

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.

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International news

GUARDING AGAINST OIL AND CHEMICAL POLLUTION IN SOUTH ASIA



November 6 - A review of South Asia's regional plan for oil and chemical pollution preparedness and response has been completed in Colombo, Sri Lanka (2-6 November). Participants from five countries in the region took part in a table-top exercise – testing the plan and developing a roadmap for its future implementation.

The activity comes under a Norwegian Development Cooperation Agency (**NORAD**) project promoting cooperation on marine pollution preparedness and response in South Asia. The participants represented the coastal Member States (Bangladesh, India, Maldives, Pakistan and Sri Lanka) of the South Asia Co-operative Environment Programme (**SACEP**). IMO and SACEP facilitated the event, which was hosted by the Marine Environment Protection Authority of Sri Lanka. IMO was represented by Colleen O'Hagan. Source: www.imo.org

Related Report: ITOPF supports regional workshop for oil spill preparedness and response in South Asia

November 12 - ITOPF supported the IMO and SACEP (South Asia Cooperative Environment Programme) in a regional workshop for oil spill preparedness and response from 2-6 November, under an agreement for 'Enhancing Regional Cooperation Mechanisms on Marine Pollution Preparedness and Response in the SACEP Region'. 35 delegates attended, representing the national authorities and SACEP consultants for Bangladesh, India, Maldives, Pakistan, and Sri Lanka.

Dr Nicola Beer gave presentations on the international claims and compensation regime, and responding to major incidents requiring international cooperation or crossing national boundaries, drawing on case studies to illustrate common challenges and realities.

Each of the nations presented the status of their contingency plans and response capability. Despite the varying levels of preparedness amongst the coastal nations in the SACEP region, a high level of existing cooperation and engagement amongst the participants made for excellent discussions. ITOPF

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discuss their respective preparedness and response systems, their recent activities and progress achieved since the inception of the Project. In addition, it will gather a panel of international experts including representatives from Cedre, IOPC Funds, ITOPF and Oil Spill Response Ltd to facilitate the technical discussions. [Thanks to Chloe Blais GI WACAF Project Consultant]

Note from Editor: Unfortunately this news was not received until 10th November and therefore missed the deadline for publication in an earlier issue of the ISCO Newsletter.

TRENDS IN OIL SPILLS FROM TANKERS

November 10 - ITOPF presented earlier this year at INTERSPILL conference a poster which depicts the trends in oil spills from tankers over the past ten years (2005-2014)

ITOPF maintains a database of recorded oil spills from tankers, combined carriers and barges. This contains information on accidental spillages since 1970, except those resulting from acts of war.



Information is gathered from a wide variety of sources, including published material, such as the shipping press and other specialist publications, vessel owners and their insurers, and from ITOPF's own activities on site at incidents.

Whilst it is useful to observe the long term trends since 1970, it may also be beneficial to analyse more recent data for shorter term trends. ITOPF analysed the period 2005 to 2014, making comparisons between the first five year period 2005-2009 and the second five year period 2010-2014

An article in Green4Sea allows you to study the poster and read about the key issues involved. [Access the article in Green4Sea](#)

International news (continued)

will continue to support the IMO, SACEP, and the national authorities in the finalisation of the regional plan for cooperation in oil and chemical spill response. Source: [ITOPF News & Events](#)

SIXTH REGIONAL CONFERENCE OF THE GLOBAL INITIATIVE FOR WESTERN, CENTRAL AND SOUTHERN AFRICA (GI WACAF)

November 10 - The International Maritime Organization (IMO), in partnership with IPIECA, the global oil and gas industry association for environmental and social issues, is organizing the GI WACAF Regional Conference. This event is being held in Accra, Ghana, from 16 to 19 November 2015 within the framework of the Global Initiative for West, Central and Southern Africa (GI WACAF Project) in cooperation with the Environmental Protection Agency of the Republic of Ghana.

The GI WACAF Regional Conference 2015 is the sixth biennial event of its kind to be organised since the launch of the GI WACAF Project. The previous conferences were held in Gabon (2006), Republic of Congo (2007), Cameroon (2009), Nigeria (2011) and Namibia (2013).

The Conference will gather the main industry and government stakeholders from 21 West, Central and Southern African countries, namely: Angola, Benin, Cabo Verde, Cameroon, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Equatorial Guinea, Gambia, Gabon, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Liberia, Mauritania, Namibia, Nigeria, Sao Tome and Principe, Senegal, Sierra Leone and Togo.

The main objectives of this Conference will be to:

- raise awareness on oil spill preparedness and response issues with an emphasis on the challenges in the region;
- facilitate information sharing and lessons learned in the region;
- review the progress achieved since the last Regional Conference;
- determine priority actions for the coming biennium 2016-2017 to strengthen oil spill response capability in the region.

This event is a unique opportunity for key stakeholders in the region to meet and discuss their respective preparedness and response systems, their recent activities and progress achieved since the inception of the Project. In addition, it will gather a panel of international experts including representatives from Cedre, IOPC Funds, ITOPF and Oil Spill Response Ltd to facilitate the technical discussions. [Thanks to Chloe Blais GI WACAF Project Consultant]

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CHINA: ZHANJIANG MSA SUCESSFULLY HANDLED AN OIL SPILL ACCIDENT



October 6 - Zhanjiang MSA coordinated relevant organizations to conduct their oil spill clean-up without any delay. Until now, oil spilled has been effectively contained.

On October 6th 2015, Zhanjiang MSA received a report and understood that oil leaked from two vessels and expanded extensively due to typhoon known as "Caihong". In accordance with A Contingency Plan for Prevention and Control of Pollution from Ship and Relevant Operations to Marine Environment, Zhanjiang MSA immediately coordinated relevant organizations to conduct their oil spill clean-up without any delay. Until now, oil spilled has been effectively contained.

Having received alarm Zhanjiang MSA immediately contacted local anti-pollution organizations and asked them to send professionally skilled oil spill response personnel with specialized oil spill equipment, to rush to the scene. Oil spill clean-up equipment would be difficult to be transported

to the scene as a result of a spate of vessels and ships and other vehicles being damaged by "Caihong" as it passed by Zhanjiang. To carry out clean-up operation without any delay, working personnel courageously overcame difficulties such as understaffed and toiling work.

Because of this, a batch of anti-pollution equipment, such as oil felt, oil containment and oil dispersant, have been sent the first time to the scene. Clean-up operation started by deploying oil containment, oil felt and oil dispersant. Until now, oil has been effectively removed from the water.

In the next stage, Zhanjiang MSA would exercise supervision over operations by organizations to repair and restore damaged equipment, ensuring that we make them available at any time. *[Thanks to Lee Guobin, Member of ISCO Executive Committee. Report sourced from Chinese news media and translated by Lee. Original version in Chinese is available on request]*

USA: WISCONSIN – TWO RAIL DERAILMENTS AND SPILLS OVER ONE WEEKEND



Photo: BNSF Railway cars lie in a jumbled pile after derailling Saturday just north of Alma in western Wisconsin. The accident was one of two that occurred in the state over the weekend.

November 8 - A train carrying crude oil derailed Sunday, leaking oil in Watertown, a day after a train derailed on the Mississippi River in western Wisconsin, spilling ethanol.

A spokesman for Canadian Pacific said 13 cars went off the tracks around 2 p.m. as the train was heading east in Watertown. No injuries or fires were reported, but 35 homes in the area were evacuated.

"We have mobilized teams to the site and are in touch with local emergency responders to coordinate a response," spokesman Jeremy Berry said in a statement.

One of the tank cars was punctured and less than 1,000 gallons of crude oil spilled. CP

reported Sunday night that all of the spilled crude oil was contained and siphoned off. None reached waterways.

Spilled crude oil will be hauled away and disposed. In addition, the company will develop a soil remediation plan to handle any contaminated soil.

Sunday's train derailment was the second in Wisconsin this weekend. On Saturday, 25 train cars derailed about two miles north of Alma in the western part of the state. Thousands of gallons of ethanol were spilled, and cleanup dragged into Sunday. BNSF Railway said no one was hurt and it expected service to return by Monday morning. *Jsonline.com* [Read more and see video](#)
Other related reports at TMJ4.com and ABC6News and TwinCities.com

Incident reports from around the world (continued)

TAIWAN, CHINA: CAUSE OF BOILER FUEL OIL SPILL UNKNOWN, CLEANUP ONGOING

November 9 - The state-run oil refiner CPC Corp, Taiwan yesterday said that it was finishing the cleanup from a ruptured pipe carrying boiler fuel oil, but the cause of the incident was still under investigation by the Industrial Technology Research Institute.

CPC vice president Chang Ray-chung said that most of the sections of Tsaolan and Neikou creeks in New Taipei City that were contaminated by the spill have been cleaned up.

More than 630,000 liters of oil were spilled in Shijih District on Monday last week. Chang said the company was still working to clean up a flood retention pool on the Tsaolan creek and an oil build-up outside the facility's gates. *Taipei Times* [Read more](#)

EGYPT: OIL SPILL DISCOVERED NEAR AL-SINBELLAWIN: EEAA

November 10 - An oil spill was reportedly discovered in Al-Bouhiya Canal near Al-Sinbellawin city in Daqahileya governorate, according to a statement released by the Egyptian Environmental Affairs Agency (EEAA).

According to the statement, the spill is 90cm wide extends along 6 km and contains solar gasoline mixed with oil.

The environmental agency ordered the regional office to further investigate the accident and to inspect a nearby nutrition factory suspected of involvement, said the statement. The regional water company closed five water outlets as a precautionary measure until further analysis is carried out. *Daily News Egypt* [Read more](#)

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

BAHAMAS: \$20M ELECTRICITY CORPORATION CLEAN-UP 'NOT EVEN BAND AID'

November 13 - The Government's promise to spend \$20 million on cleaning-up the Bahamas Electricity Corporation's (BEC) legacy pollution was yesterday branded as "not even a band aid" by environmental activists, who are forging ahead with the imminent launch of legal action.

Fred Smith QC, legal director for the Save the Bays environmental advocacy group, told Tribune Business it had little trust in the Government's pledges, given that it had repeatedly failed to tackle BEC's multiple pollution woes. *Tribune252* [Read more](#)

CHINA: FULIN MARITIME DEPARTMENT CONDUCTED OIL SPILL RESPONSE AND TREATMENT EXERCISE

October 20 - On October 20th 2015, Chongqing MSA plans to conduct coordinated oil spill response exercise in collaboration with relevant organizations to comprehensively enhance capacity of anti-pollution companies to prevent and control oil spill at Fulin section along Yangtze River, further improve coordinated oil spill response mechanism, focus on setting up professional group engaged in oil spill response and effectively test the effectiveness of oil spill response equipment stored at equipment stockpile in Fulin.



To ensure the smooth process of this exercise, in the afternoon of October 13th 2015, Fulin Maritime Department held pre-exercise inference conference for 2015 oils spill response exercise. Sunhua, a director of Fulin Maritime Department, chaired this conference in which major leaders of relevant departments and participants took part.

During the exercise, Sunhua and Chengqiang, a deputy director of Fulin Maritime Department, discussed, modify and improve details relating to relative issues during the exercise with other participants against its plan, so as to lay solid foundation for successful process of the exercise.

October 20 - Oil Spill Response & Treatment Exercise held at Fulin section in Yangtze River by Chongqing MS

In 2015, the water level at reservoir in Yangtze River mostly reached 175 meters in Chongqing. Because of this, in the afternoon of October 20th 2015, Chongqing MSA conducted Oil Spill Response & Treatment Exercise, which carries on the theme of "Environmentally friendly and Safety Environment for Yangtze River", at Fulin section in Yangtze River for the purpose of inspecting and examining if oil spill response plan is practical and operable and enhancing coordination and coordinated operation among oil spill response organizations.

Fulin working station under Chongqing Maritime Information Communication Center would provide reliable and safe communication and escort services during the 2015 Oil Spill Response & Treatment Exercise.



Other news reports from around the world (continued)

The station meticulously carried out pre-preparation for such exercise to which attached importance by its leaders. Maintenance personnel came to the scene for investigation in advance. 10 walkie-talkies and a set of VHF phone were brought to the station in accordance with Fulin MSA. VHF communication equipment was connected with acoustic equipment to ensure real-time vocal broadcast between on-site commander and working personnel. Debugging of many parameters including silence, noise, volume and sound quality makes broadcast more smooth during the exercise.

This exercise simulated oil spilled from pipeline aboard due to fracture during tanker named You Yun No.1 discharged oil at Huang Jiaozui terminal. Staff from the ship immediately activated oil spill response plan after such scenario has been found.

After received alarm, Fulin Maritime department immediately activate oil spill response plan by exercising a interim traffic control over vessels traveling around in upper and lower reach of Yangtze River, assembling and dispatching anti-pollution equipment to Huang Jiaozui terminal and co-ordinating personnel to contain and clean-up oil spilled into the sea. Spilled oil floating on the water could be effectively cleaned up by using air filled oil containment boom, oil felt, oil recovery equipment.

[Thanks to Lee Guobin, Member of ISCO Executive Committee. These reports were sourced from Chinese news media and translated by Lee. Original versions in Chinese are available on request]

COTE D'IVOIRE: NATIONAL POLLUMAR WORKSHOP

November 9 - Upon the initiative of the Centre Ivoirien Antipollution (CIAPOL), a training workshop was held in Abidjan from 28th September to 2nd October and finished with a practical spill response exercise in the Ebrié Lagoon, within the port of Abidjan.

This workshop involving CIAPOL and Cedre was attended by almost 70 representatives of key public and private bodies in the fields of the environment, the oil industry as well as non-governmental organisations. The 4-day training course was run by two engineers from Cedre, with contributions from various Ivorian speakers while the exercise was organised and led by Cipomar, the operational spill response department of CIAPOL. This event completed the preparation of the national contingency plan, Pollumar, which should be adopted by the Interministerial Response Committee in a few weeks' time. Source: [CEDRE Newsletter](#)

FRANCE: NEWS FROM CEDRE

November 9 - This October was marked by the accident involving the *Flinterstar* off Zeebrugge. Cedre was called upon for advice, oil drift and weathering modelling and its analysis resources (see paragraph below). In response to another case, an agent from Cedre visited the site of a spill of 40 to 60 tonnes of marine diesel from a barge involved in marine works in Cherbourg roadstead. A minor oil spill was also reported in Rosmeur harbour in Douarnenez and several minor spills in inland waters (Loire estuary and Rhone-Rhine Canal). A trawler sank near Port Maria in Quiberon with around 3 m³ of diesel onboard, part of which was released due to currents and the vessel's instability. The duty team also took part in several exercises: a Mar-ICE exercise initiated by the Finnish Environment Institute (SYKE) involving a spill of acrylonitrile and phosphoric acid, which we modelled using CHEMMAP and ALOHA software; an exercise organised by the Martinique authorities and another organised by PERENCO Cameroon for which we ran several drift forecast and pollutant behaviour models. Finally, we took part in an exercise coordinated by TOTAL Donges, involving a spill of home heating oil into the canal between Donges and Vern. The duty team also provided answers to several administrative questions on the TRANSAID network. Source: [CEDRE Newsletter](#)

FRENCH GUINEA

November 9 - Cedre's participation in the PRISME project - Cedre is taking part in the PRISME project on the fate of oil contamination in the sediments of Guiana's mangroves. This project, coordinated by the Mediterranean Institute of Oceanology, also involves LEMAR (CNRS - Brest), ECOLAB (CNRS - Toulouse) and IPREM (University of Pau). An agent from Cedre was sent to French Guiana in late October to take part in the launch of an experiment on mangroves consisting of setting up in situ and ex situ core samplers in sediment contaminated by light oil. It is scheduled to come to a close after a month of incubation with the removal of the core samples, which are to be sent to mainland France for analysis (oil, micro-meio-macrofauna, bacterial populations). The results and experience acquired during the project will be drawn upon to develop a more ambitious project to be submitted for funding in Autumn 2016. Source: [CEDRE Newsletter](#)

KENYA: KENYA PIPELINE COMPANY PROMISES TO CLEAN UP RIVER AND SOIL AFTER OIL SPILL

November 8 - Kenya Pipeline Company (KPC) management has eaten humble pie and apologised to residents of Thange location in Makueni County after a major oil spill in the area. KPC acting Managing Director Florah Okoth and board chairman John Ngumi also promised to clean up the affected area and compensate residents for the damage, among other mitigation measures.

For more than five months now, residents of Thange, Moki, Mbulutini, Mwanza, Nzavoni and Ngomano villages have suffered after River Thange, their main source of water, was contaminated with oil. *Standard Media* [Read more](#)

November 10 - Kenya Pipeline Company probes extent of Kibwezi oil spill - Kenya Pipeline Company acting Managing Director Florah Okoth said an Environmental Site Assessment of the area would assist to ascertain the migration and pathways of the oil spill and the extent of contamination.

The assessment, being done by Societe Generale de Surveillance (SGS) Kenya Ltd, would form the basis of a comprehensive cleanup and restoration exercise. *Standard Media* [Read more](#)

Other news reports from around the world (continued)

MALAYSIA: SOUTHERN REGION MARINE DEPARTMENT GETS RM 7.78M OIL SPILL CLEANING EQUIPMENT



November 9 - The Southern Region Marine Department today received RM7.78 million worth of equipment to eliminate oil spills at sea under an allocation under the 10th Malaysia Plan.

Marine Department director-general Datuk Baharin Abdul Hamid said the equipment consisted of new technology including oil spill trajectory modelling tools, oil booms, skimmer, chemical suits, power packs and many others. *New Straits Times* [Read more](#)

November 10 - The Marine Department of Malaysia is committed to strengthening its activities in controlling and coping with oil spills off the coast of Johor. Its director-general Datuk Baharin Abdul Hamid said the government approved an allocation of RM7.783 million for acquisition and replacement of equipment under the Tenth Malaysia Plan. *The Sun Daily* [Read more](#)

NEW ZEALAND: OIL SPILL TRAINING EXERCISE AT PORT OF TAURANGA

November 10 - An oil spill training exercise was held at the Port of Tauranga yesterday to help maintain and build oil spill response capability amongst first responders at New Zealand's largest port.

One iwi representative and staff from Bay of Plenty Regional Council, Waikato Regional Council, Maritime New Zealand and a range of port-based companies, including Mobil Oil NZ and Sanford Limited, attended the training.

"We do this twice a year with advice from Maritime New Zealand staff to build our capability with industry, iwi and the Port of Tauranga," said Marine Pollution Prevention Officer and Regional On-Scene Commander Adrian Heays. *ScoopNZ* [Read more](#)

NIGERIA: NOSDRA REITERATES COMMITMENT TO ENFORCE BEST PRACTICES IN OIL SPILL CLEAN-UPS

November 10 - National Oil Spill Detection and Response Agency (NOSDRA) said on Tuesday that it would continue to ensure that best practices were used in oil spill clean-ups, rehabilitation, protection and remediation of the environment. Sir Peter Idabor, NOSDRA's Managing Director, stated this while speaking at the Mandatory Workshop for NOSDRA Accredited Consultants in Port Harcourt. *Today* [Read more](#)

NIGERIA: COURT FINES COMPANY N68M FOR FAILURE TO REPORT OIL SPILL

November 11 - The National Oil Spills Detection and Response Agency (NOSDRA), said on Wednesday that it has secured a court judgment ordering an oil firm to pay a fine of N68 million for failure to report an oil spill.

According to a statement issued by Mr Henshaw Ogubike, Head of Public Affairs, NOSDRA, on behalf of the Director-General, Dr Peter Idabor, the judgment was delivered by a Federal High Court sitting in Asaba, Delta.

NOSDRA had in March 5, 2011, dragged Sterling Oil Exploration and Energy Production Company Ltd (SEEPCO) to court for failure to report an oil spill incident at the Okwuibome Location (OPL 280). *Daily Post* [Read more](#)



NIGERIA: REPS WANT AGIP OIL TO CONTAIN SPILL IN BAYELSA



Photo: Fire from the crude pipeline at Tebidaba-Clough Creek line operated by Agip

November 12 - The House of Representatives on Wednesday, urged the Nigerian Agip Oil Company to clean up recent multiple oil spills to avoid fire outbreak in communities in Bayelsa.

This followed a motion sponsored by Rep. Douye Diri (Bayelsa-PDP), and unanimously adopted by members through a voice vote. The motion which came under matter of urgent national public importance was on the need to address severe pollution of the Niger Delta environment due to alarmingly high incidences of preventable oil spills. *PMNews* [Read more](#)

Other news reports from around the world (continued)

NIGERIA: NOSDRA ROLLS OUT NEW OIL SPILL COMPENSATION GUIDELINE

November 12 - The National Oil Spill Detection and Response Agency, NOSDRA, has come out with a new oil spill compensation guideline that would effectively address the needs of affected persons and communities and guide the government in terms actions in the event of an oil spill. A copy of the new compensation guideline obtained by SweetcrudeReports, quoted the Director General of NOSDRA, Peter Idabor, as identifying lack of independent 'third party' observer as one of the main shortcomings of the existing compensation process. *Sweet Crude Reports* [Read more](#)

TAIWAN, CHINA: 2015 MARINE POLLUTION RESPONSE AND PRACTICES INTERNATIONAL WORKSHOP

November 9 - On 27th October, the Taiwanese Environmental Protection Administration and National Central University organised the 2015 Marine Pollution Response and Practices International Workshop in Taipei (see here for the programme). This event is held on an annual basis in order to reinforce the marine spill response capacities of the Taiwanese authorities. Several foreign speakers presented the practices in effect in their respective countries and held discussions with the different Taiwanese players in the field. This year, representatives of the European Maritime Safety Agency (EMSA), the Australian Maritime Safety Authority (AMSA), Hudson Marine Management Services (US) and Cedre were invited and contributed to the event, alongside speakers from the Environmental Protection Administration. Source: [CEDRE Newsletter](#)

TAIWAN, CHINA: ENVIRONMENTALISTS CALL FOR RIVER RULES

November 13 - Environmental experts and legislators yesterday called for the prompt drafting and passage of a NT\$200 billion (US\$6.08 billion) act on river pollution control and remediation to fund national wastewater treatment and river management at a hearing at the Legislative Yuan. *Taipei Times* [Read more](#)

UK: NOMINATIONS SOUGHT FOR THE AMSI COUNCIL BUSINESS PERSON OF THE YEAR 2016

November 13 - The UK marine science sector is a vibrant industry epitomised by enthusiastic and successful entrepreneurs with leading edge technology supported by world leading research institutions. The Society of Maritime Industries, through its AMSI Council, invites nominations for this prestigious annual award which recognises individuals who have contributed most to the business of the marine science and technology sector in the UK.

Previous winners of the award have been Versha Carter (Intelligent Exhibitions), John Partridge (Sonardyne International), Matthew Quartley (Valeport), Ralph Rayner (BMT Group), Brendan Hyland (WFS Technologies), Keith Birch (National Oceanography Centre), Roger Scrivens (RS Aqua) and Dan Hook (ASV), all of whom have exemplified the spirit of this award through their flair, innovation and business acumen.

John Murray, Chief Executive of the Society of Maritime Industries, commented "A number of criteria could apply and nominees may have demonstrated business growth and success, innovative applications or novel approaches to the sector". He added "entries are welcome for anyone working in the UK marine science field that has made a significant contribution to business in the marine science and technology sector". Anybody may nominate a candidate as the AMSI Council Business Person of the Year 2016 by completing the form to be found [here](#). However, time is short and completed forms need to be received by **30 November 2015**.

USA: PRESIDENT OBAMA REJECTS KEYSTONE XL



November 6 - On Friday, the U.S. State Department issued a rejection in its permit review for TransCanada's proposed Keystone XL oil pipeline. The Obama Administration had been widely expected to decline permission to build.

In issuing the decision, Secretary of State John Kerry said in a statement that the project would have had a "negligible impact on our energy security . . . would not lead to lower gas prices for American consumers . . . [and] would facilitate transportation into our country of a particularly dirty source of fuel." *The Maritime Executive* [Read more](#)

Related Report – [The Washington Post](#)

November 5 - TransCanada Corp vows to find a way to get Keystone XL built, remains 'absolutely committed'

TransCanada Corp., the company that has been trying for seven years to build the Keystone XL pipeline, says it is not ready yet to throw in the towel on the massive energy project despite its formal rejection Friday by U.S. President Barack Obama.

"Today, misplaced symbolism was chosen over merit and science – rhetoric won out over reason," TransCanada Corp. president and CEO Russ Girling said in a statement issued shortly after Obama's White House news conference to announce his decision on the controversial pipeline. Girling said TransCanada and its customers "remain absolutely committed to building this important energy infrastructure project" and indicated the company may file a new application for a border-crossing pipeline, which would require presidential approval. *Edmonton Journal* [Read more](#)

Other news reports from around the world (continued)

USA: WISCONSIN - FIRE DEPARTMENTS PREPARE FOR TRAIN DERAILMENT CHEMICAL SPILLS

November 9 - The Fond du Lac Fire Department's Hazardous Material Team has a training exercise scheduled with Canadian National Railway later this month to learn about a new smart phone application that could speed up response times at chemical leaks.

Fond du Lac firefighters could have been called to Watertown or Alma to clean spilled chemicals at the scene of two train derailments that happened the first weekend in November. *WBay.com* [Read more](#)

USA: THE HOLE IN OBAMA'S PIPELINE SAFETY PLAN

November 9 - After a ruptured oil pipeline went undiscovered for 17 hours, spilling 800,000 gallons of heavy oil into Michigan's Kalamazoo River in 2010, Congress ordered an audit that laid bare the industry's lackluster record of spotting leaks.

But after five years of work, the Obama administration has proposed a regulatory overhaul that fails to patch that hole in the nation's pipeline safety net — a revelation that has been largely ignored amid Washington's obsession with the Keystone XL pipeline.

While the agency's proposed rule expands the number of pipelines that must have a leak-detection system in place, it sets no basic standards for how well that technology should work. Instead, safety advocates say, it lets pipeline operators decide for themselves whether they are adequately prepared. *Politico* [Read more](#)

USA: KEYSTONE XL - PIPELINE'S DEFEAT COULD TRANSLATE TO RAIL GAINS

November 9 - President Obama's decision to reject the Keystone XL pipeline Friday could come with a heavy side of tank cars. Canadian energy companies need about a dozen crude-laden trains each day to replace the volume of oil that could have been transported through KXL.

Now that TransCanada Corp.'s Alberta-to-Gulf-Coast pipeline has been denied, however, it's clear that the contest between KXL and railroads in Canada's western oil patch wasn't a zero-sum game. *E&E Publishing* [Read more](#)

USA: NEW LEGISLATION TO BAN OFFSHORE DRILLING ON PACIFIC COAST

November 10 - A new legislation to permanently ban offshore drilling on Pacific Coast was introduced by US government. The bill would protect \$44 billion coastal economies of California, Oregon, and Washington.

US Representatives, Jared Huffman and John Garamendi, led West Coast Members of Congress in introducing legislation to permanently ban offshore drilling on the Pacific Coast. The West Coast Ocean Protection Act would permanently protect the California, Oregon, and Washington coasts by amending the Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act to prohibit new oil or natural gas leases in each state's outer continental shelves and permanently protect the \$44 billion coastal economies of the three states, which support nearly 650,000 jobs. *Green4Sea* [Read more](#)

People in the news

INTERNATIONAL GROUP OF P&I CLUBS - NEW CHAIRMAN ELECTED



November 10 - At the Annual General Meeting of the International Group of P&I Clubs managers held in London on 10 November 2015, the managers of the 13 member Clubs unanimously endorsed and welcomed the election of Hugo Wynn-Williams, Chairman of Thomas Miller, to succeed Grantley Berkeley as Chairman of the International Group. Grantley Berkeley stood down at the meeting following completion of his three year term of office and was thanked by the Group managers for his contributions and service on behalf of the Group during his term as chairman. *Source: IGP&I*

ISCO news

ISCO AT CLEAN GULF IN NEW ORLEANS

November 12 – In the picture - Jeremiah Moyer (left) with ISCO President, David Usher (right) on the ISCO booth at Clean Gulf.

Jeremiah Moyer of Smart Vista of Duncan, SC was the winner of the traditional draw for a bottle of fine malt whisky.

Dave Usher and Membership Director, Mary Ann Dalgleish reported a steady stream of interested visitors calling at the ISCO booth. They were delighted to meet up with many ISCO members and to be able to introduce the organization and its activities to many potential new members. Your editor hopes to print a more comprehensive report in next week's newsletter.



Science and technology

NEW STUDY QUESTIONS EFFECTIVENESS OF DISPERSANT AT DWH OIL SPILL

November 9 - The chemical sprayed on the 2010 BP oil spill may not have helped crucial petroleum-munching microbes get rid of the slick, a new study suggests.

And that leads to more questions about where much of the Deepwater Horizon oil spill went. If the new results are true, up to half the oil can't be accounted for, said the author of a new study on the spill in the Gulf of Mexico.

After the 172 million gallon spill, the chemical dispersant Corexit 9500 was applied by airplane on the slick to help it go away and help natural microbes in the water eat the oil faster. The oil appeared to dissipate, but scientists and government officials didn't really monitor the microbes and chemicals, said University of Georgia marine scientist Samantha Joye.

So Joye and colleagues recreated the application in a lab, with the dispersant, BP oil and water from the gulf, and found that it didn't help the microbes at all and even hurt one key oil-munching bug, according to a study published Monday in the journal Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences.

Outside scientists Jeff Chanton and Ian MacDonald of Florida State University said the study seemed to make sense. Chanton called the results important and surprising.

The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration welcomed the study and will evaluate to determine how well dispersants work in the future, said agency spokeswoman Keeley Belva. [ABC News](#) [Read more](#)

[Link for accessing abstract and text of study in Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences](#)

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

AMSA Aboard	News from the Australian Maritime Safety Authority	October 2015 issue
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	October 2015
Celtic Biogenie enGlobe Newsletter	Latest Remediation and related technology news	Autumn 2015 issue
CROIERG Enews	Canberra & Regions Oil Industry Emergency Response Group	Current issue
EMSA Newsletter	News from the European Maritime Safety Agency	November 2015 issue
Energy Institute eBulletin	News from the Energy Institute	April 2015 issue
Environmental Technology Online	Environmental Monitoring, Testing & Analysis	November 2015 issue
IMO News Magazine	News from the International Maritime Organization	No 3, 2015
IMO Publishing News	New and forthcoming IMO publications	October 2015
Intertanko Weekly News	International news for the oil tanker community	No 46 2015
IPIECA eNews	Int'l Petroleum Industry Environmental Conservation Assoc'n	February 12 issue
JOIFF "The Catalyst"	Int'l Organisation for Industrial Hazard Management	October 2015 issue
MOIG Newsletter	News from the Mediterranean Oil Industry Group	Most recent Issue
NOAA update	Oil spill response news from NOAA OR&R	April 2015
OCIMF Newsletter	News from the Oil Companies International Marine Forum	October 2015 issue
Pollution Online Newsletter	News for prevention & control professionals	November 11 issue
Sea Alarm Foundation Newsletter	Oiled wildlife Preparedness and Response news from Sea Alarm	Spring 2015 issue
SAC News	Oil spill related and other news from Alaska	Nov 5 issue 2015
Technology Innovation News Survey	From US EPA - Contaminated site decontamination	September 16-30 2015
The Essential Hazmat News	Alliance of Hazardous Materials Professionals	October 19 issue
Transport Canada Newsletter	News and articles re transport of dangerous goods in Canada	Winter 2014 issue
USA EPA Tech Direct	Remediation of contaminated soil and groundwater	Nov 1, 2015 issue
USA EPA Tech News & Trends	Contaminated site clean-up information	Summer 2015 issue
WMU Newsletter	News from the World Maritime University	October 2015 issue

Events

FRANCE: SAFER SEAS 2015 REPORT

November 9 - The 4th international conference SaferSeas was held in Brest from 26th to 30th October. It attracted over 1,000 participants from 35 countries, attending the main conference as well as several international events organised in its wake. Cedre took part in a roundtable debate on the theme of "Maritime safety: current state of play and existing obstacles". Source: [CEDRE Newsletter](#)

CROATIA: PRELIMINARY NEWS ABOUT ADRIASPILLCON 2016

November 11 - News just received from Darko Domovic, Member of ISCO Council for Croatia - Following the success of previous ADRIASPILLCONs and a very encouraging response we received from the participants, lecturers and the exhibitors, including those from the Adriatic coastal States, the Mediterranean region, the European countries but also other parts of the world, OSEC embarked upon the organization of the third ADRIASPILLCON. ADRIASPILLCON 2016 has been scheduled for 10-12 May 2016, and will be held under the auspices of the Croatian Ministry of Maritime Affairs, Transport and Infrastructure once again in Opatija, a touristic resort in the northern Adriatic. IMO, IOPCF, EMSA, REMPEC and some other international organizations already confirmed their support for the Conference, and some of the leading manufacturers of spill response equipment from both Europe and other parts of the world announced that they would take part in the exhibition that will accompany ADRIASPILLCON 2016.

Events (continued)

The preparations for the Conference are in full swing and the response so far is very promising. In the forthcoming weeks we are expecting confirmations from several organizations we would like to present recent developments/activities/progress in the field of spill preparedness and response, and the same applies to some important manufacturers who already expressed an interest in booking the space in the Exhibition. More info about the conference will be published in the ISCO Newsletter in the near future.

UPCOMING EVENTS SUMMARY

COUNTRY	2015	TITLE OF EVENT	LOCATION
For more information click on Title of Event			
GHANA	Nov 16-19	6th GI WACAF Regional Conference	Accra
TURKEY	Nov. 17-19	Regional Oil Spill Response Workshop	Adana City
GERMANY	Nov 18	BIMCO's Annual Conference & Awards Dinner	Hamburg
BELGIUM	Nov. 18-19	PEFTEC Exhibition & Seminars	Antwerp
USA	Nov. 19-20	Pipeline Safety Trust Conference	New Orleans
BELGIUM	Dec. 7	MSP & Marine Env. Conference	Brussels
UK	Dec. 7-11	Salvage & Wreck Removal Conference	London
UK, N. IRELAND	Dec. 15	ISAA Meeting and Christmas Luncheon	Hillsborough
2016			
USA	Jan. 4-6	No Spills Annual Conference	Acme, Michigan
UK	Feb 9	UK Spill Members' Meeting and Dinner	London
UK	Feb 15-19	IMO Pollution Prevention & Response S/C'ttee.	London
UK	Feb 17-18	Society of Maritime Industries Conference	Hull
SAUDI ARABIA	Feb 22-24	PetroEnvironment 2016	Dammam
CANADA	Mar 23-24	8th Arctic Shipping Summit	Montreal
NIGERIA	Mar 29-31	Clean Niger Delta Conference	Abuja
UK	April 18-22	IMO Marine Environment Protection Committee	London
AUSTRALIA	May 2-6	Spillcon 2016	Perth, WA
CROATIA	May 10-12	ADRIASPELLCON 2016	Opatija
USA	June 21-23	Clean Pacific Conference & Exhibition	Seattle, WA
To request posting of an event of interest to the Spill Response Community please send details to the Editor			

Company news

INDIA: CORPORATE MEMBER, ALPHAMERS, TESTS NEW TRASH BARRIER

AlphaMERS designed and patent applied floating trash barrier.



Day 3



Day 6

November 10 - AlphaMERS has deployed its patent applied new design of floating trash barrier in the storm water drain of a lake in the heart of Bangalore city.

The deployment was a pilot project and done in co-ordination with the municipal authorities. This barrier successfully contained floating trash and large patches of Hyacinth. The anchoring systems withstood some heavy rains and strong water flow.

Capt.Sekhar ED of AlphaMERS said, he is happy with the results of the pilot deployment.

The company intends to use the observations to fine tune the design parameters of the heavy duty version, for deployment in major rivers. [More info and video](#)

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