

## 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.

## ISCO COMMITTEE & COUNCIL

ISCO is managed by an elected executive committee members of which are **Mr David Usher** (President, USA), **Mr Matthew Sommerville** (Secretary, UK), **Mr Marc Shaye** (USA), **Mr Dan Sheehan** (USA), **M. Jean Claude Sainlos** (France), **Mr Kerem Kemerli** (Turkey), **Lord Peter Simon Rickaby** (UK), **Mr Li Guobin** (China), **Captain Bill Boyle** (UK) and **Mr John McMurtrie** (UK)

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. Harilaous 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](http://www.spillcontrol.org)

## INTERNATIONAL DIRECTORY

Click on these links to view websites

[CONSULTANTS](#)

[EQUIPMENT & MATERIALS](#)

[RESPONSE ORGANISATIONS](#)

[TRAINING PROVIDERS](#)

## International news

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



## NEW INTERNATIONAL CONTRACTS ACCELERATE SPILL RESPONSE, WILL HELP MITIGATE ENVIRONMENTAL DAMAGE

BIMCO and ISCO have launched two new spill response contracts to make the task of arranging clean-up services following a spill incident significantly easier to negotiate in an emergency.

The two standard contracts are a first for spill response contractors. One is tailored for international use and the other is specifically for use in the United States and both are available free of charge from [www.bimco.org](http://www.bimco.org) and [www.spillcontrol.org](http://www.spillcontrol.org)

The contracts have been written by a group of experts from BIMCO, ISCO, the International Group of P&I Clubs, the International Salvage Union and the Spill Control Association of America. Other partners, including ITOFF and individual response contractors, also contributed.



Tony Paulson, West of England P&I Club, who led the drafting team, said:

“Until now, no single standard contract for the hire of specialised spill response services and equipment has been available. Harmonised terms and conditions will help speed the process of getting essential spill response equipment on site as soon as possible”.

Matthew Sommerville, International Spill Control Organization (ISCO) added:

“Timing is critical for a successful response. To avoid delay, the contract lets the parties sign and mobilise the response while negotiations continue on rates and charges. This means that the contracts can be negotiated in a matter of minutes and personnel and equipment can get to work immediately”.



The two contracts, RESPONSECON and US RESPONSECON, contracts are designed for spill incidents and enable those involved to obtain clean-up services and hire specialised personnel and equipment without delay.

## PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIP

Advance your career by gaining Professional Recognition

Professional recognition is a visible mark of quality, competence and commitment, and can give you a significant advantage in today's competitive environment.

All who have the relevant qualifications and the required level of experience can apply for Professional Membership of ISCO.

The organization offers independent validation and integrity. Each grade of membership reflects an individual's professional training, experience and qualifications.

You can apply for Student Membership, Associate Membership (AMISCO), MEMBERSHIP (MISCO) or FELLOWSHIP (FISCO)

[All about Professional Membership Application Form](#)

To receive the free ISCO Newsletter

Go to <http://www.spillcontrol.org> and enter your name and email address in the Registration Form (located on the right hand side of the home page) then click on "subscribe"

## International news (continued)

The terms and conditions are set out in standard clauses with accompanying annexes for the different parties to insert detailed descriptions of the required services and rates for personnel and equipment.

The contracts and explanatory notes can be obtained through the ISCO website [www.spillcontrol.org](http://www.spillcontrol.org) (Click on Response Contract) or on BIMCO's website [www.bimco.org](http://www.bimco.org) (You will be asked to register an account if you do not have one already) and any questions can be sent to [contracts@bimco.org](mailto:contracts@bimco.org).

### Additional information

A long-recognized need for an internationally accepted standardized contract, "RESPONSECON", which will enable faster response to oil and chemical spills was adopted by the Baltic and International Maritime Council (BIMCO)'s Documentary Committee at its 5-6 June meeting in Rome.

The widespread concurrence with, and universal availability of, RESPONSECON represents a major advance in ensuring rapid and effective response to oil spills at sea and on land. The need for extended negotiations will be eliminated. Thus, the time required for mobilization of response resources to mitigate environmental damage will be very significantly reduced.

RESPONSECON was formally launched during the recent International Oil Spill Conference in Long Beach, California, USA. Working Group Project Manager Tony Paulson presented the framework to an audience of over 100 delegates during a 16 May 2017 meeting and reception jointly hosted by the Spill Control Association of America (SCAA), the International Spill Control Organisation (ISCO), and the Association of Petroleum Industries Cooperative Managers (APICOM).

The outcome of marine incidents has been demonstrably linked over many years to the prompt request and timely mobilization of specialist resources needed to save lives, salvage vessels, or recover lost cargo. Global networks of government, coastguard, volunteer, lifeboat and rescue aircraft resources have achieved great success. However, protracted contracting processes often caused costly delays in mobilizing the spill response component.

Arrangements under the international standardized form of salvage agreement Lloyds Open Form (LOF) have been available since the late 19th century to ensure rapid commencement of emergency operations and the successful salvage of countless vessels and cargos.

In stark contrast to the universally accepted LOF, the spill response industry has relied on an ad-hoc patchwork of individual arrangements and heroic efforts of the parties involved to ensure the contract negotiations did not significantly postpone mobilization.

A spill response counterpart to LOF had long been under consideration by stakeholders, according to ISCO Executive Committee member John McMurtrie. But its execution and implementation lacked specific impetus. The September 2015 table-top test of the International Maritime Organization (IMO)'s International Offers of Assistance guidelines again brought the issue into focus.

Post-exercise, ISCO undertook a new initiative and approached BIMCO, the universally acknowledged experts in developing marine contracts for industry. After a series of discussions, the principals agreed to form a Working Group (WG) that would develop the RESPONSECON concept among ISCO's membership and other interested parties. This WG critically included representation of the International Group of Protection & Indemnity (P&I) Clubs. These P&I Clubs provide liability cover for approximately 90% of the world's ocean-going tonnage and likewise had been considering the potential for standard clauses or contracts.

During six face-to-face meetings and intersessional correspondence over only two years, the joint ISCO-BIMCO WG developed RESPONSECON. Along the way, The WG was expanded to a wider consultation comprising participation and support of the International Salvage Union (ISU), International Tanker Owners Pollution Federation (ITOPF), the Spill Control Association of America (SCAA), and other interested parties.

The new standard spill response agreements (available for both international and US jurisdictions) have wide application, including use for equipment and personnel or equipment-only scenarios. The contract defines general terms between response contractors and any requesting parties. Requesting parties are deliberately not confined to

## International news (continued)

ship owners, but comprise government agencies, vessel owners, oil companies, pipeline operators, railway companies, port authorities, terminal managers and others with responsibility for quickly initiating response operations.

The framework works well in practice as it is very flexible, and can be amended on a case-by-case basis, depending upon the requirements for quick initiation of response operations.

RESPONSECON aims to provide fair balance and benefit to all concerned parties and speed response because it will avoid the delays caused by need to negotiate complex contractual negotiations before mobilization can begin. Response contractors will benefit from very positive cash flow implications which will ensure rapid reimbursement of mobilization outlays and ongoing costs of operations. In addition, requesting parties are protected against overpayment.

RESPONSECON appears in the user-friendly familiar BIMCO style: front page with boxes to be completed followed by standard clauses. Annexes: A (scope of work), B (personnel rates), and C (equipment rates & particulars). These can be completed after the contract is signed.

RESPONSECON will be introduced at the next meeting of the United Nations International Maritime Organization (IMO)'s Marine Environment Protection Committee (MEPC) scheduled for London, UK, on 3-7 July. ISCO, BIMCO and other Working Group members with consultative status at IMO have submitted a paper that will inform governmental delegations of the agency's 172 Member States.

Promulgation to MEPC, IMO's senior technical body on marine pollution related matters, will achieve world-wide recognition and acceptance of a collaborative initiative that will be of significant value in reducing pollution consequences of oil and chemical spills.

*ISCO acknowledges and thanks Donald Chard, FICS, FCI Arb, BIMCO's Legal and Contractual Affairs Consultant for his work on preparing the joint press release and ISCO member and media consultant, Helena Rowland for compiling the appended additional information.*

---

## BONN AGREEMENT OTSOPA MEETING

June 15 - The **OTSOPA** working group met from 22nd to 24th May in Bergen (Norway). The meeting was chaired by Stan Woznicki (**MCA**, UK) and was attended by delegations from all the member states as well as observers from **EMSA** and **SASEMAR**.

The agenda covered the action plan, R&D, technical and operational resources, aerial surveillance, guidelines and manuals, exercises and the activity schedule, information on incidents and international networks. Among the points raised, mention can be made of the **SINTEF** study on the behaviour of sulphur-free fuels and the results of the **COMPON** project (detection of gas emissions from ships). Cedre presented some of the results of the **POLLUPROOF** project.

The next meeting is due to be held in May 2018 in Sweden. *CEDRE Newsletter* [Read more](#)

---

## Incident reports

### YEMEN: OIL TANKER ATTACKED IN KEY SHIPPING LANE

May 31 - Unknown assailants attacked an oil tanker on Wednesday in a strategic Red Sea waterway near Yemen in the latest flare-up in an area through which much of the world's oil passes.

The EU Naval Force said in a statement that the attackers fired rocket-propelled grenades before breaking off their assault on the Marshall Islands-flagged tanker MT MUSKIE in the southern Bab al-Mandab Strait. The tanker is 70,362 tons deadweight.

A spokesman for the EU force said the attack did not appear to have been launched by pirates and was likely related to "continuing instability at sea off the coast of Yemen." *Daily Mail* [Read more](#)

---

### USA: LOUISIANA - 465 GALLONS OF OIL SPILLED IN BLACK BAY, COAST GUARD SAYS

June 10 - An oil spill has been spotted at an unstaffed oil platform near Black Bay, off the east bank of Plaquemines Parish, the Coast Guard said Saturday (June 9). The agency said aerial assessments estimate about 465 gallons of crude reached the water, but no shore-line contact was reported.

Authorities say OMI Environmental Solutions and Clean Gulf Associates were working to contain and clean up the spill. Three vessels were on the scene with containment boom and conducting skimming operations. *The Times Picayune* [Read more](#)

## Incident reports (continued)

### MALAYSIA: OIL TANKER BELIEVED TO HAVE EXPLODED, SIX MISSING



June 15 - All the missing crewmen were Indonesians identified as Akhmad Fazaruddin, 35; Muhamad Heri Hernanda, 28; Raden Abdur Rahem, 31; Rendy Alamanda, 28; Sulkifli, 39; and Yohanis Sumari, 35.

Malaysian Maritime Enforcement Agency (MMEA) deputy director-general (Operations) Mohd Taha Ibrahim said the tanker, MT Putri Sea, was laden with crude oil and was registered at the Port of Malabo, Equatorial Guinea.

“A Penggalang 15 boat from Tanjung Sedili Maritime District was deployed to run a check and arrived at the location at 6.15 am, but no ship was sighted,” he said. However, Mohd Taha said there were signs of oil spill around the area. *MalaysiaKini* [Read more](#)

[Thanks to Don Johnston of ISCO Industry Partner, DG & Hazmat Group]

### SOUTH CAROLINA: FBI TO PROBE FALSE ‘DIRTY BOMB’ THREAT ABOARD MAERSK MEMPHIS

June 15 - The FBI on Thursday said it was investigating a false threat that a “dirty bomb” was on a container ship at a terminal at the Port of Charleston in South Carolina.

The port was shut on Wednesday night and reopened early Thursday morning by the U.S. Coast Guard after law enforcement officials completed a scan of the container ship Maersk Memphis, the Coast Guard said. *gCaptain* [Read more](#)

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

### COTE D’IVOIRE: PRACTICE MAKES PERFECT IN FIGHT AGAINST OIL SPILLS



June 12 - A tanker collides with an unknown ship off the Ivorian coast, causing a major oil spill. This was the scenario of an oil spill training exercise that took place in Abidjan and Assinie, Côte d’Ivoire (8-9 June). The deployment exercise involved more than 100 participants from various public institutions and the private sector, working together to fight the simulated spill, first at sea and then ashore.

The event tested Côte d’Ivoire’s National Oil Spill Contingency Plan, which has been developed over recent years with support from the Global Initiative for West, Central and Southern Africa ([GI WACAF](#)) – a joint IMO-[IPIECA](#) project.

Following the training, which was organized by the Centre Ivoirien Anti Pollution (CIAPOL), GI WACAF will draft an evaluation

report, which will help Ivorian authorities to further improve the Plan by identifying strengths and potential areas for improvement.

IMO’s Julien Favier of the GI WACAF project and a consultant from the French Navy, Lieutenant Charles-Henri Thouaille, participated in the exercise as observers on request of CIAPOL. *IMO* [Read more](#)

## News reports from around the world (continued)

### FRANCE: CEDRE'S STRATEGY COMMITTEE MEETING REPORT

June 15 - On 10th May, the 45th meeting of Cedre's Strategy Committee was held at the HAROPA agency in Gennevilliers. This event was the opportunity for the agency's Director Mr Piquard to present the activities of the Ports of Paris and for Mr Retailleau and Mr Ravary to address the issue of spills on the site. We were also given a presentation of the container terminal by Mr Ojeanson, Director of Paris Terminal SA. Chaired for the first time by Patricia Mani, the committee meeting was mainly devoted to Cedre's short and medium term priorities, in terms of investments, research projects and other activities funded by its members or liable to be proposed to external sponsors. In addition to the 2017 Information Day announced above, it was confirmed that the Technical Day held at Cedre on 16th November 2017 will be devoted to response in areas of strong current and that the 2018 Information Day will be held on 16th March in Brest to mark the 40th anniversary of the sinking of the Amoco Cadiz.

The 46th meeting of the Strategy Committee is scheduled to be held at Cedre on 17th November 2017. *CEDRE Newsletter* [Read more](#)

---

### INDIA: ITOPF PRESENTS AT INTERNATIONAL OIL POLLUTION COMPENSATION REGIME SEMINAR IN GOA

June 13 – News from ITOPF: ITOPF was invited to participate in a national seminar organised by the Directorate General of Shipping, Ministry of Shipping of the Government of India from 8-9 June 2017.

The primary objective of the seminar was to raise awareness of the international oil pollution compensation regime including the claims process for clean-up and preventive measures, tourism, fisheries and mariculture, as well as environmental damage and monitoring. Anne Reglain gave presentations on behalf of ITOPF alongside representatives from the International Group of P&I Clubs (IG) and the IOPC Funds. The talks generated plenty of questions and interesting discussions from the 100-strong audience of government representatives and private entities. *ITOPF* <http://www.itopf.com/>

---

### NEW CALEDONIA: SPILL RESPONSE TRAINING AND EXERCISE

June 15 – News from Cedre - From 2nd to 5th May, two engineers from Cedre were in Nouméa to run a theory course for some forty participants invited by the civil protection directorate (DSCGR), held at its training centre in Paita. Representatives of local authorities, government administrations and MRCC Nouméa liable to be mobilised in the event of a real spill or threat of a spill were trained in the response strategies and techniques to be deployed on the shoreline, in ports and at industrial sites. The agents from Cedre also helped to run a two-day spill crisis management exercise for some twenty participants. *CEDRE Newsletter* [Read more](#)

---

### PORTUGAL: COASTEX EXERCISE HELD IN TROIA

June 13 - EMSA took part in COASTEX 17 on 23 to 26 May 2017 in Troia, Portugal. This multifunction multiagency exercise organised by the Portuguese current chairs of the European Coast Guard Function Forum was attended by more than 100 delegates and observers from EU member state authorities performing coast guard functions and from three European agencies – Frontex, EFCA and EMSA.

The event included workshops covering various coast guard functions and was complemented by demonstrations at sea. The scenarios included deployment of vessels, helicopters and airplanes.

EMSA mobilised the standby oil spill response vessel, Ria de Vigo. The vessel was the main asset in the pollution-response demonstration. Additionally, EMSA supported the exercise by delivering presentations during the workshops and by providing satellite imagery for oil pollution detection and monitoring and maritime surveillance information through its Integrated Maritime Services. *EMSA* <http://www.emsa.europa.eu/>

---

### TUNISIA: SKHIRA OIL SPILL RESPONSE EXERCISE IN COOPERATION WITH TRAPSA – OCT. 2017

June 16 - A Tier 1 Oil Spill Response Exercise shall be held on the second half of October 2017 in Skhira Port located in the Gulf of Gabes in the coast of the Mediterranean Sea in Tunisia. The event will be organized jointly by the Company "Transport par Pipeline au Sahara" (TRAPSA); member; and the Mediterranean Oil Industry Group (MOIG). SKhira is the most important industrial port in Tunisia specialized in petroleum and chemical products traffic. TRAPSA main activities are transport by pipeline, storage and loading of crude oil and its derivatives. The company has a huge Tank Park of 380 000 m3 capacity. Regarding its response capability, TRAPSA has a Tier 1 Oil Spill Response Package supported maritime assets. *MOIG* [Read more](#)

---

## News reports from around the world (continued)

### USA: SEVEN YEARS LATER, KALAMAZOO RIVER OIL SPILL CLEANUP STILL ONGOING

June 9 - A new video released by the National Wildlife Federation highlights ongoing cleanup and monitoring efforts, as well as the long-term effects, of the 2010 rupture of Enbridge (U.S) Inc.'s Line 6B oil pipeline, which spilled between 840,000 and 1.1 million gallons of oil.

"We're now at nearly seven years after the spill," says Dr. Kenneth Kornheiser, acting president of the Kalamazoo River Watershed Council, "so far they have gotten about, oh, three miles (out of 35) at which they say they have approved the 'no further action required' report."

"This is not something you're going to be done within a week or two," says Paul Makoski, director of environmental health for Calhoun County, "You better plan on months and years and such because there's a lot of ripples."

"The cruel irony is we knew this pipeline had defects right in that section where it ruptured over Talmage Creek. We knew," says former Congressman Mark Schauer, who represented the area at the time. "We also know where Line 5 runs under the Straits of Mackinac."

The video is the second in a series of videos and infographics the National Wildlife Federation is producing to examine the effects of Enbridge's 2010 oil spill in the Kalamazoo River and the potential impacts of an Enbridge oil spill from Line 5 in the Straits of Mackinac. The first video in the series, released May 23, featured Larry Bell of Bell's Brewery speaking out about his experiences after the spill.

The video, produced for the National Wildlife Federation, can be viewed at: <https://youtu.be/bQyK-Q8LMLw>

---

### USA: ENBRIDGE SAYS PIPELINE PORTION 'FIT FOR SERVICE'

June 13 - Canadian energy company Enbridge said the west leg of Line 5 running underneath the Straits of Mackinac is "fit for service," after completing half of a pressure test Saturday.

The oil transport company announced the results Monday morning and will conduct a federally required safety review of the east leg in the coming week before releasing its overall verdict about Line 5's overall fitness.

The tests come amid concern and intense scrutiny about pipeline integrity from environmentalists and lawmakers.

Enbridge is required to conduct the pressure tests by the federal government after signing a consent decree with the Department of Justice. They are being overseen by the federal pipeline safety agency, state officials, the Department of Justice and an independent contractor hired by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, according to Enbridge.

"Enbridge safely and successfully completed the test" for the west leg and confirmed "it's fit for service," said Ryan Duffy, a company spokesman. *Detroit News* [Read more](#)

---

### USA: NEW U.S. JUSTICE DEPT. POLICY MAY AFFECT COMMUNITY SERVICE PAYMENTS IN MARPOL PLEA AGREEMENTS

June 14 - The Department of Justice (DOJ) has issued a new policy that may curtail the long-standing practice of requiring vessel owners and operators facing charges under the Act to Prevent Pollution from Ships (APPS) and MARPOL to make "Community Service Payments" to non-profit groups such as the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation as part of their plea agreements.

Attorney General Jeff Sessions released a memorandum dated June 5, 2017, prohibiting the DOJ from entering into any agreement on behalf of the United States that would require a party to make a payment or loan to any non-governmental person or entity that is not a party to the dispute. The agreements affected include plea agreements, non-prosecution agreements, deferred prosecution agreements, and civil settlements.

The memorandum provides only three exceptions to the general prohibition: (1) victim restitution or other payments that directly remedy the harm that is sought to be redressed, such as environmental harm or harm from official corruption; (2) payments for legal services rendered in connection with the case; and (3) payments expressly authorized by statute, such as restitution and forfeiture. *gCaptain* [Read more](#)

---

### USA: NOAA OR&R PRESENTS AT 2017 NATIONAL/REGIONAL SPILL RESPONSE LEADERSHIP MEETING

June 16 - Staff from OR&R's Emergency Response Division and Assessment and Restoration Division participated in the annual national-regional meeting of the national agency leadership for the National Oil and Hazardous Substance Pollution Contingency Plan (NCP). *NOAA OR&R Weekly Report* [Read more](#)

---

### RESPONSECON – A BIG STEP FORWARD BUT IS THE WORK COMPLETE?

June 17 – Back in July 2016 John McMurtrie (then ISCO Secretary) wrote with reference to the North Pacific Coast Guard Forum Exercise held to trial the IMO's International Offers of Assistance (IOA) guidelines –

“In addition to salvage support during the September 2015 exercise (provision of salvage experts, tugs, lost container recovery capability and oil cargo lightering) the Request for Assistance from the Korean Coast Guard identified needs for expertise and equipment in support of oil spill response operations (understood to include booms, skimmers, pumps, and other equipment to recover spilled oil) in order to protect the public and environment and to minimise further environmental damage; also expert support for SCAT operations (shoreline pollution assessment and remediation planning)

This example illustrates the close relationship between salvage and spill response – indeed several ISCO members operate both of these services in an integrated way.

However, whereas salvors operate in a marine environment, spill response contractors are called upon to work in both marine and inland locations. It should also be realised that IMO's IOA initiative is not intended to have exclusive application in marine situations.

Additionally, calls for assistance in major spill events are not restricted to requirements for salvors and response contractors – Major incidents can create urgent needs for provision of emergency support from others in the spill response community –

- Manufacturers of spill response equipment and materials
- Consultants with specialised knowledge, experience and know-how
- Training providers – for example training of local labour in shoreline clean-up
- Incident management – for example specialists in Incident Command Systems
- Wildlife rescue and rehabilitation organisations
- And others whose support may be required

ISCO's aim is to serve the interests of all of its members. We believe that the creation of an internationally recognised and respected emergency intervention contract will be a positive development for our industry as well as for all who have reliance on its ability to respond quickly when required”

Today, looking at the launch of RESPONSECON, much of the original aim has been achieved. The new contracts should be capable of being used by not only response contractors but also by many others who may be called upon by Requesting Parties to provide support in event of a major spill.

One thing not addressed in RESPONSECON is the emergency supply (on a sale basis) of equipment and materials. At the time when the concept of creating standard response contracts was first discussed the option to provide for the interests of manufacturers in the project was identified but for a variety of reasons was not progressed.

The question of whether action should be taken to rectify this omission remains open and members and other readers are invited to submit their views by email to the Secretariat at [info@spillcontrol.org](mailto:info@spillcontrol.org)

## Science and technology

### NANOPARTICLES AND MAGNETS OFFER NEW, EFFICIENT METHOD OF REMOVING OIL FROM WATER

June 8 - When oil mixes with or enters into water, conventional methods of cleaning the water and removing the oil can be challenging, expensive and environmentally risky. But researchers in the Cockrell School of Engineering at The University of Texas at Austin believe they may have developed a better method.

In a study published this spring in the Journal of Nanoparticle Research, the researchers used magnetic nanoparticles to separate oil from water through a simple process that relies on electrostatic force and a magnet. The engineers believe their new technique could improve water treatment for oil and gas production, more efficiently clean up oil spills and potentially remove lead from drinking water.

Today, nanoparticles, which are tiny particles that can be coated with different chemicals such as polymers, are used in a wide variety of areas and industries including medicine, energy and electronics. The versatility of nanoparticles inspired the UT Austin team to explore how the particles could be applied to oil production to lessen its environmental footprint and increase efficiency in both onshore and offshore drilling. They believe their technique could also be used to treat the millions of gallons of fresh water used in hydraulic fracturing and to help clean drinking water.

## Science and technology (continued)

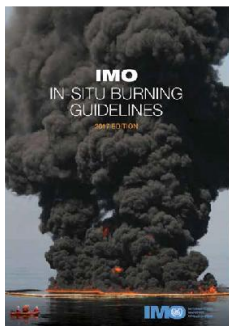
Modern oil production methods separate 95 percent of the oil from produced water but leave behind small oil droplets that are difficult to extract, which makes water treatment and disposal more challenging and environmentally risky.

“This new technique is really aimed at removing that little bit of oil in that water that needs to be removed before you can consider it treated,” said Saebom Ko, a research associate in the Department of Petroleum and Geosystems Engineering and lead author on the study. “The advantage of employing magnetic nanoparticles is that the small oil droplets that attach to the nanoparticles are much more quickly separated from water than traditional physical separation processes because magnetic force can be orders of magnitude larger than gravitation.” *UT News*

[Read more](#)

## Technical support

### IMO: IN-SITU BURNING GUIDELINES 2017 EDITION



June 9 - The IMO has announced a new title 'In Situ Burning Guidelines' released in June 2017.

These guidelines provide critical information and recommendations for the use of in-situ burning (ISB) on open water in the offshore environment generally 5 kilometres from land and in ice-covered waters. These guidelines will allow the response community to understand and take full advantage of ISB technology as another tool for improved spill response. Also available as an e-book.

More info: IMO Publishing, 4 Albert Embankment, London SE1 7SR, United Kingdom.

email: [sales@imo.org](mailto:sales@imo.org) Tel: +44 (0)20 7735 7611, Fax: +44 (0)20 7587 3241

## Publications

### NEW RESEARCH PAPER: OIL SPILL RESPONSE-RELATED INJURIES ON SAND BEACHES: WHEN SHORELINE TREATMENT EXTENDS THE IMPACTS BEYOND THE OIL

Authors: Jacqueline Michel<sup>1,\*</sup>, Stephen R. Fegley<sup>2</sup>, Jeffrey A. Dahlin<sup>1</sup>, Chip Wood<sup>3</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Research Planning, Inc., Columbia, South Carolina 29201, USA

<sup>2</sup>University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, Institute of Marine Sciences, Morehead City, North Carolina 28557, USA

<sup>3</sup>U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Houston, Texas 77058, USA

\*Corresponding author: [jmichel@researchplanning.com](mailto:jmichel@researchplanning.com)

**ABSTRACT:** Studies of oil spills on sand beaches have focused traditionally on the effects of short-term oil exposure, with recovery of sand beach macrobenthic communities occurring within several weeks to several years.

The Deepwater Horizon spill resulted in chronic, multi-year re-oiling and up to 4 yr of extensive and often intensive treatments. Of the 965 km of sand beaches that were oiled, shoreline treatment was documented on 683 km. Intensive mechanical treatment was conducted from 9 to 45 mo after the initial oiling on 32.4 km of shoreline in Louisiana, and deep beach excavation/sifting and tilling was conducted along 60.5 km in Louisiana, Alabama, and Florida, often along contiguous lengths of beach. Recovery of sand beach invertebrate communities from the combined effects of oiling and treatment would likely be delayed by 2 to 6 yr after the last response action was completed. We introduce the concept of 'Response Injury' categories that reflect both intensity and frequency of beach treatment methods.

We use the literature on similar types of disturbances to sand beach communities (foot traffic, vehicular traffic, wrack removal, beach nourishment) to describe the expected impacts. Temporal patterns of response-related disturbances can affect seasonal recruitment of organisms and the overall rate of ecosystem recovery from both oil exposure and treatment disturbance.

This concept provides a framework for specifically assessing response-related impacts in future spills, which has not been considered in previous injury assessments.

*Inter-Research Marine Ecology Progress Series*

The document can be downloaded as a PDF file from -

[http://www.int-res.com/articles/theme/AdvanceView/M11917\\_Michel\\_OIL.pdf](http://www.int-res.com/articles/theme/AdvanceView/M11917_Michel_OIL.pdf)



## Publications (continued)

### THE ELEVENTH EDITION OF THE WORLD CATALOG OF OIL SPILL RESPONSE PRODUCTS IS NOW AVAILABLE

S.L. Ross Environmental Research has recently completed work on the Eleventh Edition of the World Catalog of Oil Spill Response Products, the single most important reference in the oil spill business.

The World Catalog started out as a basic listing of equipment specifications in 1986, and has since evolved to be a useful reference book with descriptions of how equipment works, how to select equipment for different applications, and summaries of field and tank tests. As always, it includes comprehensive data listings with information on containment booms, skimmers, sorbents, oil/water separators, pumps, oil/water separators, dispersant application equipment, and temporary storage devices.

The Catalog is available in its usual hard-copy form as well as a USB version and smart-phone app. The price of the Catalog is US\$275, plus shipping and handling.

More information on the Catalog is available at [www.OilSpillEquipment.com](http://www.OilSpillEquipment.com) or email at [Sales@oilspillequipment.com](mailto:Sales@oilspillequipment.com) to order a copy.

## 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	May 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	June 2017 issue
<a href="#">Environmental Technology Online</a>	Environmental Monitoring, Testing & Analysis	April 2017 issue
<a href="#">IMO News Magazine</a>	News from the International Maritime Organization	Spring 2017 issue
<a href="#">IMO Publishing News</a>	New and forthcoming IMO publications	May-June 2017
<a href="#">Intertanko Weekly News</a>	International news for the oil tanker community	June 16, 2017
<a href="#">JOIFF "The Catalyst"</a>	Int'l Organisation for Industrial Hazard Management	Q2 2017 issue
<a href="#">MOIG Newsletter</a>	News from the Mediterranean Oil Industry Group	April 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	May 2017 issue
<a href="#">Pollution Online Newsletter</a>	News for prevention & control professionals	June 14, 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	Spring 2017 issue
<a href="#">Technology Innovation News Survey</a>	News from US EPA – Contaminated Site Decontamination	March 1-31, 2017
<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	June 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

## Training

### UK: HSE TRAINING COURSES FROM THE ENERGY INSTITUTE

June 14 - The Energy Institute (EI) offers a portfolio of training courses to help organisations improve their HSE and risk management operations. Available courses –

- Conducting Incident Investigations and Analyses using the Tripod Beta Methodology 24-26 October, London, UK
- Human Factors Foundation 20-24 November, London, UK
- Delivering Safety Culture Change using the Hearts & Minds Toolkit 7-9 November, London, UK
- Hazardous Area Classification 28-30 November, London, UK [More info on all the courses](#)

## Safety briefings

### THE DANGERS OF WORKING IN CONFINED SPACES AND HOW TO OVERCOME THEM

<https://www.prlog.org/12622591-the-dangers-of-working-in-confined-spaces-and-how-to-overcome-them.html>

### GASOLINE - OCCUPATIONAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL EXPOSURES

Safety video – <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TeNVnhBjaTE>

[Thanks to Don Johnston of ISCO Industry Partner, DG & Hazmat Group for providing both of the above safety briefings]

## Events

### USA: CLEAN GULF CONFERENCE AND EXHIBITION – HOUSTON, TX, DECEMBER 5-7 2017

The CLEAN GULF Conference & Exhibition is the annual event that delivers solutions for spill prevention, preparedness and response. It brings together all parties responsible for response operations from North America and beyond to hear best practices and build relationships vital to a successful response on land or water. A strong relationship between all parties is the foundation of a successful response, and CLEAN GULF has helped forge these relationships for the last 26 years. [Learn more](#)

Conference Tracks for CLEAN GULF 2017 Include:

- Response
- Planning and Preparedness
- Subsea and Dispersants
- Inland Preparedness and Response
- Emerging Trends
- Information/Response Technologies and Research

Click for more info on Clean Gulf home page at <http://2017.cleangulf.org/>

The early bird registration rate ends 8/18/2017. [Register](#) to save up to \$250 off the onsite registration rate!

## Upcoming events summary

COUNTRY	2017	TITLE OF EVENT	LOCATION
<b>For more information click on Title of Event</b>			
UK	Jan 16 – July 7	<a href="#">IMO Exhibition – 50 Years Gov't &amp; Industry Co-op'n</a>	London
UK	June 20-21	<a href="#">Wreck Removal Contracts &amp; Operations Seminar</a>	London
IRELAND	June 26-29	<a href="#">OSPAR Commission 2017</a>	Cork
GHANA	June 26-30	<a href="#">NOSCP Table-top Exercise</a>	Accra
USA	June 27-28	<a href="#">Clean Waterways</a>	Louisville KY
UK	July 3-7	<a href="#">IMO Marine Environment Protection Committee</a>	London
NIGERIA	July 13-14	<a href="#">Marine Safety &amp; Fisheries Protection Conference</a>	Lagos
CHINA	July 14	<a href="#">6th NOWPAP DELTA Exercise</a>	Weihai
SENEGAL	July 17-20	<a href="#">International Workshop on Dispersant and NEBA</a>	Dakar
SINGAPORE	Sept. 4-6	<a href="#">Salvage &amp; Wreck Asia</a>	Singapore
NIGERIA	Sept. 5-7	<a href="#">National Workshop on Liability and Compensation</a>	TBA
UK	Sept. 5-8	<a href="#">SPE Offshore Europe</a>	Aberdeen
UK	Sept. 6-7	<a href="#">8th Maritime and Salvage Response</a>	London
UK	Sept. 27-28	<a href="#">Contamination Expo Series 2017</a>	London
FRANCE	Sept. 28	<a href="#">CEDRE Information Day – "Spills in Ports"</a>	Paris
UAE	Nov. 13-16	<a href="#">Abu Dhabi Int'l Petroleum Exhibition &amp; Conference</a>	Abu Dhabi
UK	Nov. 29-30	<a href="#">11th Arctic Shipping Summit</a>	London
USA	Dec. 5-7	<a href="#">Clean Gulf Conference and Exhibition</a>	Houston, TX
<b>2018</b>			
UAE	Feb 28 – Mar 1	<a href="#">Offshore Arabia Conference &amp; Exhibition</a>	Dubai
UK	March 13-15	<a href="#">2018 INTERSPILL Conference and Exhibition</a>	London
UK	March 13-15	<a href="#">Oceanology International 2018</a>	London
USA	June 19-21	<a href="#">Clean Pacific Conference and Exhibition</a>	Portland, OR
To request posting of an event of interest to the Spill Response Community please send details to the Editor			

Legal disclaimer: Whilst ISCO takes every care to ensure that information published in this newsletter is accurate unintentional mistakes can occur. No liability for consequences of errors is accepted but, if an error is brought to our attention, a correction will be printed in a following issue of this newsletter. Products and services featured in the ISCO Newsletter and/or the ISCO website, including the International Directory of Spill Response Supplies and Services, have not been tested, approved or endorsed by ISCO. Any claims made by suppliers of products or services are solely those of the suppliers and ISCO does not accept any liability for their accuracy. It should not be assumed that views and opinions expressed in linked reports, articles and other content reflect the views of the organization. Subscription is subject to acceptance of ISCO's Terms and Conditions as published on the website [www.spillcontrol.org](http://www.spillcontrol.org)