



ISCO NEWSLETTER

The Newsletter of the International Spill Response Community

Issue 622 5 February 2018

info@spillcontrol.org

<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 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 Dagleish** (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), **Mr Carlos Sagrera** (Panama), and **Major Ben Benny** (Israel)

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

INTERNATIONAL DIRECTORY

Click on these links to view websites

[EQUIPMENT & MATERIALS](#)

[RESPONSE ORGANISATIONS](#)

[TRAINING PROVIDERS](#)

[CONSULTANTS](#)

International news

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

WORLD MARITIME DAY 2018



About World Maritime Day 2018

In 2018, IMO will celebrate 70 years since the Convention establishing the Organization was adopted.

The World Maritime Day theme for the year is "IMO 70: Our Heritage – Better Shipping for a Better Future".

This provides the opportunity to take stock and look back, but also to look forward, addressing current and future challenges for maritime transport to maintain a continued and strengthened contribution towards sustainable growth for all.

Events

A series of activities and events are planned to mark the 70 years since the Convention establishing IMO was adopted in March 1948. They will also look ahead, to the future.

Events will include (further details will be made available in due course):

March 2018 - a ceremony to mark the date when the IMO Convention was adopted will be held at IMO Headquarters.

15 May 2018 - a high level forum will be held at IMO Headquarters to discuss the Organization's history, its future challenges and role within the global trade in a changing world.

25 June 2018 - the annual Day of the Seafarer.

Late September 2018 - World Maritime Day celebrated at IMO Headquarters and around the world.

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)

During 2018 – in conjunction with the International Congress of Maritime Museums a travelling exhibition will tour participating maritime museums.

During 2018 – a photography contest will be held.

Member Governments and international organizations are encouraged to organize events throughout the year to celebrate IMO70 .

Parallel event 2018

The World Maritime Day parallel event will be hosted by the Government of the Republic of Poland in June 2018.

[Click here](#) to learn more about previous parallel events.

MAJOR BALTIC SEA OIL AND CHEMICAL SPILL RECOVERY EXERCISE IS TAKING SHAPE

January 26 - The Baltic Sea response community gathered in Malmö in the beginning of the week to put together the pieces of the puzzle for the HELCOM BALEX DELTA 2018 oil and chemical spill recovery exercise. The exercise will be held in August 2018 in the Karlskrona area, hosted by Sweden.

The Main Planning Conference, held on 23–24 January 2018 and hosted by the County Administrative Board of Skåne, gathered 25 experts from seven Baltic Sea countries (Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland and Sweden) and the HELCOM Secretariat. Experiences from the SCOPE 2017 exercise <https://scope2017.com/> were shared by the Norwegian colleagues, to the appreciation of the conference participants. *HELCOM* [Read more](#)

International news (continued)

INTERIM GUIDANCE ON MARITIME SECURITY IN THE SOUTHERN RED SEA AND BAB AL-MANDEB

The conflict in Yemen has introduced additional maritime security threats, other than piracy, to the Southern Red Sea and Bab al-Mandeb; these include collateral damage due to conflict between groups in the region and a potential deliberate targeting of ships. The guidance contained in this publication is specific to known threats in this particular region. The purpose of this guidance is to help Company Security Officers (CSOs) and Masters in conducting a threat assessment in respect of transits through the Southern Red Sea and Bab al-Mandeb. Experience has shown awareness of other threats and application of the recommendations contained within this guidance, in conjunction with application of the BMP 4 recommendations, may prevent a successful attack. This guidance is complimentary to and should be applied in conjunction with the application of BMP 4. The consequences of not adopting effective security measures can be severe. This guidance relates to information available at the time of writing and does not speculate on any future threats that may emerge due to regional instability. Amended guidance will be provided whenever the situation changes based upon credible threat and risk advice that is endorsed by military forces in the region and flag states. The situation internally in Yemen and within its ports means that perceived non-piracy threats may be reported at short notice, and CSOs and Masters should, therefore, assess the suitability of mitigation measures against more than one type of threat e.g. piracy. *INTERTANKO & BIMCO* [Read more](#)

IOPC FUNDS' SHORT COURSE: 2018 DATES ANNOUNCED

January 29 - The Director is pleased to announce that the 2018 IOPC Funds' Short Course will take place from Monday 25 June to Friday 29 June at the Funds' headquarters in London. The course programme will cover all aspects of the work of the IOPC Funds and the international liability and compensation regime in general and will include practical exercises which allow participants to study a theoretical incident and the subsequent claims submission process. The course is supported by IMO, INTERTANKO, ICS, the International Group of P&I Associations and ITOFF.

The Short Course is open to a maximum of 10 self-funded participants from 1992 Fund Member States and the selection process is now open. The Director encourages all interested parties to submit official nominations as soon as possible to allow sufficient time for the selected candidates to make their travel and accommodation arrangements. The deadline for receiving applications is 16 April 2018. <http://www.iopcfunds.org/news-events/detail/item/878/>

International news (continued)

INTERNATIONAL SPILL ACCREDITATION ASSOCIATION – TRAINING EVENT ANNOUNCEMENT

ISAA training at Castle Archdale, Nr Enniskillen, Co. Fermanagh, Northern Ireland will this year take place on 11th and 12th April. Day one will deal with domestic heating oil spills and in particular oil which has migrated below house foundations. Day two will make provision for companies accredited for freshwater spills to carry out a spill exercise which would be observed by a spill assessor and count towards accreditation compliance. For further details and booking forms contact: johnadawes@btinternet.com

Incident reports (in chronological order)

USA: ARKANSAS - COAST GUARD INVESTIGATING OIL SPILL NEAR BLYTHEVILLE

January 24 - The Coast Guard is responding to a sunken vessel discharging oil near mile marker 823 on the lower Mississippi River near Blytheville, Arkansas, Wednesday.

Coast Guard Sector Lower Mississippi River watchstanders were notified by Terral River Service at 5:35 a.m. of the uninspected towing vessel Virginia Renee sunk at its mooring at Hickman Landing. The Virginia Renee has a reported 10,000 gallons of diesel aboard.

Boom and absorbent pads are being used to mitigate the spread of product and divers are on scene. A plan is being developed to salvage the vessel. *KASU* [Read more](#) [Thanks to Don Johnston of ISCO Industry Partner, DG & Hazmat Group]

USA: NEW JERSEY - OIL SPILL LEAKS HUNDREDS OF GALLONS OF DIESEL, SOME INTO HUDSON

January 25 - A refueling truck spilled hundreds of gallons of oil in New Jersey, and some of the oil gushed into the Hudson River, officials say.

The fuel poured from the truck just south of the New York Waterway ferry terminal in Weehawken on Friday afternoon, according to a spokesman for the Coast Guard. *NBC* [Read more](#) [Thanks to Don Johnston of ISCO Industry Partner, DG & Hazmat Group]

USA: NEW MEXICO - WORKERS CONTINUE CLEANUP AS POLICE INVESTIGATE OIL SPILL, ROBBERY

January 25 - The City of Portales expects to be cleaning the mess left by a large mineral oil spill for the next several days. Meanwhile, the city's police department is still searching for answers about who opened the valve at a grain facility that caused "several thousand" gallons of food-grade oil to spill into city streets. *NewsChannel10* [Read more](#) [Thanks to Don Johnston of ISCO Industry Partner, DG & Hazmat Group]

USA: OREGON - CRANE BARGE ARRIVES IN ASTORIA FOR OIL SPILL RESPONSE

January 28 - Oil spill responders from Coast Guard Sector Columbia River, Coast Guard Pacific Strike Team, Oregon Department of Environmental Quality, Washington Department of Ecology, National Response Corporation Environmental Services and Global Diving and Salvage contractors have been on scene and responding since the oil spill was reported. The majority of response to date has consisted of oil containment, marina and boat cleaning, environmental impact assessments, ordering and gathering response equipment and identifying a method to safely access the tank. More resources have been ordered to aid in oil collection efforts. *Coast Guard News* [Read more](#)

UAE: FUJAIRA - OIL SPILL HITS EASTERN COAST OF UAE



January 29 - A big oil spill hit the coast of Dibba Fujairah, in the eastern part of the United Arab Emirates.

This is not the first time this beach resort is hit by oil pollution as ships cleaning their tanks appear to be still violating local laws and dumping oil sludge into the water. The oil spill prompted the Dibba Fujairah municipal authorities to assess damage on the environment while specialised teams started cleaning the polluted coastal areas. *Gdnonline* [Read more](#)

February 3 - Oil transfer at sea may have caused Fujairah spill. *The National* [Read more](#)

Incident reports (continued)

CHINA: CHINESE SALVAGE TEAM TRYING TO REMOVE BUNKER FUEL FROM SUNKEN SANCHI OIL TANKER

February 1 - Chinese salvage crews are still trying to remove 1,900 tonnes of bunker fuel, the heavy oil used in ship engines, from a sunken Iranian oil tanker, the Ministry of Transport said on Thursday, almost a month after it collided with a freight ship.

Five Chinese vessels, and one Japanese ship and one South Korean, are involved in the clean-up effort that spans almost 226 sq. nautical miles, while an investigation into the cause and examination of the tanker's "black box" continues. *gCaptain* [Read more](#)

JAPAN: TOKYO TAKES MORE STEPS TO DEAL WITH SANCHI OIL SPILL

February 2 - With fears growing that an oil spill in the East China Sea last month could impact marine life, reefs and fishing grounds in western Japan and Okinawa in the coming weeks, the government stepped up measures Friday to deal with what has been described by scientists as potentially one of the worst oil spills in decades.

The central government's action comes a day after the Japan Coast Guard and Kagoshima Prefecture confirmed that black oily substances were found drifting ashore on the small island of Takarajima, which lies between Amami Oshima and Yakushima, a world heritage site famous for its ancient cedar trees.

"Cleanup operations in and around the Amami Oshima area have been taking place. Right now, there is no official confirmation yet that the oily substances are from the tanker, but we'll continue to monitor the situation," Yuta Nishikawa, a coast guard spokesman in Kagoshima, told The Japan Times on Friday. *Japan Times* [Read more](#)

CANADA: DIESEL SPILLED AFTER BARGE SINKS IN HOWE SOUND



Photo: A boom was set up to contain diesel fuel spilled from a sunken barge near Port Mellon, B.C., on Wednesday. (Western Canada Marine Response Corp.)

February 2 - Diesel was spilled into Howe Sound after a barge sank near Port Mellon, B.C., on Wednesday.

The Canadian Coast Guard said it responded with two of its ships after the vessel went

down in the early morning. A coast guard statement said the Western Canada Marine Response Corporation, Squamish Nation and provincial officials all responded as well. Feb. 2, 2018: A fuel tank on board has been identified as the source of the spill, which has now been contained. The Canadian Coast Guard said the diesel sheen has also been recovered. *CBC News* [Read more](#)

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

AUSTRALIA: 2018 NATIONAL MAJOR HAZARD FACILITIES FORUM

February 1- SafeWork NSW is hosting the 2018 national major hazard facilities forum on 6 March at ANZ Stadium in Sydney.

An opportunity to learn about best practice and the challenges in the industry. Participate in workshops about making decisions under pressure and changing MHF requirements. Get answers to your questions from an expert panel and listen to keynote speakers talk about near misses, reducing hindsight bias, measuring safety and assessing MHF regulations. [More info](#)

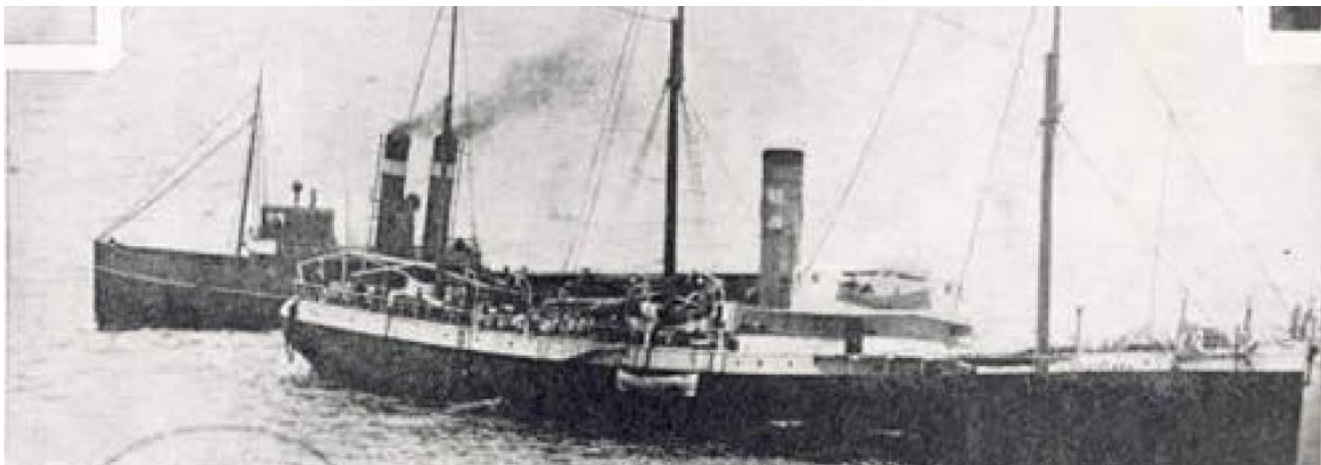
AUSTRALIA: PETRIANA, 28 NOVEMBER 1903

Australia's first recorded major oil spill occurred on Saturday 28 November 1903 in Port Phillip Bay.

The Petriana was bound for Melbourne Victoria from Borneo. It was laden with 1300 tonnes of bulk oil as well as an unrecorded quantity of naphtha and benzene.

A pilot boarded the vessel at 6 am and proceeded towards the notorious Rip at the entrance to Port Phillip Bay.

News reports from around the world (continued)



Above: The *Petriana* (1821 gross tonnage) was a screw steamer powered by both steam and sail. It was owned by the Asiatic Petroleum Company and operating on behalf of the Shell Transport and Trading Company.

The fog was thick and the shoreline was obscured but the pilot hoped the fog would clear by the time the leading lights could be seen.

Unfortunately the fog did not clear and the *Petriana* went aground on Portsea Back Beach at 7 am.

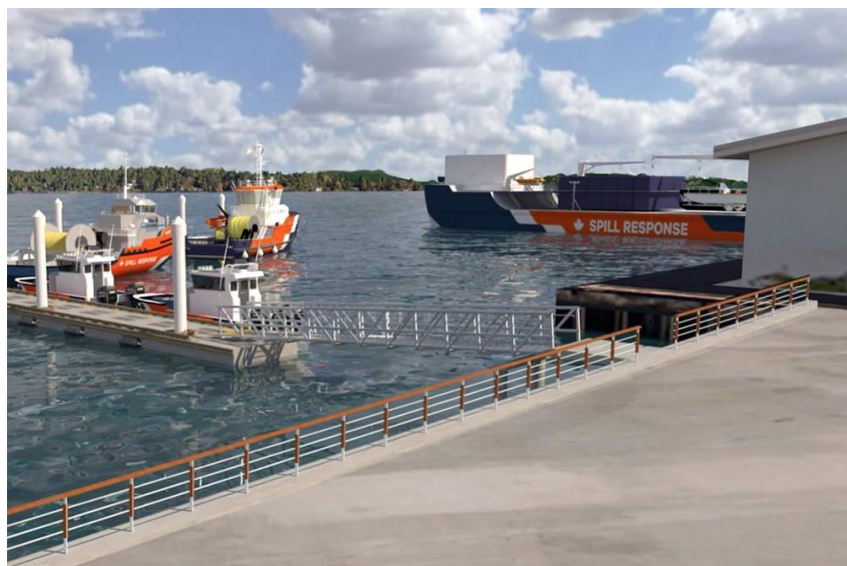
Within moments the engine room and stokehold were flooded leaving the vessel without power. Attempts made to refloat the *Petriana* throughout the day using the steam tug *James Patterson* were unsuccessful.

The following day, the salvage schooner *Enterprise* and the tug *Eagle* were called to assist. It was hoped that the powerful pumps on the *Enterprise* could remove some of the water from the *Petriana* allowing her to be refloated; however, both pumps broke down so this effort was abandoned.

The next strategy was to lighten the vessel by releasing the cargo of 1300 tonnes of oil into the sea. In a time before modern-day environmental concerns, the spill was described as 'a film of great beauty, radiating all the colours of the rainbow, spread from Sorrento Back Beach to Point Nepean'. The foul-smelling oil contaminated the beaches for months afterwards.

A final attempt was made on Monday 30 November 1903 by the *James Patterson* but, by this stage, the ship was so badly damaged that it was formally abandoned. The master, Captain Kerr, and his wife, six officers, a cabin boy, and 27 crew were evacuated after the first failed attempt to refloat the vessel. Thanks to AMSA [Continue reading](#)

CANADA: WORK COULD START THIS SPRING ON OIL-SPILL-RESPONSE DOCK IN NANAIMO



An image of what a Western Canada Marine Response Corporation base could look like on Nanaimo's south downtown waterfront. (WCMRC image)

January 27 - Western Canada Marine Response Corporation could begin work on moorage and pilings this spring as it prepares to build a new base on Nanaimo Port Authority land on the south downtown waterfront.

WCMRC updated Nanaimo city council on Monday about its plans locally. The corporation's expansion is tied to the Trans Mountain pipeline expansion project and involves increases to staff, vessel fleet and number of bases.

WCMRC communications manager Michael Lowry told city council that provincially, the corporation will go from three bases

currently to nine, double its vessel fleet to 80 and increase its personnel from 80 to 200 people.

An 80,000-square-foot Nanaimo base would have 34-35 full-time staff and 15 vessels and would become the largest oil-spill-response base on Vancouver Island and the main training centre for the Island. *Nanaimo Bulletin* [Read more](#)

News reports from around the world (continued)

CANADA: BRITISH COLOMBIA - PROVINCE TAKES AIM AT TRANS MOUNTAIN PIPELINE WITH PROPOSED BITUMEN RESTRICTIONS

January 30 - The B.C. government is proposing new restrictions on transporting crude oil – a decision that could heavily impact Kinder Morgan's Trans Mountain pipeline expansion.

The proposal, released Tuesday, is part of the province's second phase of its oil spill response plan.

Phase two will consider increasing restrictions on diluted bitumen transportation by pipeline or rail, the province said, at least until the "behaviour" of spilled bitumen can be better understood and a response plan can be made.

Bitumen is the main crude product flowing through Kinder Morgan's Trans Mountain pipeline from Alberta to B.C., at the capacity of about 300,000 barrels a day. The \$7.4-billion expansion is expected to nearly triple the pipeline's daily capacity. *The Progress* [Read more](#)



CANADA: WHAT WE KNOW – AND DON'T KNOW – ABOUT DILUTED BITUMEN

January 31 - The B.C. government announced regulations on Tuesday that would block any expansion of heavy-crude shipments off the West Coast while a scientific advisory panel examines the "scientific uncertainties" related to how diluted bitumen interacts with waterways and wildlife. The announcement is seen as an attempt to block Kinder Morgan Canada Ltd.'s proposed expansion of its Trans Mountain pipeline between Alberta's oil sands and the Vancouver region.

Here's what you need to know about diluted bitumen and what experts know – and don't know – about how it would behave in a spill.

What is diluted bitumen? - The sludgy bitumen from Alberta's oil sands is thick like molasses. To make it easier to transport by pipeline, the bitumen is thinned with natural gas condensates, which can include hydrocarbons such as benzene, toluene and hexane. The result is diluted bitumen, also known as dilbit.

What are the concerns? - Regulators, the industry and experts have studied and debated the impact of a diluted-bitumen spill, particularly whether a cleanup would require a different response than a conventional oil spill.

A Royal Society of Canada report published in 2015 highlighted a knowledge deficit about how dilbit oil behaves in different environments.

"The big question people ask is: If it spills and ends up in water, will it sink or will it float?" said Heather Dettman, a Natural Resources Canada scientist in Alberta.

The Royal Society concluded more research was needed. *The Globe and Mail* [Continue reading](#)

CANADA: ALBERTA - RACHEL NOTLEY: B.C. PIPELINE PLAY 'AN ATTACK' ON CONFEDERATION

January 31 - British Columbia has threatened the very foundations of Confederation and will face the consequences, says Alberta Premier Rachel Notley.

Notley called an emergency cabinet meeting Wednesday to plan potential legal and trade actions against B.C.

Addressing ministers and reporters, she said the B.C. government has taken direct aim at Alberta with its latest attempt to stall progress on the \$7.4-billion Trans Mountain pipeline expansion from Alberta to the West Coast. "The government of Alberta will not — we cannot — let this unconstitutional attack on jobs stand," Notley said. "Just because the B.C. government, in coalition with the Green Party, doesn't like the decision gives them absolutely no right to ignore the law or ... change the rules at half-time, based on a whim."

B.C. Premier John Horgan, who took power last spring with backing from the province's Green Party, has vowed to use every tool at his disposal to block the project.

As a result, Notley suspected he might not play ball. Over the summer, she asked officials here to start polishing the tools in Alberta's toolbox in preparation. *The Edmonton Journal* [Read more](#)

News reports from around the world (continued)

CHINA TO INVEST IN OFFSHORE OIL SPILL RESEARCH

January 29 - China's Ministry of Transport is planning to establish a laboratory specializing in treating oil spills at sea, the first of its kind in the country, local media Science and Technology Daily reported on Sunday.

China is spending some 200 million yuan a year on researches for emergency treatment of oil spills but the technological expertise has not been widely applied because of lack of such a lab, the report said.

The laboratory is planned in northern port city of Tianjin, off the Bohai Bay, with an initial investment 400 million yuan (\$63 million). The investment will go to research projects on oceanic ecological protection and safety issues for sea-borne transportation. *gCaptain* [Read more](#)

INDIA: CHENNAI ENNORE OIL SPILL ANNIVERSARY: ONE YEAR ON, LESSONS NOT LEARNT, TAMIL NADU STILL VULNERABLE



January 28 - On this same date last year, January 28, LPG tanker BW Maple rammed into petroleum tanker MT Dawn Kanchipuram two nautical miles off the Kamarajar Port at Ennore, resulting in massive oil spill that polluted close to 35 kms of coastline.

It was the first such incident in Chennai and authorities were completely caught off-guard as there was no State Oil Spill Disaster Contingency Plan (SOS-DCP).

All coastal States are mandated to prepare a contingency plan under the National Disaster Management Act, 2005 and the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS), and have an obligation to protect marine environments. It has to be consistent with the National Oil Spill Disaster Contingency Plan, which is the national policy for response to an oil spill of any size.

Unfortunately, Tamil Nadu, although it is highly prone to oil spills, doesn't have an approved SOS-DCP. BR Subramanian, former advisor for Ministry of Earth Sciences and senior scientific consultant for National Centre for Sustainable Coastal Management, told Express that an Oil Spill Plan was prepared in September, 2016 and in fact, he was the chairman of the committee which drafted the plan. But it is still awaiting approval of Tamil Nadu government.

"When the plan was awaiting approval, the Chennai oil spill occurred and so we reviewed it and submitted a revised SOS-DCP to the State Disaster Management Authority (SDMA). Putting in place such a plan is critical because it provides all details about preparedness required to meet oil spill eventualities and equips the State to combat spills without loss of time.

The plan that we prepared provides a systematic approach, which includes inter-alia, establishment of dedicated authority to administer oil spill emergency, creation of a combat team and building their capacity, safety measures to be adopted during clean-up and combating oil spills using oil booms, skimmers and shoreline clean-up equipment," he said. When contacted, a senior official of SDMA told Express that the government would very soon approve the SOS-DCP and is in the process of procuring mechanised equipment.

During the Chennai oil spill clean-up operations, the basic problem was lack of co-ordination between various departments. Some of the basic equipment was lacking. "We have recommended the procurement of containment and recovery equipment, including a variety of booms, barriers, and skimmers, as well as natural and synthetic sorbent materials. The coastal police or SDMA can have them and can be deployed during such emergencies," he said. *New Indian Express* [Continue reading](#)

NIGERIA: SUSTAINED FIGHT AGAINST MARITIME CRIMES

January 30 - Chiemelie Ezeobi writes that the naval show of force from, Operations Awatse to Jagunlabi and the most recently Exercise River Sweep, is aimed at reinforcing the navy's zero tolerance for criminality

It is no secret that the industrial scale at which Nigeria keeps losing its scarce oil resources to crude oil theft and pipeline vandalism is alarming. According to a past Chatham House report, an estimate of about 100,000 barrels per day, valued at N1.18 billion are stolen daily, which when translated amounts to N433.62 billion annually.

It is also pertinent to note that the statistics did not include the amount of oil suspected to have been stolen from

News reports from around the world (continued)

export pipelines, cost of oil spill cleanup, loss of income to fishing communities and environmental degradation. The report blamed the alarming scale of oil theft to poor law enforcement presence in the waterways.



Also, another quoted report submitted by International Oil Companies (IOCs), showed that the country lost about 160 million barrels of crude oil valued at 13.7 billion dollars to theft from 2009 to 2012. The estimate was gotten from the records of three IOCs – Shell Producing Development Company (SPDC), Nigerian Agip Oil Company (NAOC) and Chevron Nigeria Limited (CNL).

The report of the Nigerian National Petroleum Corporation (NNPC) monthly financial and operations report as far back as September 2015, was more damning. The report said that with an average price of 97.59 dollars per barrel in 2013, Nigeria lost 3.9 billion dollars (N858 billion) between January 2013 to April 2015 to the activities of pipeline vandals and crude oil theft. According to the report, between January and

September of 2015, Nigeria lost about N48b to crude oil theft.

Thus, it is without gainsaying that only a sustained war against such maritime crimes can curb the menace. Buying into that ideology, the navy has launched several operations and exercises like the continuous Operation Awatse, the recently launched Operation Jagunlabi (both joint exercises of all arms of the armed forces) and the most recent Exercise River Sweep 11 (solely for the navy).

From Operation Awatse to Operation Jagunlabi to Exercise River Sweep 11, the sustained military presence at sea has already yielded commensurate successes as no fewer than 22 vessels involved in different criminalities were arrested by the command from June 2017 to date. *This Day Live* [Continue reading](#)

PAKISTAN: BYCO INDUCTS STATE-OF-THE-ART OIL TANKERS

January 29 - Pakistan's leading energy company, Byco Petroleum Pakistan Limited, is modernizing its logistics operation and is inducting brand new oil tankers for safely transporting petroleum products from its refinery in Mouza Kund across Pakistan. Following OGRA's new safety protocols and guidelines, Byco is inducting modern oil tankers that comply with the latest OGRA & NHA safety guidelines for ADR Tank Lorries in its fleet for white oil transportation.

At a ceremony to induct the new oil tankers, Mr. Amir Abbasciy, Chief Executive Officer, BPPL, remarked: "Byco's roll out of state-of-the-art, OGRA compliant oil tankers underscores our commitment to ensure that safety will always be Byco's top priority." Adopting industry best practices, Byco intends to completely modernize its white oil fleet of approximately 200 tank lorries to ensure the safe transportation of Byco's products across Pakistan, consistent with the rules and regulations of transporting petroleum products. To ensure compliance of the OGRA & NHA standards, new tank lorries of 24 KL & 48 KL each were inducted in Byco's fleet today at Byco's Head Office in Clifton.

The Daily Times [Read more](#)

UAE: DELIBERATE OIL SPILLS NEED TO BE STOPPED

The environmental effect of these intentional acts is enormous. They affect natural habitats and endanger marine biodiversity and the ecosystem. The first oil spill, which occurred in March, coincided with the breeding season of certain types of fish. Fish eggs can be harmed by hydrocarbons and marine fauna and flora can suffer irreparable damage, which in turn would affect birds and endangered species that feed on them.

The economic repercussions of shoreline oiling are many. The most recent oil spill in Fujairah affected 300 boats and around 250 fishermen, as *The National* reported, not only damaging their trade and livelihood, but also incurring significant costs to repair damaged equipment. In an area that also thrives on tourism, hoteliers have reported losses amounting to thousands of dirhams, as tourists cancelled their stays.

In other words, clean-up costs are high, even when dealing with the repercussions of the smallest spill or discharge.

The volume of sea traffic in Fujairah is high, where heavy tanker traffic can make it difficult to pinpoint the culprit. Nevertheless, according to experts, finding the source is "not impossible". A study of currents and an analysis of oil samples can determine the origin and narrow down possibilities.

In GCC territorial waters, tankers are required by federal law to maintain their ballast discharge and UAE law clearly

News reports from around the world (continued)

states that waste water is not to be dumped within coastal limits. Though enforcing these laws may prove difficult, new technologies can be helpful. In 2014, the Masdar Institute's Coastal and Environmental Remote Sensing Research Group developed a satellite surveillance programme to issue early warnings when oil spills happen.

Authorities have pledged that steps would be taken against tanker captains who dump their ballast waste in the blue waters of the coast. It is time those who perpetrate these harmful and unlawful acts are brought to account. *The National* [Read more](#)

UK: OIL REGULATIONS CHANGING IN SCOTLAND – CHECK YOU ARE COMPLIANT

February 1 - If you store oil for onward distribution on your premises, you need to be aware that there are new rules in place; you will need to review the changes to make sure you are compliant.

There is no longer an exemption for sites where there is an onward distribution of oil. A wide range of premises are covered, including industrial businesses, commercial businesses, institutions (residential and non-residential) and farms.

The two changes to the regulations are: There is no longer an exemption for sites where there is an onward distribution of oil and premises security is now an alternative to enclosing the delivery pipe in a secure cabinet or having a lockable valve.

You can review the legislation on the [Scottish Government website](#) or visit the [SEPA website](#) for details on how the changes affect you. *SEPA* [Read more](#)

USA: GIANT FUZZY DISCS AND THERMAL CAMERAS: NEW OIL SPILL CLEANUP TECH IS COMING TO ALASKA



A diagram for an Edison Chouest spill response barge shows an orange boom to corral oil and skimmers suspended off either side to suck up oil. (Photo provided by Alyeska Pipeline)

January 27 - Protections for oil tankers crossing Prince William Sound will get major upgrades this summer, including beefy new tugs with more heat-sensing cameras to swiftly find spills and huge skimmers with fuzzy discs that sop up more oil.

New oil-capturing barges will also arrive in Alaska soon, as Louisiana-based Edison Chouest Offshore prepares to replace Crowley Marine, the Florida company that long provided spill prevention services in the Sound.

Edison won't take over until July, when a 10-year contract begins and after state and federal regulators have signed off on the new ships following sea tests in the Gulf of Mexico and Alaska. The first of the ships is set to arrive in March. Alyeska Pipeline Service Co., owned by Alaska's major oil producers, has said it decided to change contractors after Edison provided the best bid, with cutting-edge technology and new vessels. *Anchorage Daily News* [Read more](#)

USA: MASSACHUSETTS - UPDATE GIVEN ON GREAT HARBOR OIL SPILL

January 29 - The Redfield Laboratory Auditorium at the Woods Hole Oceanographic Institute was packed on January 25, as a panel featuring representatives from the United States Coast Guard, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, and other agencies gave an update on efforts to remediate a recent oil spill in Great Harbor.

The Coast Guard was notified at approximately 1:13 PM on January 21 that there was a sheen of oil originating by the boat ramps right near the Woods Hole Science Aquarium, according to the presentation given by the panel.

The Coast Guard, the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection, and the Falmouth Harbormaster's office arrived on scene to contain the substance from spreading any further than the 100-by-100 yard sheen that was on the water. The deployment of sorbent boom and absorbent pads worked to soak up the spill as it found its way towards the shoreline. Samples were sent into WHOI for analysis, said Coast Guard Ensign Nathan Mendes.

Christopher M. Reddy, a senior scientist in the department of marine chemistry and geochemistry at WHOI, said he has studied oil spills for the majority of his career. Reddy identified the spill to be a combination of fuel and lubricant oil. Black particles found in the water and on the shoreline rocks were determined to be manganese and iron oxides. *Falmouth Wicked Local* [Read more](#)

News reports from around the world (continued)

USA: WASHINGTON - INSLEE REJECTS BIG OIL-BY-RAIL TERMINAL ALONG COLUMBIA RIVER

January 29 - Gov. Jay Inslee has rejected a massive oil-by-rail terminal along the Columbia River in Vancouver, Wash., dealing one more, major blow to projects that would use Northwest ports for shipment of oil and coal.

Inslee cited the potential of a "catastrophic" earthquake, and dangers of an oil spill to aquatic life along the Columbia River.

The \$210 million project would have received up to 360,000 barrels of oil a day. The oil would arrive by two long oil trains a day, which would cross the state and come down the Columbia Gorge. The oil would then be transferred for downstream shipment to refineries up and down the West Coast.

Inslee's decision won fulsome praise from environmental groups that are a key part of The Governor's political base. It follows a recommendation against the Vancouver Energy proposal late last year by the state's Energy Facility Site Evaluation Council.

"When weighing all of the factors considered against the need for and potential benefits of the facility at this location, I believe the record reflects substantial evidence that the project does not meet the broad public interest standard necessary for the Council to recommend site certification," Inslee said in his decision.

The governor, in a letter to the council, cited seismic conditions at the site, saying they "present an unacceptable and potentially catastrophic risk to the public." *Seattle PI* [Continue reading](#)

People in the news

USA: NEW APPOINTMENTS AT THE AMERICAN SALVAGE ASSOCIATION



In the picture: From Left to Right, Jim Elliott, David DeVilbiss and Lindsay Malen-Habib

January 29 - The American Salvage Association hosted their Annual General Meeting (AGM) this past November 28th. Jim Elliott of T&T Salvage is the new President of the American Salvage Association. David DeVilbiss, Global Diving and Salvage, was made Vice President of the ASA. Lindsay Malen-Habib, of Resolve Marine Group was appointed as the new Secretary Treasurer and is first female ever on the ASA's Leadership Committee.

Read a full meeting report in [The Maritime Executive](#)

ISCO news

ISCO AT THE IMO POLLUTION PREVENTION & RESPONSE (PPR) SUB-COMMITTEE THIS WEEK

ISCO Secretary, Matthew Sommerville and Hon. Member, Dr Douglas Cormack are attending the PPR meeting at IMO in London this week.

A report on the meeting will be in next week's newsletter

Publications

TRANSPORT CANADA PUBLISHES 'YOU'RE NOT ALONE!' QUICK REFERENCE GUIDE FOR FIRST RESPONDERS

January 23 - As part of the Government of Canada's ongoing commitment to providing first responders and emergency planners with the tools and resources they need to respond to a dangerous goods emergency, Transport Canada convened a meeting of the Steering Committee on First Responder Training today. The meeting brought together stakeholders and government representatives to help steer the development of a national training curriculum

Publications (continued)

for personnel who respond to railway incidents involving the transportation of dangerous goods. At the meeting, Transport Canada announced the publication of a quick reference guide, You're Not Alone! which is designed to help first responders at the scene of an incident involving flammable liquids. The guide outlines important safety measures and groups them into five steps as part of emergency planning.

The guide was added to Safety Awareness Kits published by Transport Canada in 2017 and is aimed at first responders and communities. [More info](#) [Thanks to Don Johnston of ISCO Industry Partner, DG & Hazmat Group]

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

AMSA Aboard	News from the Australian Maritime Safety Authority	December 2017
Newsletter from George Holliday	News and commentary on HSE issues from George Holliday	On request via email
Bow Wave	Sam Ignarski's Ezine on Marine & Transport Matters	Current issue
Cedre Newsletter	News from Cedre in Brittany, France	December 2017
CROIERG Enews	Canberra & Regions Oil Industry Emergency Response Group	October 2017
EMSA Newsletter	News from the European Maritime Safety Agency	January 2018 issue
EUROWA Newsletter	European Oiled Wildlife Response Assistance Module	October 2017
IMO News Magazine	News from the International Maritime Organization	Winter 2017 issue
IMO Publishing News	New and forthcoming IMO publications	January 2018
Intertanko Weekly News	International news for the oil tanker community	February 2, 2018
JOIFF "The Catalyst"	Int'l Organisation for Industrial Hazard Management	Q1 2018 issue
Maritime Executive Magazine	Often contains articles of interest to the spill response community	Sept.-Oct. 2017
MOIG Newsletter	News from the Mediterranean Oil Industry Group	January 2018 issue
NOWPAP Quarterly	News from the North West Pacific Action Plan	Quarter 2, 2017 issue
Ocean Orbit	Newsletter from the International Tanker Owners Pollution Federation	August 2017
OCIMF Newsletter	News from the Oil Companies International Marine Forum	January 2018 issue
PEMSEA E-Updates	Healthy oceans, people and economies in the East Asian Seas	January 2018
Pollution Online Newsletter	News for pollution prevention & control professionals	January 31, 2018
Safe Seas, Clean Seas	Quarterly Newsletter from Maritime New Zealand	August 2017 issue
Sea Alarm Foundation Newsletter	Oiled wildlife Preparedness and Response news from Sea Alarm	December 2017 issue
Spill Alert	Newsletter from the UK Spill Association	December 2017 issue
Technology Innovation News Survey	News from US EPA – Contaminated Site Decontamination	Dec. 1-15, 2017
Transport Canada Newsletter	News and articles re transport of dangerous goods in Canada	June 2017 issue
UK NCEC	News from the National Chemical Emergency Centre	July 2017 issue
USA EPA Tech Direct	Remediation of contaminated soil and groundwater	February 1, 2018

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

Events

LONDON TO HOST INTERSPILL 2018

Now in its 20th year, and following a highly successful and well-received 2015 event in Amsterdam, this year's industry-leading Interspill oil spill conference and exhibition is due to be held at the ExCeL in London, running between March 13-15.

Co-located with the Oceanology International 2018 ocean technology and marine science conference and exhibition, Interspill 2018 provides a valuable forum, business and networking opportunity for oil spill industry professionals, academics and government representatives to discuss potential issues surrounding future oil spills, including Spill Prevention, Preparedness, Response and Restoration.

Those who are planning to attend are strongly advised to register now if they haven't already done so; Interspill 2018 will be showcasing fresh insights and emerging technologies related to the always relevant and contentious topic of oil spills. An additional registration benefit is that possession of an Interspill badge will also entitle you to free entry for the Oceanology International conference and exhibition, running concurrently in the ExCeL, London.

"For exhibitors, Interspill 2018 represents an incomparable means of presenting their products and services to the widest possible variety of existing and prospective clients, cementing business relationships and forging new ones," says Event Manager David Ince. "Visitors to the exhibition and conference, meanwhile, can be assured that they will be met with the very latest product concepts and the most dependable sources of information and advice from an all-inclusive body of experts."

Among the exhibitors confirmed so far are Interspill Committee members Nosca, the Norwegian spill industry trade association (stand S200), Cedre (stand S500), international experts in accidental water pollution, and Sycopol France (sharing stand S500 with Cedre), the French association of equipment manufacturers and service providers engaged in pollution control. Other key exhibitors include Lamor (stand T300), Allmaritim (stand T251) and Vikoma (stand U350) manufacturers of spill containment and prevention products; Braemar Response (stand T100), providers of Marine and On Land Response services, and Kongsberg Satellite Services (stand S200), providers of ground station and earth observation services for polar orbiting satellites. and earth observation services for polar orbiting satellites.

The comprehensive conference program for Interspill 2018 includes a series of dedicated Technical Tracks: key topics

Events (continued)

for these include Effective Preparedness, Surveillance in Practice, Government/Industry Partnerships and Inland Spill Issues. The Technical Tracks will be bolstered by free to attend Science Workshops, Spill Industry seminars, together with a Poster exhibition on the show floor. These events running for the duration of Interspill, cover a wide range of oil spill preparedness and response topics. [Click here to get more info and register](#)

Upcoming events summary 2018

COUNTRY	2018	TITLE OF EVENT	LOCATION
For more information click on Title of Event			
USA	February 5-8	GoM Oil Spill & Ecosystem Science Conference	New Orleans
UK	February 5-9	IMO Pollution Prevention & Response Committee	London
EGYPT	February 12-14	Egypt Petroleum Show	Cairo
CANADA	Feb. 21-22	12th Arctic Shipping Summit	Montreal
UAE	Feb 28 – Mar 1	Offshore Arabia Conference & Exhibition	Dubai
AUSTRALIA	March 6	2018 National Major Hazard Facilities Forum	Sydney
FINLAND	March 6-8	Oil Spills in Arctic Areas -seminar	Oulu
UK	March 8	Land Condition Symposium 2018	London
UK	March 13-15	2018 INTERSPILL Conference and Exhibition	London
UK	March 13-15	Oceanology International 2018	London
FRANCE	March 16	CEDRE Information Day	Brest
UK	March 20-22	Flood & Coast Exhibition and Conference	Telford
USA	March 20-21	SCAA Annual Meeting & Conference	Arlington VA
RUSSIA	March 22-23	Baltic Sea Day International Environmental Forum	St. Petersburg
BELGIUM	March 22-23	CONCAWE Oil Pipeline Experience Seminar	Antwerp
KUWAIT	April 3-5	Kuwait Oil Spill Conference	Kuwait
USA	April 4-5	Clean Waterways Conference	St. Louis, MO
UK	April 11-12	Castle Archdale 2018 Inland Response Training	Enniskillen, N.I.
UK	April 9-13	IMO Marine Environment Protection Committee	London
FINLAND	April 17-20	Arctic Shipping Forum	Helsinki
NEW ZEALAND	May 1-3	NZ 5th Contaminated Land Conference	Christchurch
CHINA	May 3-5	IO Expo China	Shanghai
USA	May 7-11	13th Int'l Effects of Oil on Wildlife Conference	Baltimore, MD
UK	May 15	IMO 70 High Level Forum	London
BELGIUM	May 16-17	European Environmental Ports Conference 2018	Antwerp
UK	May 23-24	HAZMAT 2018	Stratford on Avon
CANADA	Postponed	AMOP Tech. Seminar – Contamination & Response	Vancouver BC
ITALY	June 20-22	INTERTANKO Annual Event 2018	Rome
USA	June 19-21	Clean Pacific Conference and Exhibition	Portland, OR
INDIA	July 5-6	Oil Spill India 2018 Conference & Exhibition	New Delhi
SWEDEN	August 27-30	HELCOM BALEX DELTA 2018 spill recovery ex'cise	Karlskrona Area
UK	Sept. 12-13	Contamination Expo	Birmingham
UAE	October 2-4	EI Middle East HSE Forum	Dubai
AUSTRALIA	October 2-4	Ecoforum Conference & Exhibition	Sydney
UAE	October 9-10	RECSO EnviroSpill Conference & Exhibition	Abu Dhabi
UK	October 22-26	IMO Marine Environment Protection Committee	London
USA	Nov. 13-15	Clean Gulf Conference and Exhibition	New Orleans, LA
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