

## 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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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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## GREEN CROSS AND UNITED NATIONS CALL FOR NOMINATIONS TO 2017 ENVIRONMENT AND EMERGENCY AWARDS



*The Green Star Awards recognize individuals, organizations, governments and companies that demonstrate remarkable achievements in raising awareness, building capacity, and effectively responding to emergencies.*

Nominations for the 2017 Green Star Awards, celebrating outstanding efforts to address the environmental and humanitarian impacts of disasters and conflicts, were called for today by the United Nations and the non-governmental organisation Green Cross International.

The biennial Green Star Awards, first presented in 2009, are a collaborative initiative between the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA), Green Cross International (GCI), and the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP).

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## International news (continued)

Various types of emergency can have severe impacts on the environment, human health and livelihoods. The Green Star Awards recognize individuals, organizations, governments and companies that demonstrate remarkable achievements in raising awareness, building capacity, and effectively responding to such crises.

The Green Star Awards emphasize the nexus between the environment and the need to safeguard communities from the environmental impacts of emergencies - including industrial accidents, extreme weather events, and protracted crisis.

"When communities and the environment on which they depend are hit or threatened by disasters, we count on partners with specialised skills and abilities to help. The Green Star Awards showcase leadership and innovation in tackling environmental emergencies and we look to these partners for inspiration and action," said Stephen O'Brien, UN Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and Emergency Relief Coordinator. *UNEP News Centre* [Read more](#)

## EUROPE: STRENGTHENING EMSA'S NETWORK OF STAND-BY OIL SPILL RESPONSE VESSELS



The oil tanker Norden, based in Gothenburg and engaged in bunkering activities in the Southern Baltic Sea, entered the operational phase of its contract with EMSA in June.

Contracted from Stena, the Norden strengthens the existing response capacities in the Southern Baltic Sea area thanks to its tank capacity of 2 880 m<sup>3</sup> for recovered oil. The vessel is equipped with sweeping arm systems as well as an ocean boom and a high capacity skimmer for mechanical oil recovery. In addition to this, the seaborne dispersant application capability provided by EMSA has been enhanced with the establishment of the third dispersant stockpile of 200 tons located in Sines, Portugal.

This dispersant stockpile complements the dispersant application system available in addition to mechanical oil recovery on board the EMSA contacted vessel Bahia Tres also based in Sines. Both dispersant and vessel are available on request by European states. *EMSA* [Read more](#)

## Incident reports from around the world

### USA: BENZENE SPILL BRIEFLY CLOSES PART OF HOUSTON SHIP CHANNEL

July 14 - The U.S. Coast Guard is investigating a chemical spill on a tanker that closed part of the Houston Ship Channel for a couple of hours.

Officials say about 500 gallons of benzene was released on the deck of the tanker "Maritime Jingan" while moored at a terminal on the ship channel Thursday afternoon. *ABC News* [Read more](#) [Thanks to Don Johnston of ISCO Industry Partner, DG & Hazmat Group]

**July 14 - Houston Ship Channel reopens after chemical spill** *ABC 13 News* [Read more](#)

**July 15 - Section of Houston Ship Channel closed after chemical spill** *Splash 247* [Read more](#)

## Incident reports from around the world (continued)

### CHINA, HONG KONG - CHUNG HOM KOK BEACH CLOSED AFTER OIL SPILL SIGHTING



July 18 - Chung Hom Kok Beach has been temporarily closed after an oil spill was seen near the shore.

A red flag was hoisted at 8:43am yesterday, and beachgoers have been warned from swimming in the waters until further notice.

The beach, which is near Stanley, is a popular site for swimming, and it is consistently ranked as a "Grade 1" beach, indicating its comparatively high level of water quality. [CoconutsHongKing.com](http://CoconutsHongKing.com) [Read more](#)

### USA: WASHINGTON - VESSEL HITS ROCK NEAR JONES ISLAND; IOSA AND COAST GUARD RESPOND TO DIESEL FUEL SPILL

*A sheen can be seen near the 48-foot fishing vessel Gladstone that struck a rock near Jones Island, Wash., July 18, 2016. Pollution responders from Coast Guard Sector Puget Sound Incident Management Division, Seattle, Wash., worked with personnel from the Washington Dept. of Ecology to coordinate the defueling and salvaging of the vessel, which had a reported maximum fuel capacity of 900 gallons of diesel fuel. U.S. Coast Guard courtesy photo.*

July 19 - Coast Guard and Washington Dept. of Ecology personnel responded to pollution caused after a vessel hit a rock near Jones Island, Monday evening, July 18, 2016. Jones Island is located southwest of Orcas Island.

Coast Guard Sector Puget Sound incident management division personnel opened the Oil Spill Liability Trust Fund and contracted Global Diving and Salvage to mitigate any further pollution from the vessel.

*San Juan Islander* [Read more](#)



### AUSTRALIA: FAR NORTH QUEENSLAND PETROL LEAK PUTS MARINE LIFE AT RISK

July 20 - Dugongs and other endangered marine life are at risk as a result of fuel leaking into the ocean from the vicinity of a Cardwell service station.

The Townsville Bulletin understands the fuel has been coming from the direction of a Choice service station which is now a Puma Energy site.

A Puma Energy spokeswoman said the company was working with the Cassowary Coast Regional Council and the Department of Environment and Heritage Protection "while the fuel odour near Choice Cardwell was investigated". The spokeswoman said recent testing had identified a "potential issue" with underground fuel lines.

Cardwell resident Ken Parker said fuel had been leaking underground and on to the beach for "about three months". He said the fuel posed a grave risk to nearby seagrass beds, the area's dugong population and the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park. He said fuel was entering the ocean at the northern end of one of the world's last great mangrove wilderness areas, the Hinchinbrook Channel. *Cairns Post* [Read more](#) [Thanks to Don Johnston of ISCO Industry Partner, DG & Hazmat Group]

### CANADA - OIL SPILLS INTO NORTH SASKEWAN RIVER AFTER PIPELINE LEAK

July 21 - Oil from a Husky Energy pipeline spilled into the North Saskatchewan River on Thursday morning upstream from Maidstone, Sask.

Ralph Bock of the Environment Ministry said Husky has told government officials between 200,000 and 250,000 litres spilled. "We've got containment of the spill at the release site, which is upstream, so there is no more product being released to the river," he said Thursday afternoon. *TV News Saskatoon* [Read more and watch video](#) [Thanks to Don Johnston of ISCO Industry Partner, DG & Hazmat Group]

## Incident reports from around the world (continued)

### July 22 - Booms not containing oil spill in North Saskatchewan River, more steps needed

Attempts to stop a pipeline oil spill from flowing down a major river in Saskatchewan failed Friday and new steps were being taken to try to contain the slick.

A government official said booms placed on the North Saskatchewan River by Husky Energy to contain the spill were ineffective because high water levels lifted the oil over the barriers. The official, who did not want to be named, said Husky Energy (TSX:HSE) and the government were placing booms further downstream and increasing skimming to try to remove oil from the water.

Between 200,000 and 250,000 litres of crude oil and other material leaked into the river on Thursday from a breach in Husky's pipeline near Maidstone, Sask. The company shut down the line and put out the booms about 40 kilometres upstream from North Battleford. *Winnipeg Free Press* [Read More](#)

### July 22 - Saskatchewan city shuts down water intake due to Husky Energy oil slick

The Saskatchewan city of North Battleford shut down its water intake plant Friday because of a major pipeline oil spill. Stewart Schafer, the city's director of operations, said an oil slick was detected downstream from the city on the North Saskatchewan River.

"This morning they saw the sheen downstream from us," Schafer said Friday. "Husky reported to water security that they ... saw a sheen and so everything gets shut right down "How much, how big, I couldn't tell you."

- [200K litres of oil from Husky Energy pipe leaked into North Saskatchewan River, company says](#)
- [Husky Energy's progress from downturn clouded by spill into Saskatchewan river](#)

Husky Energy has said between 200,000 and 250,000 litres of crude oil and other material leaked into the river on Thursday from its pipeline near Maidstone, Sask. *CBC News* [Read more](#) [Thanks to Merv Fingas, MSc, PhD, Hon.FISCO, Member of ISCO Council for Canada]

### July 22 - Timeline: Major recent spills on the Prairies

Between 200,000 and 250,000 litres of crude oil and a lighter hydrocarbon have leaked into the North Saskatchewan River upstream from North Battleford, Sask. The city draws its drinking water from the river and shut down its intake Friday because an oil slick was spotted downstream from the community.

Here's a list of some spills of oil and other materials on the Prairies in recent years: *Global News* [Continue reading and watch video](#)

In the video - Clean-up crews are currently on the North Saskatchewan River, working to contain and clean-up an oil spill, following a Husky Energy pipeline leak. As oil makes its way downstream, communities are taking precautions. Joel Senick reports. [Thanks to Merv Fingas, MSc, PhD, Hon.FISCO, Member of ISCO Council for Canada]

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

### CANADA: OTTAWA-APPROVES-COREXIT

July 18 - The federal government has quietly approved the use of a highly controversial chemical for dispersing ocean oil spills, despite growing scientific evidence it doesn't always work as claimed and even intensifies the toxicity of oil.

Last month Environment Canada released regulations establishing a list of approved "treating agents" for oil spills that included Corexit EC 9500A, which sinks the oil and spreads it through the water column.

Exxon developed Corexit five decades ago to disperse and sink oil and avoid ugly petroleum slicks on beaches.

In 2010 BP used almost two million gallons of Corexit during its catastrophic Deepwater Horizon oil spill in the Gulf of Mexico, prompting a raft of scientific studies that challenged its effectiveness and revived concerns about how such emulsifiers can make oil more toxic.

In approving Corexit, Environment Canada argued that so-called spill treating agents "possess favourable characteristics as oil spill countermeasures and offer the potential for high efficacy coupled with low toxicity to biota in the marine environment." *The Tyee* [Read more](#)

## CANADA: WCSS CONDUCTING OIL SPILL EXERCISE AT CLAYHURST BRIDGE TOMORROW



A training exercise conducted by Western Canadian Spill Services. Photo by supplied.

July 19 - Western Canadian Spill Services will be conducting a training exercise to practice response techniques in the Peace River valley.

The exercise, which begins on Wednesday morning at 8:30 at the south end of the Clayhurst Bridge, will teach field personnel in each Cooperative to respond safely and effectively to spills. Each year, WCSS trains approximately 1,500 potential responders. In

addition to Coop exercises, WCSS maintains a number of spill response courses that are available on an open registration or individual company basis. [EnergeticCity.ca](http://EnergeticCity.ca) [Read more](#)

## COTE D'IVOIRE: UNEP ASSESSES SITES IMPACTED BY "PROBO KOALA" TOXIC WASTE DUMPING IN ABIDJAN, CÔTE D'IVOIRE

July 14 - Following a request from the Government of Côte d'Ivoire, the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) is undertaking an independent environmental assessment of sites affected by the dumping of toxic waste from the ship known as the "Probo Koala" in August 2006.



The field work component of UNEP's assessment was undertaken by a multi-disciplinary team of international and Ivorian experts between 4 and 14 July 2016.

The team sampled soil, water, air, vegetation, shellfish and sediment from the dumping sites and their surroundings, as well as from locations where contaminated materials were stored or treated. The samples have been shipped to three independent internationally-accredited laboratories in Europe to be analysed.

Results from these analyses will be compared to national standards in Côte d'Ivoire as well as international guidelines.

UNEP will publish its findings in a comprehensive report, which is expected to be ready by December 2016. UNEP will also make all of the underlying data publicly available. [UNEP News Centre](#) [Read more](#)

## ITALY RATIFIES THE PREVENTION AND EMERGENCY PROTOCOL OF THE BARCELONA CONVENTION

July 22 - Italy has ratified the "Protocol Concerning Cooperation in Preventing Pollution from Ships and, In Cases of Emergency, Combating Pollution of the Mediterranean Sea" (Prevention and Emergency Protocol). The country deposited the instrument of Ratification on 30 June 2016, as confirmed by the Government of Spain, Depository of the Barcelona Convention.

## News reports from around the world (continued)

The Prevention and Emergency Protocol will enter into force for Italy on 30 July 2016. Its ratification confirms the continued commitment of the Government of Italy to the protection of the Mediterranean marine and coastal environment.

Under this important Protocol of the Barcelona Convention, the Parties commit to cooperate to implement international regulations to prevent, reduce and control pollution of the marine environment from ships, and to take all necessary measures in cases of pollution incidents.

The protocol was adopted by the Conference of the Plenipotentiaries held in Malta in 2002, and entered into force in 2004. To date, it has been ratified by Cyprus, Croatia, Greece, Israel, Italy, Malta, Monaco, Morocco, Slovenia, and Spain, approved by France and the European Union and adhered to by Montenegro, Syria and Turkey.

[UNEP Mediterranean Action Plan](#)

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### MAURITIUS: SALVORS PREPARE TO REFLOAT MV BENITA



*Photo: The MV Benita aground in Mahebourg, Mauritius.*

July 22- The salvage of the MV Benita continues in Mauritius more than a month after it ran aground following an incident involving a rogue crew member.

International salvors Five Oceans Salvage reported Thursday that the vessel remains hard aground and in stable condition with no significant changes.

Incllement weather conditions has hampered the salvage operation this but preparatory work for

an attempt to shift away from the rocks and re-float the vessel continue and should be completed shortly.

So far over 200 cubic meters of contaminated fuel oil and lubrication oil have been safely removed ashore, while skimming of oily water residue continues as a precaution. Work to sanitize and seal the vessel is nearly complete, with Five Oceans reporting over 5 kilometers of welding as part of the effort to seal and pressurize the cargo tanks and void spaces. *gCaptain* [Read more](#)

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### NIGERIA: PIPELINE BOMBINGS: RETIRED SOLDIERS, EX-AGITATORS MOBILIZE AGAINST AVENGERS

July 16 – Retired soldiers and ex-agitators from the Niger Delta region are reportedly gathering forces to battle the Niger Delta Avengers, NDA. A top government bureaucrat, who is an ex-army officer, disclosed to Saturday Vanguard that “the plan has reached advanced stage, some retired army officers from the Niger Delta region have met and may call a larger meeting to take up the fight themselves if the militants do not stop destruction of oil and gas installations. *Vanguard* [Read more](#)

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### NIGERIA OPENS NEGOTIATIONS WITH NIGER DELTA MILITANTS

July 21- The Nigerian government is talking to militants in the southern Niger Delta to end a wave of attacks on oil and gas facilities, President Muhammadu Buhari said on Thursday. The government was using oil companies and security agencies to talk to the militants "to find a lasting solution to insecurity in the region," Buhari said in a statement.

Buhari also said his government was reviewing an amnesty programme for former militants, which offers cash and job training, after initially slashing the scheme's budget by two-thirds and angering militants. "We understand their feelings," Buhari said. "We are studying the instruments (of the amnesty). We have to secure the environment, otherwise investment will not come." *The Maritime Executive* [Read more](#)

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## USA: NOAA - WASHINGTON SEA GRANT LAUNCHES NEW PROGRAM TO PREVENT SMALL OIL SPILLS THAT ADD UP



*Photo: Small recreational and commercial vessels account for 75 percent of the oil spilled in waters around Washington's Puget Sound over the last 10 years. (NOAA)*

July 5 - To paraphrase an old saying, "There's no use crying over spilled oil." But many people in Washington worry a lot about oil pollution in Puget Sound and other coastal waters around the state.

What many don't realize is that the biggest source of oil spills to date in Puget Sound isn't tankers and freighters but small recreational and commercial vessels.

Small oil spills from these types of vessels account for 75 percent of the oil spilled in local waters over the last 10 years.

How do these small oil spills happen? A common cause is when oil, along with water, builds up in the

bottommost compartment of a boat, known as the bilge, which has a pump to keep rain and seawater from building up. Oil from broken oil lines in the engine area or spilled fuel on deck can get washed down into the bilge and then pumped into surrounding waters. *This is from a guest post by Lauren Drakopoulos of Washington Sea Grant.*

[Read more](#)

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## USA: USDOT PROPOSES NEW OIL-SPILL RULE FOR HIGH-HAZARD TRAINS

July 14 - The U.S. Department of Transportation (USDOT) today announced proposed regulations for oil spill response plans and information sharing for high-hazard flammable trains (HHFTs).

The proposed regulations — developed by the department's Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration and the Federal Railroad Administration — are designed to improve oil spill response readiness and mitigate the effects for rail accidents involving petroleum oil, according to a USDOT press release.

The proposed rule would update and clarify oil-spill response plan requirements for certain trains, and would require railroads to share information with state and tribal emergency response commissions to improve communities' readiness for potential accidents.

In addition, the rule would incorporate a test method that would determine the initial boiling point for flammable liquids into the government's hazardous materials regulations. *Progressive Railroad* [Read more](#)

### July 20 - PHMSA proposes new rules for high-hazard, flammable trains

PHMSA said the new regulations—aimed at high-hazard flammable trains (HHFT)—are intended to improve oil spill response readiness and mitigate effects of rail incidents involving petroleum oil. The effort is being coordinated with the Federal Railroad Administration.

"The substantial surge in our country's production of crude oil is creating a serious need for improved response and communication between railroads and the communities through which they travel," said Therese Dominguez, PHMSA administrator. "This rule would help to ensure that railroads provide vital information to first responders to help them prepare for and respond to a derailment involving crude."

According to PHMSA, the rule will update and clarify the comprehensive oil spill response plan requirements for certain trains, as well as require railroads to share information with state and tribal emergency response commissions to improve community preparedness for potential accidents. The rule also incorporates a test method for the initial boiling point of flammable liquids into the hazardous materials regulations, the agency said in a news release.

*The Bakken Magazine* [Read more](#)

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## USA: US INTERIOR DEPARTMENT ISSUES FIRST OIL DRILLING RULES IN US ARCTIC SEAS

July 16 - On July 7, the Obama Interior Department issued the first US Arctic Ocean petroleum exploration drilling rules in history applying specifically to the remote Beaufort and Chukchi Seas in the Arctic Ocean's Outer Continental Shelf (OCS) north and northwest of Alaska.

## News reports from around the world (continued)

The government will require petroleum explorers to submit a set of advanced plans for addressing drilling and spill accidents, including having capping stacks and spill containment domes on hand, documentation for ice formation and weather forecasting capabilities, and to post a spare relief drilling platform in the vicinity of the active rig in case of a primary well blowout. [wsws.org](http://wsws.org) [Read more](#)

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### **USA: BP ANNOUNCES FINAL ESTIMATE OF DEEPWATER HORIZON OIL SPILL, BUT ARE THEY BEING HONEST?**

July 18 - On July 14th, oil giant BP announced that they had finally finished their calculations and the final estimate for costs of the 2010 Deepwater Horizon oil spill would likely hit \$62 billion. This cost includes all of the settlements and lawsuits from individuals, lawsuits from cities and states, federal lawsuits, and civil penalties and cleanup costs.

According to reports, the “after tax” total is closer to \$44 billion, still a massive sum to pay out for any company.

Nearly every article available discussing these payments deals with the business impacts and market value of the company. The Washington Post says that the company has lost 1/3 of their market size as a result of the spill, which was about \$180 billion before the disaster. [Desmog](#) [Read more](#)

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### **USA: ENBRIDGE REACHES \$176M AGREEMENT FOR 2010 MICHIGAN OIL SPILL**

July 20 - Enbridge Energy Partners has reached a \$176 million settlement for the costliest inland oil spill in U.S. history — a pipeline rupture in southwestern Michigan that polluted a nearly 40-mile stretch of the Kalamazoo River, federal officials said Wednesday.

The agreement between U.S. government agencies and the Canadian company concluded years of negotiations following the release of at least 843,000 gallons of heavy crude in July 2010. In addition to a \$61 million penalty, the deal requires spending on measures to prevent future spills, detect leaks and prepare for emergencies across Enbridge's Lakehead network, a web of 14 pipelines extending more than 2,000 miles across seven states. [ABC News](#) [Read more](#)

#### **July 21 - Enbridge to pay \$177M for oil spills**

Six years in the making, the settlement announced Wednesday represents a closing chapter for the largest inland oil spill in U.S. history and includes \$61 million in penalty fees for the event. The agreement also addresses the impact from a second Enbridge spill — one that took place in Romeoville, Illinois, roughly two months after the Michigan spill.

The agreement is the second-largest ever reached under violations of the Clean Water Act, behind only BP's Deepwater Horizon incident, which yielded a \$20 billion settlement in October.

Wyn Hornbuckle, deputy director of the Justice Department's Office of Public Affairs, said the penalty money included in the consent decree will go directly into the Oil Spill Liability Trust Fund — a fund operated by the U.S. Coast Guard to respond to oil disasters. [The Detroit News](#) [Read more and see many photographs](#) [Thanks to Marc K. Shaye, HonFISCO]

#### **July 22 - Pipeline company to pay millions for two oil spills, improve Straits and other lines**

According to an U.S. Environmental Protection Agency news release, the settlement agreement includes improvements and prevention measures in the Great Lakes region that are estimated to cost Enbridge \$110 million.

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency said the company will enhance its pipeline inspection program, improve training and coordination and “commit to additional leak detection and spill prevention requirements for a portion of Enbridge's Line 5 that crosses the Straits of Mackinac in Michigan” among other measures. [Petoskeynews.com](#) [Read more](#)

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### **USA: WASHINGTON - PUBLIC ENCOURAGED TO ATTEND OIL SPILL-RESPONSE WORKSHOP AUG. 4 IN SKOKOMISH**

July 20 - The Washington Department of Ecology is hosting a workshop in Skokomish for anyone interested in helping develop a response plan that will protect Hood Canal in the event of a major oil spill. The workshop is scheduled from 5 to 8 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 4, at the Lucky Dog Casino, 19330 US-101, Skokomish. Attendees will have the opportunity to provide local insight and comments on the draft Hood Canal geographic response plan. This response plan focuses on protecting sensitive natural, cultural and economic sites during an oil spill. [Washington State Dept. of Ecology](#) [Read more](#)

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**ISCO AT OIL SPILL INDIA CONFERENCE & EXHIBITION, 11-12 AUGUST 2016 IN MUMBAI**

In the wake of the recent Sundarbans Oil Spill incident, we are yet again reminded of the fragility of similar eco-sensitive areas in the waters following any oil spill & the increasing amount of uncertainty for similar incidents. Fortunately since the last Oil Spill India Conference in September 2014 at Goa, the quantum of work been done & the progress made on actionable points by various stakeholders of the industry led by Indian Coast Guards (ICG) has been noteworthy.

ISCO will have an exhibition stand at the event and will be represented by Member of ISCO Council for India, Captain D. C. Sekhar.

Captain Sekhar will be speaking on the first day of the conference in the Technical Session – Disaster Management, Spill Response and Mitigation (1645-1800 hrs.) The title of his paper is “*The Role of Responders – ISCO Perspective*”

**Special feature**

**SHORELINE CLEAN-UP – PART 27**

**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)**

**Bio-remediation versus bio-augmentation**

Bioremediation consists of the application of oil-degrading bacteria and/or nutrients to increase the natural biological breakdown of the oil.

This technique has generated considerable interest for more than two decades. It is not satisfactory for the use in large volumes of oil, but it is very useful during final clean-up and in the recuperation of degraded environments.

The addition of nutrients, nitrogen, phosphorus and potassium (NPK) are often necessary in order to stimulate the growth of the microbes.

This technique has great potential for the recuperation of contaminated environments.

When the concentration of hydrocarbons is above 10,000 mg/kg, biodegradation shows good results.

It is also necessary to have, in large quantities, the presence of interstitial air and oxygen. The nutrients will accelerate the growth of the bacteria that decompose the oil.



Spill site March 1999

Spill site July 1999

Spill site August 2000

## Special feature

This series of photographs show how well bioremediation works for inland oil spill sites, it is much more difficult on shorelines.

In the event the contaminated soil is in the subsurface, the bioremediation agent can be diluted in water for later irrigation of the contaminated environment.

The furrowing of the sediment facilitates the mixing. Packages of bioremediation agents generally have instructions for application.

Bioremediation agents may be applied to any type of coastal environment where access is permitted and the nutrients of the soil are deficient.

They are most effective in medium and combustible crude oils. The presence of asphaltenes tends to inhibit rapid biodegradation.

They also have little effect in the presence of light hydrocarbons, because these compounds evaporate quickly from the contaminated environment.

Some compounds, such as ammonia, may be toxic to the aquatic environment.

Their use in mangrove areas may alter the equilibrium of the system, causing an excess of nutrients and resulting in adverse effects on the environment.

After the application of the bioremediation agents, the environments should be regularly monitored.

Bio-augmentation consists of the application of bacteria to the environment to increase the natural degradation of the oil.

Research and experiments during oil spills show that the addition of cultures of specialised bacteria has little or no effect. These organisms generally develop very well in laboratories, but in the field the results have not proven to be satisfactory.

These bacteria do not develop rapidly due to the competition between the autochthonous bacteria that are much better adapted to the conditions of the local medium.

**To be continued in next week's newsletter**

## Science and technology

### DEEPWATER HORIZON: WEATHERED OIL HARMS FISH EMBRYOS



*Photo: Juvenile Mahi. Photo credit: University of Miami*

July 11- The three-million-barrel 2010 Deepwater Horizon oil spill contaminated the spawning habitats of many fish in the Gulf of Mexico, and a research team at the University of California, Riverside, has now found that ultraviolet light is changing the structure of the oil into something more toxic, further threatening numerous commercially and ecologically important fish.

For their experiments, the team collected Mahi off the coast of Miami and exposed embryos to two types of oil: one set of embryos was exposed to slick oil (weathered) from the spill while another set was exposed to oil that came from the source of the spill.

The researchers carried out the experiment this way because fish in the northern Gulf of Mexico had been exposed during the spill to both types of oil. Their study attempted to understand which of the two oils – slick oil or source oil – is worse for the fish and how oil affects development. The researchers exposed the fish embryos to the oils at three different time points: 24 hour post fertilization, 48 hour post fertilization, and 96 hour post fertilization.

Then, they evaluated the toxicity and heart functions in animals using the embryos' gene expression to predict biochemical, cellular and tissue targets where the oil was causing an effect. The team found that the heart, eye and neurological function were affected. *The Maritime Executive* [Read more](#)

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

<a href="#">AMSA Aboard</a>	News from the Australian Maritime Safety Authority	June 2016
<a href="#">AMSA On Scene</a>	Australia: National Plan for Marine Environmental Emergencies	March 2016
<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	June 2016
<a href="#">Celtic and Biogenie enGlobe Newsletter</a>	Technical Information on Polluted Site Remediation	Spring 2016
<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	July 2016 issue
<a href="#">Environmental Technology Online</a>	Environmental Monitoring, Testing & Analysis	July 2016 issue
<a href="#">IMO News Magazine</a>	News from the International Maritime Organization	No 2, 2016
<a href="#">IMO Publishing News</a>	New and forthcoming IMO publications	July 2016
<a href="#">Intertanko Weekly News</a>	International news for the oil tanker community	July 22, 2016
<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	July 2016 issue
<a href="#">MOIG Newsletter</a>	News from the Mediterranean Oil Industry Group	Quarter 1, 2016 issue
<a href="#">NOWPAP Quarterly</a>	News from the North West Pacific Action Plan	Quarter 1, 2016 issue
<a href="#">OCIMF Newsletter</a>	News from the Oil Companies International Marine Forum	June 2016 issue
<a href="#">Pollution Online Newsletter</a>	News for prevention & control professionals	July 20, 2016 issue
<a href="#">Sea Alarm Foundation Newsletter</a>	Oiled wildlife Preparedness and Response news from Sea Alarm	Autumn 2015 issue
<a href="#">Technology Innovation News Survey</a>	News from US EPA – Contaminated site decontamination	June 1 - 15, 2016
<a href="#">The Essential Hazmat News</a>	Alliance of Hazardous Materials Professionals	Feb 29, 2016 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	July 1, 2016
<a href="#">USA EPA Tech News &amp; Trends</a>	Contaminated site clean-up information	Spring 2016 issue
<a href="#">WMU Newsletter</a>	News from the World Maritime University	July 2016 issue

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

## Events

### INDIA: OIL SPILL INDIA 2016 CONFERENCE & EXHIBITION – MUMBAI, 11-12 AUGUST

The landmark 4th edition of Oil Spill India, organized in association with "DG Shipping", M/o Shipping, Gol & "ONGC Ltd", provides a global platform to reaffirm industry's commitment for the protection of the environment, promoting responsible cultures to be incorporated at all levels. Supported by the "National Disaster Management Authority" (NDMA) and a host of global & national associations, OSI 2016 is scheduled to be held on 11-12 August 2016 at Hotel J.W. Marriott, Sahar, Mumbai.

Shri. Nitin Gadkari Ji, Hon'ble Minister for Shipping, Road Transport & Highways & Shri. Dharmendra Pradhan Ji, Hon'ble Minister of State (I/c), M/o Petroleum and Natural Gas have been invited to inaugurate the Conference as Chief Guest & VIP Guest of Honor respectively.

OSI represents the Global Oil Spill Sector which includes, Oil Producers, Refineries, Ports, Maritime Board, Pollution Control Board, Water Treatment, Shipping Companies, Oil Spill Response Companies/Agencies, Oil Spill Products Supplier (Surveillance & communication), Fire Fighting/Control Companies, Well Care Companies, Rig Operators, Environment Experts, Marine Engineers, Marine Salvage & Wreck Removal Companies and many more.

Confirmed Strategic Partners: Norwegian Oil Spill Control Association (NOSCA), Marine Emergency Mutual AID Center (MEMAC), International Salvage Union(ISU), Indian Private Ports & Terminals Pvt. Ltd.(IPPTA), Indian National Ship-owner Association(INSA), Foreign Owners Representatives and Ship Managers Association(FOSMA) & Maritime Association of Ship-owners Ship managers & Agents (MASSA), International Association of Classification Societies(IACS) & The International Tanker Owners Pollution Federation (ITOPF), International Oil Pollution Compensation Funds (IOPC Funds), The Company of Master Mariners of India (CMMI), Institute of Marine Engineers India, Mumbai & Nhava – Sheva Ship Agents Association(MANSA), Regional Clean Sea Organisation (RECSO), Maritime Awareness Program Society (MAPS), Association of Multimodal Transport Operators of India (AMTOI) & The Institute of Marine Engineering, Science & Technology (IMarEST) etc.

ISCO is supporting OSI 2016 and strongly recommends that members attend this very worthwhile event.

Click [HERE](#) to access the OSI 2016 website which contains additional information on how to register.

Please make a point of visiting the ISCO stand in the exhibition where you can find out all about the benefits of becoming a member of ISCO, including Professional Membership of the organization as a route for gaining internationally recognised professional recognition

## Events

### UPCOMING EVENTS SUMMARY

COUNTRY	2016	TITLE OF EVENT	LOCATION
For more information click on Title of Event			
LIBERIA	August 1-4	<a href="#">W'shop on Conting'y Planning &amp; Sensitivity Mapping</a>	Monrovia
NIGERIA	August 2-3	<a href="#">National Workshop on Oil Spill Modelling</a>	Abuja
INDIA	August 11-12	<a href="#">Oil Spill India</a>	Mumbai
SINGAPORE	August 30-31	<a href="#">International Safety at Sea Conference</a>	Singapore
UK	September 7-8	<a href="#">7<sup>th</sup> Maritime Salvage &amp; Casualty Response</a>	London
INDIA	Sept. 12-14	<a href="#">International Rivers Symposium</a>	New Delhi
SINGAPORE	Sept 12-14	<a href="#">Salvage and Wreck Asia</a>	Singapore
NORWAY	Sept 12-16	<a href="#">International NOSCA Oil Spill Technology Seminar</a>	Bodo
SINGAPORE	Sept. 13-15	<a href="#">Salvage &amp; Wreck Asia Conference</a>	Singapore
INDIA	Sept. 22-24	<a href="#">India Clean Seas Conference 2016</a>	Goa
NAMIBIA	Sept. 26-29	<a href="#">GIWACAF Workshop on IMS and NEBA</a>	Walvis Bay
FRANCE	October 10-14	<a href="#">Sea Tech Event 2016</a>	Brest
UK	October 12-13	<a href="#">The Contamination Expo Series 2016</a>	London
FRANCE	October 13	<a href="#">Info Day - Remote detection and maritime pollution</a>	Brest
UAE	October 17-19	<a href="#">EI Middle East HSE Technical Forum</a>	Abu Dhabi
UK	October 18	<a href="#">UK Spill – Spill Science Seminar</a>	Southampton
USA	November 1-3	<a href="#">Clean Gulf 2016</a>	Tampa FL
USA	November 1-4	<a href="#">Emergency Preparedness, Hazmat Response Conf.</a>	Pittsburgh
MALTA	November 2-3	<a href="#">JOIFF Fire &amp; Explosion Hazard Mgmt. Conference</a>	St. Julians
UAE	November 7-10	<a href="#">Abu Dhabi Int'l Petroleum Exhibition &amp; Conference</a>	Abu Dhabi
SENEGAL	December 5-7	<a href="#">GIWACAF Workshop on Dispersants and NEBA</a>	Dakar
<b>2017</b>			
USA	March 28-30	<a href="#">2017 SCAA Annual Meeting &amp; Conference</a>	Washington DC
USA	May 15-18	<a href="#">International Oil Spill Conference</a>	Long Beach CA
<b>2018</b>			
UK	March 13-15	<a href="#">2018 INTERSPILL Conference and Exhibition</a>	London
To request posting of an event of interest to the Spill Response Community please send details to the Editor			

## Training

### UK: OIL SPILL TRAINING COURSES FROM ISCO CORPORATE MEMBER, BRAEMAR HOWELLS

**MCA5P Oil Spill Response Executive Commander**  
**IMO Level 3 On-Scene Commander Equivalent**

Cardiff, 19-23 September, 2016

Aim: - To Train key members of a response to manage incidents safely, efficiently and effectively.

- Lunch and workshop at the Millennium Stadium
- Private tour of the Stadium
- Course dinner to relax and enjoy a pleasant meal with your fellow delegates and trainers

Contact Ann Frank on +44 (0) 1646 697041 for more information and to book a place on the course

### USA: NOAA - SCIENCE OF OIL SPILLS TRAINING: APPLY FOR FALL 2016

NOAA's Office of Response and Restoration, a leader in providing scientific information in response to marine pollution, has scheduled an autumn Science of Oil Spills (SOS) class in Portsmouth, New Hampshire, October 3-7, 2016.

OR&R will accept applications for this class through Monday, August 15, and will notify accepted participants by email no later than Monday, August 22. [More info](#)

### Q88 LLC EXPANDS MILBROS ONBOARD SERVICES

July 12 - Q88 LLC, a technology leader in vessel management software systems for the tanker and dry bulk industries, introduced a global support program that coordinates quick response and expert consultation for chemical spills/incidents and medical emergencies occurring onboard vessels at sea. Known as Q88 Response Center, the new program leverages the resources of Spill Center™, a leading provider of emergency response communication and incident management services, including environmental, technical and legal expertise.

At the Q88 Response Center, trained personnel monitor telephone calls, dedicated email and web site requests for assistance on a 24/7 basis to gather the details, determine the issues and dispatch the right resources. In cases of major spills, minor spills or other chemical incidents the Q88 Response Center is able to provide expert advice, resources and contractors to assist with mitigation of the incident and cleanup of the spill. These resources are invaluable to Masters, Company QI or ship managers in an emergency. *Hellenic Shipping News* [Read more](#)

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### USA: SPILL CENTER ANNOUNCES SPILL CONTAMINANT MANAGEMENT BLOG & VIDEO SERIES

July 12 - Spill Center helps companies deal with environmental releases every day, and has developed highly efficient systems for spill response, documentation, reporting, cleanup contractor referrals and disposal resources. As part of their ongoing spill related educational series, Spill Center is pleased to announce the availability of a complimentary [Spill Contaminant Management Blog and Video Series](#). These blogs and videos will prove valuable to any company which has care, custody and control of contaminants which could result in a spill. There are many possible contaminants, though some of the major categories include: Chemical Spills, Diesel Spills, Biological Fluids and Petroleum/Oil. Here is a sampling of important contaminant related blog and [video topics](#) in our series;

- Pesticide Spill Management
- Why You Need a Chemical Spill Management Plan?
- Oil Spill Response Plans Discussed in Workshop
- 6 Oil Spill Generators
- Is Your Company Prepared for a \$15,000 Fuel Spill?
- Rapid Reporting For Spill Emergencies (Video)
- What is the first thing to do when there's an environmental spill? (Video) [More info](#)

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### Tier 3 Global Emergency Spill Response Services Added to Polyeco Groups Service Portfolio

July 21 - With the largest privately owned stockpile of oil spill response equipment, including Hazardous Noxious Substance (HNS) response and waste management capabilities, operated by trained and experienced personnel strategically located in over 20 locations worldwide, Polyeco Group now offers the first truly integrated Global Tier 3 emergency spill response service.

Built around a foundation of 6 regional facilities all with significant stockpiles located in North America, South America, Northern Europe and Southern Europe (including the Mediterranean), Middle East and the Far East, plus local and global alliance partnerships, Polyeco Group has the capability to respond to a client's response and waste service needs anywhere in the world.

This approach to the provision of Tier 3 services based on regional capabilities and local partnerships enables Polyeco Group to mobilise with greater flexibility providing rapid, full services on-site in a cost effective manner. Services are supported by a global network of industry recognized experts, practiced and qualified to provide gold standard expertise for incident response and management in any climate and environment. Contacts for more info -

**David Nazha**, CEO, [d.nazha@polyecogroup.com](mailto:d.nazha@polyecogroup.com), +971-52-553-2148

**David Cook**, Technical Director Emergency Response, [d.cook@polyecogroup.com](mailto:d.cook@polyecogroup.com), +971-55-736-4530

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