

## 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 organisation.

## 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 Simon Rickaby** (UK), **Mr Li Guobin** (China), **Captain Bill Boyle** (UK) and **Mr Dennis van der Veen** (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 Psaraftis** (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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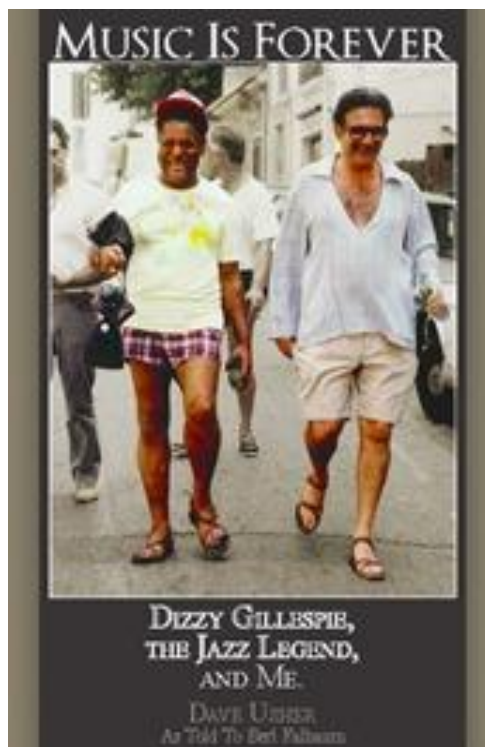
For more information on the events featured below, click on the banners



## International news

### ISCO FOUNDER AND PRESIDENT PUBLISHES HIS BOOK

**Dave Usher, pioneer and international expert on Oil Spill Control, describes 50-year “brotherhood” with the late jazz great, Dizzy Gillespie**



Jazz and oil spill control appear to be two different subjects.

But not for Dave Usher.

Why? Because Usher had two parallel careers and he tells the story of his 50-year friendship with the late jazz great, Dizzy Gillespie, while pioneering and becoming a world renowned expert on oil and hazardous material control, in his new book, Music Is Forever: Dizzy, the Jazz Legend, and Me.

His friendship with Gillespie, the creator of bebop, was forged in 1944 when Usher was 14 and lasted until the jazz trumpeter died in January 1993. In a story never told before, Usher describes the brother-like relationship he enjoyed with Gillespie as well as the partnership between Gillespie, the musician, and himself, a jazz producer.

Usher relates funny stories as well as sad ones, and how he traveled the globe with Gillespie, producing some of the world's greatest jazz music. He also chronicles how he worked with other great jazz musicians, including Ahmad Jamal, Ramsey Lewis, Thad Jones, Sonny Stitt, Toots Thielemans, Shelly Manne, Joe Kennedy, Shorty Rogers, Willie Dixon, Nat Pierce, Stuff Smith, J J Johnson, Conte Candoli, Frank Rosolino, Annie Ross, and many others. Usher made the first recordings of artists Jackie Wilson and Little Willie John.

Praise for the book appears on the back cover from Nat Hentoff, acclaimed jazz critic, Alyn Shipton, a jazz historian who has written a biography on Gillespie, and Doug Ramsey, a writer and renowned authority on jazz. Detroit News book critic, Susan Whitall, gave the book five stars in a review on Amazon.com.

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## International news (continued)



In the book, Usher also describes how his company, Marine Pollution Control (MPC) pioneered cleaning up oil spills throughout the world, becoming such an expert that President George H. Walker Bush called upon him to help clean up the millions of gallons of oil that Saddam Hussein spilled into the Persian Gulf during "Desert Storm" in 1991. He also carried out assignments for the United Nations.

In 1967, Usher founded MPC, an internationally renowned environmental services company, the first such company in the Great Lakes region and one of the first in the world. MPC assisted in cleaning up many of the world's major oil spills, including the 1989 Exxon Valdez spill in Alaska. Usher also was the founder and president for many years of the Spill Control Association of America (SCAA.) He also founded and served as president of the International Spill Control Organization (ISCO) and worked with the United Nations' International Maritime Organization (IMO.) As a founding member, he helped establish the American Salvage Association (ASA) and served as president for the Hazardous Materials Control Research Institute in Washington, D.C., and was president of the Liquid Industrial Control Association (LICA.)

In writing the book, Usher worked with Berl Falbaum whose career includes ten years as a political reporter for The Detroit News, fifteen years in corporate public relations and four years in state politics as administrative aide to Michigan's lieutenant governor. He founded his own PR company, Falbaum & Associates, in 1989. He has published seven other books and was a member of the adjunct faculty in the journalism department at Wayne State University in Detroit for 45 years. He also wrote one play which was produced by a community theatre in Livonia, Michigan.

Falbaum is working on another book about a man who was exonerated nine days before he was scheduled to be executed for a murder he did not commit. The soft cover book and ebook, published by Red Anchor Productions (RAP), are available at Amazon.com. The soft cover book may also be ordered from RAP by calling 1-800-425-6557 or by visiting the website, <http://www.redanchorproductions.com/home.html>

## International news (continued)

### BALTIC SEA: HELCOM BALEX DELTA EXERCISE 2014 – VIDEO JUST RELEASED

Hosted by Latvia, in June 2014 the Baltic coastal countries again rehearsed the joint response to a major pollution incident at sea. You can watch and hear a commentary at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jv9s6VC96Bq>

### MEDITERRANEAN : REPORT ON MOIG REGIONAL WORKSHOP 2014

The MOIG Regional Workshop on "Oil Spill Preparedness and Response Partners" was held in Nicosia-Cyprus over 10-11 December 2014. The workshop was organized by the Mediterranean Oil Industry Group (MOIG) in cooperation with IEMS and Shipcon Limassol-Cyprus. The main objectives of the workshop were to enhance communication and expert networking (MOIG Initiative), recognize regional efforts and identify further actions, benefit from Manufacturers and Responders technical expertise, clarify preparedness and response expectations and establish key recommendations. To achieve the objectives outlined above, the agenda was prepared by MOIG. A total twelve (12) speakers from Cyprus Government, United Nations organization, Public Institutions, Responders, Manufactures and Private Companies contributed to this event providing specific presentations.

The workshop gathered thirty-nine (39) participants from twenty-two (24) oil companies, responders, manufactures, specialized agencies and associations, governmental and non-governmental organizations, training centre such as ETAP, REMPEC, SAMIR, IEMS, NRC, DESMI, SHELL, SEREPT, TPS, SNPD, SWIRE, TANKMED, TRAPSA, CYPRUS OIL&GAS ASSOCIATION, LAMOR, NOBLE ENERGY, FAMELINE OIL&GAS, SHIPCON LIMASSOL, LEVANTINE TRAINING CENTER, DEPARTMENT MERCHANT SHIPPING, LEMISSOLER NAVIGATION CO, VTTV, SEAHARVEST and SELLENCO.

The MOIG Management Committee would like to thank the organizers and in particular the local partner Shipcon-Limassol, IEMS and Seaharvest Group, speakers, MOIG members, guests from Cyprus and MOIG Director for his efforts to coordinate and enhance the MOIG. Four main topics have been discussed during the workshop: Regional cooperation, planning and response, response equipments and new technologies and oil spill response and challenges.

## International news (continued)

Please follow the links below to access the report and presentations of the workshop:

- - MOIG Regional Workshop Report-Cyprus
  - - MOIG Presentation
  - - OSCP Presentation
  - - MGICAP Presentation
  - - LTC Presentation
  - - NRC Tier 2 Services and Experiences
  - - Dr.Efstratiou Risk Assessment
- MOIG [Read more](#)

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## OCIMF: LINKED EMERGENCY SHUTDOWN SYSTEMS FOR OIL, CHEMICAL AND LIQUEFIED PETROLEUM GAS TRANSFERS

The Ship Shore Emergency Shutdown Joint Work Group (SSESD WG) held its fourth meeting on the 8 January at the OCIMF offices in London and was attended by OCIMF, the Society of International Gas Tanker and Terminal Operators (SIGTTO) and Chemical Distribution Institute (CDI).

The search continues for an industry standard connection that will enable ship and shore emergency shut down (ESD) systems to be linked. SIGTTO, CDI and OCIMF are part of the initiative aimed at oil, chemical and liquefied petroleum gas transfers. The group have been evaluating various options for a universal connection and are looking at finalising their recommendations for presentation at the next meeting of OCIMF's Ports and Terminals Committee in Houston on 14-15 April 2015 [OCIMF Newsletter](#)

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## Incident reports from around the world (in chronological order)

### USA: 12,000 WITHOUT WATER IN GREENBRIER COUNTY, W. VIRGINIA, AFTER DIESEL SPILL

January 25 - Thousands of Greenbrier County residents and businesses are without water after a diesel spill contaminated the Greenbrier River. The Lewisburg water treatment plant was shut down shortly after a tanker truck rolled over and spilled its load of diesel fuel into a tributary of the Greenbrier River late Friday night. Mark Carver, Lewisburg's public works director, said all of the water tanks at the treatment plant had been depleted as of 2 p.m. Sunday. *Charleston Daily Mail* [Read more](#)

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### USA: MONTANA OIL SPILL SHOULDN'T AFFECT LOCAL UTILITIES

January 25 - The oil spill outside of Glendive is not expected to affect water systems or utilities past Glendive, according to reports from downstream city residents and clean-up officials. Although the sheen has been seen almost to the point of the Yellowstone River's confluence with the Missouri River, the actual thick crude oil product has only been confirmed about 15 to 20 miles down river. *Sidney Herald* [Read more](#)

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### USA: WASHINGTON STATE OFFICIALS UNAWARE AT FIRST OF NOVEMBER OIL SPILL

January 26 - State and federal officials are investigating an oil spill from a railroad tank car at Washington state's largest refinery last November, but key agencies were kept in the dark about it for at least a month. The delayed notification of the spill highlights gaps in communication and enforcement as more crude oil shipments travel by rail.

According to reports reviewed by McClatchy, when the tank car arrived on Nov. 5 at the BP Cherry Point refinery, Federal Railroad Administration inspectors discovered oil stains on its sides and wheels. A closer inspection revealed an open valve and a missing plug. *McClatchy DC* [Read more](#)

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### USA: NORTH DAKOTA PIPELINE THAT SPILLED 3M GALLONS OF SALTWATER NOT INSPECTED BY STATE

January 26 - A pipeline that ruptured recently in North Dakota and spilled nearly 3 million gallons of saltwater produced during oil drilling wasn't inspected by the state before being installed, according to state regulators. Alison Ritter, a spokeswoman for the North Dakota Industrial Commission, which oversees the state's oil and gas industry, said Wednesday that it's common for officials not to inspect such small gathering pipelines before they become operational. *Daily Reporter* [Read more](#)

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### SWEDEN: GOTHENBURG RECOVERS AFTER MYSTERY OIL SPILL

January 28 - The large oil spill was discovered late on Sunday evening in Skarvikshamnen, one of the three harbour areas where oil and energy products are handled at Gothenburg's main port. According to authorities, between 20 and 150 gallons of oil ended up in the sea. Word about the spill reached emergency services at 10:45 pm on Sunday evening and the region's coastguard, firefighters and port staff worked during the night to try to prevent the oil from spreading. *The Local SE* [Read more](#)

## USA: WARM WEATHER HAMPERS PIPELINE LEAK CLEANUP IN BLACKTAIL CREEK, NORTH DAKOTA



*Photo: Crews work to recover oil from Blacktail Creek north of Williston, N.D., on Sunday, Jan. 25, 2015, after a pipeline leak released nearly 3 million gallons of saltwater that included some oil. Photo courtesy of Environmental Protection Agency*

January 27 - Temperatures that reached into the 50s near Williston Tuesday hampered cleanup efforts at the site of a massive pipeline leak, making the contamination spread more quickly into the state's waterways, officials said. Melting snow and increased flows made it difficult for cleanup crews to collect some of the contamination in Blacktail Creek, said Dave Glatt, chief of the North Dakota Department of Health's Environmental Health Section.

A pipeline leak discovered Jan. 6 by Meadowlark Midstream spilled an estimated 70,000 barrels, or nearly 3 million gallons, of saltwater near Blacktail Creek about 15 miles north of Williston. *Grand Forks Herald* [Read more](#)

### January 28 - Montana Oil Spill Cleanup to Slow as River Gets Dangerous

The struggle to recover 30,000 gallons of oil from a pipeline spill into Montana's Yellowstone River is expected to grind to a near-halt in coming days as warmer weather makes ice on the river increasingly dangerous, state regulators and a company spokesman said Wednesday. Because of brittle ice, crews trying to recover oil trapped beneath the Yellowstone could be pulled off the river as early as Thursday, said Bonnie Lovelace with the Montana Department of Environmental Quality. *ABC News* [Read more](#)

## USA: SAVANNAH RIVERKEEPER RESPONDS TO ALLENDALE COUNTY TRAIN DERAILMENT AND CHEMICAL SPILL

January 27 - Savannah Riverkeeper, a Waterkeeper Alliance organization, responded to a chemical spill today resulting from a CRX train derailment in Allendale, South Carolina. Deploying the organization's Rapid Response Protocol, staff traveled to the scene immediately upon being notified of the incident. "What we know right now is that federal and state officials are investigating the scene and that a hazardous substance did spill into a wetland next to Three Run Creek, a tributary of the Savannah River," said Tonya Bonitatibus, Savannah Riverkeeper. "We are in communication with the Environmental Protection Agency who is coordinating with the Georgia Environmental Protection Division." *WJBF.com* [Read more](#)

## USA: CLEANUP UNDERWAY ON 15,000 GALLON FROM TANK IN OIL SPILL IN NORTH DAKOTA

January 28 - The North Dakota Department of Health says over 15,000 gallons of oil and nearly as much brine has been spilled. The accident happened in Williams County 11 miles north west of Williston. The spill happened at Oasis Petroleum when a tank overflowed. Authorities say much of the fluid has already been recovered. *Valley News* [Read more](#)

## USA: CHEMICAL LEAK CAUSES HAZMAT RESPONSE, EVACUATIONS AT PORT OF OLYMPIA, WASHINGTON

January 28 - A cloud of potentially toxic hydrogen peroxide spread near downtown Olympia after the chemical began pouring from a stormwater treatment facility in the Port of Olympia. People working at businesses nearby were told to get out of the area. About 3,000 gallons of hydrogen peroxide was spilled. *KirovTV.com* [Read more](#)

## USA: JET FUEL LEAK AT SAND ISLAND, HAWAII, COULD POSE THREAT TO COASTAL WATERS

January 28 - The Hawaii State Department of Health (DOH) Hazard Evaluation and Emergency Response Office (HEER) and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) are responding to a 43,000 gallons release of jet fuel from an above ground storage tank located on Sand Island Access Road at the Airport Service Group International (ASIG) facility. *Aviationpros.com* [Read more](#)

**January 30 - Sand Island fuel leak grows** - What looked like a minor fuel leak at Sand Island has turned into a 100-yard underground plume. And it's growing. Staffers from the state Health Department, the Coast Guard and the Environmental Protection Agency were at the scene on Thursday attempting to assess and contain the growing environmental threat. *Hawaii News* [Read more](#) [Thanks to Don Johnston of ISCO Industry Partner, DG & Hazmat Group, for both of these reports]

## Incident reports from around the world (continued)

**Comment from your Editor** – Looking at these incident reports a casual reader might think that the USA has a monopoly of spill events – This is of course nonsense. It's just that in carrying out research, it is much harder to find English language reports of spills in other countries. You can help by sending news to [info@spillcontrol.org](mailto:info@spillcontrol.org) This newsletter goes out to around 2,200 readers in over 50 countries. Even if only a few of you contribute news items, a much better balance of international content could be achieved. Contributions are normally acknowledged but if you don't want your name to appear, please let me know.

### MALAYSIA: CHEMICAL TANKER GOES MISSING OFF MALAYSIA

January 29 - The Information Fusion Centre Singapore has requested that ships keep a look out for a missing vessel by the name of MT SUN BIRDIE. The owner has lost communication with vessel since Wednesday, January 28. The last known position was at Lat 01°19.39'N , Long 104°12.35'E (1NM South of Tanjung Ayam, Malaysia). The SUN BIRDIE is a Malaysian-flagged chemical tanker. *The Maritime Executive* [Read more](#)

**January 30 - Hijacked Tanker Recovered Off Malaysia, Suspected Pirates Captured** - The Malaysian government has recovered a missing tanker and captured nine suspected pirates just one day after the ship went missing in the waters near Singapore. The ReCAAP Information Sharing Centre reports that the MT Sun Birdie was successfully recovered by the Malaysian Maritime Enforcement Agency on Thursday (Jan. 29) approximately 18 nautical miles northeast of Tanjung Penawar. Onboard were the ship's 11 crewmembers, plus seven suspected pirates who were all captured. *gCaptain* [Read more](#) Related report in [The Maritime Executive](#)

## Other news reports from around the world (countries in alphabetical order)

### AUSTRALIA: CROIERG TO MAKE TRAINING VIDEO ON RESPONSE TO TANKER ROLLOVERS

Canberra and Regions Oil Industry Emergency Response Group (CROIERG) has just taken part in a large scale emergency exercise in co-operation with FRNSW (Fire & Rescue New South Wales). This will result in the making of a professional video on response to road tanker rollovers/inland spills

The video will be distributed to fire brigades and emergency services nationally for training purposes. There will also be an industry version. It will be on our CROIERG March web news which will be up next week.

In the meantime here is a link for a short news report on the recent exercise.



Bulk Tanker Ex.mp4

[Thanks to ISCO Member, Brian O'Connor, Secretary of CROIERG]  
<http://www.croierg.com.au/about-us>

### NIGERIA: BONGA SPILL: OIL COMMUNITIES LAY SIEGE TO NOSDRA, WARRI

January 30 - Itsekiri and Ijaw riverine dwellers affected by the 2011 Bonga oil spill by Shell Petroleum Development Company, SPDC, Thursday morning, besieged the National Oil Spill and Detection Response Agency, NOSDRA, in Warri, Delta state. A community leader, Chief Ootobo Itiemogha, said the irate villagers were protesting NOSDRA's nonchalant attitude in enforcing the November, 2014 directive by the House of Representatives on SPDC to pay them \$3.6billion compensation. *NairaPark.com* [Read more](#)

### USA: OBAMA ADMINISTRATION TO PROPOSE NEW WILDERNESS PROTECTIONS IN ARCTIC REFUGE — ALASKA REPUBLICANS DECLARE WAR



*Photo: A polar bear is shown in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge in Alaska. (Subhankar Banerjee/AP)*

January 26 - The Obama administration will propose setting aside more than 12 million acres in Alaska's Arctic National Wildlife Refuge as wilderness, the White House announced Sunday, halting any chance of oil exploration for now in the refuge's much-fought-over coastal plain and sparking a fierce battle with Republicans, including the new chair of the Senate Energy Committee.

"Alaska's National Wildlife Refuge is an incredible place — pristine, undisturbed. It supports caribou and polar bears, all manner of marine life, countless species of birds and fish, and for centuries it supported many Alaska Native communities. But it's very fragile," President Obama said in a White House video on the move. *Washington Post* [Read more & see video](#)

## **USA: WHITE HOUSE TO PROPOSE ALLOWING OIL DRILLING OFF ATLANTIC COAST**

January 26 - The Obama administration on Tuesday will announce a proposal to open up coastal waters from Virginia to Georgia for oil and gas drilling, according to a person briefed on the plan.

At the same time, in Alaska, the administration will ban drilling in some portions of the Beaufort and Chukchi Seas, according to the person familiar with the plans, who could not speak publicly about them until the announcement. *The Washington Post*  
[Read more](#)

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## **USA: BP TO CALL WITNESSES AS IT FIGHTS FOR LESSER SPILL PENALTY**

**January 26** - It will be oil giant BP's turn Monday to call witnesses as it makes its case for a civil penalty lower than the \$13.7 billion the U.S. government is seeking for the 2010 Gulf of Mexico oil spill.

The second week of a three-week trial was set to begin in New Orleans. Last week, government experts testified about environmental, economic and social damage arising from the spill. BP attorneys disputed much of that testimony, and have argued the recovery of the environment and the Gulf economy has been strong. *The Economic Times* [Read more](#)

### **January 26 - Expert witness testifies to BP's 'extraordinarily effective' oil spill response**

BP conducted an "extraordinarily effective response" to the 2010 Gulf of Mexico oil spill, rapidly mobilizing people, equipment and a wide range of cleanup measures to prevent oil from washing ashore, an oil spill response expert testified Monday (Jan. 26). Retired U.S. Coast Guard Capt. Frank Paskewich was the first witness called by BP in the civil trial over the oil spill, which started Tuesday. *The Times Picayune* [Read more](#)

### **January 27 - No 'compelling evidence' BP oil spill sickened cleanup workers, Gulf Coast residents, witness testifies**

There is "no compelling evidence" the 2010 Gulf of Mexico oil spill damaged the health of cleanup workers and Gulf Coast residents, and there is no reason to believe longer-term studies will expose chronic illnesses linked to the disaster, a public health expert testified Monday (Jan. 26).

Robert Cox, a physician, toxicology expert and professor at the University of Mississippi Medical Center, was among the first witnesses BP called to testify Monday as the company began its portion of arguments during the civil trial over the 2010 oil disaster. The Justice Department rested its case on Friday after testimony from several expert witnesses. *The Times Picayune* [Read more](#)

### **January 27 - BP executive: 'Nothing we can do or say' can change oil spill tragedy**

A BP executive testified Tuesday that the 2010 Gulf of Mexico oil spill was a tragedy, but he is proud of the company and the efforts of its employees in gathering resources and experts to contain the disaster.

"I'm proud of the company for mustering the resources and bringing everything we had to this fight," said Richard Morrison, chairman and president of BP Exploration & Production, known as BP XP. "It was a tragedy. Nothing we can do or say is going to change that. What we can do is change the future. We can prevent this from happening again." *The Times Picayune* [Read more](#)

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## **USA: BP CUTS JOBS IN HOUSTON AS IT TRIMS GULF OF MEXICO BUSINESS**

January 28 - BP said Wednesday it is laying off employees in Houston to cope with falling oil prices, but refused to say how many of the local jobs will be cut.

The British oil giant's cuts, concentrated on the support staff at its Houston offices, are part of an effort to simplify its business in the Gulf of Mexico, BP spokesman Brett Clanton said in an emailed statement. Some employees were notified this week they would be laid off, Clanton confirmed.

He said the firm expects all of its organizational changes to be completed by the end of the first quarter, with more layoff announcements to come in the next few weeks. The changes, he said, were reviewed with the company's safety and operations team. BP had 7,200 employees in Houston in late June, when oil prices were higher. *Fuel Fix* [Read more](#)

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## **USA: SENATE PASSES KEYSTONE XL PIPELINE BILL DESPITE OBAMA PROMISE TO VETO**

January 29 - The Senate approved legislation Thursday mandating construction of the controversial Keystone XL pipeline, setting the stage for a veto showdown with President Obama. In a 62-to-36 vote, 53 Republicans and nine Democrats approved a bill seeking to force completion of the 840-mile pipeline, a measure Obama has vowed to veto while federal environmental reviews continue. *The Washington Post* [Read more](#)

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## Other news reports from around the world (continued)

### USA: NEW YORK GOVERNOR CUOMO PROPOSES \$15 M. INCREASE FOR OIL SPILL FUND



January 29 - As New York grapples with the rapid influx of millions of gallons of crude oil, Governor Andrew Cuomo has proposed increasing the \$25 million state oil spill fund to \$40 million.

The additional funding would come from higher fees on trains that transport oil through New York but do not sell it here.

During a budget hearing in Albany on Wednesday, critics were quick to point out that amount proposed in Cuomo's spending plan does not even approach what would be needed to clean up a major oil train disaster. *Capital New York* [Read more](#)

### USA: MILLIONS OF GALLONS OF OIL SETTLED AT THE BOTTOM OF THE GULF AFTER BP OIL SPILL

*Picture: An oil slick sits on the surface of the water a few miles from the site of the Deepwater Horizon oil spill in the Gulf of Mexico Saturday, July 17, 2010. CREDIT: AP Photo/Dave Martin*

January 30 - Millions of gallons of oil from the Deepwater Horizon oil spill didn't get cleaned up, and instead settled in the sediment of the Gulf of Mexico's floor, a new study has found.

The study, published in the journal *Environmental Science and Technology*, found that 6 to 10 million gallons of oil from the spill are buried in the seafloor. The researchers measured the amount of carbon 14 — a radioactive carbon isotope that's found in organic material but not found in oil — in an approximately 24,000 km<sup>2</sup> area of sediment near the spill site, a process which allowed them to see what parts of the sediment were low in carbon 14 and thus contained oil.



*Think Progress* [Read more](#) [Thanks to Michael Rancilio, ISCO]

## People in the news

### DR. DOUMBIA-HENRY APPOINTED NEW WMU PRESIDENT



January 14 - The International Maritime Organization (IMO) and the World Maritime University (WMU) have announced the appointment of a new President to head the University.

Dr. Cleopatra Doumbia-Henry, who has dual Dominican and Swiss nationality, is currently Director of the International Labour Standards Department, of the International Labour Office of the International Labour Organization (ILO). She is expected to assume office as WMU President, in Malmö, Sweden, in July.

Mr. Koji Sekimizu, IMO Secretary-General, who is also Chancellor of WMU, announced Dr. Doumbia-Henry's appointment as he welcomed students at the start of the new semester at the WMU in Malmö. Dr. Doumbia-Henry will be the seventh WMU president and will be the first female in the role as well as the first President from a developing country. *IMO* [Read more](#)

### UK: MIKE FOULDS IS SALES MANAGER FOR APAC OROLIA

Mike Foulds, a well-known figure in the spill response industry, is the APAC Sales Manager for McMurdo Marine, part of the Orolia Group, managing the distribution of the wide range of products including Personal Locator Beacons, SARL's EPIRB's and various other products into the markets in Africa, the Middle East, Asia and Australasia.

Previously, Mike held positions with Lubetech Industries, Fosse Liquitrol, and Ro-Clean Desmi.



### INLAND OIL SPILL RESPONSE – AN APPEAL FOR HELP



Dr Jacqueline Michel of Research Planning writes “We are just starting a new project with the American Petroleum Institute to develop a new guide on: Options for Minimizing Environmental Impacts of Inland Spill Response. It will address both spills to land and water. It will include methods for assessment and recovery of floating and sinking oil spills to water, and for in-situ and ex-situ methods for spills. We know that often these kinds of guides are not really “read” by the targeted audience. Therefore, we want to completely re-design the guide to make it more user-friendly and to focus on the key issues facing inland responders. Though we have some ideas about the content of the Inland guide, we would start by soliciting input from operations staff and government responders that have recent inland responses to ask them what were their most challenging emergency response issues and needs. Also, if they have examples of the types of figures, tables, flow charts, and other decision-making tools that they think are useful, we request that they send copies to us. They can contact me at: [jmichel@researchplanning.com](mailto:jmichel@researchplanning.com). We hope that the oil spill response community will help us with this important project”.

## ISCO news

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- Practical help in building incident response capacity and competence enhancement.
- Through ISCO, having a voice in the drafting of new legislation that will affect your area of interest.
- Opportunity to participate in ISCO work groups developing new ideas and projects.
- Through the International Offers of Assistance initiative opportunities to have a role in the response to very large oil spill events.
- Networking with other members, sharing experiences, discussing problems and helping find good solutions.
- Free listing in ISCO’s International Directory of Supplies and Services with your entry hyperlinked to your own website.
- Identify opportunities to develop alliances and technical partnerships with other members as a means of fast-tracking response capacity building.
- The right to display the ISCO logo on your headed notepaper, brochures, etc. to denote that you are part of an international organisation dedicated to improving worldwide co-operation and preparedness.

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You can also advance your career by gaining Professional Recognition.

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The organization offers independent validation and integrity. Each grade of membership reflects an individual’s professional training, experience and qualifications.

You can apply for Student Membership, Associate Membership (AMISCO), Membership (MISCO) or Fellowship (FISCO).

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### IS YOUR MEMBERSHIP OF ISCO PAID UP-TO-DATE?

All members are reminded that the publication of the ISCO Newsletter and other activities and services provided by the organization depend on the regular receipt of annual membership dues from our members.

ISCO is grateful to its members who regularly remit their membership fees on time but there are a few of you who have been falling behind with your payments. This creates a great deal of extra work for our Membership Director, Mary Ann Dagleish, in sending out reminders and chasing up overdue payments.

If you are behind with your payment, please go to <http://www.spillcontrol.org/2013-02-05-10-50-47/subscriptions> where it only takes a minute to renew your subscription online.

If you are finding it difficult to make your payment, please let us know. ISCO takes a sympathetic view and, rather than strike a member off the register would far rather allow you extra time than have to go through the very considerable amount of work involved in reinstatement of memberships that have been allowed to lapse.



## Publications

### THE LITTLE BLACK BOOK OF OIL SPILL CONTRACTORS

This directory has been in publication for 12 years and is the only directory dedicated to listing oil spill contractors worldwide. The 6th Edition was published in the fall of 2012 and the 7th edition is planned for publication in 2015.

ISCO has been generously offered another free advertisement in the book, we look forward to continued close co-operation as this publication is important to the spill industry. In addition to the free advert Cleanupoil is offering a 10% discount to ISCO members that wish to advertise. Don't forget to send in any updates to your locations.

The Little Black Book content is carefully updated on a regular basis, with best effort verification that companies listed are able to offer emergency oil spill services. This unique directory lists over 1,000 oil spill contractors around the world, with efforts to enhance the detail with a brief descriptions of the services offered is valuable to all parties involved in dealing with oil spills. Approximately fifteen thousand of these useful directories have been distributed throughout the oil spill industry over the years. For additional information, see <http://www.cleanupoil.com>

### CROWLEY: RAISING THE COSTA CONCORDIA – THE FULL STORY BEHIND THE LARGEST MARITIME SALVAGE IN HISTORY



Crowley Maritime Corporation has just published an in-depth promotional piece telling the fascinating true story of the salvage of the Costa Concordia cruise ship in Italy.

Shortly following the initial wreck, Crowley's subsidiary Titan Salvage along Italy's Micoperi were appointed to lead the consortium tasked with raising the Costa Concordia, which has become known as the largest and most complex maritime salvage in history.

The piece covers just about everything there is to know about the historic job, from detailing those involved and the 5 project phases of the salvage, to the impact on the Island of Giglio and the efforts to restore the environment back to its original state.

The Costa Concordia shipwreck was refloated and towed from Giglio in July

2014, approximately 20 months after the ship first came to rest along the small Italian island. The wreck is now set to be dismantled in Genoa, Italy.

Check out the piece in an [online reader HERE](#) or you can download a [PDF copy HERE](#)

### Links for recent issues of other publications

[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](#)  
[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  
News from the Australian Maritime Safety Authority  
News from the Sea Alarm Wildlife Protection Organisation

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## Events

### INTERSPILL 2015 : CONFERENCE AND EXHIBITION PREVIEW FOR [INTERSPILL 2015](#) IS NOW AVAILABLE

The Conference and Exhibition Preview for Interspill 2015 is now available, bringing you an overview of the 2015 event plus reasons why you should attend the leading European oil spill event, taking place in Amsterdam.

Welcome from the Chairman - "For 2015, Interspill continues its theme of "Working Together" as a simple expression of a value that is most important when dealing with an emergency. The Interspill Committees bring together key players from across industry and governments, who then add colleagues to contribute to the quality of the conference programmes."

Rob Cox, Technical Director, IPIECA, Chairman Interspill Steering Committee

Interspill 2015 takes place in Amsterdam on 24-26 March 2015. [More info](#) [Conference and Exhibition Preview](#)

## Training

### AUSTRALIA: AMOSC 2015 TRAINING CALENDAR

AMOSC is pleased to announce that all of the 2015 courses are now available for booking through our training website. This includes our internationally accredited courses - Course in Oil Spill Response Operations (IMO I), Course in Oil Spill Response Management (IMO II), Course in Oil Spill Response Command & Control (IMO III) and our additional qualification courses - Aerial Observation and Shoreline Assessment & Cleanup. AMOSC's full suite of courses will be delivered at both the Geelong and Fremantle training centres.

Course enrolment will not be permitted unless credit card payment (VISA or Mastercard only) is made at the time of booking. Bulk bookings of 4 or more people on any one course can be made by contacting AMOSC directly, all other bookings will need to be made through the online booking system. [Download the training calendar](#)

### THE NETHERLANDS: INTERSPILL 2015 SHORT COURSES, MONDAY 23RD MARCH 2015

Taking place the day before the 2015 Interspill Conference and Exhibition opens its doors, these sessions are designed to provide an education and training environment with leading industry professionals. The cost to attend a session is 120 euros plus VAT. [Register for the conference and exhibition](#) and select which short course you would like to attend.

- Oil Spill Fundamentals: All you ever wanted to know about oil spills but were afraid to ask... Organised by OSRL and ITOFF
- Planning to Succeed: Risk-based spill preparedness and response Organised by DNV GL and Petronia
- Claims & Compensation: Who Pays? Organised by the IOPC Funds
- Salvage, Wrecks and HNS Organised by ISU and IMO with IOPC Funds
- Dispersants: Applications and Issues Organised by IPIECA and Petronia
- Surveillance, Modelling and Visualisation: Where is it and where will it go? Organised by OSRL and IPIECA

[More details of these short courses](#)

### EGYPT: ACCREDITED IMO LEVEL 2 OIL SPILL RESPONSE COURSE IN SHARM EL SHEIKH

Swire Emergency Response Services and International Environmental & Marine Services will be jointly delivering an open, accredited IMO Level 2 OSR Course in Sharm El Sheikh, Egypt between the 4th and 8th May 2015. Persons interested in attending should initially email [info@swire-ers.com](mailto:info@swire-ers.com) for more information on the course, costs and to book places.

### GIWACF: UPCOMING ACTIVITIES

- 3 March 2015 – Senegal [National workshop on Dispersants](#)
- 16 March 2015 – Nigeria [Bilateral exercise Cameroon/Nigeria](#)
- 11 May 2015 - The Gambia [National workshop on Sensitivity mapping and Shoreline clean-up](#)
- 23 June 2015 – Namibia [National workshop on Waste Management](#)

## ISCO CORPORATE MEMBER, CHUKAR WATERJET, WILL BE AT OTC 2015, MAY 4-7, HOUSTON

Look for Chukar Waterjet in Booth 546. Chukar's subsea waterjet equipment has numerous applications for deepwater emergency response operations, salvage operations, and rapid de-mobilization operations. It can be used to blast away coatings and marine growth to inspect welds, or as a cutting tool in emergency response and salvage operations. Waterjetting equipment also may be used to provide turbulence in a stream of methanol for hydrate remediation, an application Chukar developed in emergency response to the Gulf oil spill, when the company was asked to rapidly manufacture a system to clear a clogged containment system 1500 meters underwater.

For more information about Chukar Waterjet, visit [www.chukarwaterjet.com](http://www.chukarwaterjet.com) or call 763-497-8749.

## AVIS MARKS HAZARDOUS REEFS FOLLOWING OIL SPILLS

Vesper Marine has been awarded the contract to provide Virtual Automatic Identification System (AIS) Beacons to mark seven reefs hazardous to shipping in the Bay of Plenty, as well as provide a coastal monitoring capability. The beacons will alert ships' crews and the local government's Regional Council that a vessel is heading towards a charted danger or entering the no-go zone around each hazard.

The contract is in response to the October 5, 2011 events that resulted in the worst environmental disaster in New Zealand's history, when the container ship *Rena* struck Astrolabe Reef spilling much of the ship's cargo and fuel into the ocean causing immediate and long-term effects on the ecosystem. The ship was carrying 1,368 containers, as well as 1,700 tons of heavy fuel oil and 200 tons of marine diesel oil. *Marine Electronics* [Read more](#)



## ELASTEC DRUG TERMINATOR DESTROYS DRUGS



ELASTEC is a pollution control equipment manufacturer best known for developing some of the world's most effective oil spill clean-up technology. But the list of the southern Illinois-based company's innovative environmental products is a long one—and includes a unique incinerator designed to destroy drugs, while protecting the nation's water supplies.

The ELASTEC Drug Terminator, paired with a removable head or "open-end" 55-gallon steel drum, creates a system specifically designed for the safe and efficient disposal of released evidence drugs or unwanted (and outdated) pharmaceuticals. A new website, [www.drugterminator.com](http://www.drugterminator.com), was recently launched to explain the benefits of the system to law enforcement agencies, military installations, clinics and medical marijuana facilities.

Since its introduction, the ELASTEC Drug Terminator has been used in at least 37 U.S. states, as well as in foreign environments as diverse as Canada, Iraq, Hong Kong and the Maldives, an Indian Ocean island chain.

The Drug Terminator is wood- or charcoal-fired, and two high-velocity electric blowers create a cyclone of intense heat inside the drum, eliminating the contents quickly and completely. The unit burns cleanly and smoke-free, and the material is reduced to an average of one percent ash. Non-combustible drug paraphernalia is sterilized by the heat and can then be disposed of properly.

For more information, visit [www.drugterminator.com](http://www.drugterminator.com) or [www.elastec.com](http://www.elastec.com).

## Last words

A man walks into a dentist's surgery and says, "Excuse me, can you help me. I think I'm a moth."

Dentist: "You don't need a dentist. You need a psychiatrist."

Man: "Yes, I know."

Dentist: "So why did you come in here?"

Man: "The light was on"

Legal disclaimer: Whilst ISCO takes every care to ensure that information published in this Newsletter is accurate unintentional mistakes can occur. If an error is brought to our attention, a correction will be printed in the next issue of this Newsletter. Products and services featured in the ISCO Newsletter and/or the ISCO website, including the International Directory of Spill Response Supplies and Services, have not been tested, approved or endorsed by ISCO. Any claims made by suppliers of products or services are solely those of the suppliers and ISCO does not accept any liability for their accuracy. Subscription is subject to acceptance of ISCO's Terms and Conditions as published on the website [www.spillcontrol.org](http://www.spillcontrol.org)