



ISCO NEWSLETTER

The Newsletter of the International Spill Response Community

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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

WORLD MARITIME UNIVERSITY PARTNERS IN EU SOUTH BALTIC OIL SPILL RESPONSE PROJECT

October 20 - WMU has partnered with the University of Rostock, the lead partner, and the Maritime University of Szczecin in the [South Baltic Oil Spill Response through clean-up with biogenic oil binders \(SBOIL\) project](#) which is part of the [EU South Baltic Programme](#). This 36-month project was launched on 1 July. WMU will take the lead on the work package that includes developing the legal framework and contingency plans. The WMU's Maritime and Environmental Group is participating in this project.

SBOIL will build on the [BioBind project](#) that focused on developing a fast and effective oil spill recovery system for coastal shallow water areas and adverse weather conditions. The BioBind concept was based on biodegradable oil binders, deployed by plane and removed by a special netboom, a combination of fishery nets and conventional oil containment booms. SBOIL aims to take up this innovative green technology to strengthen existing cross-border spill response capacities. Sub-national administration levels will be included in the cross-border cooperation. On 7 September, **Dr. Fabio Ballini**, WMU Lecturer, participated in the kick-off meeting for the EU.

Anticipated outcomes of SBOIL include a multilingual handbook summarizing basic knowledge about oil spills, response measures and the structural approaches of the individual South Baltic (SB) countries of Denmark, Germany, Lithuania, Poland and Sweden. It will close an information gap and improve international collaboration with local and regional authorities and national incident managers. National and international workshops, table top exercises and awareness raising campaigns will be implemented as part of the project. The components of the new green technology will be available as a training kit to inform and train individuals during and after the project as well as enable designated stations to use it in an emergency. SB stakeholders will be trained in the field and in a nautical simulator in cross-border workshops.

Participation in the project supports WMU's commitment to the UN Sustainable Development Goals, particularly Goal 14 concerning the

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International news (continued)

conservation and sustainable use of the oceans, seas and marine resources. Source document: [World Maritime University](#)

FIRST MARINE PROTECTED AREA FOR BIRDS PROPOSED

October 17 - BirdLife International has presented a proposal to create a new Marine Protected Area (MPA) under OSPAR, the Convention for the Protection of the Marine Environment of the North-East Atlantic. If accepted by OSPAR, the MPA will be the first of its kind to be identified using seabird data as the principle data source.

BirdLife International worked in collaboration with marine scientists around the Atlantic, with additional guidance from Nature & Biodiversity Conservation Union (NABU), to identify the proposed MPA, named Evlanov Seamount and Basin High Seas.

The aim of the Evlanov Seamount and Basin High Seas MPA is to protect an area of the North Atlantic that is not only vital for many seabird species, but also for other marine megafauna such as tunas, sharks, whales and sea-turtles, by maintaining the natural richness and resilience of this pelagic ecosystem.

If accepted, this site, which falls outside the jurisdiction of any country, will offer protection to one the most important sites for seabirds in the high seas of the North Atlantic.

OSPAR is the mechanism by which 15 governments and the European Union cooperate to protect the marine environment of the North Atlantic. The 15 governments are: Belgium, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Iceland, Ireland, Luxembourg, The Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland and United Kingdom. *The Maritime Executive* [Read more](#)

Incident reports from around the world

USA: MISSISSIPPI - CHEMICAL SPILL SCENE SECURED, ROADS BACK OPEN

October 15 - Hazmat crews are still on the scene of a chemical spill on Industrial Parkway in Laurel, but has now been contained to one area. According to Caleb Worrell, Public Information Officer for the Jones County Fire Council, the chemical spill scene has been secured to just the property of Baker Hughes. Fire sources have been released and the roads are now open. Worrell said 6,000 gallons of hydrochloric acid leaked into the air at the corner of Indian Springs Road and Boots Smith Road near Howard Industries.

Following the isolation of a 150-yard radius in all directions, HAZMAT crews with Hattiesburg Fire were called to the scene to neutralize the chemical. The HAZMAT crew used a substance called sodium bicarbonate to neutralize the chemical. However, due to the mass quantity of the chemical that was spilled, the process of neutralizing it completely is ongoing. *Tucson News Now* [Read more](#) [Thanks to Don Johnston of ISCO Industry Partner, DG & Hazmat Group]

NORWAY: STATOIL WELL CONTROL INCIDENT ON SONGA ENDURANCE RIG IN NORTH SEA



Songa Endurance. Photo: Songa Offshore

October 15 - Statoil reported a well control incident on its contracted drilling rig Songa Endurance on Saturday while at the Troll field in the Norwegian North Sea. The well has been secured with a blowout preventer around the drill string on the seabed and with a valve on the rig, Statoil said in a statement. Work is now being carried out to stabilize the well. Statoil and Songa Offshore, who owns the rig, have mobilized their emergency response organizations. The emergency response vessel Stril Merkur is at the field

Incident reports from around the world

and other resources, including helicopters, are available, according to Statoil. [gCaptain](#) [Read more](#) [Related report in *The Maritime Executive*](#)

PERU: OIL SPILL HITS PERU'S AMAZON — AGAIN

October 16 - Peru's state-owned oil company, PetroPeru, faces renewed scrutiny following another reported another oil spill in the Amazon, the eighth leak this year alone. The spill hit the community of 6 de Julio in Peru's northernmost region of Loreto Friday, and was disclosed Saturday by the Environmental Assessment and Control Agency, known by the Spanish acronym OEFA. The leak is under control, according to the organization, but will continue to be monitored.

According to a statement from PetroPeru, the leak was the result of an attack on the company's infrastructure in the region. "Petroperu denounces and rejects a new attack by third party actions against the Northern Peru Pipeline," the corporation wrote in a statement Saturday of its 40-year-old pipeline, the largest in the country. [Telesurtv.net](#)
[Read more](#)

NORWAY: STATFJORD A FIRE EXTINGUISHED

October 17 - A fire broke out on the Statfjord A platform in the Norwegian Sea on Sunday. It was extinguished about three hours later with no injuries reported. Statoil's emergency response organizations at Sandsli and in Stavanger were mobilized. Two SAR helicopters and the emergency response vessel Stril Herkules responded. [The Maritime Executive](#) [Read more](#)

USA: PENNSYLVANIA - OIL SPILL REACHES SUSQUEHANNA RIVER IN MILLERSBURG

October 17 - Authorities say about 1,000 gallons of oil spilled into the Susquehanna River and a nearby creek after a leak at a Millersburg tool manufacturer. The spill occurred at the Alvord-Polk tool company sometime over the weekend and wasn't noticed until Monday morning. The company notified authorities immediately. Several fire departments and a hazardous materials crew are on the scene and working to contain the spill. [ABC27 News](#)
[Read more](#)

AUSTRALIA: QUEENSLAND - FRASER ISLAND OIL SPILL CLEAN-UP BEGINS ALONG 40KM STRETCH OF SAND

October 18 - An oil spill clean-up is about to begin on world heritage-listed Fraser Island in Queensland. On Wednesday dozens of people were to begin removing oil "patties" scattered along a 40km stretch of sand, from Eurong beach to Dilli village. [The Guardian](#) [Read more](#) [Related report in *The Brisbane Times*](#)

CANADA: WEATHER HAMPERS RESPONSE TO B.C. TUG SINKING

October 19 - The Heiltsuk Tribal Council of Bella Bella, B.C. said Wednesday that high winds have delayed the response to the sinking of the ATB tug Nathan E. Stewart and the associated fuel spill. Responders began to remove remaining diesel from the Stewart on Monday but operations had to be called off due to the weather. There are also concerns that the Stewart could shift during the storm, the tribe said, potentially spilling more fuel from its tanks. At the time of the sinking, it is believed that the Stewart was carrying roughly 50-60,000 gallons of diesel. Her tank barge was empty and was not a factor in the spill. [The Maritime Executive](#) [Read more](#) [See also report in last week's ISCO Newsletter]

CHINA: PRODUCT TANKER FENG SHENG YOU 8 SUFFERED EXPLOSIONS AT PORT OF DONGFANG

October 21 - The product tanker Feng Sheng You 8 suffered three explosions at Port of Hainan Dongfang in China. The explosion occurred in engine room compartment of the vessel, where burned over 60 tons of fuel. The cargo of 3,400 tons of naphtha was not affected, but all the 17 crew members were trapped inside the vessel's superstructure. At the scene of the fire were dispatched more than 50 firefighters, two tugs and several hazmat teams, who found and evacuated 16 people, but one went missing. All the rescued people were transported to the hospital, but unfortunately one of them died and another three are badly injured. The hazmat teams are monitoring the area around the vessel and there are some oil spills. The authorities set 3-km security and environmental zone around the vessel in case of additional explosions. [Maritime Herald](#) [Read more](#)

Incident reports from around the world (continued)

USA: KANSAS - MORE THAN 100 PEOPLE TREATED AFTER CHEMICAL LEAK IN ATCHISON

October 21 - Emergency management said 102 people have been treated after a major chemical spill at MGP Ingredients Inc. in Atchison, Kansas.

According to the Atchison City Manager's Office, sodium hydrochlorite, also known as sodium hypochlorite, and sulfuric acid were inadvertently mixed together in the wrong holding tank Friday morning, which caused a reaction.

KSHB [Read more and watch video](#)

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

CANADA: TRANSPORT CANADA IN COLLABORATION WITH CEDRE

October 7 - An engineer from Cedre travelled to Canada as part of an international collaboration project with Transport Canada for the development of an operational guide geared towards decision-makers and first-line responders in the event of an HNS spill. In Western Canada, visits were organised to the offices of the Marine Aerial Reconnaissance Team (MART), the Vancouver port authority and the Western Canada Marine Response Corporation (WCMRC). In Eastern Canada, meetings were held with Transport Canada, the Canadian Transport Emergency Centre (CANUTEC), Environment and Climate Change Canada (ECCC) and the Canadian Coast Guard (CCG). In Montreal, discussions were organised with ECCC's weather office, the Port inspection and safety service, the Civil protection center, the Fire department and Health Canada. This schedule of meetings helped to reinforce links with Canada and to develop Cedre's expertise in the field of HNS. *CEDRE Newsletter* [Read more](#)

CANADA: ALBERTA ENERGY REGULATOR ORDERS COMPANY TO CLEAN UP OIL SPILL

October 14 - The Alberta Energy Regulator has issued a formal order to oil and gas producer Trilogy Energy to contain, clean up and report on a pipeline leak from its operations in north central Alberta.

AER spokesman Peter Murchland says the order requires the company to stop using its leaking pipeline, which it has already done, and formalizes a schedule of reports. It also orders Trilogy to provide daily updates for the public on its website.

The company has said the oil and water mixture that leaked has covered about three hectares of marshland — the size of roughly five Canadian Football League fields — approximately 15 kilometres from Fox Creek. *Global News* [Read more](#)

CANADA: PROPOSED MORATORIUM ON THE SHIPMENT OF CRUDE OIL

October 20 – Open letter from Peter Hinchliffe, Secretary General, International Chamber of Shipping to Marc Garneau, Prime Minister of Canada.

“Dear Minister Garneau - I am writing on behalf of the International Chamber of Shipping (ICS) which is the principal global trade association for shipowners representing over 80% of the world merchant fleet. ICS membership comprises national shipowners' associations from 37 nations, and includes the Canadian Shipowners' Association and the Chamber of Shipping of British Columbia.

ICS represents all sectors and trades of the shipping industry, including oil tanker operators, with the various intergovernmental bodies that impact on global shipping. In particular this includes the United Nations International Maritime Organization (IMO) and the Division of Ocean Affairs and the Law of Sea (DOALOS) at the United Nations in New York.

We understand that the Canadian Government has announced an intention to establish a moratorium on the shipment of crude oil in the waters of Northern British Columbia.

The global shipping industry fully recognizes the importance of robust environmental protection measures, and is committed to the goal of zero pollution, consistent with the comprehensive global regulatory framework adopted by IMO in accordance with the United Nations Law of the Sea (UNCLOS), to which Canada of course is a State Party.

The environmental record of the shipping industry, especially the tanker sector, is impressive. On average, worldwide, there are fewer than two significant oil spills (over 700 tonnes) per year, compared to around 25 such incidents thirty years ago, despite a doubling of the amount of oil transported by sea.

Our primary concern in writing to you is to emphasize the great importance of Canada adhering to its obligations under UNCLOS, in particular the rights to freedom of navigation and 'innocent passage' through a Party's territorial waters as enshrined in Articles 87 and 90. We believe that a moratorium applicable to Canadian waters would be draconian step that could lead to serious concerns being raised by Canada's international trading partners. Such a measure would set an unwelcome precedent that might be emulated elsewhere, including by individual U.S. States,

News reports from around the world (continued)

with the potential to impact greatly on the efficiency of world trade as well as that of Canada.

We would therefore be very grateful if you could take full account of the comments submitted by the Canadian shipping industry, in particular the Chamber of Shipping of British Columbia, including the suggestion that the Government of Canada might consider alternative approaches to managing risks associated with coastal shipping. As suggested by the Canadian industry, such alternatives could include the establishment of marine transportation corridors to assist in the prevention of any risk of maritime incidents.

We hope these comments are useful, and would be happy to engage in further discussion about this important issue if that was felt to be helpful. Yours sincerely, Peter Hinchliffe, Secretary General".

INDIA: KERALA MOOTS OIL SPILL PLAN AS NEW PORTS BRING BERTH PANGS

October 19 - The state government, in association with the Coast Guard, will bring out a comprehensive oil spill contingency plan along the Kerala coast. The first-ever plan is in view of an expected spike in marine traffic over the coming years.

The works of two major ports -Vizhinjam and Ponnani -are going on at a brisk pace. "It's high time we had our own oil spill contingency plan so that we will have mitigation measures in place in the event of a spill," a senior state official said.

The plan will also cover initiatives like shoreline oil spill response and cleanup. This will also be beneficial to the state as the oil and effluents spewed from vessels could turn critical for its virgin beaches. *The Times of India* [Read more](#)

NIGERIA: HOW BAYELSA COMMUNITIES RECORDED 1,000 OIL SPILLAGES IN 2014 – COMMISSIONER

October 15 - The Bayelsa State government has expressed concern over the rising cases of oil spills and gas flaring perpetrated by multinational oil companies during exploration activities in the State, saying over 1,000 cases of spillages were recorded in 2014.

The state government through the state Attorney-General and commissioner for justice, Barr. Kemesuode Wodu, said though the state is known for its worst cases of environmental degradation due to activities of oil companies, the over 1,000 cases recorded were without proper re-remediation of impacted areas.

He said non-payment of compensation and 14 persons died in 2015 when a repaired pipeline belonging to the Nigerian AGIP oil company on its Clough Creek, Azuzuama pipeline exploded and killed 14 persons, including a staff of the Bayelsa State Ministry of Environment.

Wodu, in the statement issued on Saturday by Daniel Iworiso-Markson, the Chief Press Secretary to Governor Seriake Dickson, made this known when he led a delegation of Bayelsans to the Minister of State for Petroleum Resources, Dr. Ibe Kachikwu, in his office in Abuja. *Leadership* [Read more](#)

NIGERIA: NIGERIA WILL EFFECTIVELY IMPLEMENT THE IOPC FUND – NIMASA DG



October 16 - The Federal Government of Nigeria has expressed its commitment to the implementation of the 1992 International Civil Liability Convention and the 1992 International Oil Pollution Compensation (IOPC) Fund.

The Director General of the Nigerian Maritime Administration and Safety Agency (NIMASA), Dr. Dakuku Peterside, said this at the 7th meeting of the National Standing Committee (NSC) on Implementation of the International Oil Pollution Compensation (IOPC) Fund and related conventions in Nigeria held in Abuja recently.

The DG, who was represented by the Director Abuja Zonal office, Mr. Ali Indabawa, assured stakeholders that the Agency is committed to the adequate implementation of the IOPC Fund and related conventions for the benefit of dwellers of coastal communities and the preservation of the marine environment. *Today* [Read more](#)
Related report in [The Nation](#)

USA: KEY PIECES STILL ABSENT FROM MACKINAC STRAITS OIL SPILL CLEANUP READINESS



Photo: Capt. Marko Broz, U.S. Coast Guard Sector Sault Ste. Marie commander, at an Enbridge Line 5 pipeline meeting between the Pipeline Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA) and the Straits Area Concerned Citizens for Peace, Justice and the Environment (SACCPJE) at the Cheboygan Public Library on Wednesday, Oct. 12, 2016. (Garret Ellison | MLive) Garret Ellison | gellison@mlive.com

October 17 - In a meeting last week, federal officials acknowledged key shortfalls in the ability of Enbridge Inc. to clean up an oil spill from its Line 5 pipeline under the Straits of Mackinac within the critical first 12 hours.

According to emergency planners, not enough large local boats have agreed to help with cleanup, training on new equipment hasn't happened yet, real-time hydrodynamic current modeling in the straits is missing, and controlled open water burning couldn't occur if oil were to spill from the pipeline today.

Burning floating oil is an offensive maneuver spill responders use to keep it from dispersing into the water column and reaching shore, but the U.S. Coast Guard only began planning for that in June, according to the sector commander. [Mlive.com](http://mlive.com) [Read the complete text of this article by Garret Ellison](#)

USA: NATIONAL WILDLIFE FEDERATION ASKS COURT TO CONSIDER AGENCY'S DECISION

October 18 - The National Wildlife Federation notified a federal court on Friday that the federal agency charged with pipeline safety failed to explain why in 2013 it approved an oil spill response plan for a pipeline under the Straits of Mackinac – known as Line 5 – six months after the same agency had rejected an earlier version of the plan as “unacceptable” for failing to comply with the Clean Water Act. Despite the approval, the agency did not determine the plan to be adequate to prevent or respond to a worst-case discharge. In the absence of such a determination, Line 5 should not have been allowed to operate. NWF is challenging the approval of the plan, asserting that the pipeline is operating illegally. *Wisconsin State Farmer* [Read more](#)

USA: WASHINGTON - NEW RULE UPDATES OIL SPILL PREPAREDNESS FOR PIPELINES

October 19 - A recently updated oil spill contingency plan rule aims to increase the safety of transporting oil by pipelines in the state, according to a news release from the state Department of Ecology.

The newly updated rule reflects the need for pipeline contingency plans to address oil spill response in marine and inland areas, according to the release. Washington has hundreds of miles of pipelines that transport oil through the state. In 2014, pipelines moved more than 7.4 billion gallons of oil, making them the primary mode of oil transportation in the state.

More information on the new rule is at ecy.wa.gov/programs/spills/rules/1106ov.html. *Goanacortes.com* [Read more](#)

USA: COAST GUARD SOLVES MYSTERY OF THE VALLEJO SPILL

October 21 - U.S. Coast Guard investigators in San Francisco announced Thursday that they had partially solved the mystery of the oily sheen on San Pablo Bay, which appeared the evening of September 20 and quickly dissipated. The Coast Guard said that an oil sample taken from the surface of the water matched the oil cargo that was being transferred from the crude tanker Yamuna Spirit to the Phillips 66 Rodeo refinery at the time of the incident.

The Maritime Executive [Read more](#)

VIETNAM: QUANG NAM HOLDS OIL SPILL RESPONSE EXERCISE

October 19 - The central province of Quang Nam on October 18 organised an oil spill response exercise at the Chu Lai – Truong Hai Port with the participation of hundreds of specialised vehicles and relevant forces. *Vietnam.net* [Read more](#)

People in the news

JOSÉ MAURA RE-ELECTED AS DIRECTOR OF THE IOPC FUNDS



The 1992 Fund Assembly has re-elected Mr José Maura Barandiarán of Spain as Director of the IOPC Funds for a second term of office.

José Maura has worked for the IOPC Funds for 20 years and, having headed the Claims Department since 2002, was elected Director for an initial five-year term in 2011.

Following his election Mr Maura expressed his gratitude to the 1992 Fund Member States for the continued confidence and trust they had shown by re-electing him. He referred to the importance of the cooperation, the commitment and hard work of those States, the Secretariat, the P&I Clubs, IMO, the oil industry and the international shipping community in providing a 'solid international compensation regime'. *IOPC Funds* [Read more](#)

MCA NON-EXECUTIVE CHAIR APPOINTED FOR FIRST TIME

A non-executive chair, with over 40 years of commercial experience, has been appointed to the Maritime and Coastguard Agency (MCA) for the first time, in a move that will help keep the UK at the forefront of global shipping.

Michael Parker will provide the MCA with vast experience, additional leadership and guidance as they continue to transform the agency. *UK Government* [Read more](#)



ISCO News

ISCO WELCOMES NEW MEMBERS

PT. Blue Ocean Sejahtera is an independent Indonesia Company engaging in Design Manufacturing, Installation, and Commissioning of Oil Spill Equipment for Platform, Ship, Jetty and other facilities. The company, located in Jakarta, Indonesia was formally established in 2007 with its factory located in Bekasi West Java. The company management team also has substantial experience in the chemical industry, marine environment and its associated activities. The company, which has joined ISCO as a Corporate Member has its website at <http://www.blueoceansejahtera.com/>

Gobbler Boats Ltd. is based in Aylesbury, England and has joined ISCO as a new Corporate Member. The company is best known for its range of oil spill retrieval vessels which have had surveys and design approval by Lloyd's Register and has recently won two awards – the overall prize known as the Spirit of Innovation trophy and the Vessel Construction & Design award at the recent Seawork International 2015 exhibition. Gobbler Boats Ltd. which as its website at <http://www.gobblerboats.com/> also provides pollution containment systems and equipment for all regions including historical spill areas, to enable environmental restoration and the recovery of local communities in often inaccessible locations.

ISCO RECOMMENDS THAT YOU ATTEND CLEAN GULF – TAMPA, FLORIDA, 1-3 NOVEMBER 2016



ISCO is a long term supporter of the Clean Gulf Conference & Exhibition. The 2016 conference agenda will cover best practices and lessons learned in spill prevention, preparedness and response for the exploration & production, transportation,

and storage of oil & hazardous materials. The agenda consists of six conference tracks covering planning and preparedness, response, inland preparedness and response, subsea, emerging trends and information/response technologies and research. Download a PDF of the full conference program [here](#) You can also register and find more information, including hotels, travel, exhibitors, training workshops and much more at <http://www.cleangulf.org/>

ISCO will be at booth 226 in the Exhibition Area. ISCO President David Usher and Membership Director Mary Ann Dalgleish will be on hand to meet you and tell you about the exciting new developments going on at ISCO. You will be able to visit many ISCO member companies too

EVALUATION

A new 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.

Part 3

Quantification of floating Oil

An estimate of the quantity of oil seen in the sea is important for orientation, making possible the planning of a strategy of total response. It is critical then that during the flight the observer is able to distinguish between the sheen and the thicker oil slicks.

These two photos below show the same stretch of river from different directions. To see sheens properly you need the sun to reflect of them.



It is very difficult to have a notion of the density of the oil, especially if the sea is rough. All such estimates should be taken with considerable caution.

The oil spreads rapidly and the majority of liquid oils quickly reach an average thickness of 0.1 mm (100 microns). However, large areas may be covered with even thinner films of oil.

The table below provides some guidance, but it is difficult to evaluate water-in-oil emulsions of heavy crude oil and fuel oil, which could vary in thickness from millimeters to several centimeters.

The Theory of Oil Slick Appearances

The visible spectrum ranges from 400 to 750 nm (0.40 – 0.75 μm). Any visible colour is a mixture of wavelengths within the visible spectrum. White is a mixture of all wavelengths; black is absence of all light.

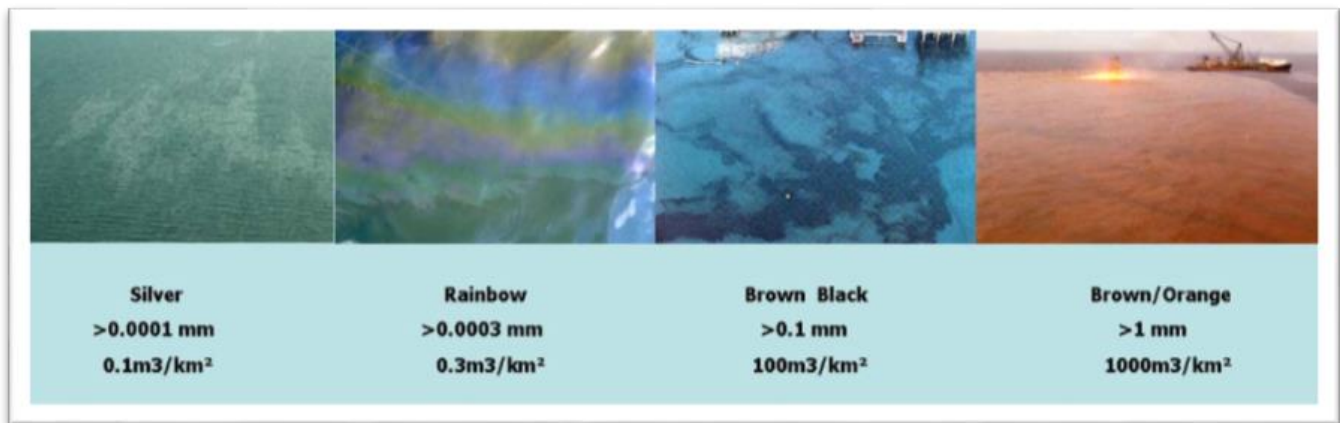
The colour of an oil film depends on the way the light waves of different lengths are reflected off the oil surface, transmitted through the oil (and reflected off the water surface below the oil) and absorbed by the oil.

The observed colour is the result of a combination of these factors; it is also dependent on the type of oil spilled.

An important parameter is optical density: the ability to block light. Distillate fuels and lubricant oils consist of the lighter fractions of crude oil and will form very thin layers that are almost transparent.

Crude oils vary in their optical density; black oils block all the wavelengths to the same degree but even then there are different 'kinds of black', residual fuels can block all light passing through, even in thin layers.

Special feature (continued)



To determine an approximate quantity, the following formula should be used:

$$\text{Length (metres)} \times \text{Width (metres)} \times \frac{\text{Thickness (mm)}}{1000} = \text{Cubic Metres}$$

The BONN agreement table is used in many countries and is based on scientific measurements.

The lower of the figures is used from a legal point of view as the minimum thickness possible to retain the given colour for fines relating to pollution at sea.

The higher of the figures is used from a response point of view as the maximum thickness possible to retain the given colour helping to estimate quantities of equipment, manpower and the logistics involved to be put in place for the response.

With spills like Ixtoc 1 or Deepwater Horizon where the oil emulsified, the BONN agreement table does not help, as orange oil is not mentioned.

The BONN Agreement Code will be addressed in the next part of Mark Francis' article

To be continued

Science and technology

THE BIOBIND PROJECT

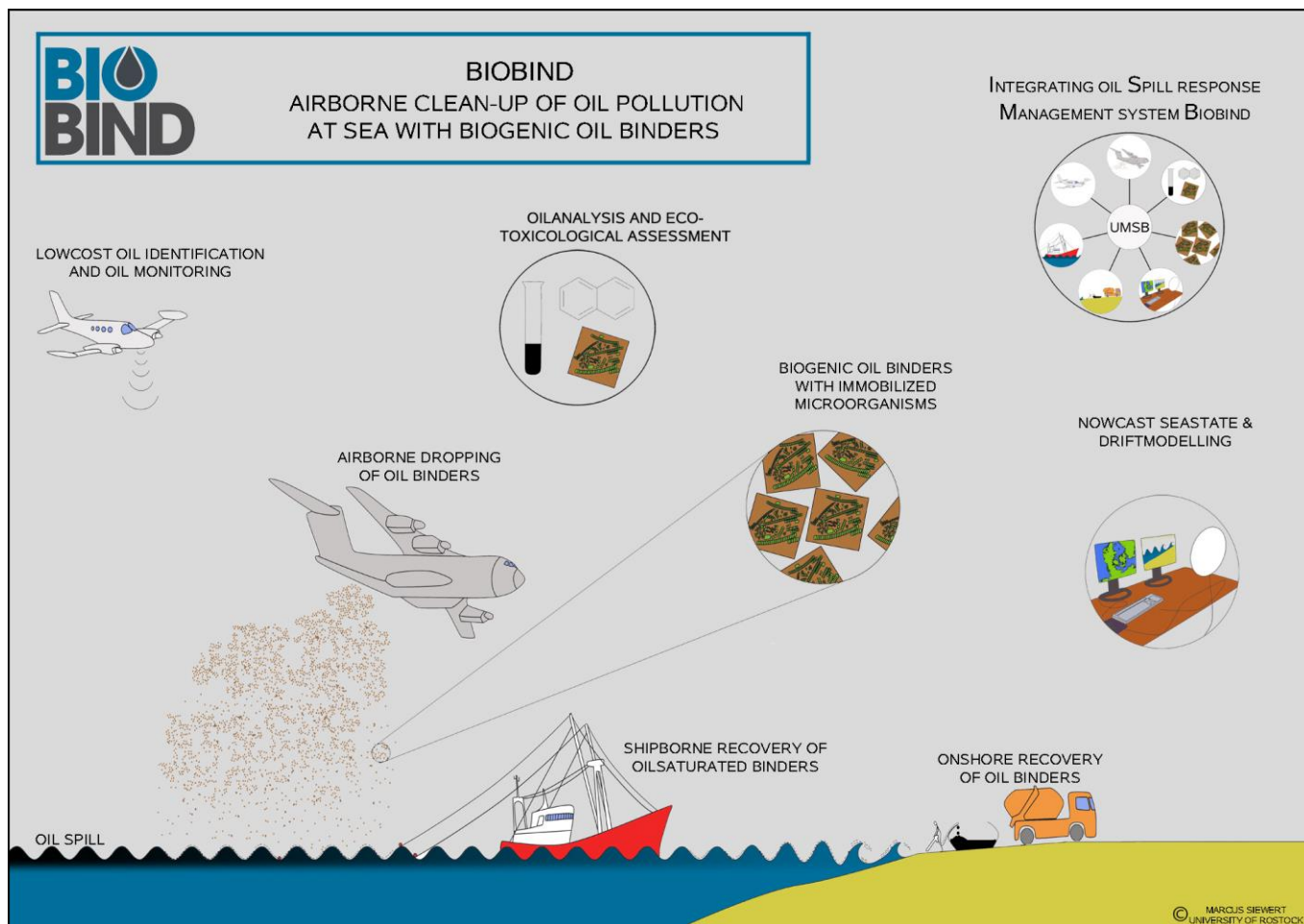
Note from Editor: When I looked at the article featured on Page 1 of this week's newsletter, I was mystified because I had never heard of this project. It looks like a paper on this was presented at the IOSC conference in 2014 but I didn't hear it and I suspect that I was not the only one knowing nothing about it.

BioBind is a joint research project of seven partners from different Universities and companies and is financed by the German Federal Ministry of Economics and Technology. The aim of the project is to develop an effective and fast oil spill recovery system for coastal shallow water areas and for adverse weather conditions which is compatible to existing concepts. Within the project both, innovative and individual components as well as an integrated management concept are being developed.

The most important individual components are:

- a spectral low-cost-method for specification and monitoring of oil spills
- bio-degradable oil binders
- identification and separation of oil degrading microorganism societies
- now-cast wave prediction model and the analysis of drift characteristics for the modeling of oil and binders
- aircraft and flight tactics for the dropping of binders
- appropriate recovery technique at sea and at the coast
- ecotoxicological assessment of the system

If you are interested in further information, don't hesitate to contact us :info@biobind.de



Biodegradable oil binders

Biodegradable binders, possibly immobilised with oil degrading microorganisms, are developed in the Research project. The advanced oil binder is based on biogenic and biodegradable material (wood fibers) with a small environmental impact and low production costs.

Due to its airborne distribution behavior, the binder provides an application for unfavorable weather conditions and shallow water areas. Having a square geometry of 5 x 5 cm and a thickness of 4 mm, the binders have superior qualities for storage, application and recovery issues.

The oil adsorption behavior of the binder system was evaluated in lab scale and mesocosm trials. Results show a high oil binding capacity up to 600 kg/m³ from the water surface, especially for thin oil films down to 0.03 mm thickness.

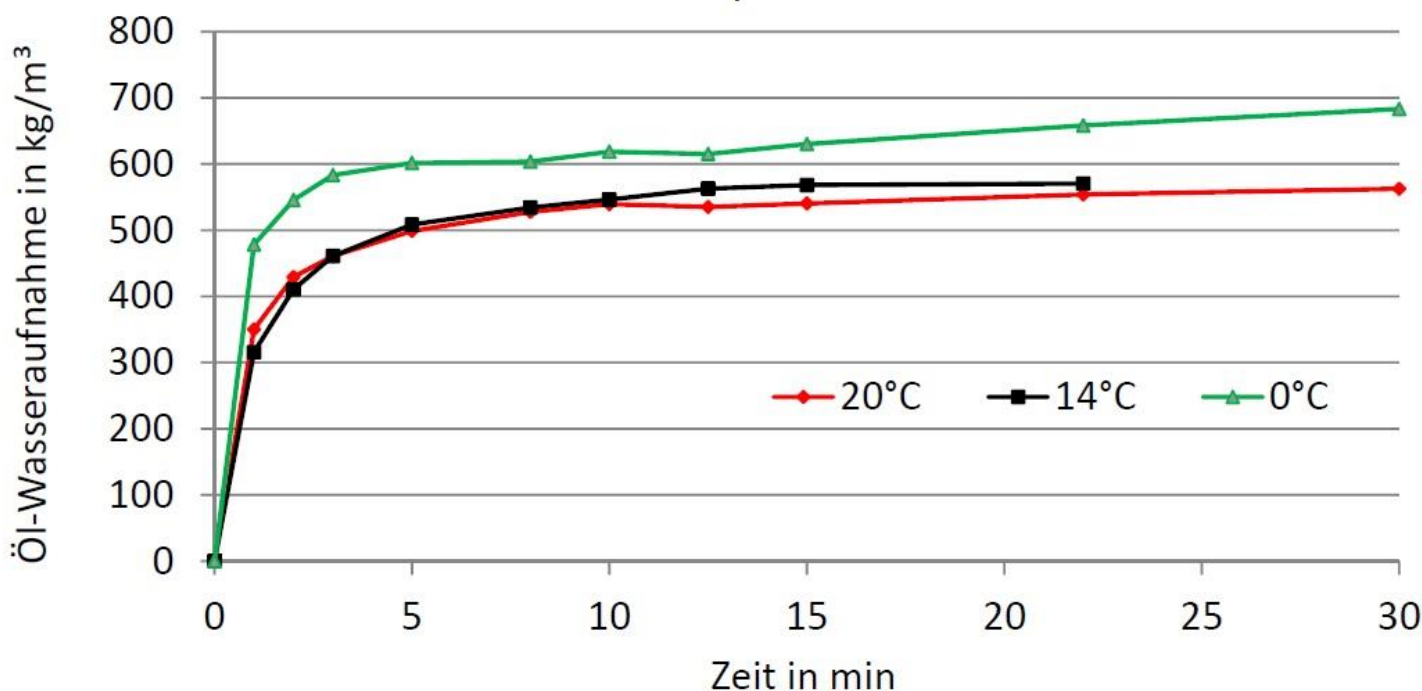
The binder achieved an oil recovery rate of at least 80 % with a coverage dosage of 11 % (0.11 m² binder for 1 m² oiled surface).

During bad weather conditions the binders are floatable up to 20 days.



Different types of oil binders developed in the Research Project.

Science and technology (continued)



Adsorption of crude oil in the binders as function of time and temperature.

Institute of Wood and Paper Technologies - Project Partner: Technische Universität Dresden

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

[AMSA Aboard](#)
[AMSA On Scene](#)
[ASME EED EHS Newsletter](#)
[Bow Wave](#)
[Cedre Newsletter](#)
[Celtic and Biogenie enGlobe Newsletter](#)
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[EMSA Newsletter](#)
[Environmental Technology Online](#)
[IMO News Magazine](#)
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[Intertanko Weekly News](#)
[IPIECA eNews](#)
[JOIFF "The Catalyst"](#)
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[Ocean Orbit](#)
[OCIMF Newsletter](#)
[Pollution Online Newsletter](#)
[Sea Alarm Foundation Newsletter](#)
[Technology Innovation News Survey](#)
[The Essential Hazmat News](#)
[Transport Canada Newsletter](#)
[USA EPA Tech Direct](#)
[USA EPA Tech News & Trends](#)
[WMU Newsletter](#)

News from the Australian Maritime Safety Authority
 Australia: National Plan for Marine Environmental Emergencies
 News and commentary on HSE issues from George Holliday
 Sam Ignarski's Ezine on Marine & Transport Matters
 News from Cedre in Brittany, France
 Technical Information on Polluted Site Remediation
 Canberra & Regions Oil Industry Emergency Response Group
 News from the European Maritime Safety Agency
 Environmental Monitoring, Testing & Analysis
 News from the International Maritime Organization
 New and forthcoming IMO publications
 International news for the oil tanker community
 Int'l Petroleum Industry Environmental Conservation Assoc'n
 Int'l Organisation for Industrial Hazard Management
 News from the Mediterranean Oil Industry Group
 News from the North West Pacific Action Plan
 Newsletter from the International Tanker Owners Pollution Federation
 News from the Oil Companies International Marine Forum
 News for prevention & control professionals
 Oiled wildlife Preparedness and Response news from Sea Alarm
 News from US EPA – Contaminated site decontamination
 Alliance of Hazardous Materials Professionals
 News and articles re transport of dangerous goods in Canada
 Remediation of contaminated soil and groundwater
 Contaminated site clean-up information
 News from the World Maritime University

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

UPCOMING EVENTS SUMMARY

COUNTRY	2016	TITLE OF EVENT	LOCATION
For more information click on Title of Event			
MOROCCO	October 24-25	6th Envirocities Conference	Rabat
UK	October 24-28	IMO Marine Environment Protection Committee Mtg.	London
NIGERIA	October 26-26	GIWACAF Workshop on Oil Spill Modelling	Abuja
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
UAE	November 7-10	Abu Dhabi Int'l Petroleum Exhibition & Conference	Abu Dhabi
THAILAND	November 8	W'shop on Int'l Liability & Compensation Regime	Bangkok
CHINA	November 8-9	5th Oil Spill Response Workshop Conf. & Exhibition	Beijing
AZERBAIJAN	Nov. 21-22	4th Conf. & Exhib'n Offshore and Onshore Oil Spills	Baku
COTE D'IVOIRE	Nov. 21-24	GIWACF W'shop on Cont'y Planning & Compensat'n	Abidjan
KENYA	December 4	3rd Session of UN Environment Assembly (UNEA-3)	Nairobi
SENEGAL	December 5-7	GIWACAF Workshop on Dispersants and NEBA	Dakar
UK	December 7-8	19th Annual Salvage & Wreck Removal Conference	London
2017			
USA	January 4-6	27th Annual, No-Spills Conference	Acme, Michigan
KUWAIT	January 10-12	Kuwait 2nd Oil Spill Conference	Kuwait
USA	March 28-30	2017 SCAA Annual Meeting & Conference	Washington DC
UAE	April 10-12	RECSO EnviroSpill 2017	Abu Dhabi
SINGAPORE	April 25-28	10th Intl Chemical and Oil Pollution (ICOPCE)	Singapore
USA	May 15-18	International Oil Spill Conference	Long Beach CA
2018			
UK	March 13-15	2018 INTERSPILL Conference and Exhibition	London
To request posting of an event of interest to the Spill Response Community please send details to the Editor			

IS YOUR MEMBERSHIP OF ISCO PAID UP-TO-DATE?

All members are reminded that the publication of the ISCO Newsletter and other activities and services provided by the organization depend on the regular receipt of annual membership dues from our members.

ISCO is grateful to its members who regularly remit their membership fees on time but there are a few of you who have been falling behind with your payments. This creates a great deal of extra work for our Membership Director, Mary Ann Dalglish, in sending out reminders and chasing up overdue payments.

If you are behind with your payment, please go to <http://www.spillcontrol.org/2013-02-05-10-50-47/subscriptions> where it only takes a minute to renew your subscription online.

If you are finding it difficult to make your payment, please let us know. ISCO takes a sympathetic view and, rather than strike a member off the register would far rather allow you extra time than have to go through the very considerable amount of work involved in reinstatement of memberships that have been allowed to lapse.

If you haven't received an invoice for a while it may be that the email address that Mary Ann holds for you is out-of-date. If you suspect this might be the case, please advise your current email address to mrydetroit@aol.com

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