

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).

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

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International news

LIM KI-TACK NAMED AS NEW IMO SECRETARY GENERAL



June 30 - Lim Ki-tack, president of the Busan Port Authority in South Korea, has been elected the new Secretary-General of the IMO.

Today's decision was passed down by a secret ballot vote of the 40-member IMO Council, which is holding its 114 session this week. Lim beat out five other candidates from Cyprus, Russia, Philippines, Denmark and Kenya for the position.

He is the second South Korean candidate to vie for the IMO's top position, but the first to win the election.

Lim has spent nearly four decades working in various segments of the maritime industry. In his early career he worked as a commercial mariner for Sanko Shipping Co. and as a Korean naval officer. He joined the Maritime Port Administration in 1985, while pursuing post-graduate studies.

He holds a bachelor degree in nautical science as well as masters' degrees in business administration and maritime administration. In addition, he has completed graduate course work in international law at the Korea Maritime and Ocean University.

Lim began attending IMO meetings as part of the South Korean delegation in 1986. He was named the Chairman of the Sub-Committee on Flag State Implementation (FSI) from 2002 to 2004. Lim served a three-year tenure as the Deputy Permanent Representative to the IMO starting in 2006. While serving in this capacity, he was in charge of all IMO work for South Korea.

Lim was subsequently named Director General for the Maritime Safety Policy

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the International Maritime Organization (IMO), United Nations Environment Program (UNEP) and the Government of Curacao, the Centre has organized over 180 activities attended by more than 4500 participants throughout the Caribbean. These activities have contributed significantly to governments' decisions to ratify and implement the international conventions created to protect the environment from pollution that might otherwise be caused by ships. *The Maritime Executive* [Read more](#)

International news (continued)

Bureau at the Headquarters of the Ministry of Land, Transport and Maritime Affairs (MLTM) and appointed to the role of Commissioner of the Korean Maritime Safety Tribunal (KMST).

In July of 2012 assumed his current position as the President of Busan Port Authority.

Lim is set to begin his four year term January 1, 2016, replacing the incumbent Secretary-General Koji Sekimizu.

The Maritime Executive [Read more](#) Related reports in [gCaptain](#) and [Safety4Sea](#)

TESTS FOR OIL SPILL RESPONSE DRONES UNDERWAY

June 25 - Final testing for a new fleet of drones aimed at rapid oil spill detection at sea are set to begin June 25 in Cartagena, Spain.

Five drones comprised of both autonomous water vehicles and aerial drones will be taking part in the experiment coordinated by the Universidad Politecnica de Cartagena. This week's tests will mark the culmination of the experimental phase of the European URready4OS Project, which began in 2014.

The goal of the project is to establish a flexible, inexpensive robotic network that will enable European Civil Protection Authorities to launch a rapid response to oils spills. Autonomous vehicles in both the water and air will work cooperatively to detect a simulated oil spill and relay the information back to land based processing stations. This week's test will create a mock oil spill using colored fluids, then monitor the efficacy of the robotic team's detection and monitoring efforts.

The project aims to locate underwater oil plumes at their source in hopes of increasing emergency response preparedness and mitigating oil spill damage along coastal regions.

Though its origins are deeply rooted in the OPRC Convention, the mission of RAC/REMPEITC-Caribe has greatly expanded to assist countries to implement all international marine pollution instruments. With over 20 years of support from

EMSA, GREECE PARTICIPATE IN JOINT OIL SPILL RESPONSE EXERCISE



July 1 - On 3 June, EMSA contracted vessels Aktea OSRV and Aegis I participated in the joint at-sea pollution response exercise, TRITON 2015.

The exercise scenario addressed the response to a large spill of heavy fuel oil from an oil tanker following collision when berthing at the facilities of Hellenic Petroleum S.A. in the Gulf of Elefsina (Greece).

The aim of this joint exercise was to test the Greek national response system and to strengthen operational coordination between the Hellenic Coast Guard, the Hellenic Petroleum S.A. and EMSA. Accordingly, the Greek authorities implemented the National Contingency Plan as well as the procedure for requesting international assistance, namely EMSA, through the EU Civil Protection Mechanism.

A total of six antipollution vessels were deployed for the at-sea exercise: Aktea OSRV and Aegis I (EMSA), PLS 413 and PLS 420 (Hellenic Coast Guard), and Aktea 4 and Aella (Hellenic Petroleum S.A.). Response operations were supported by four patrol boats and guided by one surveillance helicopter from the Hellenic Coast Guard. *Green4Sea* [Read more](#)

International news (continued)

IPIECA RE-LAUNCHES THE MARINE GEOSPATIAL BIBLIOGRAPHY

July 2 – IPIECA is pleased to announce the re-launch of the [Marine Geospatial Bibliography \(MGB\)](#). This free knowledge sharing platform, developed by the IPIECA-IOGP Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services Working Group (BESWG), centralises reports, papers and environmental research relevant to oil and gas activities in marine environments. Containing over 10,000 resources, the MGB makes such information easy to find, search and summarise, and each resource is geospatially referenced.

Drawing on feedback received from IPIECA members since the MGB's initial 2013 launch, and working with [Island GIS](#), IPIECA has upgraded the MGB for 2015. Key improvements include:

- Technical updates, including integration of Google Maps and Maps Engine
- Sharpened design and navigation functions
- Increased accuracy of document locations
- Easier content uploading for registered users

These enhancements will allow the MGB to continue to expand as further research and resources become available. We encourage you to submit relevant resources to the MGB, as well as your colleagues and extended network.

IPIECA will be running a webinar later this year (date to be confirmed), which will provide an opportunity for participants to learn more about the MGB. Examples of how it has been used will also be included in the webinar. Please register your interest via the [Survey Monkey form](#). [Visit the MGB website](#)

Incident reports from around the world (in chronological order)

CANADA: UPDATE: DIESEL FUEL BELIEVED TO BE 'TRICKLING' OUT OF STRICKEN TUGBOATS

June 23 - Nearly 10,000 litres of diesel fuel is believed to be trickling from a pair of tugboats overturned on the St. Lawrence River near Cornwall, and some geese in the area are getting covered with an oily substance.

J.J. Brickett, a superintendent of environmental response with the Canadian Coast Guard, said Tuesday his agency and others are monitoring the scene of a double-capsizing Monday that saw two tugboats go under the water. Brickett said the coast guard has been told that the larger tug, the Lac Manitoba, contains some 9,700 litres of diesel fuel, while the smaller LCM 131 has about 227 litres on board. *Seaway News* [Read more](#) [Thanks to Don Johnston of ISCO Industry Partner, DG & Hazmat Group]

UK: LITRES OF RED DIESEL POLLUTES DEVON RIVER AFTER THIEVES DUMP STOLEN FUEL

June 23 - Criminals have polluted a Devon river by allowing the remainder of a fuel tank to run out into it, with almost 2,000 litres of red diesel ruining the natural site.

An appeal is being sent out by the Environment Agency after 1,900 litres of the fuel entered the river Axe.

Last Wednesday thieves stole fuel from a farm and left the remainder of the tank to run out, polluting the Axe. *North Devon Journal* [Read more](#) [Thanks to Don Johnston of ISCO Industry Partner, DG & Hazmat Group]

HONG KONG, CHINA: MOST OF THE OIL SLICK CLEARED OFF CHEUNG CHAU

June 23 - Marine Department staff have cleared up much of an oil slick sighted off Tung Wan Beach at Cheung Chau Island on Tuesday morning.

The slick which measured around 500 by 500 square meters was sighted just off the shark prevention net. Government staff closed the beach to swimmers and set up booms to prevent the slick from drifting ashore. *The Standard* [Read more](#) [Thanks to Don Johnston of ISCO Industry Partner, DG & Hazmat Group]

USA: PLAINS ALL AMERICAN LAB TESTS SHOW OIL FROM PIPELINE SPILL SPREAD ALONG HUNDREDS OF MILES OF CALIFORNIA COASTLINE

June 26 - At least some of the tar balls that washed onto Southern California beaches in the past month are linked to the crude released from a ruptured pipeline offshore, according to lab results reported Friday.

Although popular Manhattan Beach in Los Angeles County was apparently unaffected during the first week after an estimated 101,000 gallons of oil leaked from Plains All American Pipeline's Line 901 — tar balls collected on May 27 had a chemical fingerprint matching that spilled crude.

Houston-based Plains All American Pipeline released a summary of the lab tests on Friday, as state and federal lawmakers intensified their scrutiny of the company's damaged pipeline and the spill. *Houston Chronicle* [Read more](#)

June 27 - Refugio oil spill cleanup costs near \$100 million - Plains All American Pipeline estimates that the cleanup of the oil spill near Refugio Beach has cost \$96 million thus far, but the economic and environmental consequences may be more difficult to quantify. The Assembly Natural Resources Committee and Senate Select Committee on the Refugio Oil Spill held a joint oversight hearing at the county's board hearing room Friday afternoon. Assemblymember Das Williams and State Sen. Hannah-Beth Jackson, both Santa Barbara Democrats, lead the discussion. *Pacific Coast Business Times* [Read more](#)

Incident reports from around the world (continued)

COLOMBIA: COLOMBIA'S PRESIDENT BLASTS REBELS FOR OIL SPILL

June 26 - President Juan Manuel Santos says an oil spill triggered by a rebel attack on a pipeline the worst environmental disaster in Colombia's history.

Santos made the comments Friday while visiting the southern port city of Tumaco to survey damage from the June 22 bombing by the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia. Authorities say 10,000 barrels of oil have spilled into the Mira River, leaving some 150,000 people without drinking water. *Yahoo News* [Read more](#)

TURKEY: CRUISE SHIP COLLIDES WITH TANKER IN DARDANELLES STRAIT



June 27 - Dozing vacationers received quite a jolt early Saturday morning when their cruise ship collided with a tanker off the coast of Turkey at the northern end of the Dardanelles strait.

In a statement, Celestyal Cruises announced that the Maltese flagged MV Celestyal Crystal "had a collision" with Marshall Islands-flagged STI Pimlico at around 1:28 a.m. local time. *TravelPulse.com* [Read more](#) [Thanks to Don Johnston of ISCO Industry Partner, DG & Hazmat Group]

June 27 - Cruise Ship and Tanker Collide in Turkey's Dardanelles Strait - A Celestyal cruise ship was involved in a collision with a tanker carrying flammable naphtha early Saturday morning in the Dardanelles strait near Gallipoli,

Turkey. The General Directorate of Coastal Safety reports that some of the tanker's naphtha cargo was released and a tug was on scene conducting cooling operations. *gCaptain* [Read more](#)

June 27 - Cruise Ship and Tanker Collide - The collision with the Handymax tanker STI Pimlico occurred while the vessels were passing the north end of the Dardanelles Strait Traffic Separation Scheme.

Both vessels suffered structural damage. The Marshall Islands-registered 37,000dwt tanker, listed as owned by Scorpio Tankers, is believed to be carrying a cargo of naphtha and is leaking fuel oil from a damaged tank. *The Maritime Executive* [Read more](#)

USA: COAST GUARD CONTINUES TO MONITOR OIL SPILL ON SAVANNAH RIVER

June 29 - Around 100 gallons of cooking grade palm oil was spilled on the Savannah River, Friday night.

The Coast Guard and Moran Environmental are expected to be cleaning up until Wednesday. About 1.5 miles of boom has been laid out along the river, from Hutchinson Island to Garden City. *WTOC.com* [Read more & watch video](#)

June 30 - The Coast Guard continues to monitor the response to a palm oil spill that occurred Friday along the north shore of the Savannah River in the vicinity of Hutchinson Island.

"As of 8 p.m. Monday, approximately 50 percent of the shoreline has been cleaned," said Coast Guard spokesman Anthony Soto. "Less than half a mile of the product remains within the containment boom along the river shoreline, and the majority of the product is contained."

Coast Guard crewmembers from Marine Safety Unit Savannah have been coordinating with personnel from Moran Environmental, the company contracted to perform the clean-up. *WJCL.com* [Read more](#)

INDONESIA: CONTAINER SHIP AND LPG TANKER COLLIDE

June 29 - A collision occurred in Indonesia's Java Sea on Monday between the container ship Leo Perdana and the LPG tanker Navigator Aries. The collision occurred about 20 nautical miles off Surabaya, Karang Jombang Island.

Media reports indicate that the tanker was hit on the port side and suffered a five-meter hole. The fire that ensued was extinguished by fire-fighting tugs and the vessel's crew. No crew members were injured, but a small amount of fuel was spilt into the water. *The Maritime Executive* [Read more](#)

CANADA: FUEL LEAKING FROM ABANDONED PIPE IN PRINCE RUPERT, B.C.

June 29 - The Prince Rupert Port Authority says workers are trying to stop an abandoned pipe from slowly leaking fuel into the ocean in northwestern B.C. The leak of what the port believes is bunker fuel was reported on Sunday when staff noticed a rainbow sheen near the tide line.

The port says it has engaged the Western Canada Marine Response Corporation to contain the fuel that reached the foreshore and the group is working to clean the shoreline and immediate area. *CBC News* [Read more](#)

Incident reports from around the world (continued)

RUSSIA: OIL SPILL CAUSES 'ECOLOGICAL DISASTER' CLOSE TO NEFTEYUGANSK CITY



Photo: Floodwater from Ob River is black from spill as emergency workers flight to limit damage. The company said its actions had 'prevented' oil reaching the main river. Picture: Andrey Seleznyov.

June 30 - A rupture in a key pipeline led to oil pouring into Ob floodwater with the polluted area now put at more than ten hectares. Pictures showed the scale of the damage in an area close to the city of 123,000 people in the Khanty-Mansi Autonomous Region.

The Ob was anyway flooded when the spill occurred on 23 June and the key damage is to an area already underwater.

The pipeline is run by RN-Yuganskneftegas Ltd, part of the Rosneft energy giant, which said on Monday it 'engaged all the necessary measures to eliminate the spill of oil-containing liquid'.

The company said its actions had 'prevented' oil reaching the main river, the seventh longest in the world. Despite this, it is clear a significant quantity of oil spilled into the Ob's floodwater, and among the pictures is a domestic tap flowing with blackened water. *The Siberian Times* [Read more](#)

June 30 - Russia's Rosneft charged over pipeline leak that caused oil to come out of taps - Russia's environmental watchdog has opened a case against state-owned oil corporation Rosneft after a pipeline leak resulted in oily water filling backyards and flowing out of locals' taps in Siberia.

RN Yuganskneftegaz, a subsidiary of Rosneft, has been charged with an administrative violation of water protection regulations leading to contamination. The leak occurred last week just outside Nefteyugansk, a major oil town near the Ob river in the Khanty-Mansiysk region of Siberia, and quickly contaminated several hectares of water in the area, which has been suffering from flooding. The leak had been stopped as of Monday, the watchdog said. *The Guardian* [Read more](#)

June 30 - Crude oil leaks into water supply after pipeline rupture in Siberia - An oil spill during a flood could lead to an ecological disaster, local news outlet Ugrapro reports. The spill has spread to over 10 hectares, it says. "Now we are not just being flooded, but flooded with oil. Now we will not be able to swim, or go fishing, nothing will grow on the fields," Ugrapro quoted a local resident as saying. *Rt.com* [Read more](#)

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

CHINA: CHINA SETS UP OIL SPILL FUND

June 28 - China has established a national compensation fund for oil spills caused by ships.

"This marks a new milestone for China's compensation mechanism for ship-caused oil pollution and will better safeguard the interests of the victims of accidents," said He Jianzong, deputy transport minister, at the inauguration ceremony, reports *Wanted China Times*.

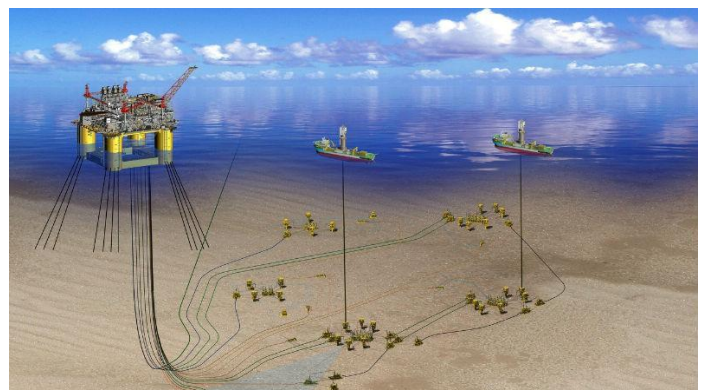
China's oil consumption rose to a record high of 374.6 million tons in 2014 leading to an increase in tanker operations and subsequent risk of a spill in Chinese waters. Local media reports indicate that between 1973 and 2014, 3,200 oil spill accidents occurred in the seas around China resulting in 42,936 tons of spilt oil. *The Maritime Executive* [Read more](#) Another report can be found in [Green4Sea](#)

USA: [UPDATED] SHELL GREENLIGHTS ITS LARGEST GOM FLOATING PLATFORM

July 1 - Shell gave the greenlight today for construction and installation of its largest floating platform in the Gulf of Mexico.

The Appomattox deepwater oil and gas field is located 80 miles offshore in Louisiana and is expected to reach an average peak production of approximately 175,000 barrels of oil equivalent (boe) per day. Once online, the field could boost Shell's production in the region by more than 60 percent from 2014 levels.

The Appomattox development host will consist of a semi-submersible, four-column production host platform, a subsea system featuring six drill centers, 15 producing wells, and five water injection wells. *The Maritime Executive* [Read more](#)



Other news reports from around the world (continued)

USA: SCAA: FACILITATING COMMUNICATION & JOURNALISM DURING ENVIRONMENTAL DISASTERS

July 1 – SCAA's President Emeritus, Dave Usher and Executive Director, John Allen attended the Center for Spills and Environmental Hazards hosted Government – Media panel discussion held on 8 June at the Department of Commerce building in Washington, DC. Three separate panel sessions were held covering:

Panel 1: Federal Agency Communication Strategy for Environmental Disaster Response

Panel 2: Digital Media Journalism During Environmental Disaster Response

Panel 3: The Path Forward – Addressing Specific Challenges with Action

Government participants included:

Dr. Nancy Kinner, Center for Spills and Environmental Hazards, University of New Hampshire

RADM(ret) Mary Landry, U.S. Coast Guard Incident Management & Preparedness

CAPT Howard Wright, U.S. Coast Guard Public Affairs

Dave Westerholm, NOAA Office of Response & Restoration

Dana Tulis, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

Ciaran Clayton, NOAA Communications

Debbie Payton, NOAA ORR Emergency Response Division

Media participants included:

Mark Schleifstein, New Orleans Times-Picayune

Tim Wheeler, Baltimore Sun

Seth Borenstein, AP

Kevin Enochs, Voice of America

Elizabeth Shogren, High Country News

Kate Sheppard, Huffington Post

Justin Kenney, The Pew Charitable Trusts, Communications

David Heath, Center for Public Integrity

Tim Wheeler, Baltimore Sun and Society of Environmental Journalists

In a following discussion with Dr. Nancy Kenner, SCAA asked why there were no industry panelists included in the discussion. She explained that they purposely wanted only government and media involved in this first forum, intending to include industry in future forums. The three panel sessions were videotaped for public viewing. Go to http://crrc.unh.edu/media_event *SCAA Spill Briefs*

USA: NASA MAPS BEACH TAR FROM CALIFORNIA OIL PIPELINE SPILL

July 2 - When an on-land pipeline ruptured north of Santa Barbara, California, on May 19—spilling 105,000 barrels of crude oil onto Refugio State Beach and about 21,000 gallons of oil into the Pacific Ocean in the north Santa Barbara Channel—it created an environmental nightmare for local beaches and wildlife.

In support of the response to the Refugio Incident, as it is known, NASA deployed a De Havilland Twin Otter aircraft carrying a unique airborne instrument developed by NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory, Pasadena, California, to study the spill and test the ability of imaging spectroscopy to map tar on area beaches. The work is advancing our nation's ability to respond to future oil spills.

The JPL-built Airborne Visible Infrared Imaging Spectrometer, Next Generation (AVIRIS-NG) instrument uses spectroscopic measurement of energy reflected from Earth's surface to determine surface properties. In this case, AVIRIS-NG focused on applying imaging spectroscopy to the problem of accurately mapping the presence of oil-derived tar balls on the beaches, using direct, on-the-ground observations to verify the remote sensing data. AVIRIS-NG can capture spectral imagery that is commonly used to map ecosystems, minerals, land use and trace gases. *Green4Sea* [Read more](#)

USA: \$18.7B DEAL CLEARS PATH FOR BP TO CLOSE BOOKS ON GULF SPILL

July 2 - Trying to close the books on the worst offshore oil spill in U.S. history, BP agreed Thursday to provide billions of dollars in new money to five Gulf Coast states in a deal the company said would bring its full obligations to an estimated \$53.8 billion.

Federal and state government officials touted the record-breaking \$18.7 billion agreement as a historic milestone in the Gulf Coast's recovery. The Deepwater Horizon disaster killed 11 rig workers and spewed millions of gallons of crude that stained beaches, coated wildlife and polluted marshes.

BP also gets a valuable return: Much of the payments, to be made over the next 18 years, could be tax-deductible. And by finally providing shareholders with a clearer cost picture, the London-based oil giant will be freer to embark on new ventures. *Aol.com* [Read more and listen to commentary](#) [Thanks to Marc K. Shaye, Member of ISCO Executive Committee]

Other reports can be found in [The Maritime Executive](#) and in [Green4Sea](#) and in [gCaptain](#)

People in the news

BMT APPOINTS SIR JOHN HOOD KNZM AS CHAIRMAN



July 2 - BMT Group, the leading international maritime design, engineering and risk management consultancy, has announced the appointment of Sir John Hood KNZM as Chairman of BMT Group Ltd with effect from 1 October 2015, following the retirement of Dr Neil Cross at the end of BMT's financial year on 30 September.

The Maritime Executive [Read more](#)

CLEAN PACIFIC CONFERENCE AND EXHIBITION



In the picture: John Allen, SCAA Executive Director

ISCO President David Usher and Membership Director Mary Ann Dalglish reported an excellent event with many members in attendance, including Osprey, MPC, AllMaritim, Crucial, Markleen, Lamor, Rutter, Koseq, Crucial, Elastec and Aquaguard, plus several Individual Members and representatives of ISCO Industry Partners (apologies if we haven't mentioned all of your names).

The ISCO team was pleased to meet the many people who called at the ISCO booth and respond to their interest in the organization – a boost to our membership is anticipated.

The tradition draw for a bottle of fine Malt Whisky was won by John Allen, Executive Director of the Spill Control Association of America (SCAA).

MEMBER PROFILES IN THE ISCO NEWSLETTER

Your editor has received enquiries from Corporate Members asking if the ISCO Newsletter would be willing to print articles about their companies. This week, we have published a profile on the Dutch company, Koseq, the manufacturer of the Sweeping Arm system for recovering oil spills at sea.

It has been agreed that members be asked to make a contribution of £185 to ISCO funds for publication of a one page company profile. Given that the ISCO Newsletter has a large and highly targeted readership in over 60 countries, it's a cost-effective way to promote your company. Interested members should contact the editor at john.mcmurtrie@spillcontrol.org

This facility is only available to Corporate Members.

INCIDENT REPORTS: ROAD TANKER ROLLOVERS, FUEL STATIONS, STATIC TANKS, ETC.

Note from your editor – As a regular reader of Don Johnston's "Newsy Stuff" I am amazed by the very large numbers of oil spills caused by road tanker rollovers and collisions. The ISCO Newsletter does not usually report on incidents of these kinds because there are just far too many and in any case it would be superfluous to duplicate the excellent work being done by Don.

"Newsy Stuff" is circulated free of charge every few days to members of the DG & Hazmat Group and each issue contains around 20 pages of incident reports and other mainly downstream related news.

To find out more about joining DG & Hazmat Group and subscribing to "Newsy Stuff", visit - <http://groups.yahoo.com/neo/groups/DangerousGoods/info>

Science and technology

NEW SPILL CLEANUP DEVICE DOESN'T REQUIRE BOOMS



Marine oil spills can be extremely difficult to deal with, requiring a lot of time and effort by experts to remove the pollutant from the surface of the water.

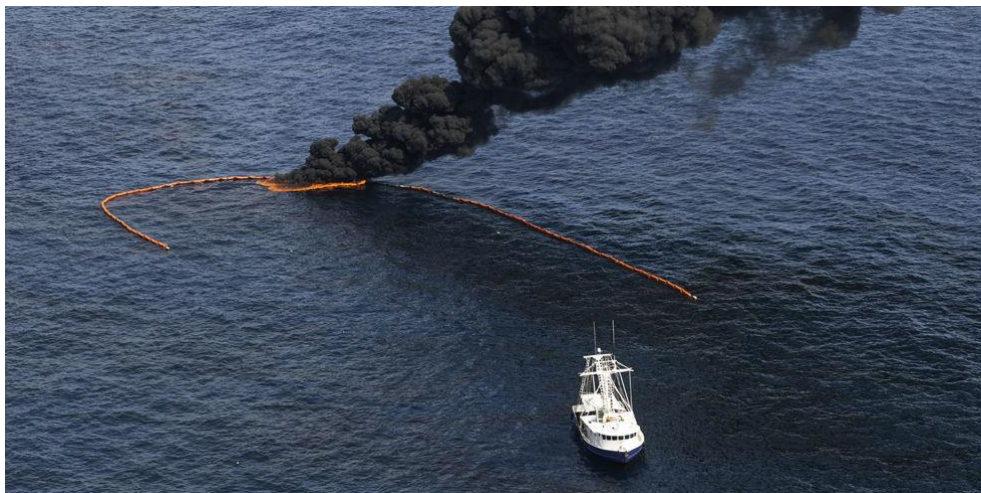
In the sea in the area of Cardiff, Wales, engineers from a European research project are testing a new prototype that they claim cleans oil spills quickly, efficiently and more cheaply than existing methods, which require multiple vessels and complex oil containment measures.

"What we've developed is a net which can float on the surface of the water, without using any containment booms," explained James Ilsley, an environmental engineer and managing director of OPEC Ltd, which is developing the system.

The simplicity of the technology is an important aspect, according to Federico Meneghello, project coordinator for the E.U. Project FORCE7 conducting the research. "A big advantage is that this system can operate with a single boat, and can work in stormy seas, because it doesn't need to coordinate with other ships."

The point is reinforced by Ilsley: "Using this system, we can operate in very heavy seas, such as force seven conditions, where the wave heights would be quite high, and the polypropylene net would follow these wave contours to be able to collect oil from the slicks," he said. *The Maritime Executive* [Read more](#)

SCIENTISTS INVENT AN OIL SPILL CLEANUP CHEMICAL THAT QUICKLY BIODEGRADES



June 26 - When oil tankers crash and inevitably spill oil into the open seas, a go-to clean-up method is corralling the rapidly spreading oil and burning it. But in some places, like the ice-strewn Arctic ocean, physically corralling that oil with boats and booms is practically impossible. Now, there's a better way to collect that leaked gunk—and the methods users, greener, more biodegradable chemicals, too.

To make corralling that oil easier, chemists developed a tool called an oil herder. Essentially, oil herders make oil clump together naturally when sprayed in the ocean around a spill. The problem is that these

silicone-based herders will stay in the ocean more or less indefinitely. And although they're already being tested in open water, we have no idea what ecological toll they take.

In a new study out today, a group of chemists at Tulane University and City College of New York just announced the development of the first class of "eco-friendly, biodegradable, and plant-based [oil] herders," says George John, a chemist at CUNY who's part of the research team. As John and his colleagues report in the journal *Science Advances*, the inexpensive new oil herder is chiefly made of plant-sourced phytol (a key component of chlorophyll), which already exists in great abundance in the natural marine environment thanks to organisms like green algae.

"We've tested our chemical in room temperature, cold, ice, and hot water, as well as different salinity levels of water. In every case our chemical works with exactly the same results and efficiency as do the silicon-based herders," John says. "Normally you need these herders to work and keep oil contracted for maybe 10 to 15 minutes before you can start a fire. Our chemical starts [biodegrading] in around a few hours, and completely [degrades] in maybe two weeks to a month."

Like soap, John's biodegradable chemicals break up and drop the surface tension dramatically, making the oil prefer to clump together rather than spread out. The chemical does this by forming a hyper-thin single-molecule layer, which, on a molecular level, looks a little bit like millions of pins poking out of the water. The sharp body of each pin is the plant-sourced phytol molecule, and the head is a simple sugar molecule or harmless amino acid. At no point does the oil herder attach to or alter the floating oil—it only reduces the surface tension of the water around it. After a few hours, the connection between the head and the body of the molecular pin will break down, causing both parts to dissolve into the ocean's water column.

How much better for the environment are these new oil herders compared to the old ones? The short answer is: We actually have no idea. Gary Shigenaka, a biologist with the Emergency Response Division of the US's National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, says that despite new "interest in herders, especially for waters [like the Arctic] where floating ice may preclude the use of other more traditional mechanical cleanup methods. . . there are currently no herders approved by [the EPA] for use during oil spills." The upshot: No long-term (or even short-term) ecological studies have ever been done to see the ecological toll that herders can take.

Until scientists compare the two chemicals, Shigenaka is cautious to say whether, even on principle, John's plant-based oil herder would be ecologically safer than a non-biodegradable option. *PopularMechanics.com* [Read more](#)

Abstract of the paper published in the journal *Science Advances* -

Crude oil spills are a major threat to marine biota and the environment. When light crude oil spills on water, it forms a thin layer that is difficult to clean by any methods of oil spill response. Under these circumstances, a special type of amphiphile termed as "chemical herder" is sprayed onto the water surrounding the spilled oil. The amphiphile forms a monomolecular layer on the water surface, reducing the air-sea surface tension and causing the oil slick to retract into a thick mass that can be burnt in situ. The current best-known chemical herders are chemically stable and nonbiodegradable, and hence remain in the marine ecosystem for years. We architect an eco-friendly, sacrificial, and effective green herder derived from the plant-based small-molecule phytol, which is abundant in the marine environment, as an alternative to the current chemical herders. Phytol consists of a regularly branched chain of isoprene units that form the hydrophobe of the amphiphile; the chain is esterified to cationic groups to form the polar group. The ester linkage is proximal to an allyl bond in phytol, which facilitates the hydrolysis of the amphiphile after adsorption to the sea surface into the phytol hydrophobic tail, which along with the unhydrolyzed herder, remains on the surface to maintain herding action, and the cationic group, which dissolves into the water column. Eventual degradation of the phytol tail and dilution of the cation make these sacrificial amphiphiles eco-friendly. The herding behavior of phytol-based amphiphiles is evaluated as a function of time, temperature, and water salinity to examine their versatility under different conditions, ranging from ice-cold water to hot water. The green chemical herder retracted oil slicks by up to ~500, 700, and 2500% at 5°, 20°, and 35°C, respectively, during the first 10 min of the experiment, which is on a par with the current best chemical herders in practice.

Download the paper published in *Science Advances* - [Sacrificial amphiphiles: Eco-friendly chemical herders as oil spill mitigation chemicals](#)

Technical support

TRANSPORTATION RAIL INCIDENT PREPAREDNESS & RESPONSE



[Introduction & Planning](#)



[Incident Management](#)



[Problem Identification](#)



[Hazard Assessment & Risk Evaluation](#)



[Select Proper PPE](#)



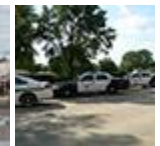
[Logistics & Resource Management](#)



[Select & Implement Response](#)



[Decon & Post-Emergency Operations](#)



[Scenarios](#)

The Transportation Rail Incident Preparedness and Response, Flammable Liquid Unit Trains resource materials were developed to provide critical information on best practices related to rail incidents involving hazard class 3 flammable liquids, such as crude oil and ethanol. A key component of this initiative is to learn from past experiences and to leverage the expertise of public safety agencies, rail carriers, and industry subject matter experts in order to prepare first responders to safely manage incidents involving flammable liquid unit trains.

These training resources offer a flexible approach to training the first responders and emergency services personnel in pre-incident planning and response. Each module contains a PowerPoint presentation, Student Workbook, and Instructor Lesson Plan. In addition to these materials, there are three interactive scenarios with animation and introduction videos to help instructors lead tabletop discussions. Click on the images above to download information.

Resources:

- Instructor Lesson Plan
- Student Workbook
- Reference Sheet for Crude Oil
- Feedback & Questions

Credit for the Cherry Valley Fire District photos: Cherry Valley Fire Protection District MABAS, Division 8, Photographer David Carlson Source - *US Department of Transportation - Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA)*

Publications

IMO: MANUAL ON CHEMICAL POLLUTION (SECTION 3), 2015 EDITION

The manual aims to provide the reader, in particular on-scene commanders, response personnel, government entities and others involved in the management and/or response to pollution incidents involving Hazardous and Noxious Substance (HNS), with a description of the various interests involved in an HNS incident and its aftermath. [More info](#)

Links for recent issues of other publications (in alphabetical order)

[AMSA Aboard](#)
[ASME EED EHS Newsletter](#)
[Bow Wave](#)
[Cedre Newsletter](#)
[Celtic Biogenie enGlobe Newsletter](#)
[CROIERG Enews](#)
[EMSA Newsletter](#)
[Energy Institute eBulletin](#)
[Environmental Technology Online](#)
[IMO News Magazine](#)
[IMO Publishing News](#)
[Intertanko Weekly News](#)
[IPIECA eNews](#)
[JOIFF "The Catalyst](#)
[MOIG Newsletter](#)

News from the Australian Maritime Safety Authority
News and commentary on HSE issues from George Holliday
Sam Ignarski's Ezine on Marine & Transport Matters
News from Cedre in Brittany, France
Latest Remediation and related technology news
Canberra & Regions Oil Industry Emergency Response Group
News from the European Maritime Safety Agency
News from the Energy Institute
Environmental Monitoring, Testing & Analysis
News from the International Maritime Organization
New and forthcoming IMO publications
International news for the oil tanker community
Int'l Petroleum Industry Environmental Conservation Assoc'n
Int'l Organisation for Industrial Hazard Management
News from the Mediterranean Oil Industry Group

May 2015 issue
Most recent issue
Current issue
May 2015
Spring 2015 issue
Current issue
July 2015 issue
April 2015 issue
May 2015 issue
No 1, 2015
May 2015
No 27 2015
February 12 issue
April 2015 issue
16 April 2015 Issue

Links for recent issues of other publications (in alphabetical order)

[NOAA update](#)

[OCIMF Newsletter](#)

[Pollution Online Newsletter](#)

[Sea Alarm Foundation Newsletter](#)

[SAC News](#)

[Technology Innovation News Survey](#)

[The Essential Hazmat News](#)

[Transport Canada Newsletter](#)

[USA EPA Tech Direct](#)

[USA EPA Tech News & Trends](#)

[WMU Newsletter](#)

Oil spill response news from NOAA OR&R

News from the Oil Companies International Marine Forum

News for prevention & control professionals

News from the Sea Alarm Wildlife Protection Organisation

Oil spill related and other news from Alaska

From US EPA - Contaminated site decontamination

Alliance of Hazardous Materials Professionals

News and articles re transport of dangerous goods in Canada

Remediation of contaminated soil and groundwater

Contaminated site clean-up information

News from the World Maritime University

April 2015

June 2015 issue

July 1 issue

Spring 2015 issue

June 12 issue 2015

May 1-15 2015

June 1 issue

Winter 2014 issue

July 1 2015 issue

Spring 2015 issue

June 2015 issue

Contributed article

PHOTOS AND OTHER INFO ON TUMACO COLOMBIA OIL SPILL RECEIVED FROM ISCO MEMBER, CARLOS SAGRERA, MISCO



Your editor thanks Carlos for sending in these excellent photographs. For the interest of our Spanish language readers, Carlos has also provided the following links to newspaper reports –

<http://yusnaby.com/atentado-de-las-farc-resulta-en-tragedia-ambiental/>

<http://www.elheraldo.co/nacional/derrame-de-crudo-en-tumaco-el-mas-grave-de-los-ultimos-10-anos-en-colombia-201720>

<http://www.eltiempo.com/estilo-de-vida/ciencia/el-plan-de-atencion-ante-el-derrame-de-crudo-en-tumaco/16005042>

<http://www.infobae.com/2015/06/26/1737799-santos-visitara-tumaco-el-derrame-crudo-las-farc>

<http://www.elpais.com.co/elpais/judicial/noticias/alcalde-tumaco-pide-gobierno-declare-emergencia-social>



KOSEQ, Dutch innovation in combating oil pollution

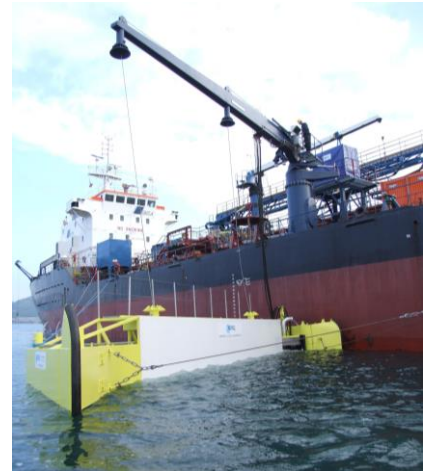
Rigid Sweeping Arm Systems for oil recovery offshore and on inland waters



A different approach and proven records

The use of the Koseq rigid sweeping arms during oil spills requires a different way of thinking.

The recovery is dynamic, quick, effective, with only a few crew needed and applicable during bad weather conditions while the traditional way of containing the oil first and then skimming off the oil takes more time as the oil



slick moves due to wind and waves and hinders to hold the oil. The Koseq single-vessel system however can be deployed in minutes and goes through an oil slick like a Hoover. For example the European Maritime Safety Agency (EMSA) information shows how excellently Koseq rigid sweeping arms performed during the 'Prestige' Oil spill in 2002. (Source: EMSA Action Plan Results p.44)

Actual and Future innovations

Koseq has a rich technological history and track record. It is the solid basis of Koseq as an innovative company. Dutch technology and high-quality rigid sweeping arms enable to go beyond the use of booms and skimmers and can easily be used in combination or as a single method. We offer a range of solutions in different situations for different circumstances for offshore, delta's, rivers and harbours.

The Compact 502 – A full service containerized quick oil response system – see pictures below

Since the Bodewes Group took over Koseq in 2013, the latest innovation, the Compact 502, has been introduced. The Compact 502 is a containerized self-deploying complete oil spill recovery system. The 20 Ft ISO container comprises the Compact Rigid Sweeping Arm, a hydraulic marine knuckle boom crane, a diesel driven hydraulic power pack and an operator console. The compactness enables the oil spill responder to have either this system aboard or transport the compact 502 to the Vessel of Opportunity and start operations immediately.



Product range

- Original Rigid Sweeping Arm
 - Compact 5 and 8
 - [Compact 502](#) (click to see in < 2 min.)
 - Victory Oil Sweeper VOS (picture on left)
- Also very well suited for debris clean-up!**

Application

- Offshore, severe circumstances
- Nearshore, harbours, inland waters
- Offshore, Harbours, and Rivers
- Offshore, Harbours, and Inland Waters

How can I contact Koseq for more information?

For personal customized advice and more information please contact our sales engineer Tom Achterberg at ta@koseq.com or just give a call at +31 (0)180 487 893

When you want to be updated, follow us on Koseq YouTube and LinkedIn.

www.koseq.com

[Koseq on LinkedIn](#)

[Koseq on YouTube](#)

JUST ANNOUNCED - NEW AND EXPANDED CONTENT FOR THE 25TH ANNUAL CLEAN GULF CONFERENCE & EXHIBITION!

CLEAN GULF is expanding its conference agenda to cover more of the issues most important to the spill preparedness and response community! Sessions will now begin on Tuesday, November 10, allowing for an extra day of education and more time to connect with attendees. In addition to the expanded conference agenda, CLEAN GULF has added a dedicated track of sessions to cover inland preparedness and response issues. NEW Schedule – CLEAN GULF 2015:

Track 1: Planning and Preparedness

Risk Management

11/10/2015 1:00 PM - 3:30 PM

Training and Exercising for Readiness

11/11/2015 10:30 AM - 12:00 PM

Understanding Complex Response-Related Issues

11/11/2015 1:30 PM - 3:00 PM

New Regulations and Implications for Industry - Projecting Forward

11/11/2015 3:30 PM - 5:00 PM

Response Planning for Non-traditional Oil

11/12/2015 10:45 AM - 12:15 PM

Track 2: Response

Non-Traditional Fuels: Issues and Case Studies

11/10/2015 1:00 PM - 3:30 PM

Salvage and Marine Firefighting

11/11/2015 10:30 AM - 12:00 PM

Morgan's Point Collision: A Complex Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA) Response

11/11/2015 1:30 PM - 3:00 PM

Response Case Studies

11/12/2015 10:45 AM - 12:15 PM

A Contractor's Perspective

11/12/2015 1:15 PM - 2:45 PM

Response Safety Concerns

11/12/2015 3:30 PM - 5:00 PM

Track 3: Research and Existing and Emerging Technologies

Surveillance Technologies

11/10/2015 1:00 PM - 3:30 PM

Shoreline Assessment and Cleanup (SCAT)

11/11/2015 10:30 AM - 12:00 PM

Response Research

11/11/2015 1:30 PM - 3:00 PM

Situational Awareness

11/11/2015 3:30 PM - 5:00 PM

Track 4: Subsea:

Containment and Intervention

11/12/2015 10:45 AM - 12:15 PM

Source Control Branch - The New Kid on the Incident Command System (ICS) Block

11/12/2015 1:15 PM - 2:45 PM

Subsea Dispersant Use, Planning, and Approval

11/12/2015 3:30 PM - 5:00 PM

NEW for 2015 Track 5: Inland Preparedness and Response

Inland Response Perspectives

11/11/2015 10:30 AM - 12:00 PM

Pipeline 360

11/11/2015 1:30 PM - 3:00 PM

Enhance Response Capabilities through Partnerships

11/11/2015 3:30 PM - 5:00 PM

Inland Regulatory Issues

11/12/2015 10:45 AM - 12:15 PM

Crude by Rail

11/12/2015 1:15 PM - 2:45 PM

Inland Response

11/12/2015 3:30 PM - 5:00 PM

Track 6: Special Interest

Positive Stakeholder Management

11/11/2015 10:30 AM - 12:00 PM

Net Environmental Benefits Analysis (NEBA)

11/11/2015 1:30 PM - 3:00 PM

Natural Resource Damage Assessment (NRDA) during Response

11/11/2015 3:30 PM - 5:00 PM

Mexico Energy Reform Developments

11/12/2015 10:45 AM - 12:15 PM

Restoration Benefits

11/12/2015 1:15 PM - 2:45 PM

ISCO is a proud sponsor of Clean Gulf 2015 and commends this event to its members and other readers of this newsletter

[Register today](#) with VIP code NEW15 to experience the new CLEAN GULF!

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