

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

For more information on the events featured below, click on the banner



Oil Spill India 2016
4th International Conference & Exhibition

11th & 12th August 2016,
JW Marriott, Sahar, Mumbai, India

ARCTIC STATES TEST KNOWLEDGE & COLLABORATION



May 23 - Senior adviser Ole Kristian Bjerkemo at the Norwegian Coastal Administration (NCA) highlights knowledge and collaboration as the two most important criteria for good oil spill response – nationally and internationally.

This was put to the test last week when the Arctic states checked how their cooperation worked in a Norway-based exercise where the Norwegian authorities notified an incident and requested help.

Bjerkemo co-ordinates international activity in the emergency preparedness area at the NCA, which wants Norway to be the "best in class" for oil spill response in the far north.

That calls in part for a high level of expertise on oil spill preparedness in icy

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International news (continued)

waters under conditions of darkness and in areas characterised by great distances and lack of infrastructure.

"Knowledge and collaboration are important aspects if we're going to have good oil spill preparedness – regardless of the country or coastline affected," says Bjerkemo. He has been involved for many years in the development of oil spill preparedness in the far north, including participation in the Arctic Council's working group on emergency prevention preparedness response (EPPR).

Norway works with the other states in the Arctic Council to ensure that the agreement on preparedness against marine oil pollution in these waters is followed up. *"That ensures we're as ready as possible to respond should a major oil spill occur in this region," says Bjerkemo.* He adds that work in the Arctic Council is crucial for safeguarding the vulnerable areas of the far north, and a good collaboration between the states starts there.

He has been involved for many years in the development of oil spill preparedness in the far north, including participation in the [Arctic Council's working group on emergency prevention preparedness response \(EPPR\)](#).

Kystverket [Read the complete text of this article with details of the exercise, follow-up activities and a further exercise planned in September 2016.](#)

CARIBBEAN: RAC/REMPEITC-CARIBE MEETING

The 8th Meeting of the RAC/REMPEITC-Caribe Ordinary Steering Committee took place in Curacao on 19-20 May 2016. The primary objective of the meeting was to review and finalize RAC/REMPEITC-Caribe's Work Plan for 2016 – 2017

ISCO Member, Carlos Sagrera, MISCO, gave a presentation about the Offshore situation concerning Safety and Environmental Topics in Central America and the Hispanic Countries in the Caribbean Sea.

The Meeting Documents can be found at -

<http://cep.unep.org/racrempeitc/activities/steering-committee-reports/2016-8th-ordinary-steering-committee/8th-ordinary-meeting-of-the-rac-rempeitc-caribe-steering-committee>

International news (continued)

MEDITERRANEAN: MOIG CO-ORDINATED INDEPENDENT OIL RESPONSE AUDIT IN TUNISIA

ISCO Industry Partner, The Mediterranean Oil Industry Group (MOIG) was engaged by ETAP, to coordinate and facilitate an independent audit conducted by Mr John Dawes, expert from the International Spill Accreditation Association (ISAA) to review the existing Tier1 capabilities of 9 companies nominated by ETAP (SREPT, TPS, BGT, ENI TUNISIA, MARETAP, PA RESOURCES, TRAPSA, STIR and ECUMED PETROLEUM) to identify areas of improvement whilst at the same time determine the gaps required to establish an effective Tier 2 preparedness and response capacity in Tunisia. The audit consisted of a visual inspection of the Oil Spill Response equipment, physically check of the equipment to identify its current capacity and status against maintenance records, check of the equipment storage to ensure adequate, efficient and safe, review of the relevant documentation and reports related to training, drills and exercises of the response team and management in order to prepare a gap analysis for the reviewed sites. The audit focused also on interviewing various personnel involved in Oil Spill Response Management.

A meeting also took place at ETAP Headquarter between the Tier 2 coordination project team, ISAA representative and MOIG Director in which Mr John Dawes presented a general overview on the oil spill response audit highlighting performance in some areas while a need of improvements in others.

The MOIG Management Committee members would like to thank ETAP for its confidence in MOIG which has enabled it to contribute in the development of this strategic project, ISAA for providing its independent expertise and the representatives of the audited companies for their warm welcome and high cooperation during the visits. *MOIG Newsletter* [Read more](#)

INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATIONS' PARTICIPATION IN RECENT INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCES

ITOPF attended events in Australia and New Zealand - Alex Hunt attended SPILLCON 2016, the Asia-Pacific Oil Spill Prevention and Preparedness Conference, which ran from 3-5 May in Perth, Western Australia. The conference, organised by the Australian Maritime Safety Authority (AMSA) and the Australian Institute of Petroleum (AIP), attracted 300 delegates and is the largest oil spill conference event within the Asia-Pacific region.

Alex Hunt provided the opening presentation during a plenary session on 'International Trends in Maritime Environmental Emergencies'. His presentation, entitled 'Declining Incidents & the Implications', highlighted the dramatic reduction in spills from

International news (continued)

tankers, despite the general growth in crude oil transportation by sea, while also providing an overview of the trend in ITOPF's spill attendance towards spills of bunker oil from other types of ship. The implications of the downward trend in incidents on the degree of oil spill preparedness in different countries was discussed along with some of the key lessons learned from major ship-sourced spills, see Alex's presentation at <https://www.spillcon.com/presentations/4%20-%20Alex%20Hunt.pdf>.

ITOPF was also invited by AMSA to join a panel session on the final day of the conference which focused on 'Future Risks and Opportunities in Maritime Environmental Emergency Response'.

During the following week, ITOPF participated in a major oil spill exercise in New Zealand as an 'international observer' at the invitation of Maritime New Zealand. "Exercise Whakautu II" was a test of the new structural, operational and procedural changes brought about by the updated National Marine Oil Spill Contingency Plan for New Zealand in the aftermath of the RENA incident.

IPIECA participated in the triennial Asia-Pacific Oil Spill Prevention & Preparedness Conference (SpillCon) held in Perth, Australia on 2–6 May 2016.

Rob Cox, IPIECA Technical Director and OSR-JIP Manager presented a paper entitled "Emerging best practices in oil spill response and the implications for regional preparedness" and participated in the closing panel session on "Future Risks and Opportunities in Maritime Environmental Emergency Response". Tom Coolbaugh, Oil Spill Working Group Chair, delivered a presentation on "Technical advances in the application of oil spill control agents".

In addition, the IPIECA-IOPG Joint Industry Project (JIP) on Oil Spill Response, IPIECA and Oil Spill Response Limited (OSRL) shared a stand for the associated exhibition.

Earlier in the week, IPIECA and API presented material from the joint work being carried out on Spill Impact Mitigation Assessment (SIMA – formerly known as NEBA) at a technical workshop hosted by the International Offshore Petroleum Environment Regulators Association (IOPER) and the Australian Petroleum Production & Exploration Association (APPEA).

From 10-12 May 2016, IPIECA also attended the third Adriatic Spill Conference (Adriaspillcon) in Opatija, Croatia. The conference, which is held every three years, was attended by local participants from Adriatic countries as well as experts from the Mediterranean, the rest of Europe and the world. Over the course of the three day conference, several interesting presentations were made by organisations such as ITOPF, OSRL, REMPEC, EMSA and the IOPC Funds. In addition, representatives from each of the Adriatic countries presented the latest developments in their spill preparedness and response capability. The next Adriaspillcon will take place in 2019.

ISCO had exhibition stands at Spillcon and Adriaspillcon, acting as a Media Partner for both events, helping to publicise the conferences and disseminate information on the programmes.

Incident reports from around the world

USA: NORTH DAKOTA - SPILL LEAKS 120,000 GALLONS OF OIL & WASTEWATER



May 23 - A site run by Denbury Onshore LLC in southwestern North Dakota has spilled more than 120,000 gallons of oil and wastewater into pastureland after a mechanical failure.

Some estimated 17,000 gallons of oil and 105,000 gallons of drilling wastewater containing saltwater and chemicals leaked into pastureland near the city of Marmarth when a tank sensor failed, news agencies quoted state regulators as saying.

The tank overflowed on Wednesday, and by Friday, workers were excavating the

affected pastureland, which is being equated to the size of a football field. Johnston of ISCO Industry Partner, DG & Hazmat Group]

OilPrice.com [Read more](#) [Thanks to Don

ALBANIA: OIL SPILL POLLUTES ALBANIAN COAST

May 24 - Authorities say that oil spilled from a ship has polluted a tourist beach in southwestern Albania. Vlora Deputy Mayor Ardi Musta told The Associated Press on Tuesday that a day earlier oil had leaked from a ship at a storage terminal in Zvernec, 140km southwest of the capital, Tirana, polluting up to five kilometres of the beach. *News 24* [Read more](#)

USA: CALIFORNIA - 21,000 GALLONS OF OIL SPILLED IN PIPELINE RUPTURE NEAR TRACY

May 24 - Hazardous materials crews are cleaning up as many as 21,000 gallons of oil after a pipeline rupture in San Joaquin County near Tracy. Shell Pipeline Co. officials say a response team is clearing contaminated soil and helping local and state officials monitor local air, water and ground conditions, The San Francisco Chronicle reported. *CBS* [Read more](#)

Incident reports from around the world (continued)

UK: NORTHERN IRELAND - MAJOR CLEAN-UP AFTER OIL SPILL ON LOUGH ERNE



Photo: Local RSPB Operator Peter Taylor observing the damage caused by an oil spill at Loughview Drive on Saturday

May 26 – An investigation is under way to find the cause of an oil spill on Lough Erne which has the potential to cause damage to the aquatic environment.

The Northern Ireland Environment Agency (NIEA) suspects that used engine oil from car maintenance has caused this pollution incident, 30 metres away from a swan's nest, and has warned that engine oil should never be poured down household or road drains or thrown into the bin.

Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs (DAERA) spokesman said: "On Saturday, May 21 Northern Ireland Environment Agency staff deployed booms and absorbent sheets to contain the oil and soak up the oil. *The Impartial Reporter* [Read more](#)

NIGERIA: MELTDOWN AS TERROR GROUP ISSUE CHILLING THREAT BEFORE BOMBING SHELL AND AGIP INSTALLATIONS

May 28 - The Niger Delta Avengers have blown up trunk lines belonging to shell and Agip – NDA's latest attack was carried out in the early hours of Saturday, May 28 – The group has threatened to continue their vandalism until their demands are met – The group sent a tweet just before their latest attacks warning that "something big was away to happen" – Shell ban all staff movements

There is tension in the Niger Delta, the Niger Delta Avengers in their determination to get the government to meet their demands, have blown up trunk lines belonging to Agip and Shell.

NDA struck early Saturday, May 28, in Bayelsa state, blowing up trunk lines belonging to the Nigerian Agip Oil Company (NAOC) and Shell Petroleum Development Company (SPDC).

Vanguard reports that the group in a tweet revealed that its strike teams, in the early hours of today blew up trunk lines belonging to NAOC and SPDC.

"At About 2.15am on Saturday the @NDAvengers blow up Nembe 1, 2 and 3 Brass to Bonny Trunk Line belonging to Agip and Shell," the NDA stated in a tweet.

The NDA has threatened to do something that will shock the whole world. In a series of tweets, the militants revealed that they blew up another oil pipeline belonging to the Nigerian National Petroleum Corporation (NNPC) on Thursday, May 26, which they claimed was heavily guarded by the Nigerian military.

The group also blasted the Niger Delta stakeholders over the meetings they held in the region, stating that they want a sovereign state and not pipeline contracts. *Oil and Gas People* [Read more](#) [Thanks to ADR Training UK]



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

CANADA: KINDER MORGAN TREATS MOCK OIL SPILL WITH REAL URGENCY



May 19 - There was a bustle of activity along the Nicola River in Merritt today, May 19, as Kinder Morgan Canada and local emergency management agencies conducted a mock oil recovery. It was a chance for Kinder Morgan officials to test their procedures in the case of a Trans Mountain Pipeline leak.

Rob Hadden, Director of Operations for Kinder Morgan, said crews were responding to a scenario in which there was a release of oil in the Merritt area.

"We are pretending that happened and have our management team here to test what we would do if it really was a real life event," Hadden said. *Cfjc today* [Read more and watch video](#)

CANADA TO REQUIRE MINIMUM LIABILITY COVERAGE FOR MOVING HAZARDOUS MATERIALS BY RAIL

May 20 - Federally regulated railroads that transport hazardous materials in Canada will be required to carry a minimum level of liability and compensation insurance as of June 18, Transport Canada officials announced Wednesday.

Mandatory minimum insurance requirements for railroads will range from \$25 million to \$1 billion (in Canadian dollars) and will be based on the type and volume of dangerous goods they carry, Transport Canada officials said in a press release.

The two middle insurance levels — \$100 million and \$250 million —are being phased in to provide short lines with additional time to adjust to the new requirements. Those levels will be fully implemented June 18, 2017.

In addition, the regime establishes a supplementary compensation fund financed by shippers of crude by rail. The fund will cover damages above the railroads' mandatory insurance level for accidents involving crude oil. *Progressive Railroading* [Read more](#)
[Thanks to Don Johnston of ISCO Industry Partner, DG & Hazmat Group]

CANADA: SMALL OFFSHORE OIL SPILLS PUT SEABIRDS AT RISK: INDUSTRY SELF-MONITORING FAILING

May 26 - Seabirds exposed to even a dime-sized amount of oil can die of hypothermia in cold-water regions, but despite repeated requests by Environment Canada, offshore oil operators are failing when it comes to self-monitoring of small oil spills, says new research out of York University.

Chronic pollution from many small oil spills may have greater population-level impacts on seabirds than a single large spill, suggest researchers Gail Fraser and Vincent Racine of York U's Faculty of Environmental Studies. However, seabirds are rarely considered in the monitoring of small spills from offshore oil production projects in Newfoundland and Labrador even though Environment Canada has asked that they be included.

In an article published in the international journal, *Marine Pollution Bulletin*, Fraser and Racine looked at how offshore oil operators monitored and responded to small spills (less than 1,000 litres) for three production projects off the coast of Newfoundland and Labrador. *Eurekalert* [Read more](#)

INDIA: OIL PILFERAGE RAISES ENVIRONMENT POLLUTION CONCERN



Picture: Workers removing the pipe left behind by gang members in Kaudia river | *Express*

May 24 - Frequent theft of huge quantity of oil by cutting the pipelines of Indian Oil Corporation Limited (IOCL) has given rise to concern over environmental pollution as oil leaking from the damaged pipes is contaminating nearby water bodies.

The four-lane pipelines of IOCL extending upto 15 km from oil berth to the oil refinery pass through isolated places. It crosses mangrove forest and is a threat to marine species.

Though a racket involving security guard, some employees of Indian Oil besides police has been active in the illegal activity since long, no steps have been taken to nab the culprits. *Indian Express* [Read more](#) [Thanks to

Walter Putman, Marine Pollution Control]

INDIA: IOPC FUNDS IS A STRATEGIC PARTNER OF OIL SPILL INDIA

May 25 - The IOPC Funds is pleased to announce its support for Oil Spill India 2016. As a strategic partner, the IOPC Funds will play an active role in this event which will take place on 11 and 12 August 2016 in Mumbai, India.

First established in 2011, Oil Spill India is an international conference and exhibition which focuses on oil spill prevention, preparedness, response and restoration systems. Supported by the oil industry and the Ministry of Shipping of India, the event has created over the years a useful forum for governments, regulators, industry, academia and response organisations to discuss, share and learn about best practices in technology and oil spill management.

The Director has been invited to take part in a panel on global challenges and to chair a session and the Head of External Relations and Conference, Mr Thomas Liebert, will be delivering a presentation at the conference. The Secretariat will also hold an exhibition stand at the event. A detailed conference programme will be published in due course. *IOPC Funds* [Read more](#)

NEW ZEALAND: IOPC FUNDS ATTEND OIL SPILL EXERCISE

May 23 - The IOPC Funds was invited to observe a spill exercise run by Maritime New Zealand (MNZ) from 9-11 May 2016. The exercise was designed to test an all of government response to a major maritime incident and in particular the improvements introduced to MNZ's process for responding to such an incident as a result of its experience handling the MV Rena in 2011.

The Director, José Maura, Head of Claims, Liliana Monsalve, and Information Officer, Victoria Turner, witnessed the management of the incident from the outset at MNZ's headquarters in Wellington. They followed the actions of MNZ as the incident escalated and the Maritime Incident Response Team, set up to coordinate the national response, relocated to the National Crisis Management Centre (NCMC). On day two of the exercise Mrs Monsalve and Mrs Turner visited the Emergency Coordination Centre (ECC), which was set up in New Plymouth to lead operations at the scene, whilst the Director remained in Wellington before visiting the ECC on the third and final day of the exercise.

The IOPC Funds provided comments and observations to MNZ on the handling of the incident. The exercise was very well managed and demonstrated MNZ's capability to handle a very complex oil spill situation. *IOPC Funds* [Read more](#)

NEW ZEALAND: OIL SPILL SPURS CALL FOR RMA CHANGE

May 22 - Urgent changes to the Resource Management Act are being called for so that councils and ratepayers are not left out of pocket in prosecution cases such as the Mobil major oil spill.

Earlier this week, Mobil Oil NZ was fined \$288,000 after 3000 to 4000 litres of heavy fuel oil was discharged into Tauranga Harbour last year during the refuelling of a vessel berthed at the port. Fuel escaped from two holes in a corroded lateral pipeline flagged for repair in 2013. Mobil paid \$1.8 million to remedy the effects of the spill, including reimbursing the Bay of Plenty Regional Council almost \$1.2 million for costs associated with the clean-up and \$627,104 in other claims.

But despite 90 per cent of the fine going to the regional council, the council and ratepayers have been left at least \$90,000 out of pocket. Bay of Plenty Regional Council pollution prevention manager Nick Zaman said there was a "glaring gap" in the Resource Management Act (RMA), which meant there was no cost-recovery mechanism to recoup the costs of investigation and prosecution. *Bay of Plenty Times* [Read more](#)

NIGERIA: NIGER DELTA MILITANTS STRIKE AGAIN IN CRIPPLING NEW TERROR ATTACKS

May 20 - Gunmen suspected to be Niger Delta Militants have carried out a fresh attack on a gas pipeline in Warri, Delta State. The suspected militants blew up a section of the Escravos gas trunkline behind salvation city, near Ogbeloh in Warri South West local government area of the state, The Cable reports.

The Escravos Lagos pipeline was attacked in February, resulting in all of the areas electricity plants being shut down.

Last week that the Niger Delta militants threatened to blow up the oil blocs of former Vice President, Alhaji Atiku Abubakar, Minister of Defence, General Theophilus Danjuma, ex-Minister of Petroleum, Alhaji Riwalu Lukman and other Northerners and South-Westerners in Niger-Delta region. *Oil and Gas People* [Read more](#) [Thanks to Don Johnston of ISCO Industry Partner, DG & Hazmat Group]

NIGERIA: PANEL ON OIL SPILL, POLLUTION COMMENCES SITTING IN UYO

May 23 - No fewer than 45 cases bothering on oil spills, pollution and environmental degradation have been received by the Special Investigation Panel on Oil Spills and Pollution in Nigeria, the Chairperson of the panel, Mrs Oti Ovwah, has disclosed.

Ovwah who disclosed this on Monday at a public hearing of the special investigation panel held at the Federal High Complex Uyo also made known that 18 cases have been shortlisted for hearing during the one week sitting of members of the panel in Akwa Ibom State. *AllAfrica.com* [Read more](#) [Thanks to Walter Putman, Marine Pollution Control]

NIGERIA: NIGER DELTA AVENGERS MILITANTS SHUT DOWN CHEVRON OIL FACILITY

May 26 - Members of the Nigerian militant group the Niger Delta Avengers have shut down facilities owned by one of the world's biggest oil companies.

People living near Chevron's Escravos terminal in the oil-rich southern Nigerian region of the Niger delta reported hearing a loud blast during the night. Chevron confirmed on Thursday morning that the attack, which was on its main electricity power line, had shut down all its onshore activities.

"It is a crude line which means all activities in Chevron are grounded," a company source told Reuters. *The Guardian* [Read more](#) [Thanks to Don Johnston of ISCO Industry Partner, DG & Hazmat Group]

Other news reports from around the world (continued)mat Group]

UK: IOPC FUNDS VISITS ISCO CORPORATE MEMBER, VIKOMA INTERNATIONAL

May 23 - The Director and a small team from the Secretariat visited the Vikoma site, Isle of Wight, UK on 18 May 2016. Founded in 1967, Vikoma designs and manufactures oil and chemical pollution control systems which have been used in response to many incidents involving the IOPC Funds over the years.

The Secretariat was given an overview of the company during a presentation session, followed by a factory tour, demonstration of a skimmer and deployment of a variety of equipment at the nearby harbour. *IOPC Funds*

USA: SHELL OIL SPILL CLEANUP OPERATION ENDS AS VOICES AGAINST NEW GULF DRILLING GROW LOUDER

May 19 - Five days after [Royal Dutch Shell](#) reported an estimated 88,000 gallon crude oil leak in the Gulf of Mexico from its operations in the Glider field, the oil company and the U.S. Coast Guard agreed to halt skimming operations used in the cleanup because they were no longer finding recoverable oil. Both entities stated that no environmental damage has been reported, but independent monitors from Greenpeace, Vanishing Earth and Wings Of Care question whether the size and potential impact of the spill are being downplayed.

News of Shell's oil spill 90 miles south of Louisiana's Timbalier Island came the day before the [Bureau of Ocean Energy Management \(BOEM\)](#) hosted a final week of public meetings on the Gulf Coast to give the public a chance to comment on its [Five Year Plan 2017-2022 oil leasing program](#). Its plan calls for lease sales of 47 million acres of the Gulf of Mexico to oil and gas companies for offshore drilling on the Outer Continental Shelf.

[Shell contracted](#) Clean Gulf Associates and [Marine Spill Response Corporation \(MSRC\)](#) for the cleanup operation. *Desmog*
[Read more](#)

USA: CALIFORNIA - SOUTH COAST OIL SPILL ONE YEAR LATER: WHAT WE'VE LEARNED

May 21 - This past week, we've taken a look at the impacts of the massive South Coast oil spill, from wildlife to criminal charges and the environmental impact.

Here's a recap of what we've learned from the Refugio Beach disaster, one year later: The environmental impacts from the 143,000-gallon oil spill along seven miles of beautiful coastline north of Santa Barbara won't be known for years to come.

"We don't truly know the impacts of the spill until we really get to dive into those studies and reveal the natural resource damage assessment which will take a couple years," said one of the researchers on the spill, Santa Barbara Channelkeeper Jenna Driscoll. *KSBY* [Read more](#)

USA: MICHIGAN - SENATORS WANT HIGHER LIABILITY FOR GREAT LAKES OIL SPILLS

May 22 - Michigan's U.S. senators want the Department of Transportation to make sure oil pipelines crossing underneath the Great Lakes are treated as "offshore" and not "onshore" to ensure the owners will have to pay the full cost of a cleanup if there is a spill.

Sens. Gary Peters and Debbie Stabenow, both Democrats, sent U.S. Transportation Secretary Anthony Foxx a letter on Tuesday urging him to make sure underwater pipeline segments in and around the Great Lakes are classified as separate "offshore" facilities. The senators wrote the finding has "significant consequence," because under the Oil Pollution Act the liability for cleanup costs for owners or operators of onshore facilities are capped at \$634 million, "whereas companies operating pipelines classified as offshore facilities are required to demonstrate they have sufficient resources to pay for all cleanup costs." *Chicago Tribune*
[Read more](#)

USA: MICHIGAN: COAST GUARD TO LEAD OIL SPILL EXERCISE IN ST. CLAIR RIVER

May 23 - Boats and oil-containment booms will fill a portion of the St. Clair River in Marysville Wednesday — but there's no cause for concern. The U.S. Coast Guard is leading a training exercise in response to a simulated 200,000-gallon leak from an Enbridge pipeline.

U.S. Coast Guard Lt. Ben Chamberlain said the exercise will run from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. The exercise will include creation of a unified command; establishing incident planning, finance, logistics and public information components; multi-agency coordination; and oil recovery strategies. *The Times Herald* [Read more](#)

People in the news

USA: COLONEL CARTER ASSUMES COMMAND OF CHEMICAL BIOLOGICAL INCIDENT RESPONSE FORCE

May 20 - Col. Michael L. Carter assumed command of Chemical Biological Incident Response Force (CBIRF), U.S. Marine Corps Forces Command (MARFORCOM), from Col. Stephen E. Redifer during a change of command ceremony aboard Naval Support Facility Indian Head, Md., May 18, 2016. *DVIDS* [Read more](#)

SHORELINE CLEAN-UP – PART 20

A series of articles contributed by Mark Francis of Oil Spill Solutions



Mark Francis has been involved with the oil industry since 1975. He attended his first oil spill in 1976, the Tanker Elaine V incident. He became head of response for inland spills within the UK for British Petroleum E & P in 1980 for 10 years responding to well, storage tank and pipeline spills throughout the UK. Over the next 25 years he continued to build his international operations experience and has also specialised in spill response training, delivering IMO and other courses in more than 20 countries.

Shoreline Clean-up (Continued)

Water flushing



The saturation of ground with low pressure water (<10 psi) permits part of the oil to float off for later retrieval.

Water flushing applied to rocky shorelines will have impacts that depend on the pressure used.

Jetting at high pressures removes all of the biological community, aggravating even more the biological impact on the affected environment.

Low pressure water flushing with large volumes of sea water can be beneficial, if used with caution. This technique can be efficient in the removal of substantial quantities of oil from vegetation where vegetation is relatively stable and continuous.

Washing with running water of the affected rocky coastlines is a recommended technique as long as it does not cause more damage.

However, this technique should be utilized immediately after the areas have been affected by oil. If washing is delayed, it will not be an efficient method for removal of weathered oil that has already adhered to the substrate.

A perforated hose is placed in the location of contamination with the objective of saturating the sediment with water so that the oil floats off.

Liberated oil should be recovered immediately so that contamination of other areas does not occur.

Water should be pumped at low pressure. In porous sediments, the flow of water in the substrate will, because of density difference, carry the loose oil to the surface.

The viscosity of the oil will influence the success of the operation. Light oils will float off more easily than heavy oils.

We should always use water with the same physical-chemical characteristics as the place of the spill to reduce further damage.



High pressure water is typically between 100-1,000 psi. High-pressure spraying will be more effective in removing sticky or viscous oils.

If low volumes of water are used, absorbents can be placed directly below the treatment area to recover the oil as it runs off.

High pressure jet washing can be particularly effective for treating areas with firm sediments with low slope and rocky areas.

The use of low pressure water at ambient temperature minimizes damage to the structure of the sediments and to organisms that are present.

Special feature (continued)

The photo (above) shows what is called an Omni boom, because it operates at so high a pressure a hydraulic arm has to be used.

Unless it is really necessary, the use of high pressure jet washing is not recommended.

As might be expected, high pressure jet cleaning can cause erosion, modifications of the substrate, physical harm to the plants and make the oil penetrate even more deeply into the sediments.

It is recommended that studies be made and expert advice be taken on the effect of this method on marshes and mangrove swamps before even considering its application.

High pressure can be used to remove oil that has adhered to hard substrates or to artificial structures.

In the photo (right) the black oil is floating on the surface but the fine light coloured sediments have been driven into the most sensitive zone of this shoreline thus doing more damage than the oil did when it arrived.



Jet cleaning is likely to cause erosion in other areas, causing great damage to the vegetation in areas such as mangrove swamps.

During washing care must be taken to ensure that oil does not flow into sensitive habitats. It should be recovered to prevent contamination of adjacent areas.

This technique should not be used directly on fixed algae or in inter-tidal areas.

Be aware of the adverse environmental effects of high pressure jetting. All of the fixed animals and plants in the zone of direct spraying will be removed, even when it is used correctly.

It can cause deeper contamination of the substrate or uncontaminated sediments. The technique is not viable for mud or clay sediments.

Habitats may be physically disturbed by traffic during the operations and these environments may be suffocated by the fine sediments washed over sensitive areas.

If collection methods are not effective, oil can contaminate sediments in adjacent areas. Inundation can cause loss of sediment and erosion of coastal contours and scrub vegetation.

Fine sediment can bury benthic organisms especially in the upper tidal zone.

To be continued in next week's newsletter

Note from Editor: This article was originally created for training course purposes. Having contributed the article for publication in the ISCO Newsletter, Mark Francis wishes to acknowledge sources that provided information that he used in compiling this and future episodes in this series. In the sections dealing with shoreline types, the do's and don'ts were taken from Concawe report no. 9/81 Field Guide to Coastal Oil Spill Control and Clean-up Techniques and the tables are based on some found in the Field Guide for Oil Spill Response in Arctic Waters prepared for the Emergency Prevention, Preparedness and Response Group.

Training

USA: OIL SPILL RESPONSE STRATEGIES & TACTICS TRAINING AT OHMSETT, NEW JERSEY

Ohmsett – The National Oil Spill Response & Renewable Energy Test Facility, Course Date: August 29-31, 2016, Training Location: Leonardo, NJ, USA, Course Duration: Tuesday - Thursday 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM

Training at Ohmsett takes the learning from the classroom, to the 2.6 million gallon wave/tow tank. That's where students receive hands-on training with the latest spill response equipment and techniques used in the field. With the emphasis on practical experience in full-scale oil recovery operations in the Ohmsett tank, you can increase your proficiency using boom and skimmers while practicing removing spilled oil. The combined classroom/tank exercise training provides response teams the skills to work more safely, operate more effectively, and make better decisions in the field.

The course is presented in partnership with Texas A&M National Spill Control School (NSCS). At the completion of the course, students receive a NSCS Certificate of Completion. Contact: Susan Cunneff, Phone 732-866-7286/ scunneff@ohmsettnj.com Registration: www.ohmsett.com/registration.html

USA: EMERGENCY PERSONNEL EVALUATE RESOURCES, RESPONSE IN CHEMICAL SPILL TRAINING SCENARIO



The scene was a drill — a test of the county's resources and response, but in an emergency scenario with unknown chemicals involved, the value of drone technology becomes apparent.

"Probably the most valuable information you could glean today is what's in that tank car," Chief Deputy Don Newman said as he observed drone footage from the command van. "The placard on the tank car tells us what chemicals are in the tank car."

Drone technology allowed responders to read the placard identifying what chemicals were involved — without exposing more people.

"The minute a chemical is involved, it completely changes the game," sheriff's office spokeswoman Lori Stewart said.

Wednesday's emergency training scenario took nearly 100 people. Stewart said she believes this is the first time the drone has been used in a full-scale exercise.

The exercise will be used to evaluate the response of personnel, communications and equipment to an emergency. It was part of a series of trainings under Twin Falls County Department of Emergency Services. It is a required compliance measure for the county's use of federal funds for training programs, Emergency Services Coordinator Jackie Frey said.

Emergency Management

[Read the complete text of this article Heather Kennison, The Times-News, Twin Falls, Idaho](#)

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

AMSA Aboard	News from the Australian Maritime Safety Authority	April 2016
AMSA On Scene	Australia: National Plan for Marine Environmental Emergencies	March 2016
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	April 2016
Celtic and Biogenie enGlobe Newsletter	Technical Information on Polluted Site Remediation	Spring 2016
CROIERG Enews	Canberra & Regions Oil Industry Emergency Response Group	Current issue
EMSA Newsletter	News from the European Maritime Safety Agency	May 2016 issue
Environmental Technology Online	Environmental Monitoring, Testing & Analysis	May 2016 issue
IMO News Magazine	News from the International Maritime Organization	No 1, 2016
IMO Publishing News	New and forthcoming IMO publications	March 2016
Intertanko Weekly News	International news for the oil tanker community	No 22, 2016
IPIECA eNews	Int'l Petroleum Industry Environmental Conservation Assoc'n	February 12 issue
JOIFF "The Catalyst"	Int'l Organisation for Industrial Hazard Management	January 2016 issue
MOIG Newsletter	News from the Mediterranean Oil Industry Group	Quarter 1, 2016 issue
OCIMF Newsletter	News from the Oil Companies International Marine Forum	May 2016 issue
Pollution Online Newsletter	News for prevention & control professionals	May 25, 2016 issue
Sea Alarm Foundation Newsletter	Oiled wildlife Preparedness and Response news from Sea Alarm	Autumn 2015 issue
Technology Innovation News Survey	News from US EPA – Contaminated site decontamination	April 1-15, 2016
The Essential Hazmat News	Alliance of Hazardous Materials Professionals	Feb 29, 2016 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	May 1, 2016
USA EPA Tech News & Trends	Contaminated site clean-up information	Fall 2015 issue
WMU Newsletter	News from the World Maritime University	March 2016 issue

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

Publications (continued)

FREE WHITE PAPER ON ENHANCING EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS THROUGH EFFECTIVE RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

Dublin City University have produced an authoritative, in-depth, white paper on resource management. The study presents a look at the current problems within emergency preparedness and provides conclusions.

Sample provided: "...a lack of resources can cause contention; the need for some tasks to wait for others to complete, and the slowing down of the accomplishment of larger goals..." [Request Your Free Copy \(PDF\)](#)

The paper was researched by **Dr Caroline McMullan**, Associate Dean for Teaching and Learning at DCU Business School where she specialises in Emergency, Crisis and Business Continuity Management. Dr McMullan was assisted by **Gavin D. Brown**, a research officer at DCU Business School where he specialises in the area of risk and emergency management.

Events



The 2017 IOSC Program Committee has collected more than 300 abstracts so far, and we're excited about the lineup of papers and posters that will be presented at the conference next May.

By request, the deadline for abstract submissions has been extended through Tuesday, May 31st. If you would like to submit an abstract for a paper or poster but have not yet done so, there is still time!

Please visit www.iosc2017.org

UPCOMING EVENTS SUMMARY

COUNTRY	2016	TITLE OF EVENT	LOCATION
For more information click on Title of Event			
SIERRA LEONE	June 6-9	Workshop and Exercise on Contingency Planning	Freetown
CANADA	June 4-6	Workshop on Long Term Persistence of Stranded Oil	Nova Scotia
SOUTH AFRICA	June 6-9	Workshop to review the Oil Spill Contingency Plan	Cape Town
GREECE	June 6-10	Posidonia 2016	Athens
CANADA	June 7-9	AMOP Technical Seminar	Halifax
ITALY	June 16-17	ECM's First Annual Exercise Training Forum	Rome
LITHUANIA	June 20-22	Exercise Balex Delta 2016	Klaipeda
USA	June 21-23	Clean Pacific Conference & Exhibition	Seattle, WA
UK	June 22	3rd Premium Conference on Post-Spill Monitoring	London
Panama	June 27	EcoCanal 2016, NRT-ACP Drill	Panama
UK	June 29	IMarEst Ship Salvage Conference	London
INDIA	August 11-12	Oil Spill India	Mumbai
INDIA	Sept. 12-14	International Rivers Symposium	New Delhi
SINGAPORE	Sept 12-14	Salvage and Wreck Asia	Singapore
NORWAY	Sept 12-16	International NOSCA Oil Spill Technology Seminar	Bodo
INDIA	Sept. 22-24	India Clean Seas Conference 2016	Goa
FRANCE	October 10-14	Sea Tech Event 2016	Brest
UAE	October TBA	EI Middle East HSE Technical Forum	Abu Dhabi
UK	October 18	UK Spill – Spill Science Seminar	Southampton
USA	November 1-3	Clean Gulf 2016	Tampa FL
USA	November 1-4	Emergency Preparedness, Hazmat Response Conf.	Pittsburgh
MALTA	November 2-3	JOIFF Fire & Explosion Hazard Mgmt. Conference	St. Julians
	2017		
USA	May 15-18	International Oil Spill Conference	Long Beach CA
To request posting of an event of interest to the Spill Response Community please send details to the Editor			

Job vacancies

VACANCIES AT ITOPF

May 26 - ITOPF is currently looking for an Information Data Analyst and Technical Support Coordinator to join our team. Further details are available on our [careers page](#). Closing date for applications is 19 June 2016.

Company news

ISCO MEMBER, AQUA GUARD, FINDS INTERNATIONAL SUCCESS WITH OIL SPILL RESPONSE EQUIPMENT



May 24 - Aqua-Guard Spill Response co-owners Nigel Bennett and Cameron Janz welcomed the local maritime community to their Coquitlam facilities in mid-April to showcase their state-of-the-art oil skimming systems.

With a variety of systems on view, Bennett and Janz spent some time with BC Shipping News to provide an overview of their patented RBS TRITON™ oil-skimming technology.

With a bit of supplemented research to learn more, we found yet another local B.C. company who has applied innovation and ingenuity to become an international success.

During Aqua-Guard's open house in mid-April, a new system for the Western Canada Marine Response Corporation was on display, ready for delivery.

The RBS TRITON™ 150T (Trailer), mounted on a customized road trailer system, will be added to

WCMRC's assets on Vancouver Island. An RBS TRITON™150 OS (Offshore) oil skimming system was recently supplied and mounted onboard Barge 18, one of WCMRC's response vessels in Vancouver Harbour. While none were available for display at the open house, the larger systems — the URO 600 and URO 300 Offshore Skimming Systems — have been seen on the West Coast during trials at Vancouver Drydock. "We'll run the systems for seven to 10 days to test and ensure it's up to our quality standards," Bennett said. *BC Shipping News* [Read more](#)

MEDITERRANEAN - OSRA PARTICIPATES AS TECHNICAL PARTNER IN MOIG REGIONAL WORKSHOP

May 23 - In the coming days OSRA will be the Technical Partner for the MOIG annual Regional Workshop, which will take place in Bizerte between 25-27 May 2016. This co-operation with MOIG aims to build upon OSRA's active presence in Tunisia since 2008. We continue to build upon [our experience](#), and bring in more international expertise to working hand-in-hand with the Tunisian oil industry and ETAP for the country to develop a [world-class Tier 2 oil spill response coordination system](#).

During this Regional Workshop, MOIG will host a Tier 2 exercise involving the Tunisian Refining Industries Company (STIR), the Merchant Marine and Ports Office (OMMP) and the National Office of Civil Protection (ONPC). OSRA and DESMI Ro-Clean will participate together as Technical Partners. We believe in the importance of drills to strengthen our clients' response personnel to be knowledgeable with their companies' contingency plans, equipment and procedures; and to be able to work with others when handling incidents. The first day will be an informative seminar. The drill which will take place on the second day, will deal with Notification procedure testing, Boom Deployment (Containment) - Skimmer Deployment (Recovery) - Emergency Evacuations. Attendees will be awarded a certificate for Participation in oil spill response training.

[Access the full programme of the Regional workshop.](#)

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