

## 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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The Register of ISCO Members is maintained by **Ms Mary Ann Dagleish** (Membership Director). She is also responsible for collecting membership dues.

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 Psarftis** (Greece), **Captain D. C. Sekhar** (India), **Mr Dan Arbel** (Israel), **Mr Sanjay Gandhi** (Kenya), **Chief Kola Agboke** (Nigeria), **Mr Jan Allers** (Norway), **Capt. Chris Richards** (Singapore), **Mr Anton Moldan** (South Africa), **Dr Ali Saeed Al Ameri** (UAE), **Mr Kevin Miller** (UK) and **Dr Manik Sardessai** (USA).

For more info on Executive Committee and Council Members go to [www.spillcontrol.org](http://www.spillcontrol.org)

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## International news

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## CHEMICAL DISPERSANTS CAN SUPPRESS THE ACTIVITY OF NATURAL OIL-DEGRADING MICROORGANISMS

“Oil spills are a significant source of hydrocarbon inputs into the ocean. In response to oil spills, chemical dispersants are applied to the oil-contaminated seawater to disperse surface slicks into smaller droplets that are presumed to be more bioavailable to microorganisms. We provide evidence that chemical dispersants applied to either deep water or surface water from the Gulf of Mexico did not stimulate oil biodegradation” – New study report.

*Comment from your editor – “In case you missed out on the report on Page 9 of last week’s ISCO Newsletter, here is a link to another report in the latest issue of SAC News (received by ISCO courtesy of Dr Merv Fingas Hon.FISCO, member of ISCO Council for Canada). It appears that the referenced study was based on tests carried out with one specific product and it’s expected that similar trials will need to be verified using other crude oils and dispersant products.*

<http://www.pwsrca.net/committees/sac/documents/Kleindienst15dispersantsmicrobeactivity.pdf>

*The holding of dispersant stockpiles and ability to apply them is an important component of the oil spill response preparedness plans of many countries. It will therefore be a matter of concern that the effectiveness of dispersants might not be quite as good as commonly believed. Dispersants have been successfully used for more than 40 years and this will continue but hopefully the reported study results will spur efforts to develop improved formulations that can overcome the apparent problem. Readers are invited to comment”.*

## RUSSIAN WARPLANES DISRUPT ISIS OIL SALES; DESTROY 500 TERRORIST OIL TRUCKS IN SYRIA - VIDEO

November 18 - Around 500 fuel tanker vehicles transporting illegal oil from Syria to Iraq for processing have been destroyed by Russia’s Air Forces, the General Staff said.

“In recent years, Islamic State (IS, formerly ISIS/ISIL) and other extremist groups have organized the operations of the so-called ‘pipeline on wheels’ on the territories they control,” Russian General Staff spokesman Colonel General Andrey Kartapolov said.

Hundreds of thousands of tons of fuel have been delivered to Iraq for processing by trucks and the revenue generated from these illegal exports is the one of the terrorists’ main sources of funding, he said. *OilandGasPeople.com* [Read more](#) [Thanks to ADR Training UK]

## BECOME A MEMBER OF ISCO

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## International news (continued)

### STATOIL EXITS ALASKA

November 17 - Statoil has announced its exit from Alaska following recent exploration results.

The company stated that it is committed to optimizing its portfolio, strengthening financial performance and positioning for long-term value. The leases in the Chukchi Sea are no longer considered competitive within Statoil's global portfolio, so the decision has been made to exit the leases and close the office in Anchorage, Alaska, said the company in a statement.

*The Maritime Executive* [Read more](#)

### US, CUBA TO COOPERATE ON MARINE PROTECTED AREAS

November 19 - The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) and the National Park Service (NPS) signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with Cuba's Ministry of Science, Technology, and Environment (CITMA). The MOU aims to facilitate joint efforts concerning science, stewardship, and management related to Marine Protected Areas (MPAs). The MOU also includes a sister MPA program to foster conservation and understanding of natural marine resources in both countries, sharing technical and scientific data, and promoting education and outreach initiatives. *Green4Sea* [Read more](#)

### STUDY UNLOCKS FASTER WAY TO ASSESS OCEAN ECOSYSTEM HEALTH

November 18 - A new study published identifies a set of features common to all ocean ecosystems that provide a visual diagnosis of the health of the underwater environment coastal communities rely on. Together, the features detail cumulative effects of threats — such as overfishing, pollution, and invasive species — so responders can act quickly to increase ocean resilience and sustainability.

Scientists incorporate satellite imagery, fishery surveys, and landings data — among other things — to produce a visual image of the patterns in the food chain of the ecosystem. These patterns show when there is a problem. Scientists can also use the data in reverse to see how an ecosystem is recovering after a threat is reduced. *Green4Sea* [Read more](#)

## International news (continued)

### ITOPF: VISUALISING SPILL RISK

November 11 – ITOPF presented earlier this year at INTERSPILL conference a poster which includes a visualization of spill risk to understand and assess all regions of heightened vulnerability associated with increased seaborne transport of oil.

Understanding and assessing the risk posed by oil spills is an essential starting point in oil spill prevention, preparedness, and response. However, it is a complex process and displaying results of a risk analysis can be particularly challenging.

By modelling and analysing volumes of oil transported globally over a ten year period from 2001 to 2011, using data obtained from Lloyd's List Intelligence and historical data from ITOPF's tanker spills database, an informative and useful representation of risk can be derived. Incorporation of local marine sensitivity data into the model can further improve the risk assessment process.

*An article in Green4Sea allows you to study the poster and learn how by using a GIS platform to graphically visualise information, regional areas of heightened vulnerability are more effectively identified and communicated.* [Access the article in Green4Sea](#)

## Incident reports from around the world

### CANADA: ONTARIO - IHA SAYS HEALTH RISK "LOW" IN COLDWATER RIVER CHEMICAL SPILL



November 17 - The Interior Health Authority (IHA) has confirmed the sodium hydroxide that spilled yesterday when a tractor trailer crashed on the Coquihalla Highway around Larson Hill has leaked into the Coldwater River. IHA spokesperson Michaela Swan told the Herald the IHA and Ministry of Environment have been monitoring the situation, and the initial findings are that the risk to human health from this spill is low. A spokesperson for the Ministry of Environment told the Herald the tanker truck spilled a large quantity of the corrosive glue, some of the material entered the Coldwater River and it is visible along the bottom of the river.

*Merritt Herald* [Read more](#)

## Incident reports from around the world (continued)

### USA: ILLINOIS - OIL SPILL IN CLINTON

November 18 - An oil spill was reported in Clinton on Wednesday, November 18. Firefighters and the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency were called to a spill on Clinton's north side.

Officials say it's possible the spill came from an old oil field that is no longer in use and that there wasn't any risk to the public. Now they're working on cleaning up the spill and trying to determine exactly what caused it. WandTV [Read more](#)

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### INDIA: PUNCTURED PIPE REVEALED AFTER TIP-OFF ON OIL SPILL IN SEWRI

November 19 - A leaked pipeline led authorities to unearth an oil smuggling racket which had put the safety of the Mumbai Port Trust (MbPT) area at risk.

After receiving a tip-off about an oil spill, the Port Zone police on Tuesday evening informed officials from oil companies, asking them to look into the problem. During inspection, it was found that the spill had been caused due to a leakage in a pipeline, carrying furnace oil, belonging to the Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited (BPCL).

Deputy Commissioner of Police (Port Zone) Kiran Chavan said, "During preliminary assessment, it appeared that the pipeline was illegally tapped by oil smugglers for pilferage." *Mumbai Mirror* [Read more](#)

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

### AUSTRALIA: EMERGENCY TOWAGE VESSEL CAPABILITIES PRACTICED ON WATER

October 29 - The waters off Townsville in North Queensland will be a hive of activity this week as the Australian Maritime Safety Authority (AMSA) runs a series of training exercises.

Over the next three days, personnel from AMSA's dedicated emergency towage vessel Coral Knight and local emergency services will test their skills in the areas of pollution response, firefighting on board a ship, emergency ship towage and search and rescue from a ship. The Coral Knight operates in the northern Great Barrier Reef and Torres Strait and can be tasked by AMSA for emergency towage of ships, search and rescue or pollution response operations. AMSA [Read more](#) [Apologies for late publication of this news item]

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### AUSTRALIA: REGULATOR REJECTS BP'S AUSTRALIAN DRILLING PLAN

November 17 - Australia's oil and gas regulator NOPSEMA has rejected BP's environment plan for exploration drilling in the Great Australian Bight.

BP has submitted plans to drill four deepwater exploration wells in the waters of the nation's south from next year. It was required to demonstrate how it would manage the risk of an oil spill and address community concerns about the environmental impact.

The Wilderness Society of South Australia's director Peter Owen said that BP had submitted what he considers to be an inadequate application. "It doesn't appear that BP even completed an oil pollution emergency plan or a comprehensive risk assessment," he said. "BP should take this opportunity to drop its plan to drill in the Great Australian Bight especially after it released a statement last month saying it supported action on climate change."

NOPSEMA has given BP the opportunity to resubmit a new plan for consideration, and BP has issued a statement saying it will submit an alternative proposal. *The Maritime Executive* [Read more](#)

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### CANADA TO BAN TANKERS FROM NORTHERN B.C. COAST

November 14 - Canada will implement a moratorium on oil tanker traffic along the northern coast of British Columbia, effectively slamming the door on a controversial pipeline project that was already facing massive development hurdles.

In a letter released on Friday, Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau instructed Transport Minister Marc Garneau to work with numerous other ministries to "formalize" the ban on oil tanker traffic, a Liberal campaign promise ahead of the federal elections last month. Listed as one of seven "top priorities" for the Transport Ministry, more details on timing are expected after Parliament opens on December 3. *The Maritime Executive* [Read more](#)

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### MEXICO: FIRST OIL PUMPED FROM STRANDED BULK CARRIER

November 16 - The first oil has been pumped from a Mexican bulk carrier that has been stranded along Mexico's rocky Pacific coastline since late October when it ran aground during Hurricane Patricia.

Mexico's environmental agency PROFEPA reports that over the weekend approximately 150 cubic meters of oil was pumped from the wreck of the Mexican-flagged Los Llanitos to a tank barge brought in from Panama.

The 223-meter bulk carrier has been pinned against rocks in Barra de Navidad in Jalisco since October 23rd when it ran aground after attempting to ride out powerful Hurricane Patricia. *gCaptain* [Read more](#)

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

### NEW ZEALAND: WELLINGTON HARBOUR OIL SPILL LEAVES A SHEEN ON LARGE AREA OF WATER

November 16 - A large amount of fuel that leaked into Wellington Harbour will be noticeable until Tuesday. Greater Wellington Regional Council spokesman Rick Marshall said environmental officers were alerted to the spill near Frank Kitts Park on Sunday.

Marshall said they had decided to let the fuel naturally evaporate rather than add more chemicals to the harbour to clean it up. The evaporation process would take about 48 hours, depending on conditions. *The Dominion Post* [Read more](#)

### TURKMENISTAN: ITOPF SUPPORTS WORKSHOP ON UPDATING TURKMENISTAN NATIONAL OIL SPILL CONTINGENCY PLAN

November 16 – News received from ITOPF - ITOPF participated in a national workshop in Turkmenistan organised by the IMO and hosted by the State Administration on Supervision of Navigation under the State Service of Maritime and River Transportation from 9-11 November. 40 participants attended from both the public and private sectors in Turkmenistan.

The primary aim of the workshop was to provide assistance to the relevant authorities of Turkmenistan in order to increase familiarity with the roles and responsibilities of those tasked with the implementation of the National Oil Spill Contingency Plan as approved by the President of Turkmenistan in 2001.

The workshop was conducted by Mr John Ostergaard (IMO consultant) and Romain Chancerel (ITOPF) who shared ITOPF's experiences of international good practice, making presentations on the cause, fate and effects of spilled oil; liability and compensation; and shoreline clean-up. *ITOPF* [Read more](#)

### UK: THE TOP TEN STRANGEST SPILLS WHICH HAVE DELAYED MOTORWAY JOURNEYS

November 12 - Just days after 24 tonnes of lard were spilled on the M11, closing it for 24 hours, Highways England has revealed some of the strangest items ever spilled on its roads.

From animal blood to argon, toilet roll to toxic waste, wine to washing up liquid - highways teams have faced many mammoth challenges to clear up after motorway incidents.

The unexpected nature of motorway incidents means it can be hard to plan for what may happen on any given day. Over the past few years, there have been numerous spills, ranging from the strange to the dangerous. *Facebook/RHA* [Read more](#)

### UK: OPT-IN POSITION ON THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION'S HAZARDOUS AND NOXIOUS SUBSTANCES DECISION

November 17 - The government has decided to opt in to the proposed Council Decision on the ratification and accession by Member States, in the interest of the Union, to the Protocol of 2010 to the International Convention on Liability and Compensation for Damage in Connection with the Carriage of Hazardous and Noxious Substances (HNS) by Sea, with regard to aspects related to judicial cooperation in civil matters.

The 1996 International Convention on Liability and Compensation for Damage in Connection with the Carriage of Hazardous and Noxious Substances by sea ('the 1996 HNS Convention') was agreed by the International Maritime Organization (IMO) to fill a gap in international law on the treatment of HNS at sea. A 2002 Council Decision agreed that EU Member States would take the necessary steps to ratify the 1996 HNS Convention within a reasonable time and, if possible, before 30 June 2006. Despite this, due to the concerns that many EU Member States, including the UK, had over the 1996 HNS Convention, none of them ratified it and it has never been brought into force. *UK Dept. for Transport* [Read more](#)

### USA: WITHOUT KEYSTONE, INDUSTRY MUST FIND NEW PATHS FOR OIL

November 10 - Following the Obama administration's rejection of the Keystone XL pipeline, the oil industry faces the tricky task of making sure the crude oil targeted for the pipeline still gets where it needs to go.

The pipeline, first proposed by TransCanada Corp. in 2008, was projected to carry 800,000 barrels a day of crude from Canada and North Dakota down to Nebraska, where existing pipelines would bring it to refineries on the Gulf Coast.

Keystone XL was expected to come online toward the end of this decade. Until then a combination of existing pipelines and railroads was expected to be enough to handle anticipated production. Now the question becomes whether there will be enough pipeline capacity to move the oil and keep costs from getting too expensive. *Marcellus.com* [Read more](#)

### USA: FEDS ORDER OIL PIPELINES PURGED - LINES TO BE KEPT CLOSED INDEFINITELY FOLLOWING MAJOR SPRING OIL SPILL

November 13 - Federal regulators have ordered additional work to drain parts of an oil pipeline spanning more than 100 miles between the Gaviota Coast and the Central Valley. Much of the line was already shut down following May's oil spill near Refugio State Beach, but the pipeline remains full of crude oil. The rupture in May sent oil into the ocean, fouling water and beaches further south. Cleanup work cost the pipeline owner, Plains All-American, more than \$100 million. *Keyt.com* [Read more](#)

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



Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration targeting Plains for problems that have come to light since the spill. *FuelFix* [Read more](#)

**November 15 - The operator of an oil pipeline that ruptured and spilled more than 100,000 gallons of crude on the California coast this year was ordered Friday to purge a neighboring line and make repairs so it doesn't fail.**

Federal regulators said the line owned by Plains All American Pipeline was constructed and operated in the same way as the line that broke May 19 outside Santa Barbara and the agency had found inspections of both pipes had underestimated corrosion inside.

Although the 129-mile pipeline was idled in late May, it has been full of unprocessed crude from offshore oil platforms that could contribute to further corrosion as rust inhibitor loses its effectiveness.

The corrective action order is the latest from the

## USA: 38 MILLION TO STUDY OIL SPILL EFFECTS IN GULF OF MEXICO

November 16 - The Gulf of Mexico Research Initiative (GoMRI) Research Board has announced that it will award nearly \$38 million to individuals and teams studying the effects of oil on the Gulf of Mexico ecosystem and public health. A total of 22 research proposals are being funded under this most recent GoMRI program.

The researchers funded submitted research proposals in response to GoMRI's fifth request for proposals (RFP-V). This program was designed to support research by individual investigators or by collaborative teams during 2016-2018. GoMRI also supports research by large, multi-institutional consortia that are funded under another GoMRI program.

The GoMRI is an independent, 10-year research program established with a \$500 million commitment from BP following the Deepwater Horizon incident. Twenty experts comprise a Research Board responsible for designing research programs, making funding decisions, and providing research and budget oversight. *The Maritime Executive* [Read more](#)

## USA: NEW RULE WILL REQUIRE WASHINGTON STATE RAILROADS TO PROVIDE OIL SPILL CONTINGENCY PLAN

November 19 - As early as next year, companies transporting oil into or through Washington could be required to improve planning for accidents under new regulations being developed by the Washington Department of Ecology. They are beginning the rulemaking process to propose a new rule, "Chapter 173-186 WAC, Oil Spill Contingency Plan – Railroad."

Increased crude by rail transport has changed the risk picture for oil spills in Washington State. During the 2015 legislative session, RCW 88.46.010 and RCW 90.56.010 were amended to include railroads (not owned by the state) that transport bulk oil as cargo in the definition of "facility", and RCW 90.56.210 was amended to expand Ecology's authority to require state contingency plans for rail. Ecology was directed to develop rules establishing contingency planning requirements for railroads transporting oil in bulk. Contingency plans for railroads will ensure that first responders are aware of the locations of oil transport, oil response equipment, and are trained to respond in a rapid, aggressive, and well-coordinated manner. *Kbkw.com* [Read more](#)

## ISCO news

### ISCO CONSULTATION REGARDING 2016 CONFERENCE & EXHIBITION EVENTS

Members of the ISCO Executive Committee and ISCO Council are currently deliberating on which 2016 Conferences and Exhibitions will be supported by the organization. The number of events at which it's an option for ISCO to have a booth/stand or give presentations is quite restricted by budget restrictions and availability of Committee Members to attend.

This year we are hoping, with the support of Committee Members and Members of Council, to extend the number of events attended. It is possible to economically courier exhibition materials to events at which media sponsorship has been agreed with organisers and where regionally-based members are willing to help the organization, providing someone to man a booth and/or give a presentation on current projects being carried out by ISCO.

### CREATING A CAREER PATH FOR STUDENTS, TRAINEES, AND APPRENTICES

Calling on training organizations and companies who carry out internal training of staff – The ISCO newsletter regularly publicises the availability of training courses. On the ISCO website and in the newsletter you can find lots of useful material to help in training. Don't forget that ISCO offers free one year student membership to encourage trainees interested in making a career in our industry.

Student members receive the weekly newsletter which contains educational content and can access lots of technical articles, guidelines and manuals on the ISCO website – really useful for all who are keen to learn. All you need to do is to send to the [Secretariat](#) the names and email addresses of the interested trainees you wish to recommend for this free benefit.



## WHAT HAPPENS WHEN OIL SPILLS MEET MASSIVE ISLANDS OF SEAWEED?

An article reprinted here with the kind permission of NOAA's Office of Response and Restoration

*Photo: Floating rafts of sargassum, a large brown seaweed, can stretch for miles across the ocean. (Credit: Sean Nash/Creative Commons Attribution-NonCommercial-ShareAlike 2.0 Generic license)*

The young [loggerhead sea turtle](#), its ridged shell only a few inches across, is perched calmly among the floating islands of large brown seaweed, known as [sargassum](#).

Open ocean stretches for miles around these large free-floating seaweed mats where myriad creatures make their home.

Suddenly, a shadow passes overhead. A hungry seabird?

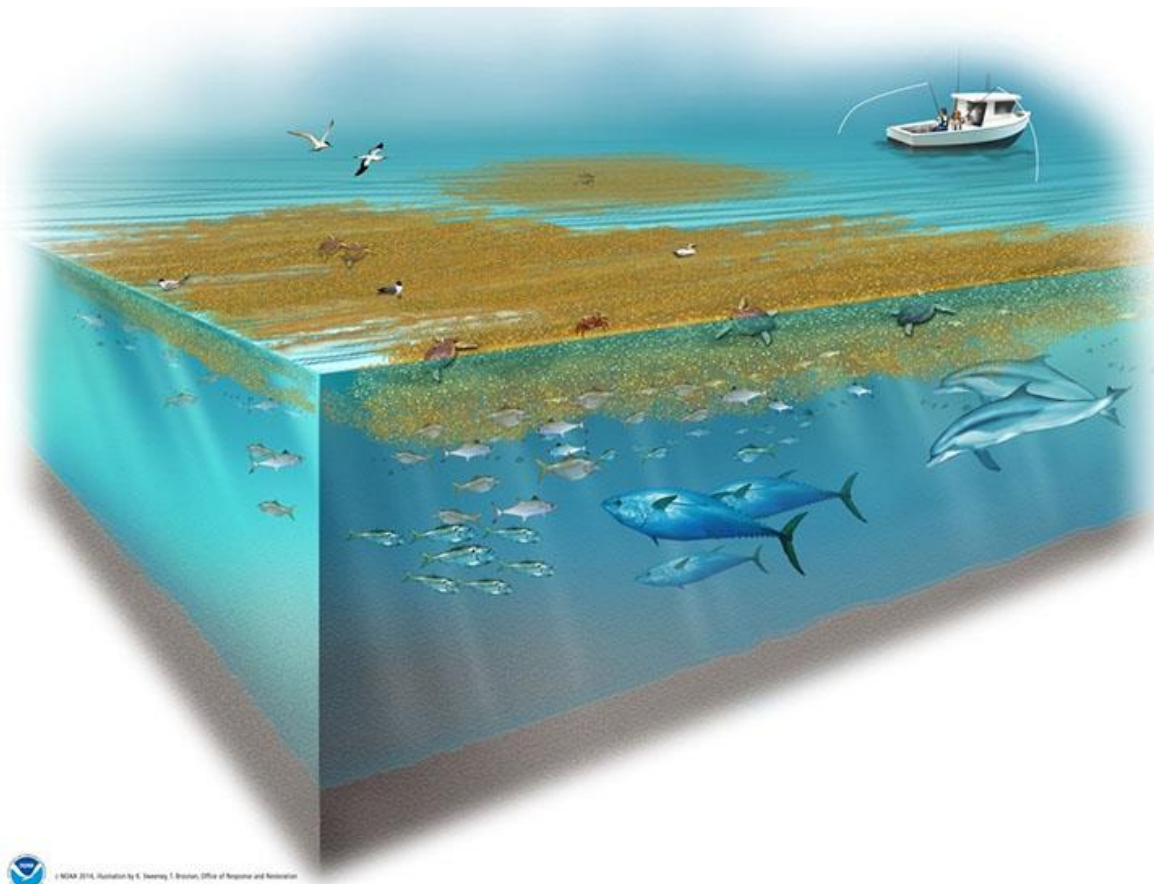
Taking no chances, the small sea turtle dips beneath the ocean surface.

It dives through the yellow-brown sargassum with its tangle of branches and bladders filled with air, keeping everything afloat.

### Home Sweet Sargassum

This little turtle isn't alone in seeking safety and food in these buoyant mazes of seaweed. Perhaps nowhere is this more obvious than a dynamic stretch of the Atlantic Ocean off the East Coast of North America named for this seaweed: [the Sargasso Sea](#). Sargassum is also an important part of the Gulf of Mexico, which contains the second most productive sargassum ecosystem in the world.

Some shrimp, crabs, and fish are specially suited to life in sargassum. Certain species of eel, fish, and shark spawn there. Each year, humpback whales, tuna, and seabirds migrate across these fruitful waters, taking advantage of the gathering of life that occurs where ocean currents converge.



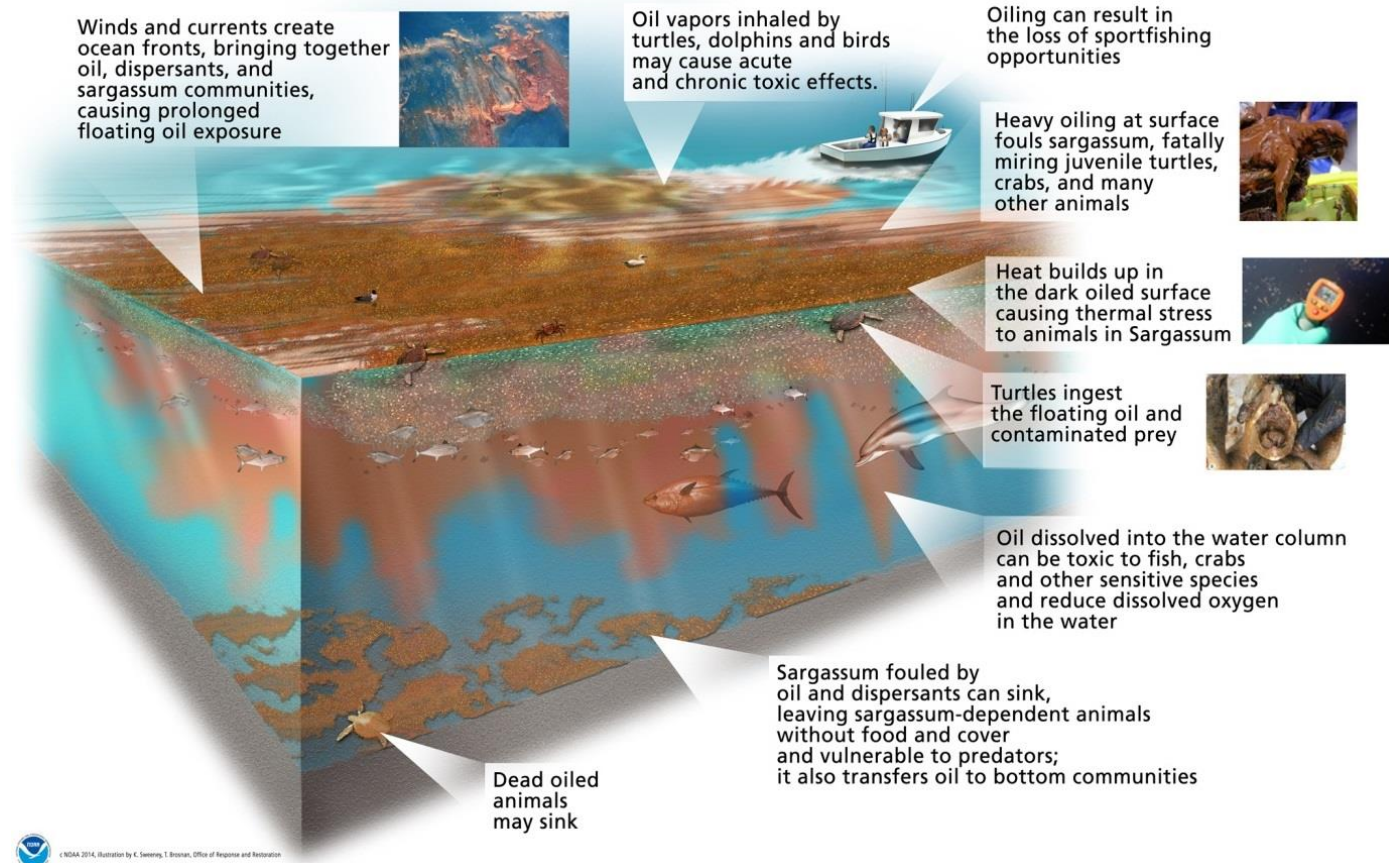
*Illustration of sargassum and associated marine life, including fish, sea turtles, birds, and marine mammals. Sargassum is a brown algae that forms a unique and highly productive floating ecosystem on the surface of the open ocean. (NOAA)*

### The Wide and Oily Sargasso Sea

However, an abundance of marine life isn't the only other thing that can accumulate with these large patches of sargassum. Spilled oil, carried by currents, can also end up swirling among the seaweed.

If an oil spill made its way somewhere like the Sargasso Sea, a young sea turtle would encounter a much different scene. As the ocean currents brought the spill into contact with sargassum, oil would coat those same snarled branches and bladders of the seaweed. The turtles and other marine life living within and near the oiled sargassum would come into contact with the oil too, as they dove, swam, and rested among the floating mats.

That oil can be inhaled as vapors, be swallowed or consumed with food, and foul feathers, skin, scales, shell, and fur, which in turn smothers, suffocates, or strips the animal of its ability to stay insulated. The effects can be toxic and deadly.



Above: Illustration of the potential impacts of an oil spill on sargassum and associated marine life in the water column. (NOAA)

While sea turtles, for example, as cold-blooded reptiles, may enjoy the relatively warmer waters of sargassum islands, a hot sun beating down on an oiled ocean surface can raise water temperatures to extreme levels. What starts as soothing can soon become stressful.

Depending on how much oil arrived, the sargassum would grow less, or not at all, or even die. These floating seaweed oases begin shrinking. Where will young sea turtles take cover [as they cross the unforgiving open ocean?](#)

As life in the sargassum starts to perish, it may drop to the ocean bottom, potentially bringing oil and the toxic effects with it. Microbes in the water may munch on the oil and decompose the dead marine life, but this can lead to ocean oxygen dropping to critical levels and causing further harm in the area.

### From Pollution to Protection

NOAA and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service have [designated sargassum as a critical habitat](#) for threatened loggerhead sea turtles. Sargassum has also been designated as Essential Fish Habitat by Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council and National Marine Fisheries Service since it also provides nursery habitat for many important fishery species (e.g., dolphinfish, triggerfishes, tripletail, billfishes, tunas, and amberjacks) and for ecologically important forage fish species (e.g., butterfishes and flyingfishes).

Sargassum and its inhabitants are particularly vulnerable to threats such as oil spills and marine debris due to the fact that ocean currents naturally tend to concentrate all of these things together in the same places. In turn, this concentrating effect can lead to arine life being exposed to omil and other pollutants for more extended periods of time and perhaps greater impacts.

However, protecting sargassum habitat isn't impossible and it isn't out of reach for most people. Some of the same things you might do to lower your impact on the planet—using less plastic, reducing your demand for oil, properly disposing of trash, discussing these issues with elected officials—can lead to fewer oil spills and less trash turning these magnificent islands of sargassum into floating islands of pollution.

And maybe protect a baby sea turtle or two along the way.





Photo: The floating habitat that sargassum creates provides food, refuge, and breeding grounds for an array of marine species, including sea turtles. (NOAA)

## Technical support

### VIDEOS FROM THE US CHEMICAL SAFETY BOARD (CSB)

November 18 - The U.S. Chemical Safety Board (CSB) received awards for two safety videos at the annual Television, Internet, and Video Association of DC (TIVA DC) dinner on Saturday, November 14. Award recipients included *Shock to the System*, a safety video detailing key lessons for preventing hydraulic shock in ammonia refrigeration systems based on the CSB's Millard Refrigerated Services investigation, and the computer-generated animation of a massive explosion and fire at the *Caribbean Petroleum* terminal facility.

The TIVA awards were presented before an audience of hundreds of regional video and media professionals. The CSB's videos received 2 silver awards in the Government (under \$25K) category. CSB Chairperson Vanessa Allen Sutherland said, "One consistent message that I have heard from stakeholders since arriving to the CSB is the tremendous value that CSB safety videos provide across industries and academic institutions to promote key safety lessons. We are honored to receive this recognition from the local media production community, and I applaud our team for creating such valuable work."

The CSB safety videos are available for download free of charge from the agency's website at [www.csb.gov](http://www.csb.gov) and can be viewed on the agency's YouTube channel, [USCSB](#).

## New products

### AN INNOVATIVE LIGHTWEIGHT SOLUTION FOR CONTAINING OIL SPILLS

November 17 – HARBO Technologies is an Israeli company with an innovative cleanup product that could save companies billions of dollars and save our environment, too. HARBO's T-fence Immediate Booming System is 15 to 20 times lighter than regular containment booms and can be preinstalled onboard large ships and rigs. It includes a compact vessel the size of a lifeboat.

In October 2014, HARBO tested its product at the Ohmsett facility, the only one of its kind where full-scale oil-spill response equipment testing, research, and training can be conducted in a marine environment. Other booms that arrive for testing usually come in shipping containers. HARBO's 100-foot boom arrived in two suitcases and contained approximately two tons of oil with no losses.

HARBO has a working model of its patented product but it's not on the market just yet. HARBO will be launching a beta site in Holland in the next nine to 12 months and will start taking orders in the last quarter of 2016, says Greenberg. For more information, [click here](#). [Source: Israel 21c]



## Publications

### NEWS FROM THE PUBLISHER OF “THE LITTLE BLACK BOOK”

November 21 - We have just completed a long overdue overhaul of [www.cleanupoil.com](http://www.cleanupoil.com) Please take a moment to check the site, hopefully all is working and to your liking. It is now much easier to view on a variety of platforms such as phones, tablets and PC's.

Responders will find it easier to view contractor information. This effort is a precursor to the 7th Edition of the Little Black Book which we plan to print in the next month or two, please excuse the small delay - we now have all of the artwork from our advertisers (thank you for your support) and are 90% through checking contractor listings. It's not too late to make any updates or corrections, what you see is what gets printed in the book.

Feel free to contact me if you have any questions. Regards, Stewart [www.cleanupoil.com](http://www.cleanupoil.com)

### USA: CHEMICAL SAFETY BOARD TO PUBLISH SAFETY NEWS IN SPANISH

November 20 - The U.S. Chemical Safety Board is launching a new initiative aimed at expanding the agency's reach to better include Spanish speaking stakeholders. The CSB will soon begin to offer news releases outlining key safety information and lessons learned in Spanish.

Chairperson Vanessa Allen Sutherland said, “The CSB has amassed a tremendous wealth of knowledge on chemical accident hazards through its high quality accident investigations. One of my primary goals as Chairperson of the CSB is to ensure that the agency's knowledge reaches and impacts as many stakeholders as possible. By offering Spanish language safety products, we are helping to advance that goal.” CSB [Read more](#)

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

<a href="#">AMSA Aboard</a>	News from the Australian Maritime Safety Authority	November 2015 issue
<a href="#">ASME EED EHS Newsletter</a>	News and commentary on HSE issues from George Holliday	Most recent issue
<a href="#">Bow Wave</a>	Sam Ignarski's Ezine on Marine & Transport Matters	Current issue
<a href="#">Cedre Newsletter</a>	News from Cedre in Brittany, France	October 2015
<a href="#">Celtic Biogenie enGlobe Newsletter</a>	Latest Remediation and related technology news	Autumn 2015 issue
<a href="#">CROIERG Enews</a>	Canberra & Regions Oil Industry Emergency Response Group	Current issue
<a href="#">EMSA Newsletter</a>	News from the European Maritime Safety Agency	November 2015 issue
<a href="#">Energy Institute eBulletin</a>	News from the Energy Institute	April 2015 issue
<a href="#">Environmental Technology Online</a>	Environmental Monitoring, Testing & Analysis	November 2015 issue
<a href="#">IMO News Magazine</a>	News from the International Maritime Organization	No 3, 2015
<a href="#">IMO Publishing News</a>	New and forthcoming IMO publications	November 2015
<a href="#">Intertanko Weekly News</a>	International news for the oil tanker community	No 47 2015
<a href="#">IPIECA eNews</a>	Int'l Petroleum Industry Environmental Conservation Assoc'n	February 12 issue
<a href="#">JOIFF "The Catalyst"</a>	Int'l Organisation for Industrial Hazard Management	October 2015 issue
<a href="#">MOIG Newsletter</a>	News from the Mediterranean Oil Industry Group	Most recent Issue
<a href="#">NOAA update</a>	Oil spill response news from NOAA OR&R	April 2015
<a href="#">OCIMF Newsletter</a>	News from the Oil Companies International Marine Forum	October 2015 issue
<a href="#">Pollution Online Newsletter</a>	News for prevention & control professionals	November 18 issue
<a href="#">Sea Alarm Foundation Newsletter</a>	Oiled wildlife Preparedness and Response news from Sea Alarm	Spring 2015 issue
<a href="#">SAC News</a>	Oil spill related and other news from Alaska	Nov 17 issue 2015
<a href="#">Technology Innovation News Survey</a>	From US EPA - Contaminated site decontamination	October 1-15, 2015
<a href="#">The Essential Hazmat News</a>	Alliance of Hazardous Materials Professionals	October 19 issue
<a href="#">Transport Canada Newsletter</a>	News and articles re transport of dangerous goods in Canada	Winter 2014 issue
<a href="#">USA EPA Tech Direct</a>	Remediation of contaminated soil and groundwater	Nov 1, 2015 issue
<a href="#">USA EPA Tech News &amp; Trends</a>	Contaminated site clean-up information	Summer 2015 issue
<a href="#">WMU Newsletter</a>	News from the World Maritime University	October 2015 issue

Your editor depends on regular receipt of updated links for listed publications. If these are not received, relevant entries may be discontinued.

## Events

### USA: FINAL CHANCE TO SUBMIT YOUR ABSTRACT FOR CLEAN PACIFIC 2016

November 20 - The CLEAN PACIFIC 2016 Conference Management and the Advisory Committee have issued an industry-wide call for participation. The conference covers all aspects of spill prevention, preparedness and response for drilling & production, pipelines, refining & petrochemical, and shipping & transportation. The CLEAN PACIFIC 2016 program will be developed by a industry/government-based committee of more than 30 industry professionals. All abstracts are reviewed for content and relevance by the committee and are selected by consensus. All offers considered sales pitches will be rejected. [More info](#)

### CANADA: AMOP TECHNICAL SEMINAR 2016 – CALL FOR PAPERS DEADLINE

November 16 - The deadline for abstract submissions - Dec 31, 2015. [More info](#)

## Events (continued)

### UPCOMING EVENTS SUMMARY

COUNTRY	2015	TITLE OF EVENT	LOCATION
For more information click on Title of Event			
BELGIUM	Dec. 7	<a href="#">MSP &amp; Marine Env. Conference</a>	Brussels
UK	Dec. 7-11	<a href="#">Salvage &amp; Wreck Removal Conference</a>	London
UK, N. IRELAND	Dec. 15	<a href="#">ISAA Meeting and Christmas Luncheon</a>	Hillsborough
<b>2016</b>			
USA	Jan. 4-6	<a href="#">No Spills Annual Conference</a>	Acme, Michigan
UK	Feb 9	<a href="#">UK Spill Members' Meeting and Dinner</a>	London
UK	Feb 15-19	IMO Pollution Prevention & Response S/C'ttee.	London
UK	Feb 17-18	<a href="#">Society of Maritime Industries Conference</a>	Hull
SAUDI ARABIA	Feb 22-24	<a href="#">PetroEnvironment 2016</a>	Dammam
CANADA	Mar 23-24	<a href="#">8<sup>th</sup> Arctic Shipping Summit</a>	Montreal
NIGERIA	Mar 29-31	<a href="#">Clean Niger Delta Conference</a>	Abuja
UK	April 18-22	IMO Marine Environment Protection Committee	London
AUSTRALIA	May 2-6	<a href="#">Spillcon 2016</a>	Perth, WA
CROATIA	May 10-12	ADRIASPILLCON 2016	Opatija
UAE	May 17-18	<a href="#">Offshore Arabia Conference &amp; Exhibition</a>	Dubai
USA	June 21-23	<a href="#">Clean Pacific Conference &amp; Exhibition</a>	Seattle. WA
CANADA	July 7-9	<a href="#">AMOP Technical Seminar</a>	Halifax

To request posting of an event of interest to the Spill Response Community please send details to the Editor

## Training

### AUSTRALIA: CROIERG UPDATES THE TRAINING COURSE PUBLICATION LIBRARY & DVD's

CROIERG has just replenished the library for training course student publications and DVD's. These are provided to course participants and besides being training aids are also very good reference material for future use The publications are:-

- a. Anatomy of an Oil Spill (Booklet)
- b. Land Oil Spills (Booklet)
- c. Oil Spill Solutions (Booklet)
- d. Recommended Procedures for Road Tanker Incidents (Booklet)
- e. DVD. Rollover Tanker Training
- f. DVD. Road Tankers. Various Incidents

The booklets are available to CROIERG Member's in the Member's Area of this website. Go to the Left Hand Menu and CROIERG Books. For further information contact the CROIERG Secretary on 0428 627 777 Email [eejoconn@bigpond.net.au](mailto:eejoconn@bigpond.net.au) or by mail at CROIERG PO Box 362 Yass NSW 2582

### OSRL 2016 TRAINING CALENDAR NOW AVAILABLE TO DOWNLOAD

[Download the 2016 OSRL Training Calendar](#)

### CYPRUS: INTERNATIONAL TECHNICAL CERTIFICATE IN OIL AND GAS (NEBOSH)

This course is provided by the LTC and Shipcon, an accredited NEBOSH Training Center (accreditation number 1229).

[Download the schedule of courses for 2016](http://www.levantinetrainingcentre.com/) <http://www.levantinetrainingcentre.com/>

### USA: NOAA - SPRING 2016 SCIENCE OF OIL SPILLS TRAINING

NOAA's Office of Response and Restoration, a leader in providing scientific information in response to marine pollution, has scheduled Science of Oil Spills (SOS) classes in two locations (Alabama and Michigan) in spring 2016: [More info](#)

### USA: OHMSETT, NEW JERSEY - 2016 OIL SPILL RESPONSE STRATEGIES AND TACTICS TRAINING

Ohmsett, in partnership with Texas A&M National Spill Control School (NSCS), announces open registration for the May 24-26, 2016 Oil Spill Response Strategies and Tactics Training. [More info](#)



## Equipment for sale

### TAIWAN, CHINA: FULLY EQUIPPED HIGH PERFORMANCE OIL SPILL RECOVERY VESSEL



Ship Name: Mailiao Marine + Docked at Mailiao Port, Taiwan, China + Manoeuvres date: End of Nov, 2015 + Performance - Mailiao Marine work at 4 to 5 knots in winds of up to Force 5 or 6, cleaning a surface area of 35,000 to 60,000 m<sup>2</sup>/hour. They can sweep up to 150m<sup>3</sup> of hydrocarbons per hour, without creating an emulsion, transferring the collected pollutants into tankers astern of them as they work. Rotating these tankers, the vessels have an unlimited recovery capacity. Oil recovery test report with different oil from Cedre: Water < 5%; SG 250 also can pick up oil even 1-2 mm thickness + In order to combat chemical spills, absorbents can be carried on board and spread on the pollution using the fire-fighting water cannon +The interior living quarters are fully protected, making it possible to work 24/24 in polluted areas + All boats are fitted with a "keel cooling" system, which is used both to cool the motor and to heat the hydrocarbon separator + Cruising endurance 1700 nautical miles (10 knots).

If having any interest to visit this vessel, please do not hesitate to contact us - Eco Equipments Inc 15F-34, No. 50, Chung Hsiao W. Rd., Sec. 1, Taipei 10041, Taiwan, China;  
Tel: +886-2-2370-9788 Fax: +886-2-2370-0266 Web: <http://www.ecoequipments.com> Email: [sales@ecoequipments.com](mailto:sales@ecoequipments.com)

## Company news

### INDIA: ISCO MEMBERS CO-OPERATE IN SHIP TO SHIP OIL TRANSFER OPERATION



November 10 - Swire ERS of the Swire PCO group and AlphaMERS Ltd of India joined hands and provided preventive booming around an STS operation in Tuticorin port in southern India.

The booming was required by port authorities, since the vessel to be discharged had lost its rudder and the port is located close to sensitive ecological coastline.

The STS operations was carried out smoothly at the port anchorage, about ten miles from the shoreline. The booming and unbooming around the vessels was done using local country boats and fishing boats.

More info and photos: [www.alphamers.com](http://www.alphamers.com)

### NORWAY: OMV SIGNS 3-YEAR FRAME AGREEMENT WITH APTOMAR

November 19 - OMV Norway has signed a three-year frame agreement with Aptomar to deliver its integrated field monitoring services for the operator's future drilling activities. As part of the frame agreement OMV will have access to the Aptomar's 24/7 environmental monitoring services. Aptomarin, the Aptomar maritime control center, will on behalf of OMV manage the task of 24/7 monitoring, reporting and detection of unintended oil spills. This includes all required sensors, procedures and training of both onshore and offshore crew, delivered as part of the service. For more information, please contact: Lars Solberg, Aptomar AS: +47 41 43 45 42, or email [lars.solberg@aptomar.com](mailto:lars.solberg@aptomar.com) Website [www.aptomar.com](http://www.aptomar.com).

### UK & IRELAND: LATEST AWARDS OF ISAA ACCREDITATION

**Thorntons Recycling Ltd.** based in Dublin, Ireland has successfully completed oil spill response accreditation reassessment. The company's existing certification for Freshwater Level 2, Groundwater Level 2 and On-land Level 3 have been revalidated. Thorntons has retained its status as an accredited response contractor since first accredited in September, 2006.

**MacWaste Ltd.** based at Warrenpoint, Newry, Northern Ireland has successfully completed an oil spill response accreditation assessment and has been awarded certification for On-land Level 3.

All ISAA Accredited Contractors in the UK and Republic of Ireland are requested to check their entries on the ISAA website at <http://www.isaa.org.uk/accred.htm> and advise the ISAA administrator if any of their contact details need to be updated.

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