



## ISCO NEWSLETTER

The Newsletter of the International Spill Response Community

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<http://www.spillcontrol.org>



### 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 banners



### BP'S CHIEF EXECUTIVE TO SPEAK AT SPE OFFSHORE EUROPE 2017



February 21 - BP group chief executive Bob Dudley will underline the value of the North Sea in the oil major's global portfolio when he leads the opening plenary session at SPE Offshore Europe 2017 being held in Aberdeen from 5-8 September 2017.

Dudley, who calls BP's UK North Sea business one of its "crown jewels", will address the hundreds of delegates expected to attend the opening plenary session at Europe's foremost exploration and production (E&P) technical conference and exhibition. Other senior level plenary speakers will be announced in due course.

BP expects to bring two of the largest new developments in the North Sea – the Quad 204 redevelopment and the new Clair Ridge project - into production over the next year or so, as well as continuing to invest in other North Sea assets. Over the same period, BP plans to participate in five exploration wells in the region and in around 50 new development

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## International news (continued)

wells over the next three years. BP's North Sea production output is expected to double from 2015 levels to 200,000 barrels of oil a day by 2020. *The Maritime Executive* [Read more](#)

### STOPIA 2006 (AS AMENDED 2017) AND TOPIA 2006 (AS AMENDED 2017) – 2017 AMENDMENTS

February 20 - The International Group has recently issued amended versions of the Small Tanker Oil Pollution Indemnification Agreement (STOPIA) and the Tanker Oil Pollution Indemnification Agreement (TOPIA).

The two Agreements were originally agreed in 2006 to reflect the desire of shipowner entered Members in International Group Clubs to ensure the continuing success of the international oil pollution compensation regime. More particularly, with the 2003 Supplementary Fund Protocol having been recently introduced at that time, there was a desire to ensure that the costs of responding to spills of persistent oil from tankers should be more equitably borne by shipowners and the receivers of oil.

STOPIA 2006 provides for shipowners to make payments to the 1992 Fund which are designed to adjust the financial effect of the limitation of liability provisions contained in the 1992 International Convention on Civil Liability for Oil Pollution Damage (1992 CLC) for spills from tankers of less than 29,548 GT. TOPIA 2006 provides for shipowners to indemnify the Supplementary Fund for 50% of the compensation it pays under the 2003 Supplementary Fund Protocol for pollution damage caused by tankers in States Party to the Protocol.

As part of a recent review of the Agreements, changes were agreed that would address both the introduction of future sanctions legislation and the time period and operation of future reviews.

The amended Agreements have been re-titled STOPIA 2006 (as amended 2017) and TOPIA 2006 (as amended 2017). [Download the full document](#) [With acknowledgement to IG P&I Clubs]

## INDONESIA AND AUSTRALIA: LAWMAKERS URGE GOVERNMENT TO TAKE FIRM ACTION ON TIMOR SEA OIL SPILL

A map shows the territorial water between Australia and Indonesia at East Timor, where oil spilled from Australian Montara's oil rigs in 2009. (*kompas.com/-*)



February 21 - Lawmakers have demanded the Indonesian government engage in intensive diplomatic talks with its Australian counterpart to resolve an oil spill in the Montara oil field that has destroyed the livelihoods of fishermen in Kupang, East Nusa Tenggara.

A number of lawmakers from House of Representatives Commission V overseeing infrastructure, transportation and village development have signed a petition to urge the government to speed up efforts to resolve the case. "We are committed to supporting the fisherman in the Montara case," said Commission V chairman Fary Francis of the Gerindra Party on Tuesday.

After an explosion in 2009 at an oil field operated by PTTEP Australasia, gas and oil from the rig gushed into the Timor Sea for more than 70 days. *The Jakarta Post* [Read more](#)

## Incident reports

### JAPAN: TANKER RUNS AGROUND IN KAGOSHIMA; NO INJURIES REPORTED



Photo: The Sagan, a 5,404-ton Panamanian-registered tanker, is shown stuck on an island in Kagoshima Prefecture on Saturday. | KYODO

A Panamanian-registered tanker ran aground on an island in Kagoshima Prefecture on Saturday but none of the crew were injured, the Japan Coast Guard said. All 18 crew members — 17 Myanmar nationals and a Taiwanese — on the 5,404-ton Sagan were rescued by helicopter after the incident on Suwanose Island in the Tokara Island chain, the coast guard said.

The coast guard said it received an emergency call from the ship around 6:30 a.m. when it was off the coast and spotted oil spills around the hull. *Japan Times*  
[Read more](#) [Thanks to Don Johnston of ISCO Industry Partner, DG & Hazmat Group]

### CANADA: LLOYDMINSTER RESPONDS TO CRUDE OIL SPILL NEAR WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT

February 14 - Tanker illegally dumps crude oil near Lloydminster, Sask. water treatment plant - The City of Lloydminster responded to a crude oil spill near the wastewater treatment plant on Tuesday. *Global News*  
[Read more](#) [Thanks to Don Johnston of ISCO Industry Partner, DG & Hazmat Group] [Another related report](#)

### CANADA: TOXIC WASTE CLEANUP UNDERWAY AT HIDDEN HAMILTON ENVIRONMENTAL BLIGHT

Photo: Many of the barrels were once hidden behind a false wall on site. (Adam Carter/CBC)

February 16 - The first thing you notice when standing outside the building at 350 Wentworth Street North is the stench. There's no mistaking it — a putrid, acrid odor wafting outside, detectable from about 30 feet away.

It's the kind of smell that's unavoidable when you're cleaning up hundreds of barrels of toxic waste. That's exactly what's happening inside the former Currie Tar Products building in the city's north end.



- [City trying to sell property with secret room full of toxic waste](#)
- [Turmoil, taxes and toxic waste plague contaminated site](#)

After the burning in your nostrils, the next thing you notice is the for sale sign. "Heavy industrial. Three and a half acres," it reads. *CBC* [Read more and watch video](#) [Thanks to Don Johnston of ISCO Industry Partner, DG & Hazmat Group]

### GERMANY: ACID FUMES OVER GERMAN TOWN AFTER LEAK AT CHEMICAL PLANT (IMAGES)

February 16 - The neighborhood has been evacuated and residents have been told not to leave their homes. At least 150 people suffered minor respiratory issues after a leak from an acid tank at a chemical plant in Oberhausen, western Germany, according to local media. The leak occurred at facilities belonging to Hamm Chemie company, according to Rheinische Post, citing the local fire department. The tank had contained about 600 cubic meters of 96-percent sulfuric acid, but it is now completely empty, a spokesman for the fire department said. *Rt.com*  
[Read more and watch video](#) [Thanks to Don Johnston of ISCO Industry Partner, DG & Hazmat Group]

## Incident reports (continued)

### USA: COAST GUARD: 1,100 GALLONS OF DIESEL SPILLED FROM 'SAMSON MARINER' IN ALASKA



*Photo: The tug Samson Mariner alongside the cargo barge St. Elias anchored in Ward Cove, Alaska. U.S. Coast Guard Photo*

February 17 - The U.S. Coast Guard and other federal and local agencies are continuing to respond to the tugboat Samson Mariner that ran aground and spilled fuel while towing a barge in the vicinity of Rosa Reef in north Tongass Narrows, Alaska, Wednesday evening.

Approximately 1,100 gallons of diesel spilled from the tug prior to being patched by Alaska Commercial Divers Wednesday night, the Coast Guard said Friday. The Coast Guard is working in partnership with the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation, SEAPRO, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, and Alaska Commercial Divers, on the response. *gCaptain* [Read more](#)

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### CANADA: ENBRIDGE PIPELINE LEAKS 200,000 LITRES OF OIL CONDENSATE IN STRATHCONA COUNTY

February 18 - Cleanup efforts are underway after an Enbridge pipeline leaked 200,000 litres of oil condensate at an industrial site in Strathcona County.

The Line 2A pipeline was damaged by a third-party line strike involving Ledcor and TransCanada, who were doing construction in the area on Friday afternoon, Enbridge said in a media release.

Enbridge immediately shut down five other pipelines in the area as a precaution. Crews are now working to clean up the spill, which is contained in an excavation pit. *CBC* [Read more](#)

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### NEW ZEALAND: FIRE FIGHTERS CONTAIN LARGE NITRIC ACID SPILL AT DAIRY FACTORY

February 19 - Fire fighters are dealing with a large nitric acid leak at the Miraka Dairy Factory near Mokai, about 30 kilometres north of Taupo. The leak of about 1000 litres of the acid had been contained on Sunday morning, a fire department spokeswoman said. *Stuff.co.nz* [Read more](#) [Thanks to Don Johnston of ISCO Industry Partner, DG & Hazmat Group]

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### KUWAIT DECLARES STATE OF EMERGENCY OVER OIL LEAK

February 20 - Kuwait's national oil company has declared a state of emergency over an oil leak in one of its southwestern oil fields.

Monday's statement by the Kuwait Oil Co. did not identify the onshore oil field affected by the leak, which began Sunday. The state-run Kuwait News Agency said the leak hit the Al Maqwa field. *Khaleej Times* [Read more](#)

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### COLOMBIA: BOMBING HALTS PUMPING ON COLOMBIA'S CANO-LIMON OIL PIPELINE

February 20 - Pumping operations along Colombia's second-most important oil pipeline, the Cano-Limon Covenas, were halted due to a bomb attack by rebels from the Marxist ELN group, a police and a military official said on Monday. Neither gave further details on the attack - the second in a week against the pipeline.

The attack occurred on Sunday in a rural area of La Blanquita in central Boyaca province, state oil company Ecopetrol said in a statement. *Yahoo News* [Read more](#)

## Incident reports (continued)

### NORWAY: STRICKEN BARGE CARRIER TOWED TO SAFETY OFF NORWAY – UPDATE



February 23 - Tugs have taken the stricken barge carrier Tide Carrier under tow and the ship is no longer in danger of grounding. The government response has been stood down, the Norwegian Coastal Administration reports.

The tow commenced at approximately 7:15 a.m. Thursday.

As of the last update the vessel was once again at anchor, but any attempt to tow ship further from shore has been suspended overnight as crews assess the situation. Weather continues to pose a challenge. *gCaptain* [Read more and watch video](#)

#### Other related reports –

February 22 - Grounding Narrowly Averted Off Norway *The Maritime Executive* [Read more](#)

February 23 - Watch: Stricken 'Tide Carrier' Rockin' and Rollin' Off Norway *gCaptain* [Read more & watch video](#)

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

### CANADA: GOGAMA REPORT: CANADA MUST DO BETTER WITH TRANSPORTING DANGEROUS GOODS, TSB SAYS

February 14 - Transport Canada should develop strategies to reduce the severity of derailments of trains carrying dangerous goods, the Transportation Safety Board of Canada said Thursday.

Three members of the board held a news conference to detail the results of an investigation into the 2015 derailment of a 100-tank CN train near Gogama that was carrying petroleum products.

A total of 29 tanks derailed, and 19 of them broke open, spilling 1.7 million litres of petroleum, igniting a fire that burned for five days.

Disconcerting was the fact the train was travelling 38 km/h, below the 40 km/h speed limit. "The TSB is concerned that the current speed limits may not be low enough for some trains – particularly unit trains carrying flammable liquids," said TSB chair Kathy Fox. *Sudbury.com* [Read more and watch video](#) [Thanks to Don Johnston of ISCO Industry Partner, DG & Hazmat Group]

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### CANADA: ENHANCED ENVIRONMENTAL RESPONSE UNDER THE OCEANS PROTECTION PLAN

February 15 - Under the Oceans Protection Plan (OPP), the Government of Canada is increasing the Coast Guard's capacity to prevent and respond to marine emergencies and pollution incidents by providing new personnel, equipment, and training. This historic \$1.5 billion investment will make Canada a world leader in marine safety and helps ensure that Canada's coasts remain healthy, clean and safe for generations to come.

The Honourable Dominic LeBlanc, P.C., Q.C., M.P., Minister of Fisheries, Oceans and the Canadian Coast Guard, was at the Coast Guard's Sea Island base today to discuss enhanced marine environmental response capacity in British Columbia.

New lifeboat stations, modern equipment, and emergency tow packages are among the measures that will be put in place under the OPP. The Government of Canada will also be establishing a dedicated Primary Environmental Response Team (PERT) near Port Hardy, British Columbia. Four PERTs composed of dedicated, specially trained personnel, will be established under the OPP. These teams will strengthen the Coast Guard's on-the-scene capacity to respond to marine pollution incidents. *PollutionOnLine.com* [Read more](#)

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## News reports from around the world (continued)

### INDIA: HUGE PETROLEUM THEFT ON INDIAN PIPELINE

February 20 - A major theft of petroleum from the Mathura-Jalandhar pipeline was detected last week, where thieves had dug a large tunnel (15ft deep and 100m long) on the outskirts of R K Puram colony under Highway Police Station. The breach on the pipeline was detected when the leak detection system (LDS) observed several pressure drops, reporting a massive leakage.

A theft had been suspected as early as November 2016, as the LDS observed a small pressure-drop during operation. But the LDS wasn't accurate enough to provide a location, and despite repeated surface monitoring the theft point could not be found. "Though the theft was suspected ... (a) drop in pressure of fuel in the pipeline was observed by 'leak detection system', however it (the leak) could not be found in spite of repeated surface monitoring as theft was not massive"

"It came to surface when more drop in pressure was detected recently," he said adding that theft this time has been committed in a planned way where all the three systems -survey, activation and operation appear to have been adopted," Virendra Kumar, Pipeline Manager Telecom and Instrumentation, Indian Oil

By the time police a refinery officials reached the theft point a tanker was being filled from the pipeline, but the criminals managed to escape. A valve had been attached to the pipeline, and the tunnels the gang had dug out were fitted out with electric lights and provisions for fresh air to circulate the police report stated. *Atmos Intl.* [Read more](#)

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### INDIA: ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT OF CHENNAI OIL SPILL TO BE MAPPED

February 21 - The National Centre for Sustainable Coastal Management in Tamil Nadu has been tasked with mapping the environmental impact of the oil spill following a collision between two ships last month in Chennai. *DNA India* [Read more](#)

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### INDIA: IIT ROPED IN TO PREPARE OIL SPILL CONTINGENCY PLAN

February 25 - In order to have its own contingency plan to tackle oil spill, the Tamil Nadu government has entrusted the task to the Indian Institute of Technology- Madras.

Sources in the Environment and Forest Department told Express that IIT-M has been asked to prepare an Environmental Impact Assessment report on the January 28 oil spill following the collision of Isle of Man flagship B W Maple with MT Dawn Kancheepuram.

IIT-M civil engineering professor S Mohan, who will be conducting the EIA, told Express that the study would look into four parameters, including helping the State prepare a contingency plan to counter any future oil spills along the coastline. *The New Indian Express* [Read more](#)

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### INDONESIA: A THAI OIL FIRM, INDONESIAN SEAWEED FARMERS AND AUSTRALIAN REGULATORS. WHAT HAPPENED AFTER THE MONTARA OIL SPILL?

February 14 - During 74 days in late 2009, a leak in the Montara offshore drilling platform gushed tens of thousands of barrels of oil into the Timor Sea, a body of water shared by Australia and Indonesia. The spill is considered Australia's worst offshore petroleum accident, and the third-worst spill by volume in the country's history.

Now, some 5,000 Indonesian seaweed farmers have launched a class-action lawsuit against the company responsible for the spill, asking for potentially more than 200 million Australian dollars (\$153 million). The farmers are seeking compensation for loss of livelihoods due to faltering seaweed production and allegations of severe health problems. Last month, a federal court rejected an October 2016 request by the defendant to dismiss the case.

The lawsuit follows a breakdown in negotiations between the Indonesian government and PTTEP Australasia (PTTEP AA), the owner and operator of the Montara platform, whose ultimate parent is one of Thailand's largest corporations, state-owned oil and gas giant PTT Public Company Limited. Indonesian officials accuse the company of falsely claiming that oil never reached the Indonesian coast, of negotiating in bad faith and, ultimately, of renegeing on a tentative agreement for hundreds of millions of dollars in compensation. *Mongabay* [Read more](#)

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## News reports from around the world (continued)

### MEXICO: OIL SPILL RESPONSE PLAN FOR WILDLIFE IN OAXACA



February 20 - The coast of Oaxaca in southern Mexico is incredibly unique with a diversity of wildlife including four of world's seven sea turtle species which nest on its shores (green, hawksbill, leatherback and olive ridley sea turtles).

Although the coastal ecosystems and habitats of Oaxaca are relatively intact, they face a number of threats. One of which comes from a major oil refinery in the port of Salina Cruz, where large volumes of petroleum are processed and shipped daily. In 2012, the refinery spilled hundreds of gallons of crude oil on neighboring sea turtle nesting beaches. The refinery processes 330,000 barrels per day and continues to be a latent risk to the flora and fauna of the region.

In 2017, WILDCOAST, in coordination with the Mexican Turtle Center, organized our third "Immediate Response Plan for Oil Spills and Management of Affected Wildlife" workshop in Huatulco, in order to properly train sea turtle camp staff and groups dedicated to the conservation of sea turtles, on how to handle wildlife in case of an oil spill accident. *The WildCoastBlog* [Read more](#)

### USA: SOUTH CAROLINA - CONSULTANTS SAY BELTON SPILL 'LIKELY' TO HAVE LASTED MONTHS

February 14 - The Plantation Pipe Line may have started leaking well before Kinder Morgan reported its 369,000-gallon gasoline spill near Belton in December 2014.

The California-based environmental consulting firm Aquilologic makes that allegation in a report it recently completed for the Southern Environmental Law Center. The report notes the presence of diesel fuel in the samples it has taken at the site, as well as methyl tert -butyl ether (MTBE), a fuel additive that has not been widely used in gasoline for several years. It further notes that the December 2014 leak happened in a section of the Plantation line that had been previously repaired. *Independent Mail* [Read more](#) [Thanks to Don Johnston of ISCO Industry Partner, DG & Hazmat Group]

### USA: BELOW ZERO: PARTNERSHIP BETWEEN THE COAST GUARD AND NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION



*Coast Guard icebreaker Cutter Healy perches next to a shallow melt pond on the ice in the Chukchi Sea, north of the Arctic Circle July 20, 2016. During Cutter Healy's first of three missions during their West Arctic Summer Deployment, a team of 46 researchers from the University of Alaska-Anchorage and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) studied the Chukchi Sea ecosystem. U.S. Coast Guard photo by Ensign Brian P. Hagerty/CGC Healy*

February 17 - For more than 200 years, the U.S. Coast Guard and National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration have partnered together in maritime resiliency, environmental sustainability and scientific research. In fact, a variety of NOAA projects encompassed over 50 percent of Coast Guard Cutter Healy operations for 2016, including a Coast Guard and NOAA collaborative effort to chart the extended

continental shelf and survey marine habitats and biodiversity. Today, more than ever in the past, the Coast Guard and NOAA are working together on numerous levels of profession in the U.S. Arctic Region, which happens to be Coast Guard Alaska's northern area of responsibility, or AOR. From daily sector operations and district-led full scale exercises to partnering on the national level in workgroups under the Arctic Council, Coast Guard and NOAA have a strong working relationship supporting and representing the U.S. in cold weather operations and Arctic initiatives.

In a recent search and rescue case off the coast of the Pribilof Islands, where the fishing vessel Destination sank suddenly in the frigid seas, NOAA's National Weather Service (NWS) Regional Operations Center was the Coast Guard's 'first call' to get current weather information in support of search plan development. NOAA and NWS also

## News reports from around the world (continued)

played a role in setting the stage for the potential cause of the incident by providing sea state information and the dangerous effects of sea spray icing on vessels. For SAR planning and other mission support, NOAA's NWS Ice Program also works with the Port of Anchorage on a daily basis with regards to ice conditions all along the coastline of Alaska, and provides bi-weekly regional weather briefs for the district and sector command centers; they are part of the 'team' when it comes to response planning and preparation. NOAA and the Coast Guard continue to work diligently together to ensure all possible capabilities from the U.S. Government enterprise are available to support homeland security and Arctic domain awareness on a broader, high level position.

On a national level, personnel from Coast Guard and NOAA headquarters partner together as members of the Arctic Council's Emergency Prevention Preparedness and Response working group. This group addresses various aspects of prevention, preparedness and response to environmental emergencies in the Arctic. The Coast Guard and NOAA jointly play a large role in ensuring operational support and training mechanisms are in place for vital response capacities and capabilities. *Coast Guard Compass* [Read more](#)

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### USA: NTSB RELEASES FINDINGS OF INVESTIGATION INTO TRAIN ACCIDENT

February 18 - Several days ago, the National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB) released the determined cause of the collision and derailment of two BNSF trains in 2013, near the town of Casselton, N.D.

A car in the middle of a westbound grain freight train derailed into the path of an eastbound crude oil train. The subsequent collision caused the locomotives and 20 oil cars to derail. 18 of the tanker cars ruptured and spilled 400,000 gallons of crude oil, which caught fire, prompting an evacuation of 1,400 residents of nearby Casselton, located 20 miles west of Fargo. *Dakota Student* [Read more](#) [Thanks to Don Johnston of ISCO Industry Partner, DG & Hazmat Group]

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### USA: 6,600 SPILLS FROM FRACKING IN JUST FOUR STATES

February 21 - Each year, 2 to 16 percent of hydraulically fractured oil and gas wells spill hydrocarbons, chemical-laden water, hydraulic fracturing fluids and other substances, according to a new study. The analysis, which appears Feb. 21 in *Environmental Science & Technology*, identified 6,648 spills reported across Colorado, New Mexico, North Dakota and Pennsylvania during a 10-year period.

"This study provides important insights into the frequency, volume, and cause of spills," said Lauren Patterson, policy associate at Duke University's Nicholas Institute for Environmental Policy Solutions and the study's lead author. *Science Daily* [Read more](#)

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## ISCO news

### CHANGE OF DATE AND TIME FOR ISCO AGM AT IOSC IN LONG BEACH, CALIFORNIA, USA

The ISCO AGM will take place at 5 pm on Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> May in Room 101A at the Long Beach Convention Centre.

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### PRESENTATION ON THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE INTERNATIONAL SPILL RESPONSE CONTRACT

As previously advised, a presentation on the new International Spill Response Contract take place at 5 pm on Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> May. Details of the allocated meeting room will be advised as soon as known. The presentation will be given by Mr Tony Paulson, Director of the West of England P&I Club and Chairman of the joint ISCO-BIMCO Working Group. The presentation will be followed by a food, wine and beer reception jointly hosted by ISCO, SCAA and APICOM

Work on the development of the contract is now near to completion with publication expected in summer, 2017. Participants in the WG have included not only representatives of ISCO and BIMCO but also those of the International Group of P&I Clubs, ITOPIF, ISU, the Spill Control Association of America and other interested parties. A wide consultation exercise has also been conducted with other stakeholders.

The availability of the new International Response Contract will complement other initiatives designed to improve spill response mechanisms, including the recently published IMO Guidelines for International Offers of Assistance and ISCO's Emergency Assistance facility for rapid sourcing of response resources.

More information on the new contract was published in issue 571 of the ISCO Newsletter which can be found at [http://spillcontrol.org/2013-02-05-11-11-41/2013-02-05-11-26-54/doc\\_download/508-isco-571-newsletter](http://spillcontrol.org/2013-02-05-11-11-41/2013-02-05-11-26-54/doc_download/508-isco-571-newsletter)



## RISING TO THE CHALLENGE: THE OUTCOMES OF THE IPIECA-IOGP OIL SPILL RESPONSE JOINT INDUSTRY PROJECT 2011 – 2016



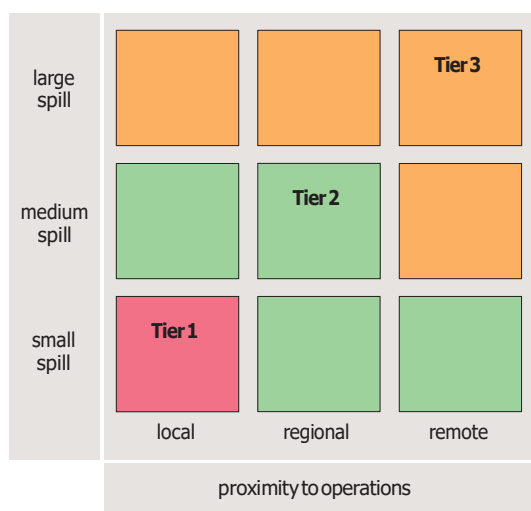
About the author - Rob Cox is Technical Director of IPIECA in London. Rob has over twenty five years of international petroleum industry experience including fifteen years with Caltex/Chevron in Africa, the Middle East and the United States. Rob’s background combines field experience in Environment, Health & Safety aspects of shipping, refining, distribution and retail marketing, as well as Environmental Management System implementation and auditing.

Until recently Rob was seconded to the position of program manager of the IOGP-IPIECA Joint Industry Project on Oil Spill Response (the OSR – JIP) which was established to understand and implement the oil spill response lessons learned from recent upstream incidents.

Rob holds a Bachelor’s degree in Chemistry and Biochemistry from the University of Dundee in Scotland and a Postgraduate Diploma in Environmental Practice from Farnborough College of Technology in England.

### Part 4 – Tiered Preparedness and Response

This article continues the story of the IPIECA-IOGP Oil Spill Response JIP, which this week looks at the innovative work carried out on Tiered Preparedness and Response, which is explained fully in the Good Practice Guide of the same name.



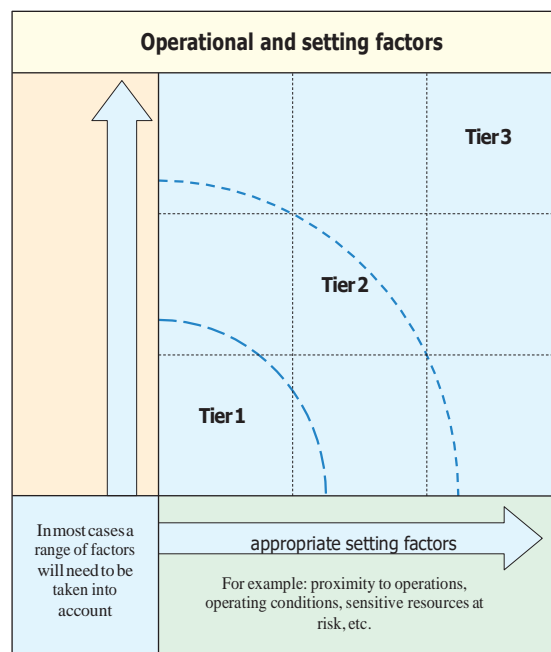
Tiered Preparedness and Response is recognized as the basis on which to establish a robust oil spill preparedness and response framework. The established three-tiered structure allows those involved in contingency planning to describe how an effective response to any oil spill will be provided; from small operational spillages to a worst-case release at sea or on land. The structure provides a mechanism to identify how individual elements of capability will be cascaded. The aim is to provide suitable response resources at the right place at the right time, hence the resulting capability should:

- be commensurate with the assessed risk;
- encourage cooperation, mutual assistance and integration of shared resources;
- be fully scalable via a mechanism of escalation through the three tiers;

- be tested, maintained and verified as part of a defined preparedness framework; and
- employ the most appropriate response options, reflecting a NEBA/SIMA approach (more on SIMA next week!)

These principles are consistent with the OPRC Convention, which obliges ratifying States to develop and maintain a national response system and to facilitate international cooperation and mutual assistance when preparing for, and responding to, major oil pollution incidents.

Traditionally, three levels, or ‘tiers’ were defined, providing a simple structure from which oil spill response capabilities can be identified to mitigate any potential oil spill scenario in terms of response personnel, equipment, and additional support. Collectively these resources were combined to establish response capability, and were categorized according to whether that capability was held locally, regionally or internationally and whether the spill size was small, medium or large. For many years, this was the basis of the system and indeed, it still forms the basis of many National Contingency Plans around the world.



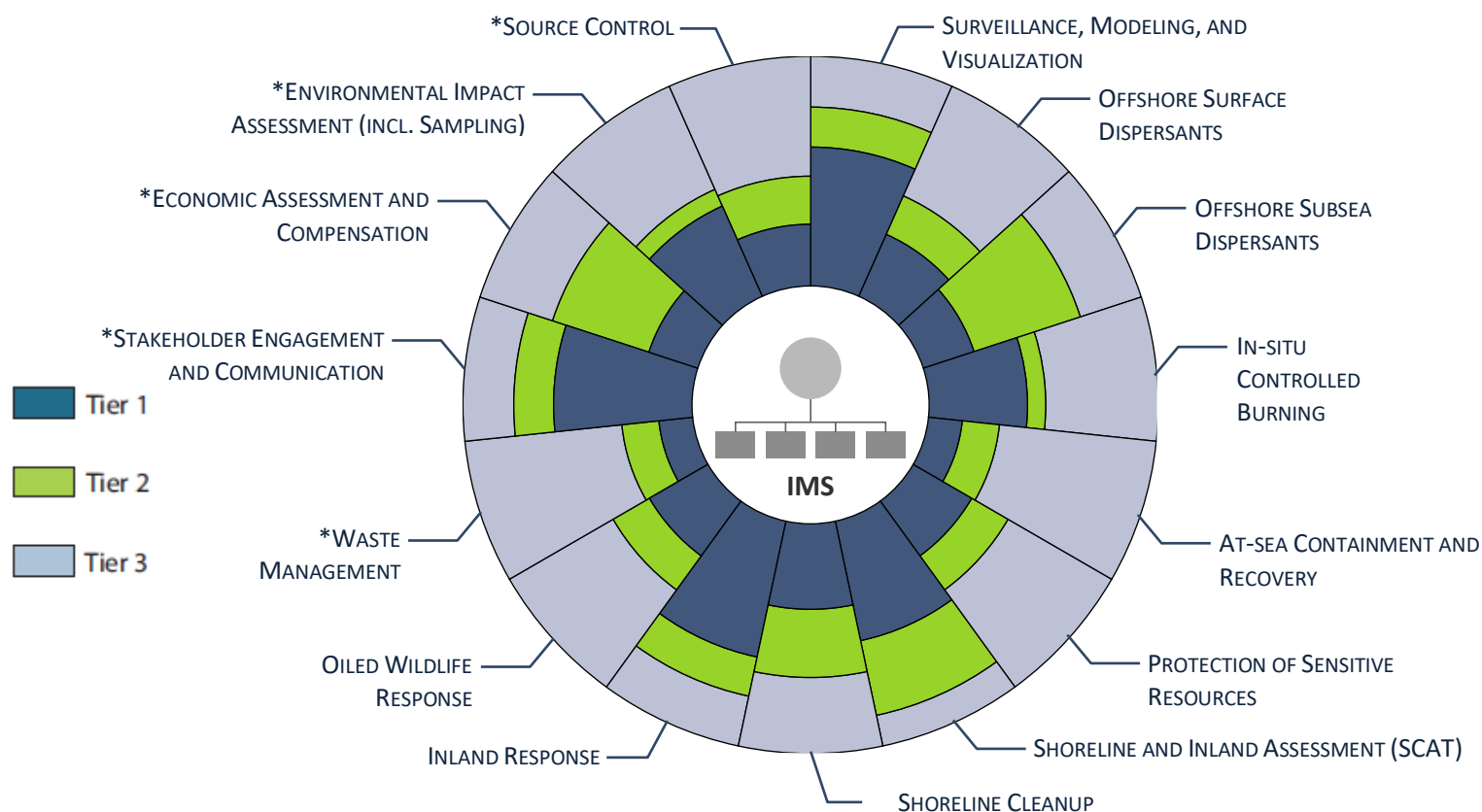
## Special feature (continued)

This relatively simple model was then superseded by the concentric circle model, which incorporated a range of operational and setting factors and showed how they interact to influence the boundaries between the three tiers.

Operational factors are those specific to the operation in question, such as potential spill source, oil type and release rate or volume, while

setting factors pertain largely to the location, or setting of the scenario being used for planning, such as to the environmental, socioeconomic or climatic conditions.

While a great improvement on the basic model, the concentric circle model still implied a tangible boundary or threshold between the tiers which led in turn to an artificial classification based on volume, equipment availability, and mobilization thresholds which were all assumed to escalate uniformly in lock-step across the tiers. The OSR-JIP therefore commissioned OSRL to propose a new model which uses a segmented circle to represent fifteen different categories of response, but also allows contingency planners to represent the response capabilities – in terms of tiers - required to mitigate risk and identify the sources from which these capabilities will be provided. It also gives a higher profile to the importance of an Incident Management system (IMS) in delivering an effective response.



Each segment is subdivided to illustrate how that specific response capability will be provided across all three tiers. In some cases there may be no specific local or regional capability, hence there will be full reliance on the provision of Tier 3 resources. In other cases there may be an emphasis on providing the majority of the required response capability locally through Tier 1. In some cases, an activity depicted by a segment may not be applicable and the segment in question will be left blank. The way in which the segments are apportioned is completely qualitative; the pictogram has no scale and it is not designed as prescriptive tool. The contingency planners should give consideration to the various operational and setting factors as mentioned and the relative priority placed on Tier 1, Tier 2 and Tier 3 resources. The GPG provides worked examples of how the requisite capability is built, with each complete segment representing the full capability required to mitigate the identified worst credible case event for that operation or location. The new IPIECA – IOGP Good Practice Guide on Tiered Preparedness and Response is available for download from:

[http://www.oilspillresponseproject.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/01/Tiered\\_preparedness\\_and\\_response\\_2016.pdf](http://www.oilspillresponseproject.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/01/Tiered_preparedness_and_response_2016.pdf)

**To be continued**

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

<a href="#">AMSA Aboard</a>	News from the Australian Maritime Safety Authority	December 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	January 2017
<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	February 2017 issue
<a href="#">Environmental Technology Online</a>	Environmental Monitoring, Testing & Analysis	December 2016 issue
<a href="#">IMO News Magazine</a>	News from the International Maritime Organization	No 4, 2016
<a href="#">IMO Publishing News</a>	New and forthcoming IMO publications	December 2016
<a href="#">Intertanko Weekly News</a>	International news for the oil tanker community	February 24, 2017
<a href="#">JOIFF "The Catalyst"</a>	Int'l Organisation for Industrial Hazard Management	January 2017 issue
<a href="#">MOIG Newsletter</a>	News from the Mediterranean Oil Industry Group	January 2017 issue
<a href="#">NOWPAP Quarterly</a>	News from the North West Pacific Action Plan	Quarter 1, 2016 issue
<a href="#">Ocean Orbit</a>	Newsletter from the International Tanker Owners Pollution Federation	May 2016
<a href="#">OCIMF Newsletter</a>	News from the Oil Companies International Marine Forum	January 2016 issue
<a href="#">Pollution Online Newsletter</a>	News for prevention & control professionals	February 22 2017
<a href="#">Safe Seas, Clean Seas</a>	Quarterly Newsletter from Maritime New Zealand	December 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	December 1-15, 2016
<a href="#">Transport Canada Newsletter</a>	News and articles re transport of dangerous goods in Canada	December 2016 issue
<a href="#">USA EPA Tech Direct</a>	Remediation of contaminated soil and groundwater	February 1, 2017
<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	December 2016 issue

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	2017	TITLE OF EVENT	LOCATION
For more information click on Title of Event			
UK	Jan 16 – July 7	<a href="#">IMO Exhibition – 50 Years Gov't &amp; Industry Co-op'n</a>	London
UK	March 7	<a href="#">UK Spill Annual Members' Meeting and Dinner</a>	London
TUNISIA	March 14-15	<a href="#">Oil Spill Preparedness Workshop with OSRL</a>	Tunis
USA	March 28-30	<a href="#">2017 SCAA Annual Meeting &amp; Conference</a>	Washington DC
CYPRUS	April 6-7	<a href="#">East Med Marine and Oil &amp; Gas Exhibition</a>	Limassol
UAE	April 10-12	<a href="#">RECSO EnviroSpill 2017</a>	Abu Dhabi
UK	April 24-28	<a href="#">April 2017 IOPC Funds Meetings</a>	London
SINGAPORE	April 25-28	<a href="#">10th Intl Chemical and Oil Pollution (ICOPCE)</a>	Singapore
UK & IRELAND	April 26-27	<a href="#">ISAA Spill Response Training Days, N. Ireland</a>	Enniskillen
UAE	May 9-10	<a href="#">Offshore Arabia Conference &amp; Exhibition</a>	Dubai
USA	May 15-18	<a href="#">International Oil Spill Conference</a>	Long Beach CA
USA	May 16	<a href="#">ISCO-BIMCO Presentation &amp; Reception</a>	Long Beach CA
USA	May 17	<a href="#">ISCO AGM</a>	Long Beach CA
BELGIUM	June 7-8	<a href="#">European Environmental Ports Conference 2017</a>	Antwerp
UK	June 20-21	<a href="#">Wreck Removal Contracts &amp; Operations Seminar</a>	London
USA	June 27-28	<a href="#">Clean Waterways</a>	Louisville KY
UK	July 3-7	<a href="#">IMO Marine Environment Protection Committee</a>	London
CHINA	July 14	<a href="#">6th NOWPAP DELTA Exercise</a>	Weihai
UK	Sept. 5-8	<a href="#">SPE Offshore Europe</a>	Aberdeen
UAE	Nov. 13-16	<a href="#">Abu Dhabi Int'l Petroleum Exhibition &amp; Conference</a>	Abu Dhabi
USA	Dec. 5-7	<a href="#">Clean Gulf Conference and Exhibition</a>	Houston, TX
<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			

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