3 of the total; that the efficiency of skimmers decreases rapidly with increasing wave height; and that recovery involves downstream processing to separate the co-collected water, to break the emulsions and to separate the demulsified water from the demulsified oil.

Thus, the document for IOPCF/Oct/15 will conclude as a matter of definitive knowledge that planning to respond to casualty releases of more than the 3000-5000 tonnes expected from impact damage to a single cargo tank is unrealistic and to plan to respond to the release of total cargoes and bunkers is even more so; and that the repository should thus include clear knowledge of the need for emergency cargo/bunker transfer and of the means by which casualties can be secured for safe-haven entry to avoid the possibility of total loss at the exposed location of initial impact.

Again, as a matter of definitive knowledge it will conclude that the belief in species-extinction/ecological-disaster can be rejected not only by the concentrations measured in the water column beneath slicks but also by its reality-refutation by all casualty-releases to-date; that this rejection will remove current objections to safe haven use, dispersant use and *in situ* discharge of recovery-process water; that this rejection will reduce the quantities released, conserve the storage capacities of recovery vessels and eliminate the cost of transporting un-processed recoveries to authorised locations such as oil refineries, the controlled-waste status of process water having been abandoned by rejection of its initiating belief.

Thus, with the rejection of the belief in species-extinction/ecological-disaster, the current drafters of claim-settlement guidance can look forward to release-response becoming increasingly cost-effective and to the simplification of knowing that costs associated with the interruption of commercial activities are thus accepted as being the only significant consequences of casualty-releases.

As to the potential arrival of releases onshore, the repository will include the knowledge that these are only the floating residues of incomplete evaporation, solution or dispersion; that none would have arrived had these processes been completed between release and potential arrival; that consequently the options on arrival are to permit or assist completion of these non-toxic non-coating processes by continuing dispersant application and/or by physical removal of that for which these techniques have been ineffective for timely avoidance of shoreline arrival; that dispersant-use is unnecessary for natural evaporators or dissolvers but assists natural dispersion without putting more of the release into the sea than would have gone in had more time been available prior to stranding, no further action then being needed; that while mechanical recovery removes that which does not disperse rapidly enough, it needs downstream processing; and that when effective, dispersants are thus preferable to recovery.

As to shoreline cleaning, the document for IOPCF/Oct/15 will recall that between 1974-79, WSL reality-evaluated hypotheses to the knowledge that encounter-rates may increase by up to a factor of 10 when emulsified layers are pressed against shorelines by onshore winds while stranding on ebb tides; that consequently the shore is more effective than any deployable boom or absorbent; that inshore recovery from water surfaces is thus more effective than recovery at sea; that emulsion layers up to say 5mm thickness can thus be collected from wet (poorly drained) sand beaches by water-flushing into contour trenches dug for recovery by viscosity tolerant pumps; that on dry sand where flushing-water would simply drain away, heavy rubber strips attached to the lower edge of mechanised scraper blades can be effective in pushing the emulsion into contour trenches; but that otherwise specialised equipment is needed to separate collected pollutant from co-collected beach material

Thus, with a wider and more detailed coverage than the above, IOPCF will be informed as to the nature of our intended knowledge repository.

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.

Events

INDIA: OIL POLLUTION RESPONSE WORKSHOP AT TRIVANDRUM, KERALA

The coastal Indian state of Kerala has a booming tourism trade and some of the very pristine beaches in India. This state also lies in close proximity to the busy international shipping lane between Persian Gulf and Far East. This coastline sees hundreds of ships passing by, including dozens of large oil tankers carrying millions of tons of crude oil. An accidental ship grounding or break-up on the coast, has the potential to bring very serious environmental consequences to the coastline.

Kerala State Disaster Management Authority has joined hands with Bangalore based AlphaMERS and Singapore registered SWIRE ERS (of the SWIRE Pacific Offshore Group of companies), to conduct a one day workshop to deliberate on this large environmental and socio economic risk from any ship accident on this coastline. This workshop brings together the stakeholders and regulators to take a close hard look at the potential effects of such an accident and the preparedness to meet such an eventuality. The one day 'by-invitation-only' event is scheduled on 16th Sep at Trivandrum. More info from sekhar@alphamers.com

USA: PHMSA USDOT MULTIMODAL TWO-DAY SEMINAR ON HAZMAT REGULATIONS

This two-day seminar provide a basic overview of how to use US DOT's Hazardous Materials Regulations (HMR) and a summary of many of the requirements found in the HMR – for shipping and transporting Hazardous Materials which can affect transportation safety to include: Training Requirements, Packaging, Hazard Communications, Security and Modal Transportation Compliance. Tuesday and Wednesday, August 26-27, 2014, 7:30 am – 4:30 pm, University of Delaware, John M. Clayton Hall Conference Center, 100 David Hollowell Drive, Newark, Delaware 19716 More info: <http://www.udel.edu/conferences/locations/newark.html>

INDIA: OIL SPILL INDIA 2014 SPEAKERS ANNOUNCED

Confirmed speakers are -

- Ghana Gogoi, Head Drilling Offshore, Oil India Ltd
- Polly Hill, Consultant, Oil Spill Response Ltd
- Bidyut Pawan Das, Dy. Superintending Engineer, Oil India Ltd
- Konny Reichert, Business Development, Oceanwaves
- Bernd Freibott, Senior Director, SAP
- Paul Whitaker, Director of Sales, Kongsberg Satellite Services
- Andy Lang, Environmental Response Lead Consultant, Petrofac Training Services
- H. V Gurudutt, Scientist D, Central Pollution Control Board
- Dr. Theo Hengstermann & Mr. Pablo Benjumeda, Optimare & INAER
- Shaik Ameer Basha, Oil India Ltd
- Mark A. Ceaser, BDM, SorbTech Mfg, Inc.
- Dr. Srikanth Mutnuri, Associate Professor, BITS, Goa
- Yodi S., Operations Manager, OSCT Indonesia

The Oil Spill India 2014 at Goa, India will focus on the prevention of, and response to environmental incidents in the marine environment. This dedicated area will feature the latest technology and service solutions for assessing the potential of spill related impacts, mitigating against and, if necessary, responding to them.

The International Oil Spill Conference (OSI) provides a vital forum for professionals from the international response community, private sector, government and non- governmental organizations to come together to tackle the greatest challenges facing us with sound science, practical innovation, social engineering and Imagination

Venue: Holiday Inn Resort, Goa. 18-20 September, 2014
More info: <http://www.oilspillindia.org/>

Publications

FOR YOUR INTEREST – LINKS FOR RECENT ISSUES OF PERIODICALS

[ASME EED EHS Newsletter](#)
[Bow Wave](#)
[Cedre Newsletter](#)
[The Essential Hazmat News](#)
[USA EPA Tech Direct](#)
[USA EPA Tech News & Trends](#)
[Technology Innovation News Survey](#)
[Intertanko Weekly News](#)
[CROIERG Enews](#)
[IMO Publishing News](#)
[IMO News Magazine](#)
[Pollution Online Newsletter](#)
[EMSA Newsletter](#)
[JOIFF "The Catalyst"](#)
[Environmental Technology Online](#)
[OCIMF Newsletter](#)
[IPIECA eNews](#)
[WMU Newsletter](#)
[AMSA Aboard](#)
[Sea Alarm Foundation Newsletter](#)

News and commentary on HSE issues from George Holliday
Sam Ignarski's Ezine on Marine & Transport Matters
News from Cedre in Brittany, France
Alliance of Hazardous Materials Professionals
Remediation of contaminated soil and groundwater
Contaminated site clean-up information
From US EPA - Contaminated site decontamination
International news for the oil tanker community
Canberra & Regions Oil Industry Emergency Response Group
New and forthcoming IMO publications
News from the International Maritime Organization
News for prevention & control professionals
News from the European Maritime Safety Agency
Int'l Organisation for Industrial Hazard Management
Environmental Monitoring, Testing & Analysis
News from the Oil Companies International Marine Forum
Int'l Petroleum Industry Environmental Conservation Assoc'n
From the World Maritime University in Malmö, Sweden
News from the Australian Maritime Safety Authority
News from the Sea Alarm Wildlife Protection Organisation

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