



ISCO NEWSLETTER

The Newsletter of the International Spill Response Community
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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.

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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).

For more info on Executive Committee and Council Members go to www.spillcontrol.org

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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

The Programme has been updated
More Speaker Profiles published

See Pages 7 - 9

ONLY FOUR WEEKS UNTIL THE INTERNATIONAL FORUM

View the latest updated programme and book your place online before it's too late. All the info you need can be found at www.spillcontrol.org

RESPONDING TO SPILLS OF SINKING OILS IS AN INCREASING INTERNATIONAL PROBLEM

Why you should be concerned about spills of Dilbit and Oil Sands Oil?

You should be if ...

- You are involved in transporting by pipeline, train, ship, barge or road tanker
- You are involved in oil spill insurance matters
- You may have to respond to a spill of these materials
- You see the need for developing more cost-effective clean-up of sinking oils

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International news (Continued)

You should be aware that ...

- Oil Sands Oil or Bitumen is heavier than freshwater and will quickly sink in freshwater
- Dilbit is Bitumen diluted with gas condensate or other light oil fractions to facilitate transportation
- When Dilbit is spilt, the condensate or other diluent will quickly evaporate
- As the diluent evaporates, the product becomes progressively heavier and begins to sink
- Time available for effective use of conventional clean-up is very short – typically 4 to 8 days, mainly depending on weather and ambient temperature
- Having lost diluent by evaporation, the end product is effectively bitumen and will sink in fresh water
- At sea, spills of bitumen may form stable emulsions (not amenable to chemical dispersal). Weathering effects will include tarball formation, neutral buoyancy (sub-surface suspension in the water column) and sinking.

Practical implications ...

- Recovery of sunken oil and sub-surface suspensions is technically very difficult and time-consuming
- Costs of clean-up will be many times more expensive than those for typical oil spills

It's an International Problem ...

- Right now the main concerns are in North America but the quantities that are shipped to other parts of the world are going to escalate rapidly
- There will be a corresponding increase in worldwide risk exposure to spills of sinking oils
- The need to develop better solutions is a priority for stakeholders everywhere.

International news (continued)

ENHANCED INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION NEEDED IN ANTARCTICA

Photo: McMurdo Dry Valleys, Ross Sea Region, Antarctica. Image courtesy S.L. Chown

August 7 - Countries need to work together to ensure Antarctic research continues and key questions on the region are answered, researchers say.

In an article published in Nature this week, 75 scientists along with policy makers in 22 countries have outlined what they see as the major priorities for Antarctic research over the next 20 years and beyond.

"Antarctica's environmental protection measures must be strengthened, as more scientists visit the region and tourist numbers continue to increase."

Professor Chown, School of Biological Sciences, said if environmental protection was not improved the very values that attracted both scientists and tourists to the region would be compromised.

TerraDaily [Read more](#)



International news (Continued)

RISKS TO PENGUIN POPULATIONS ANALYSED

August 7 - A major study of all penguin species suggests the birds are at continuing risk from habitat degradation. Writing in the journal, *Conservation Biology*, a group of internationally renowned scientists recommends the adoption of measures to mitigate against a range of effects including; food scarcity (where fisheries compete for the same resources), being caught in fishing nets, oil pollution and climate change.

This could include the establishment of marine protected areas, although the authors acknowledge this might not always be practical. A number of other ecologically based management methods could also be implemented. *TerraDaily* [Read more](#)

RUSSIA TRAINING OIL SPILL RESPONSE DURING ARCTIC-2014 DRILLS

August 6 - Russian Gazprom and LUKOIL companies with the aid of Defense Ministry and Ministry of Emergency Situations units are carrying out a test liquidation of a 1,200 ton-oil spill in Pechora Sea as part of Arctic-2014 drills, a representative of Russia's Security Council told RIA Novosti. Source: [RIA Novosti](#)

Incident reports from around the world

USA: DIESEL FUEL STILL IN HAGUE, BUT HRT DENIES IT'S THE SOURCE

August 2 - The Fire Marshal's Office says diesel fuel continues to wash into the Hague during heavy rains following a spill in June by Hampton Roads Transit and that the transit agency is denying responsibility for the subsequent leakage. About 3,500 gallons of diesel fuel spilled out of a tank and onto the ground on the morning of June 27 at HRT's facility at 509 E. 18th St. *PilotOnline.com* [Read more](#) [Thanks to Don Johnston of ISCO Industry partner, DG & Hazmat Group]

USA: VALVE FAILURE CAUSES OIL SPILL AT W.VA. FACILITY

August 6 - State officials say 22,000 gallons of compressor station process water and used oil leaked from a Nitro industrial waste-handling facility. Tom Aluise, a spokesman for the state Department of Environmental Protection, says officials at Spirit Services told the state that valves on two tanks failed, causing the leak. West Virginia Public Broadcasting [Read more](#)

CANADA: EMERGENCY DECLARED IN CANADA OVER MINE TAILINGS SPILL

Photo: An aerial view of the Mount Polley Mine tailings pond shows the area where the earthen wall gave way early Monday morning.

August 6 - A state of emergency was declared Wednesday in parts of westernmost Canada after effluent from a gold and copper mine tailings pond spilled into Rocky Mountains waterways.

Spill estimates doubled since Monday when an earthen dam breach at the Mount Polley Mine sent waste water and mining debris from the pond into nearby pristine rivers and lakes.

Up to 10 million cubic metres of water and 4.5 million cubic metres of fine sand are estimated to have poured into Polley Lake, Hazeltine Creek and Quesnel Lake, said officials

The Caribou Regional District has declared a state of local emergency as a result of the Mount Polley tailings pond breach in order to access additional capacity that may be necessary to further protect the private property and government infrastructure in the town of Likely," said a government statement, following a helicopter flyover of the disaster zone to assess the potential environmental damage. *TerraDaily* [Read more](#)



USA: SALTWATER, OIL SPILL INTO SLOUGH IN N.D.

August 7 - Inspectors with North Dakota's Health Department are monitoring cleanup of a saltwater and oil spill in Burke County. Health officials say about 100 barrels of saltwater and an undetermined amount of oil spilled into a slough about three miles northwest of Lignite. *Crookston Times* [Read more](#)

Incident reports from around the world (continued)

NIGERIA: FRESH OIL SPILL HITS SHELL'S NEMBE CREEK TRUNKLINE

August 9 - A fresh oil spill has occurred on Shell Petroleum Development Company of Nigeria, SPDC's, oil pipeline between the Santa-Barbara and Tego Rivers in Owuanga-Toru of Kula Kingdom in Akuku-Toru Local Government Area of Rivers State

Shell has confirmed the spill, which members of the affected communities have described as "massive". On August 6, 2014, the SPDC JV observed a leak on a section of the Nembe Creek Trunkline (NCTL) at Owangia community, Akuku-Toru LGA in Rivers State. "The impacted section has been shut down, preparatory to investigation into the cause of the leak and repairs. *Sweet Crude Reports* [Read more](#)

Other news reports from around the world

NEWS REPORTS FROM USA

August 1 - Tesoro Begins Cleanup of Massive Oil Pipeline Spill in North Dakota (PHOTOS)



Picture taken shortly after the spill was discovered in October, 2013

Last year in [North Dakota](#), a [Tesoro pipeline](#) carrying oil obtained through [fracking](#) the Bakken shale ruptured in a farmers field, spilling an estimated 20,600 barrels over a seven acre area, one of the largest land based spills in US history. The spill was caused by a leak the size of a quarter coin, and went undetected by Tesoro until the farmer sank his combine into an oil sodden field.

Tesoro has recently begun a two year cleanup, during which they will use a "thermal desorbition" process to burn away oil from the area.

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

August 2 - BP appeals Gulf oil spill settlement to Supreme Court

BP filed a formal petition to the U.S. Supreme Court claiming that lower courts in New Orleans erroneously approved a multibillion-dollar settlement that is paying claimants that were not hurt by the company's 2010 oil spill.

The petition, filed last Friday, had been expected since May, when the U.S. 5th Circuit Court of Appeals rejected BP's attempts to undo the massive damage settlement it agreed to and helped craft in 2012. BP already asked the high court to keep in place a stay on business claims payments that it is challenging. The Supreme Court denied that application in June.

The British oil giant officially urged the Supreme Court to take the case Friday, arguing that several other circuit courts have found that class-action settlements should not be approved if they include people and businesses that were not actually hurt by the defendant's actions. *USA Today* [Read more](#)

August 4 - Mysterious Oil Spill Traced to Vessel Sunk in 1942 Torpedo Attack



A 1942 photo of the W.E. Hutton. (USCG)

A few weeks ago a North Carolina fisherman had a sinking feeling as he saw "black globs" rising to the ocean surface about 48 miles offshore of Cape Lookout. From his boat, he also could see the tell-tale signs of rainbow sheen and a dark black sheen catching light on the water surface—oil

On July 17, 2014, a U.S. Coast Guard C-130 aircraft flew over the site and confirmed the presence of a sheen of oil in the same vicinity. Based on the location and persistence of the sheens, the responders suspected the oil possibly could be leaking from the sunken wreck of the steamship W.E. Hutton, 140 feet below the water surface. *Before it's news* [Read more](#)

Other news reports from around the world

NEWS REPORTS FROM USA (continued)

August 5 - US neutralizes 60 percent of toxic Syria chemicals

The United States informed the U.N. Security Council on Tuesday that it has neutralized about 60 percent of Syria's most toxic chemicals.

British Ambassador Mark Lyall Grant, the current president of the Security Council, said the U.S. made the report after a videoconference briefing by Sigrid Kaag, who heads the international effort to rid Syria of its chemical weapons. He said Kaag reported that a meeting was held in Beirut earlier Tuesday to work out methods to destroy the 12 chemical production facilities that Syria has declared. She said it will take about six months to complete. Lyall Grant said he reported to the closed council meeting that Britain will complete its destruction of Syrian chemical precursors intended for the production of chemical weapons and hydrochloric acid "in the course of this week." *The Washington Post* [Read more](#)

August 5 - EPA Declares "World's Largest PCB Mess" At Waukegan Harbor Clean

After nearly 30 years of legal wrangling and cleanup efforts, one of the most polluted sites on Lake Michigan has been declared safe. WBBM Newsradio's Mike Krauser reports U.S. Senators Mark Kirk and Dick Durbin joined Gov. Pat Quinn, other elected officials, activists, and U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Regional Administrator Susan Hedman to celebrate the \$150 million cleanup of a Superfund site in Waukegan Harbor. *CBS Chicago* [Read more](#)

August 5 - North Dakota crude no more dangerous than similar fuels, report finds

An industry-funded study released Monday concluded that the oil from the Bakken region doesn't pose a greater risk to transport than other similar, types of crude.

The study is the most scientific analysis of the region's crude so far, the North Dakota Petroleum Council said. The group hopes the report allays fears that Bakken oil may be more prone to ignition — after a series of accidents involving rail shipments of the oil. *Fuel Fix* [Read more](#)

August 6 - Union Pacific plans safety improvements after oil spills

Union Pacific Railroad has taken steps to improve railroad safety, chief executive Jack Koraleski said Wednesday, as concerns mount over crude oil spills from rail cars.

Koraleski made the comments in an interview with BizWest during his visit to Colorado on Wednesday. The company said this week that it is investing \$11 million in the next few months in rail line improvements in Colorado and Wyoming. Funded by Union Pacific without taxpayer dollars, the project began July 9 and will be completed by mid-December. *NCBR* [Read more](#)

NEWS REPORTS FROM UK

August 6 - Syrian weapon chemicals 'destroyed' in Cheshire

A consignment of chemicals transported to the UK as part of an agreement to dismantle Syrian weapons has been destroyed.

The chemicals arrived at Southampton on July 15 before transportation to Cheshire for incineration. Minister for the Middle East and North Africa, Tobias Ellwood, said the destruction had now been completed. A stockpile of "B precursors" and 44 tonnes of hydrochloric acid were disposed of at Ellesmere Port. *BBC News* [Read more](#) [Thanks tp ADR Training UK]

NEWS REPORTS FROM NIGERIA

August 3 - Shell not cleaning oil pollution: report

Little action has been taken to clean up pollution caused by oil production in Nigeria's Niger Delta region, either by the government or Shell Oil, Amnesty International and other groups charged Monday.

Oil production has contaminated the drinking water of at least 10 communities in the Ogoniland area but neither the Nigerian government nor Royal Dutch Shell's Nigeria subsidiary have taken effective measures to restore the fouled environment, said the new report by Amnesty International, Friends of The Earth Europe, Center for Environment, Human Rights and Development, Environmental Rights Action, and Platform.

Oil companies say gangs that break into pipelines to steal crude oil are the main causes of oil spills in the region. Shell, the largest

Other news reports from around the world (continued)

NEWS REPORTS FROM NIGERIA (Continued)

oil company operating in Nigeria, is now facing a lawsuit in the United Kingdom where the law firm Leigh Day, representing fishermen in the Niger Delta, is arguing the company isn't doing enough to maintain and protect its pipelines from being sabotaged by oil thieves. But Shell insists it's following international best practice in its operations in the West African country. *SFGate* [Read more](#)

August 6 - FG, oil areas meet over oil spill

As part of efforts to address the environmental challenges, the Federal Government has opened talks with the oil spill-affected communities of Ogoniland of Rivers State. This is coming on the heels of the issues in the recent United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) report.

Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Petroleum Resources, Mr. Danladi Kifasi, who spoke on behalf of the Minister, Mrs Diezani Alison-Madueke, noted that the government will open dialogue with the Ogoni people to discuss how to implement the report. *The Sun* [Read more](#)

August 7 - 167 oil spill sites need remediation –Shell

Shell Petroleum Development Company has identified 167 sites which need remediation in its areas of operation.

The firm stated in its latest report that, "Of 167 sites in need of remediation identified at the start of 2013, SPDC had cleaned over 85 per cent by the end of the year.

It stated that due to increased access to Ogoniland we were able to make progress on verifying the condition of non-operating equipment and facilities, as recommended by the United Nations Environment Programme. The firm stated, "This identified 125 additional sites in need of remediation in this region.

Combined with an increase in theft and sabotage related spills inside and outside Ogoniland during the year this resulted in an increase in the total number of sites requiring remediation to 303 at the end of 2013. *National Mirror* [Read more](#)

People in the news

AUSTRALIA: NEW DIRECTOR APPOINTED FOR MERGED WA DANGEROUS GOODS AND PETROLEUM SAFETY DIVISION



The WA Department of Mines and Petroleum has appointed Ross Stidolph as the head of its newly merged Dangerous Good and Petroleum Safety branch. The new position, and division, was created after a structural review earlier this month.

According to the WA DMP the "new branch brings together two regulatory groups that manage similar safety issues, creating a more consistent and robust regulatory approach to critical risk assessment".

Speaking on Stidolph's appointment, WA DMP acting executive director for Resources Safety Ivor Roberts said that with more than three decades of experience in the oil and gas industry, Stidolph will be an invaluable leader for the new branch. *Ferret* [Read more](#) [Thanks to Don Johnston of ISCO Industry Partner, DG & Hazmat Group]

UK: SEPA CEO TO STAND DOWN

The Chief Executive of the Scottish Environment Protection Agency, Professor James Curran, is to stand down early next year. Professor Curran has been in post since January 2012 and has led some of the most transformational changes the environment watchdog has seen since it was established in 1996. Those changes are continuing, with the development of a new regulatory framework and new funding model, the implementation of new enforcement powers, and new approaches to resolving Scotland's most pressing environmental issues.

SEPA Chairman, David Sigsworth, said: "James has had a long and illustrious career in environmental protection in Scotland, and was part of the team which established SEPA in 1996. As Chief Executive he has led SEPA through the most transformative changes we have ever experienced and he leaves the organisation in excellent shape to complete those changes over the coming years and firmly establish SEPA as a world-leading environment protection agency." *SEPA* [Read more](#)



COUNTING DOWN – ONLY 4 WEEKS UNTIL THE START OF THE INTERNATIONAL FORUM

The response to the invitation for Submission of Papers has been extraordinarily good and ISCO is proud that the International Forum is fielding such a strong assembly of distinguished speakers.

The Forum, which is the first to focus on the very specific problem of response to spills of oils that can sink, presents a unique opportunity for participants to gain an insight into the problems and learn about recent developments in the quest for solutions.

If you have an interest in the topics being discussed you should not delay in reserving your place – available spaces are filling up very quickly.

You can reserve your place online by clicking on <http://www.spillcontrol.org/registration> Info on accommodation, travel, and other aspects is available at <http://www.spillcontrol.org>

For Exhibitors, it's a special opportunity to access a very highly targeted audience. A few Exhibitor Booths and Sponsorship Opportunities are still available. Contact Michael Rancilio at +1 844-393-6333 or +1 248-914-3915 (cell) or email Michael.rancilio@gmail.com

INTRODUCING MORE OF THE SPEAKERS AT THE INTERNATIONAL FORUM ON GROUP V OILS

**Rear Admiral
Fred M. Midgette
US Coast Guard**



Rear Admiral Fred Midgette assumed duty as the Ninth Coast Guard District Commander in June 2013. He is the senior operational commander in the Great Lakes and Saint Lawrence Seaway - an area that encompasses eight states, a 1500 mile international border, and a workforce of over six thousand active, reserve, civilian and auxiliary Coast Guardsmen. His previously served as Military Advisor to the Secretary of Homeland Security where he supported the Secretary in affairs relating to the coordination and execution of policy and operations between the Department of Homeland Security and the Department of Defense.

Rear Admiral Midgette has served afloat on both coasts and the Great Lakes earning designation as a Coast Guard Cutterman and a U.S. Navy Surface Warfare Officer. He has commanded four Coast Guard Cutters and served over 12 years afloat in USCGC TANEY (Portsmouth, VA); USS FIFE (San Diego, CA); USCGC POINT LEDGE (Fort Bragg, CA); USCGC POINT WINSLOW (Eureka & Morro Bay, CA); USCGC KATMAI BAY (Sault Ste. Marie, MI); USCGC HARRIET LANE (Portsmouth, VA); USCGC FORWARD (Portsmouth, VA); and America's Tall Ship - the Coast Guard Barque EAGLE.

Rear Admiral Fred M. Midgette will join with Senator Carl Levin, Dave Westerholm of NOAA and ISCO President David Usher in making the Keynote Addresses and framing the Issues to be discussed at the Seminar

**Rob Benedict
PHMSA**




Mr. Benedict serves as the Senior Regulations Officer within the Standards and Rulemaking Division of the Office of Hazardous Materials Safety. The Office of Hazardous Materials Safety is Part of the Department of Transportation's Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA). Mr. Benedict has been with PHMSA since 2010. As Senior Regulations Officer Mr. Benedict is responsible for the development of national standards and policies to promote the safe and secure transportation of hazardous materials by all modes, and for alignment of the national standards with the international hazardous material safety standards. Specifically, Mr. Benedict develops plans, establishes administration priorities, and coordinates office operations directed toward the effective management of the hazardous materials transportation safety program.


Mr. Benedict has represented PHMSA and the DOT as part of the U.S. delegation at the United Nation's meetings of the sub-committee of the experts on the transport of dangerous goods and the International Civil Aviation Organization's meetings of the Dangerous Goods Panel. His regulatory specialities include rail transportation, firework transportation, and transportation security.

Rob Benedict's presentation is on "Oil Spill Response Plans in the Transportation Sector (Rail and Pipeline)"


INTRODUCING MORE OF THE SPEAKERS AT THE INTERNATIONAL FORUM ON GROUP V OILS

<p>Dave Westerholm NOAA</p>	<p>Dave Westerholm is a Senior Executive with the U.S. Government who currently serves as the Director of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's (NOAA's) Office of Response and Restoration.</p>
	<p>His Emergency Response Program includes Scientific Support Coordinators who directly assist Federal On Scene Coordinators with environmental data, modeling, preparedness aids and training. He oversees NOAA's new Disaster Response Center and as the primary federal trustee his Damage Assessment and Restoration Program is responsible for protecting coastal and marine resources, mitigating threats, reducing harm, assessing damage and restoring ecological function under the Clean Water Act, CERCLA and the Oil Pollution Act. In addition, he manages NOAA's Marine Debris Program, a multi-agency effort devoted to prevention, education and mitigation of the hazards of persistent marine debris. Prior to NOAA, Mr. Westerholm had several years of corporate experience as both Senior Operations Director and Vice President for Anteon Corporation and then General Dynamics. He is a retired Coast Guard Captain with experience in a variety of assignments including engineering, search and rescue, marine safety, security, emergency management and environmental protection</p>

Dave Westerholm will join with Senator Carl Levin, Rear Admiral Midgette and ISCO President David Usher in the Forum Opening Addresses and Welcome to the Participants

<p>Kurt Hansen US Coast Guard</p>	<p>Kurt Hansen has worked at the US Coast Guard Research and Development Center in New London since 1993, working on projects dealing with oil spill prevention and response since 1998. He previously served as a sonar engineer and qualified US Navy SCUBA diver at the Naval Undersea Warfare Center, formerly in New London and has over 33 years of government service.</p>
	<p>He has an MS in Ocean Engineering from the University of Rhode Island and a BS in Mechanical Engineering from the University of Delaware.</p>
	<p>During the Deepwater Horizon Response, he served on the Alternative Response Technology Evaluation Team at the command post in Houma, LA. He is a member of ASTM Committee F-20 on Committee F20 on Hazardous Substances and Oil Spill Response. He is one of the Coast Guard's Representatives to the National Response Team (NRT) Science and Technology Committee. He is also a member of the Marine Technology Society and American Society of Mechanical Engineers.</p>

Kurt Hansen will speak on "Submerged Oil Response: FOSC's Considerations"

<p>Ralph Dollhopf US EPA</p>	<p>Mr. Dollhopf has served as an On-Scene Coordinator for USEPA's Emergency Response Team since 1985.</p>
	<p>He has helped to lead EPA's responses to nationally significant events including EPA's cleanup of residential methyl parathion sites in Ohio, Illinois, Michigan, and Mississippi (1997-1999); World Trade Center (2001); Washington DC anthrax attacks (2001-2002); Columbia Space Shuttle Recovery (2003) and Hurricane Katrina (2005).</p>
	<p>Mr. Dollhopf represented EPA in the inter-agency drafting of the original National Response Plan and National Incident Management System and has since taught and led effective implementation of ICS by EPA.</p>
	<p>From July 2010 thru August 2013 he served as the EPA Federal On-Scene Coordinator (FOSC) during EPA's response to the July 2010 Enbridge Line 6B Discharge into the Kalamazoo River. Currently stationed in Traverse City, Michigan, he holds Psychology and Environmental Engineering degrees.</p>

Ralph Dollhopf will speak on "Lessons Learned from Marshall: "Response to Heavy, Non-Floating Oil Spilled in a Great Lakes River Environment: A Multiple-Lines-Of-Evidence Approach for Submerged Oil Assessment and Recovery"

INTRODUCING MORE OF THE SPEAKERS AT THE INTERNATIONAL FORUM ON GROUP V OILS

**Stephen Lehmann
NOAA**



Stephen Lehmann is Scientific Support Coordinator, Office of Response & Restoration, National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration

Mr. Lehmann has served as the NOAA Scientific Support Coordinator (SSC) for the New England region since 1990, providing training, contingency planning support and coordinating scientific advice to the US Coast Guard, state agencies and others. He has acted as the SSC for every notable marine pollution emergency in the region during that time. In addition, Mr. Lehmann has provided on-scene support on every coast in the United States and many international coasts. Of these, he provided scientific support to a variety of incidents involving submerged or sunken oils, including: T/B Morris J Berman, T/V Provence, T/B DBL-152, T/V ATHOS 1, T/B MM-53.

Mr. Lehmann is the NOAA representative to Regional Response Teams for regions 1, 5 and 7, the Joint US/Canada Response Team and is the chairman of the National Response Team's Science and Technology Committee.

Stephen Lehmann's presentation is on "DBL 152 Detection Methods, Recover Techniques, Response Measures Considered and Adapted, End Point Cleanup Determination and Resource Trustee Cooperation"

**John S. Brinkman
IMBTEC**



Mr. Brinkman is the President and CEO of Imbibitive Technologies Corporation (IMBTEC), a Delaware, USA Corporation since 1994. IMBTEC and Imbiber Beads® have been honoured by The White House "Closing the Circle Award" and by the Technology Museum of Innovation in San Jose, California.

IMBTEC is a Specialty Absorbent Manufacturer whose flagship product is the world's only "oil-sensitive" super-absorbent polymer and is known by the brand name Imbiber Beads®. Imbiber Beads® are "engineered" to have an affinity for crude oil, Diluted Bitumen, BTEX-type solvents, diesel fuels, PCBs and literally thousands more organic liquids.

Mr. Brinkman is a graduate of the University of Western Ontario, located in London, Ontario, Canada, and enjoys consultancy status at the International Maritime Organization as part of the Technical Group dealing with international incidents involving oil and hazardous chemical spills.

John Brinkman will speak on "Fast Attack Spill Response for Diluted Bitumen and Bakken Shale Oil"

**Jerome A. Popiel
US Coast Guard**



Mr. Jerome Popiel assumed duties as Incident Management and Preparedness Advisor, Ninth Coast Guard District, in 2011. Prior to this assignment, he served as Search and Rescue Program Manager and Chief, Command Center, Ninth Coast Guard District, where he was responsible for the command center's coordination and oversight of Ninth District responses to multi-mission incidents in the eight-state Great Lakes region.

Mr. Popiel previously served as Assistant Vice President, Operations, for The Great Lakes Towing Company, Cleveland, Ohio, and acting General Manager for Tugz International, Port Everglades, Florida.

Mr. Popiel's awards include the Coast Guard's national 2010 George R. Putnam Award for Inspirational Leadership; Coast Guard's national 2003 Search and Rescue Controller of the Year; Commander's Award for Civilian Service; Coast Guard Commendation Medal; two Coast Guard Achievement Medals and numerous unit and team awards.

Jerome Popiel will address "Prospective Shipping of Heavy Oils: USCG D9 Perspective"



In this issue of the ISCO Newsletter we are printing No. 185 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 185: NEXT STEPS

The ISCO statement, following discussion of claim submission guidelines at IOPCF 14, was reported as follows: "Staff changes have been mentioned in relation to the difficulty in presenting claims. There is also the question of reasonableness and proportionality. In this connection, ISCO is now offering a new approach to incident-response. This new approach comprises a repository of knowledge supportive of a knowledge-only contingency plan based on the physicochemical parameters which control the fates and effects of releases, which determine prevention and response, and which by their incident-specific values predict incident-specific fates and effects, thus enabling incident-specific prevention and response to be cost-effective. Thus, on completion of this approach, coastal states will have access to a repository of knowledge secure against staff changes and a contingency plan from which even fresh staff will be able to prepare and execute incident-specific plans which will enable predictions made, decisions taken, accredited contractors employed, results obtained, and costs incurred to be reported to the IOPCF Funds in fully documented form and to IMO for enhancement of the thus shared repository of knowledge." ISCO then added that a document justifying this approach would be available for MEPC 67 with a shorter version on claims settlement being available for IOPCF 15 (both for October 2014).

As to the document for IOPCF 15, the above statement was intended to suggest that current dissent as to what is reasonable and proportionate will be resolved only by casualty-response knowledge; and that it will not be resolved by debating administrative belief/counter-belief, by seeking acceptance for whatever was done in the heat of the moment regardless of outcome, or by seeking to define reasonable and proportionate by reference to differing laws and administrative procedures, all of which fail to recognise that the drafters of the Convention selected these undefined terms because they themselves lacked the casualty-response knowledge which would have defined them. Again, the statement was intended to suggest that coastal states will continue to approach successive incidents as though they were the first ever until they can access a repository of the casualty-response knowledge which they might have institutionalised for themselves had the frequency of incidents been high enough to compensate for the frequency of staff turnover, and that the new knowledge-only approach of ISCO would eliminate the knowledge-countering beliefs in species-extinction/ecological-disaster which have been suppressing cost-effective minimisation of the commercial losses which are the only real consequences of oil releases from ships, oil being the only concern of the IOPCF as its name implies.

As to the document for MEPC 67, the intention was to recall that current dissent over other aspects of the Committee's work programme would also be resolved were this new knowledge-only approach of ISCO to be extended to all of them, the reportage of its development in respect of oil/HNS casualty-response to meetings 10 -16 of the OPRC-HNS Technical Group having raised no dissent whatsoever, even from the NGOs which were meanwhile invited by ISCO to reality-evaluate their beliefs to positive or negative knowledge as defined in all documents submitted by ISCO to IMO. This definition, first enunciated in 2010, arose from the observation that our senses stimulate our imaginations to beliefs transformable to positive or negative knowledge solely by evaluation of their compatibility or incompatibility with reality, or to those which can only be accepted, rejected or suspended as beliefs beyond this co-defined reality-evaluation in principle or in *pro tem* practice, but which, in the absence of this reality-evaluation, cannot be accepted as knowledge either positive or negative.

Thus, besides showing that ISCO was not expressing the self-interested beliefs of response contractors, the documents which it has submitted to IMO have shown that there is no rational alternative to accepting that the reality-evaluation which thus differentiates the dichotomies of knowledge/belief, truth/falsehood, wisdom/folly, right/wrong and good/bad is the sole means by which specific beliefs (hypotheses) were transformed to the positive craft- and self-knowledge which secured the socially cohesive survival of our group-species from time immemorial, and to the science and technology which enhanced our physical welfare from the seventeenth century onwards; and that the social cohesion which depends on self-knowledge has been continually interrupted by religious beliefs/counter-beliefs beyond reality-evaluation in principle, by reality-rejecting secular beliefs or by the reactions of ignored-reality in ways which belief *per se* is unable to anticipate or avert. Thus, there is no rational alternative to accepting that the absence of this reality-evaluation produces dissent, disharmony, violence, revolution and war, and that its lax application corrupts socio-economic and environmental sciences to the pseudoscience which diminishes social cohesion, causes economic crises, and diverts resources from real to unreal problems with needless increases in material and energy costs.

Thus, in the document now submitted to MEPC 67 in culmination of those previously submitted to TG 10-16, ISCO has used this newly defined reality-evaluation to show that previously acquired knowledge of casualty-response has been lost in not having been institutionalised; that belief in species-extinction/ ecological-disaster has been institutionalised to the detriment of casualty-response knowledge; that knowledge-acquisition has repeatedly resolved the dissent of belief/counter-belief within the MEPC and has thus averted earlier impasse in respect of compliance with IMO discharge regulations; and that acquisition and acceptance of further knowledge would resolve current dissent were belief in species-extinction/ecological-disaster to be rejected as already reality-refuted and were belief in anthropogenic global warming to be suspended pending its reality-validation or its reality-refutation.

Thus, following submission of these documents for MEPC 67 and IOPCF 15, the knowledge repository will now be collated and its knowledge-only contingency/incident-specific planning approach will now be completed from the references chronologically listed

Cormack's Column (continued)

below, the intention being to make both the repository and the approach available to all coastal states; to accredit response contractors as to competence in their use; and to liaise with IMO, IOPCF and P&I Club secretariats and coastal states towards facilitation of claim-settlement through mutual acceptance of casualty-response knowledge, and towards enhancement of the knowledge repository through knowledge-only incident-reportage to IMO, with Cormack's Column becoming intermittent as such progress becomes sequentially reportable.

- 1 Response to Oil and Chemical Pollution, D. Cormack, Elsevier Applied Science, 1983.
- 2 Response to Marine Pollution - Review and Assessment, Douglas Cormack, Kluwer Academic, 1999.
- 3 The Rational Trinity: Imagination, Belief and Knowledge, Douglas Cormack, Bright Pen, 2010, from www.authorsonline.com
- 4 Knowledge-Based Response Planning, ISCO Documents for MEPC/TG Meetings 10 - 16.
- 5 Cormack's Column in the ISCO Newsletter, weekly articles from November 2010 - August 2014.
- 6 Harmonisation of Technology and Environment, ISCO Document for MEPC 67.
- 7 Website www.knowledgeonlypolicy.weebly.com from March 2014.

Events

ARCTIC WEEK 2014

[Arctic Oil and Gas Conference](#)

4 - 5 November 2014, Thon Hotel Arena, Norway
Delivering technology innovations and operational excellence [View the agenda](#) - [Book by 5 September & save up to £700](#)

[A Practical Guide to Ice Management](#)

Monday 3 November 2014

[Arctic Oil Spill Conference](#)

6 - 7 November 2014, Thon Hotel Arena, Norway
Protecting the Arctic through technology innovation and knowledge sharing
[View the agenda](#) - [Book by 5 September & save up to £700](#)



[More detailed info on all of the events](#)

OIL SPILL INDIA 2014

Spill Association of India (SAI) is organising Oil Spill India 2014 with a universally relevant theme of "Practice to Perfection" is the region's leading global forum that highlights the causes of oil spill, mitigation methods, regulations, guidelines, technological innovations in equipments & training needs to the people for damage control in time.

Scheduled from 18-20 September 2014 at Holiday Inn Resort, Goa, India, OSI 2014 will provide some of the answers through its well researched presentations by global professionals having wide experience on Oil spill prevention & management. The concurrent exhibition would showcase a host of international exhibitors displaying the latest technology & equipments, solutions for prevention and response to an Oil spill including Logistics, Communication, Safety Health and Environmental aspects of the Oil Spill.

[More info](#)

CHINA: 4th OIL SPILL RESPONSE WORKSHOP – BEIJING, 18-19 NOVEMBER 2014

[The Oil Spill Response Workshop \(OSRW 2014\)](#) Organizing Committee is now issuing an industry-wide call for participation. The conference which will be held on 18-19, November in Beijing China covers all aspects of the oil and hazardous spill, marine salvage and fire, port and maritime security, prevention and response markets. This year will include an expanded focus on seaborne, inland, inner river and port issues.

The **OSRW 2014** program is developed by Topco, a leading energy consulting institution in China. Getting support from ISCO, ITOPF, OSRL, The Maritime Safety Administration (MSA), State Oceanic Administration (SOA), Ministry of Environmental Protection of China (MEP), Ship Pollution Prevention Committee, CIN(SPPPC).

All abstracts are reviewed for content and relevance by the committee and are selected by consensus. All offers considered sales pitches will be rejected. [More info](#)

Publications

ITOPF FILM SERIES DVD NOW AVAILABLE

The DVD of ITOFF's award winning seven-part film series "Response to Marine Oil Spills" is now available to order online. This is priced at £10 including postage and packing to cover the cost of producing the DVD.

Though the films are freely available to view on our website and via the ITOFF App, the DVD provides added flexibility as each film is divided into chapter headings, making it easy to skip to relevant sections when showing the films at meetings or training courses.

Subtitles are provided in Chinese, French, Spanish, Arabic, Korean and English. [Buy the ITOFF DVD](#)

LINKS FOR RECENT ISSUES OF OTHER PUBLICATIONS

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	June 2014
The Essential Hazmat News	Alliance of Hazardous Materials Professionals	July 28 issue
USA EPA Tech Direct	Remediation of contaminated soil and groundwater	August 1 issue
USA EPA Tech News & Trends	Contaminated site clean-up information	May 2014 issue
Technology Innovation News Survey	From US EPA - Contaminated site decontamination	June 16-30 2014
Intertanko Weekly News	International news for the oil tanker community	No 32 2014
CROIERG Enews	Canberra & Regions Oil Industry Emergency Response Group	June 2014 issue
IMO Publishing News	New and forthcoming IMO publications	July 2014
IMO News Magazine	News from the International Maritime Organization	No 1, 2014
Pollution Online Newsletter	News for prevention & control professionals	August 6 issue
EMSA Newsletter	News from the European Maritime Safety Agency	August 2014 issue
JOIFF "The Catalyst"	Int'l Organisation for Industrial Hazard Management	July 2014 issue
Environmental Technology Online	Environmental Monitoring, Testing & Analysis	July 2014 issue
OCIMF Newsletter	News from the Oil Companies International Marine Forum	July 2014 issue
IPIECA eNews	Int'l Petroleum Industry Environmental Conservation Assoc'n	February 2014 issue
WMU Newsletter	From the World Maritime University in Malmo, Sweden	May 2014 issue
AMSA Aboard	News from the Australian Maritime Safety Authority	May 2014 issue
Sea Alarm Foundation Newsletter	News from the Sea Alarm Wildlife Protection Organisation	Summer 2014 issue

Training

USA: HAZMAT TRAINING AT DOE NUCLEAR WEAPONS COMPLEX (UH4)

Dept. of Health and Human Services, National Institutes of Health, RFA-ES-14-009, 2014

The National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences (NIEHS) invites applications for cooperative agreements to support the development of model programs for the training and education of workers engaged in activities related to hazardous materials and waste generation, removal, containment, transportation, and emergency response within the DOE Nuclear Weapons Complex. Safety and health training will transmit skills and knowledge to workers in how best to protect themselves and their communities from exposure to materials encountered during hazardous waste operations, facility decommissioning and decontamination, hazardous materials transportation, environmental restoration of contaminated facilities, or chemical emergency response. The window of opportunity for submitting applications is October 6 - November 6, 2014. Estimated total program funding: \$9,500,000. Award ceiling: \$700,000. <http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/rfa-files/RFA-ES-14-009.html>

The National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences (NIEHS) invites applications for cooperative agreements to support the development of model programs for the training and education of workers engaged in activities related to hazardous materials and waste generation, <http://domesticfuel.com/2014/08/01/ethanol-safety-seminars-head-to-alabama-kansas>

USA: ETHANOL SAFETY SEMINARS HEAD TO ALABAMA & KANSAS

The [Ethanol Safety Seminars](#) are heading to Alabama and Kansas. The first seminar will be held August 7, 2014 at the Alabama Fire College in Tuscaloosa and is co-hosted by Alabama Southern Railroad and the second seminar will be held on August 8, 2014 at Doster Community Center in Prattville and is co-hosted by Autauga Northern Railroad. Tuscaloosa is hosting two sessions: from 9:00 am to 2:00 pm and 5:30 pm to 10:00 pm. [Seminars are free](#), but registration is limited. Lunch and dinner will be provided. Certificates will be awarded to attendees at the completion of the course. [More info](#)

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