

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 organisations.

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

The Executive Committee is assisted by the non-executive ISCO Council composed of the following national representatives – **Mr John Wardrop** (Australia), **Mr Osman Tarzumanov** (Azerbaijan), **Mr John Cantlie** (Brazil), **Dr Merv Fingas** (Canada), **Captain Davy T. S. Lau** (China, Hong Kong), **Mr Li Guobin** (China, Mainland), **Mr Darko Domovic** (Croatia), **Eng. Ashraf Sabet** (Egypt), **Mr Torbjorn Hedrenius** (Estonia), **Mr Pauli Einarsson** (Faroe Islands), **Prof. Harilaos Psarafitis** (Greece), **Captain D. C. Sekhar** (India), **Mr Sanjay Gandhi** (Kenya), **Chief Kola Agboke** (Nigeria), **Capt. Chris Richards** (Singapore), **Mrs Fatima B. Shaik** (South Africa), **Dr Ali Saeed Al Ameri** (UAE), **Mr Kevin Miller** (UK), **Dr Manik Sardessai** (USA), **Mr Dennis van der Veen** (The Netherlands) and **Mr Carlos Sagrera** (Panama)

For more info on Executive Committee and Council Members go to www.spillcontrol.org

INTERNATIONAL DIRECTORY

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[EQUIPMENT & MATERIALS](#)

[RESPONSE ORGANISATIONS](#)

[TRAINING PROVIDERS](#)

International news

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



CLEAN WATERWAYS
North America's Inland Rivers Response Conference

June 27-28, 2017
Seelbach Hilton Hotel, Louisville, KY
Register Now!

REGIONAL OIL SPILL RESPONSE WORKSHOP HELD IN PANAMA



May 12 - The need to ratify and implement various marine pollution conventions has been highlighted at a regional workshop in Panama City, Panama (8-12 May). The workshop focused on the oil spill response convention ([OPRC](#)) and its related [protocol](#), and liability and compensation conventions related to oil carried as cargo ([FUND 1992](#)) and [bunkers](#).

In attendance were 31 participants from the Member States of the Operative Network for Regional Cooperation among Maritime Authorities of the Americas (ROCRAM).

The event was led by IMO's Carlos Salgado. It was organized by ROCRAM and the Maritime Authority of Panama (AMP), under the Memorandum of Understanding between IMO and the General Secretariat of ROCRAM's Secretariat (SECROCRAM), currently held by Mexico, within the framework of IMO's Integrated Technical Cooperation Programme (ITCP).

<http://www.imo.org/EN/Pages/Default.aspx>

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International news (continued)

ARCTIC COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS SPILL RESPONSE EFFORTS

May 12 - The Arctic Council met this week for its [10th Arctic Council Ministerial Meeting](#) with a number of major reports released, including updates on oil spill preparedness.

Through a U.S.-led initiative, a searchable database has been developed that includes Arctic specific oil spill response equipment. The database includes traditional oil spill response equipment such as boom, skimmers, dispersants, oil spill response vessels, dispersant application systems, in situ burn equipment – all of which were identified through internet searches, direct contact with oil spill removal organization, and Arctic Council member states' completion of a specific survey to help populate the database.

Also released at the council meeting was the "Standardization as a Tool for Prevention of Oil Spills in the Arctic: Summary Report." This is an effort undertaken by the Arctic Council Emergency Prevention, Preparedness, and Response Working Group (EPPR) which serves as a tutorial on the practice of engineering and technical standards development worldwide. The Arctic Council status on implementation of the "Framework Plan for Cooperation on Prevention of Oil Pollution from Petroleum and Maritime Activities in the Marine Areas of the Arctic" is available [here](#).

The Standardization as a tool for prevention of oil spills in the Arctic: Summary Report is available [here](#). Further reports from the meeting are available [here](#).

The Maritime Executive [Read the unabridged text of this article](#)

EUROPE: ENHANCING REGIONAL COOPERATION FOR SAFE, SECURE AND CLEAN WATERS

May 8 - Within the framework of the SAFEMED IV Project and the Black and Caspian Sea Project, EMSA hosted in April the first meeting of the Secretariat of the Mediterranean Coast Guard Functions Forum (MCGFF) as well as a coordination meeting with the Black Sea MoU Secretariat. The MCGFF meeting was attended by the Turkish Coast Guard, the Italian Coast Guard and the French Sea Administration, as current, past and future chairs of the forum.

The event is designed to enhance cooperation between EU and non-EU Mediterranean countries as well as to reduce the gap in the implementation of international maritime conventions.

EMSA, EFCA and FRONTEX, the three agencies cooperating on Coast Guard Functions, attended the meeting as observers. The meeting concluded with a road map and list of actions to be taken in view of the plenary session expected in October in Turkey.

The coordination meeting between EMSA and the BS MoU Secretariat covered the activities already delivered by the agency under TRACECA II as well as future activities to support the PSC authorities of non-EU members of the BS MoU.

The main outcome of the meeting was the agreed proposal for EMSA to implement a professional development scheme for PSCOs. EMSA <http://www.emsa.europa.eu/>

WILDLIFE RESPONSE: PUTTING INTERNATIONAL COLLABORATION TO THE TEST

May 11 - Phase two of the Global Oiled Wildlife Response System (GOWRS) project recently kicked off in Belgium providing another two years in which to further the objective of developing and improving international cooperation and preparedness for oiled wildlife incidents.

The second phase aims to test the Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) that was developed during the first phase (2015-2016), e.g. via an exercise programme. Also readiness aspects of the system will be developed and opportunities will be created to increase awareness amongst end-users, in particular the oil industry project funders.

At its meeting in Ostend, the project team prepared the ground for future oil industry wildlife response exercises with their own internal table-top exercise, which was based on a fictitious scenario of an oiled wildlife incident in Malaysia. The exercise provided both a team-building opportunity for the 11 project partners and a test of some critical aspects of the SOP.

International news (continued)



In the photo - GOWRS Meeting attendees (from left to right): Danene Birtell (Tri-State Bird Rescue & Research Inc.), Hugo Nijkamp (Sea Alarm), Robert Limb (OSRL), Stephen van der Spuy (SANCCOB), Valeria Ruoppolo (Aiuká), Mike Ziccardi (OWCN/UC Davis Wildlife Health Center), Daniela Barreras-Biesot (OSRL), Claude Velter (WRCO), Louise Chilvers (Wildbase/Massey University), Will Gala (Chevron), Adam Grogan (RSPCA), Richard Thompson (RSPCA), Michelle Bellizzi (International Bird Rescue), Charlie Hebert (Focus Wildlife), Paul Kelway (GOWRS Project Coordinator/Sea Alarm), Sascha Regmann (Pro Bird)

The exercise had a number of different components and started with an on-site briefing to a mobilised wildlife response team. The team was charged with developing a plan for a wildlife response facility as well as a wildlife capture plan. In this way, the exercise elaborated on the results of a recent exercise in which a GOWRS Assessment team was mobilized, and where some valuable real time data were collected, and further assessed during the exercise in Ostend.

Exercises such as these are essential to allow all those involved in the system, including potential end-users, to explore and better understand the capabilities and limitations of a tier-3 (international) wildlife response. In the end a tier-3 response is one that aims to complement and firm up a local (tier-1 or tier-2) response, but not to replace such a local response. Exploring what a tier-3 team can and cannot accomplish on its own via exercises will deepen the awareness of the need for development of local and national wildlife response resources and local systems trained on internationally agreed response standards. *Sea Alarm Foundation* [Read more](#)

Incident reports

FIJI: OIL SPILL CONTAINED AT EARLIEST: BALA



May 23 - The cargo vessel MV Southern Phoenix which sank in the Suva Harbour was highlighted in Parliament yesterday.

This is after Opposition Leader, Ro Teimumu Kepa asked if there were measures in place to control any environmental damage caused by the oil spill from the vessel.

In response, Minister for Local Government, Housing, Environment, Infrastructure and Transport, Parveen Bala said a team of divers had been deployed by Government to seal off any opening from the fuel tanks. *Fiji Sun* [Read more](#)

Incident reports (continued)

VENEZUELA / TRINIDAD & TOBAGO: UPDATE RECEIVED FROM CARLOS SAGRERA, MEMBER OF ISCO COUNCIL FOR PANAMA

May 23 - These Spanish links shows the situation from the Venezuelan side concerning the T & T oil spill of Petrotrin into the Gulf of Paria. You had put the news at the issue N° 584 from the T & T sources. As you can see the map the spill reached the Las Roques Islands of Venezuela. It means 300 miles to the West of Trinidad & Tobago.

DESASTRE ECOLÓGICO

Los Roques es un área natural protegida que resalta por su inmensa variedad de especies, por ejemplo, las tortugas marinas suelen afectarse con facilidad por el crudo, ya que se adhiere a su rostro cuando do salen a respirar a la superficie.



Para el 15 de mayo, se habría detectado que Francisquí, Nordisquí, Rasquí, Cayo Sardina y Vapor, habían sido afectados por las aguas contaminadas que entraron por la barrera Este.



23/04/2017
Se derramaron 300 barriles de petróleo en una refinería Point A Pierre de la empresa estatal PetroTrin al suroeste de la Isla de Trinidad y Tobago.

14/05/2017
En horas de la tarde se reportó una gran mancha negra de petróleo en las aguas de Nordisquí, Los Roques.

13/05/2017
Siete balnearios de la isla de Margarita se vieron afectados por el derrame.

29/04/2017
Se identificó hidrocarburo proveniente del derrame en la Península de Paria.



Comment received from ISCO Secretary, Matthew Sommerville

“This incident highlights the impacts the spill had some distance from the source. It also highlights, a still unresolved, but known issue regarding compensation as there is no easy route of legal action or recourse against the source owner outside the country which licensed the activity”.



RUNRUNES
Infografía: @jhernandezgraph

ISCO Members and other readers are invited to submit incident reports to the editor for publication. All contributions will be acknowledged.

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

ARGENTINA: POLLUTION RESPONSE SEMINAR AND WORKSHOP



May 24 – Report received from ITOPF - ITOPF was invited to participate in a seminar in Argentina organised by P&I correspondents, Pandi Liquidadores, in cooperation with the Argentine Coast Guard (Prefectura Naval Argentina) from 8-9 May. The aim of the seminar was to raise awareness of marine pollution issues including environmental damage and monitoring, contingency planning, claims handling and compensation amongst public and private enterprises in the region. Dr Karen Purnell, Miguel Patel, Anne Reglain and Pauline Marchand gave presentations on behalf of ITOPF, alongside staff from the International Group of P&I Clubs (IG) and the IOPC Funds. The talks generated plenty of questions and interesting discussions from the 250-strong audience of lawyers, OSROs, shipowners, oil companies and representatives from the maritime authorities of Peru, Paraguay, Chile, Uruguay and Argentina. The workshop that followed the

seminar was organised by ITOPF/IG and the Argentine Coast Guard and included ITOPF's desktop spill response and claims exercise involving the application of a range of response resources to an example spill scenario. <http://www.itopf.com/>

AUSTRALIA: WOODSIDE OIL WELL IN PILBARA LEAKED INTO OCEAN FOR TWO MONTHS

Photo: Woodside Petroleum's Okha floating facility was moved last year because of an approaching cyclone

May 23 – Following-up with some more information on the short report in last week's ISCO Newsletter - The 274m long Okha sits in 80m of water and collects oil from the Cossack, Wanaea, Lambert and Hermes oilfields that have produced oil for over 20 years. The vessel, commissioned in 2011, is a converted oil tanker.

A degraded valve seal caused the leak and Woodside changed its procedures so in the future the valve would be checked before the vessel was disconnected, NOPSEMA's spokesman said.



The regulator took no further action because Woodside made immediate steps to ensure the incident did not happen again. *The West Australian* [Read more](#) [Thanks to Hugh Conlon, Assistant Harbour Master, Shannon Foynes Port Company]

BRAZIL: ITOPF SUPPORT FOR OUTREACH PROGRAMME EVENT

May 24 - Earlier this month, Dr Mark Whittington travelled to Rio de Janeiro to support a Gard P&I Club Outreach programme event for state and federal authorities. This included presentations introducing the role of P&I Clubs and ITOPF and a theoretical spill scenario set within Guanabara Bay that examined the roles of the various government authorities, industry and the P&I Clubs in the event of a large spill. The meeting generated open and honest discussions amongst participants on pollution response issues and some of the challenges that remain in developing a comprehensive response capability. *ITOPF* [Read more](#)

CANADA: KINDER MORGAN COMMITS TO TRANS MOUNTAIN PIPELINE EXPANSION LINKING CANADIAN CRUDE TO ASIAN MARKETS

May 26 - Kinder Morgan Inc. has committed to expanding a pipeline that will allow Canadian crude to be exported to Asia, a controversial C\$7.4 billion (\$5.5 billion) project that's set to face revitalized opposition amid political upheaval in the nation's Pacific Coast province.

News reports from around the world (continued)



The Houston-based company announced its final investment decision for the Trans Mountain expansion project Thursday, saying it expects to secure enough financing from an initial public offering of its Canadian subsidiary to proceed with the project. It expects to raise C\$1.75 billion from the IPO by May 31, according to a statement.

The project will nearly triple Trans Mountain's capacity, giving producers from Alberta's oil sands access to Pacific shipping routes from the coast of British Columbia. Currently, almost all of Canada's oil is exported to the U.S. With the expanded line, Canada

can export to Asian refineries capable of processing its heavy crude and pay higher margins than those in the U.S. *gCaptain* [Read more](#)

INDIA: MORMUGAO PORT TRUST TOLD TO TAKE PRECAUTIONS TO AVOID OIL SPILL FROM DRY DOCK

May 22 - The Mormugao Port Trust (MPT) has been asked to take all precautions to ensure that there is no oil spill from the dry dock that partially sunk in the waters near Vasco town.

The fears of oil spill has been looming large near the water section around Mormugao Port Trust in Vasco town after Western India Shipyard Limited s (WISL) dry dock partially sunk there last week. *DNA India* [Read more](#)

NIGERIA: SPECIAL REPORT: DISAPPOINTMENT, ANGER IN Ogoniland OVER NIGERIAN GOVT'S DELAY TO CLEAN UP OIL SPILLS

May 25 – This interesting article recounts the history of continuing delays in implementing an oil pollution clean-up programme in Ogoniland, the adverse effects on the affected peoples and the mounting frustration caused by the lack of meaningful action. [Read the article by Nicholas Ibekwe published in Premium Times](#)

USA: ARE WE READY FOR A TRAIN DERAILMENT OIL SPILL IN CALIFORNIA?

May 12 - An Inside Look at the Logistics, Communication and Collaboration of Oil Spill Response – This article by Justin Cox describes an exercise hosted by the [Oiled Wildlife Care Network](#) (OWCN) in the Feather River Canyon outside Quincy, California. [Read the article](#)

People in the news

CAPTAIN JOHN LLOYD RD MBA FN APPOINTED AS THE NEW CEO OF THE NAUTICAL INSTITUTE



May 23 - Captain John Lloyd has been appointed CEO of The Nautical Institute, taking over from Philip Wake who is retiring after 14 years in the post. In his previous role as Chief Operating Officer, Lloyd had overall responsibility for the Institute's specialized training services, including the industry-standard Dynamic Positioning Operator accreditation and certification scheme.

"Now more than ever it is important that the Institute champions best practice and professionalism and promotes a culture of safety first," says Lloyd.

His 16-year seagoing career began in 1975, gaining command in 1987 and spending two years as a marine pilot at Walvis Bay, Namibia. His extensive experience in maritime education has included senior positions at Warsash Maritime Academy and Flagship Training in the U.K., CEO of Vanuatu Maritime College and Professor of Maritime Training at the Australian Maritime College in Tasmania. *The Maritime Executive* [Read more](#)

The Nautical Institute is the world Accreditation Authority for Marine Oil Spill Response Training Courses and their providers.

PREVENTING AND PREPARING FOR OIL SPILLS IN THE ARCTIC



View off the coast of Longyearbyen, Svalbard, Norway. Taken during a search and rescue demonstration for an Arctic Council's Emergency Prevention, Preparedness and Response working group meeting. Image Credit: NOAA

May 11 - As rising temperatures and thinning ice in the Arctic create openings for increased human activities, it also increases the potential for oil spills and chemical releases into the remote environment of the region.

Planning emergency response operations for the Arctic falls to the [Emergency Prevention, Preparedness and Response working group](#), an [Arctic Council](#) body. The emergency working group has representatives from each of the member states with expertise in oil spill response, search and rescue, and response to radiological events.

NOAA's Amy Merten, chief of the [Spatial Data Branch](#), will finish her two-year stint as chair of the working group in May 2017. The chair is elected every two years from among the working group's members including: Canada, Kingdom of Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway, Russian Federation, Sweden, the United States and [permanent participants](#). Merten served on the working group for 5 years before becoming chair. She will leave the position on May 11, 2017. Jens Peter Holst-Andersen, from the Kingdom of Denmark will be the new chair at the next meeting in Vologda, Russia.

Merten, who holds a doctorate in marine sciences/environmental chemistry, shared her insights into the complexities of planning for emergencies in the remote regions of the Arctic and about what it's like working with other nations to protect the Arctic environments.

What are the biggest challenges facing spill response in the Arctic?

There are many; remote locations, short windows of open-water and daylight in which to respond, and lack of infrastructure—you can't send a massive response community to Arctic communities there is not enough food, hotel space, or fuel to sustain larger groups. Lack of communication is another challenge. Things that we take for granted working at moderate temperatures (cameras, GPS), don't work at cold temperatures. For search and rescue, there is not adequate hospital space or expertise. Therefore, if a large cruise ship gets into trouble in the Arctic, the rescue, triage and sustainability of the passengers will be a major challenge.

Contributed article (continued)



Photo: NOAA scientist Amy Merten in the Arctic. Merten is chief of the Spatial Data Branch of the Office of Response and Restoration and served as chair of the Arctic Council's Emergency Prevention, Preparedness and Response working group. Image credit: NOAA.

Why is it important to have international cooperation when developing response plans?

Each country has unique experiences and may have developed a way to respond to oil spills in ice or Arctic conditions that can be shared with other countries facing potential spills in ice. Because of the remoteness of the Arctic, with little to no infrastructure, particularly in the United States and Canada, countries will have to rely on equipment and support from others.

Additionally, there are parts of the Arctic Ocean that are international waters, and should a vessel founder there, the countries would collectively respond. We share thoughts on high-risk scenarios, best practices, and identification of research needs. We also share ideas and findings on the latest technologies in communications, oil-in-ice modelling, data management and response technologies.

How does communication with other countries during an emergency work?

We have an up-to-date communication list and protocol. This is part of our agreement, the [Agreement on Cooperation on Marine Oil Pollution, Preparedness and Response in the Arctic](#). We also practice our communication connectivity once a year, and conduct an international exercise every two years.

What role do satellites have in preparing for and responding to emergencies in the region?

We rely on [satellite information](#) for monitoring conditions (weather and ice) and vessel traffic. We would certainly rely on satellite data for an incident in order to plan the response, monitor the extent of the oiling, and understand the weather and ice conditions.

How do the member countries work to share plans so that emergency response is not being duplicated?

This is one of the functions of Emergency Prevention, Preparedness and Response working group. It ensures we communicate about domestic projects and plans that may benefit the other nations to maximize the collective effectiveness and avoid duplications.

NOAA's online environmental mapping tool for the region, [Arctic ERMA](#), now includes polar projections; do the other council countries use Arctic ERMA?

They use it during our joint exercises, and we use it to visualize other working group projects, like the [Bureau of Safety and Environmental Enforcement](#)-led Pan-Arctic response assets database. We also discuss sharing data across systems and are developing data sharing agreements.

What are the three biggest threats to the Arctic environment?

Keeping it a peaceful governance, climate change, and oil spills/chemical spills.

Why is the Arctic environment important to the United States?

Arctic weather and climate affects the world's oceans, weather, and climate, including the Lower 48. The Arctic is replete with energy, mineral, and fishing resources. The Arctic is inhabited by indigenous communities with unique lifestyles that are threatened and need protection. The Arctic is also home to unique flora and fauna that are important for biodiversity, ecological services, and overall healthy environments. As the Arctic becomes more accessible, national security pressures increase.

What would be the worst types of oil spills in the Arctic?

This is a hard question to answer but I'd say a spill of a persistent oil that occurs in broken ice during freeze up or thawing periods. During freeze up because it will be difficult to respond, and difficult to track the oil.

During thawing because it's the emergence of primary production for the food web, hunting subsistence practices would be threatened and it could be unsafe to respond due to of the changing ice conditions. It all depends on how far away and difficult it is to get vessels, aircraft, people, and skimmers onsite, and in a way they can operate safely in a meaningful way.

Contributed article (continued)

A “worst spill” doesn’t have to be a “large” spill if it impacts sensitive resources at key reproductive and growth cycles, or if it impacts Arctic communities’ food security, subsistence activities, and ways of life.

How has being chair added to your understanding of the emergency response in the Arctic?

I think it’s increased my concern that it’s not a matter of “if” but a matter of “when” a spill will happen. The logistics of a response will be complicated, slow, and likely, fairly ineffective. The potential for long-term impacts on stressed communities and stressed environments is high. I do have a good feeling that international cooperation will be at its best, but the challenges are daunting for all of us.

The author of this article, NOAA Scientist Amy Merten, has just completed her term as Chairman of the Arctic Council’s Emergency Prevention, Preparedness and Response working group. ISCO is grateful to her for an excellent article and to NOAA for its kind permission to reprint occasional articles in the ISCO Newsletter

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

AMSA Aboard	News from the Australian Maritime Safety Authority	December 2016
ASME EED EHS Newsletter	News and commentary on HSE issues from George Holliday	Most recent issue
Bow Wave	Sam Ignarski’s Ezine on Marine & Transport Matters	Current issue
Cedre Newsletter	News from Cedre in Brittany, France	April 2017
CROIERG Enews	Canberra & Regions Oil Industry Emergency Response Group	Current issue
EMSA Newsletter	News from the European Maritime Safety Agency	May 2017 issue
Environmental Technology Online	Environmental Monitoring, Testing & Analysis	April 2017 issue
IMO News Magazine	News from the International Maritime Organization	Spring 2017 issue
IMO Publishing News	New and forthcoming IMO publications	April 2017
Intertanko Weekly News	International news for the oil tanker community	May 26, 2017
JOIFF “The Catalyst	Int’l Organisation for Industrial Hazard Management	Q2 2017 issue
MOIG Newsletter	News from the Mediterranean Oil Industry Group	April 2017 issue
NOWPAP Quarterly	News from the North West Pacific Action Plan	Quarter 1, 2016 issue
Ocean Orbit	Newsletter from the International Tanker Owners Pollution Federation	May 2016
OCIMF Newsletter	News from the Oil Companies International Marine Forum	April 2017 issue
Pollution Online Newsletter	News for prevention & control professionals	May 24 2017
Safe Seas, Clean Seas	Quarterly Newsletter from Maritime New Zealand	December 2016 issue
Sea Alarm Foundation Newsletter	Oiled wildlife Preparedness and Response news from Sea Alarm	Spring 2017 issue
Technology Innovation News Survey	News from US EPA – Contaminated Site Decontamination	January 1-31, 2017
Transport Canada Newsletter	News and articles re transport of dangerous goods in Canada	December 2016 issue
USA EPA Tech Direct	Remediation of contaminated soil and groundwater	May 1, 2017
USA EPA Tech News & Trends	Contaminated site clean-up information	Spring 2016 issue
WMU Newsletter	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

Events

WRECK REMOVAL CONTRACTS & OPERATIONS SEMINAR, 20 - 21 JUNE 2017, LONDON, UK

New case study on the Troll Solution, the biggest wreck removal of 2016

Jason Bennett, Director of Projects at Ardent, will be talking about the operational aspects of the biggest wreck removal project of 2016. Weighing approximately 7,000 tons, the jack-up Troll Solution experienced a debilitating accident while carrying out maintenance work on the wellhead platform CAAN-A in 2015. Ardent will be discussing the unique challenges and solutions employed in the project. [View the full agenda](#) [More info](#)

USA: CLEAN WATERWAYS, LOUISVILLE, KY - JUNE 27-28

Representatives from Marathon Petroleum Company, Phillips 66, Valero Energy Corporation, The Response Group, BNSF Railroad, Ohio Environmental Protection Agency, Canadian Pacific Railway and many more have registered to attend the Inaugural CLEAN WATERWAYS event.

- Dedicated networking breaks and activities designed to facilitate an open exchange of ideas and improve interagency relationships
- Conference sessions cover issues unique to rivers, including State and Federal regulations, hazardous materials and unconventional oil transportation, and working in a challenging operating environment
- Speakers are experts in their field and presentations will focus on best practices and case studies
- It’s the only event bringing together maritime, facilities, rail, and pipeline to improve oil and hazardous materials spill prevention and response in inland waterways
- A dedicated table top exhibit display area will showcase 21 companies offering solutions or technologies to prevent, prepare or respond to an emergency on inland rivers.

Click [HERE](#) for more information

Upcoming events summary

COUNTRY	2017	TITLE OF EVENT	LOCATION
For more information click on Title of Event			
UK	Jan 16 – July 7	IMO Exhibition – 50 Years Gov't & Industry Co-op'n	London
CANADA	Postponed	40th AMOP Tech.Seminar on Contam'n & Response	Alberta
BELGIUM	June 7-8	European Environmental Ports Conference 2017	Antwerp
UK	June 20-21	Wreck Removal Contracts & Operations Seminar	London
GHANA	June 26-30	NOSCP Table-top Exercise	Accra
USA	June 27-28	Clean Waterways	Louisville KY
UK	July 3-7	IMO Marine Environment Protection Committee	London
CHINA	July 14	6th NOWPAP DELTA Exercise	Weihai
SENEGAL	July 17-20	International Workshop on Dispersant and NEBA	Dakar
NIGERIA	Sept. 5-7	National Workshop on Liability and Compensation	
UK	Sept. 5-8	SPE Offshore Europe	Aberdeen
UK	Sept. 6-7	8th Maritime and Salvage Response	London
FRANCE	Sept. 28	CEDRE Information Day – “Spills in Ports”	Paris
UAE	Nov. 13-16	Abu Dhabi Int'l Petroleum Exhibition & Conference	Abu Dhabi
USA	Dec. 5-7	Clean Gulf Conference and Exhibition	Houston, TX
2018			
UK	March 13-15	2018 INTERSPILL Conference and Exhibition	London
UK	March 13-15	Oceanology International 2018	London
USA	June 19-21	Clean Pacific Conference and Exhibition	Portland, OR
To request posting of an event of interest to the Spill Response Community please send details to the Editor			

Company news

MARINE POLLUTION CONTROL CELEBRATES ITS 50th ANNIVERSARY



In this picture taken at IOPC, from left to right, Charlie Usher, David Usher, Kerem Kemerli and John McMurtrie

On the evening of 17th May Marine Pollution Control entertained a large company of friends and clients at a party held in the Hyatt Hotel at Long Beach. It was a very enjoyable occasion and, as is customary at MPC events, the festivities were accompanied by music – a jazz group and singer.

Many in the Spill Response Community will recall other happy MPC parties at IOPC events. There has always been music. In past years many of us were fortunate to have been able to listen to many eminent musicians including the late Dizzy Gillespie and the blues singer, Annie Ross.

In his book “Music is Forever”, Dave Usher wrote “Occasionally, we cleaned up small oil spills as well as hazardous materials. At this time (early 1960’s) concerns about the environment were not in the public consciousness, but two events changed all that, and prompted me to think about another possible line of business: cleaning up oil pollution on the water.

Company news

The first event was the publication of a book, *Silent Spring*, by Rachel Carson in 1962. Published by Houghton Mifflin, the book warned about the use of pesticides and their impact on birds and the environment. Carson claimed that chemical companies were disingenuous in their public statements about the dangers of pesticides, and that government officials were not adopting appropriate policies to protect the environment.

The second event was the shipwreck of a supertanker, the *Torrey Canyon* off the western coast of Cornwall, England in 1967. The tanker, owned by the Barracuda Tanker Corporation, a subsidiary of the Union Oil Company of California, and operated by British Petroleum, was the largest vessel ever involved in such a wreck. The ship, carrying 110,000 tons of oil, struck a reef and was grounded, causing an environmental disaster.

Then came a telephone call that settled the issue. Officials at the Ford Motor Co.'s Rouge Plant called, asking if I could clean up a spill of some 20,000 gallons of oil on the Rouge River. They had learned that I was a "troubleshooter" of sorts on the waterfront on problems like this, and asked me to help them.

Silent Spring, the *Torrey Canyon* disaster, the accident on the Rouge River and the changing political landscape all led to the establishment of Marine Pollution Control (MPC) in August 1967".

In the following 50 years, MPC has assisted in cleaning up some of the world's worst oil spills, including the 1989 *Exxon Valdez* spill in Alaska and the Persian Gulf in 1992, when the Iraqi dictator, Saddam Hussein, dumped millions of gallons of oil into the Gulf. This, with the responses to thousands of other oil and chemical spills, development of training courses and other environmental services, plus substantial investment in new technical innovation has placed MPC in the top echelon of international spill response companies.

David Usher is a founding member of ISCO. MPC became the very first Corporate Member of ISCO

NRC ANGOLA OPERATIONAL AND AWARDED ITS FIRST OFFSHORE CONTRACT

May 24 - NRC is pleased to announce the establishment of NRC Angola LDA, a fully operational Angolan entity offering a wide range of industrial and environmental services to the oil and gas industry. Partnering with the Angolan oil and gas service company Tradinter, who has over 12 years of experience in the industry, NRC Angola LDA will service the Angola oil and gas market from its facility in Luanda, Angola.

NRC Angola LDA's first contract award involves the supply of a bespoke External Caisson Cleaning System used in conjunction with Ultra-High Pressure Water Jetting equipment to remove marine growth and an epoxy paint coating from two Seawater Lift Caissons in preparation for inspection, repair, and maintenance works. The work is performed by NRC's highly trained Angola offshore team onboard an FPSO operating in block 15.

NRC has evolved its service offering and specialist technologies to meet the unique challenges of the Angolan oil and gas industry. NRC's in-country capabilities include: industrial cleaning of heavy oil cargo, slops and ballast tanks, water jetting, NORM management and descaling, asbestos management, HVAC / duct cleaning, and oil spill response services. NRC has essential experience in this market having previously provided oil spill response and industrial services on various rig, platform, and FPSO projects in Angola over the past five years.

NRC's multi-disciplined local workforce is highly trained and experienced in this market, with in-country equipment ideally suited to the oil and gas market and includes ATEX certified HP and UHP jetting units, vacuum transfer systems, tank cleaning packages, and duct management tools.

Senior Vice President, NRC International, Neil Challis commented: "The opening of our Angola business is a significant milestone for NRC and is something we have been working towards for a few years. This exciting market provides opportunities for all of NRC's industrial and response services and allows us to further support our clients in the region."

Chairman of the Board, NRC Angola LDA, Bráulio de Brito also commented: "NRC Angola LDA brings a strong contribution to the social and economic development of Angola, by providing employment and career development opportunities for Angolans. NRC Angola LDA possesses specialized equipment, combined with experienced and trained personnel, to provide both superior service quality and safety performance to the Angolan oil and gas market as well as other industries. We look forward to supporting both our existing clients and new clients in Angola throughout 2017 and beyond.

NRC is a Corporate Member of ISCO

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