

ISCO & THE ISCO NEWSLETTER

The International Spill Control Organization, a not-for profit organization 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 Intergovernmental, Governmental, NGO's and interested groups and individuals

ISCO holds consultative status at the International Maritime Organisation and observer Status at International Oil Pollution Compensation Funds

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INTERNATIONAL NEWS

CLICK ON THE BANNERS BELOW FOR MORE INFORMATION ON THE EVENTS FEATURED



JUNE 19-21, 2018
PORTLAND OREGON

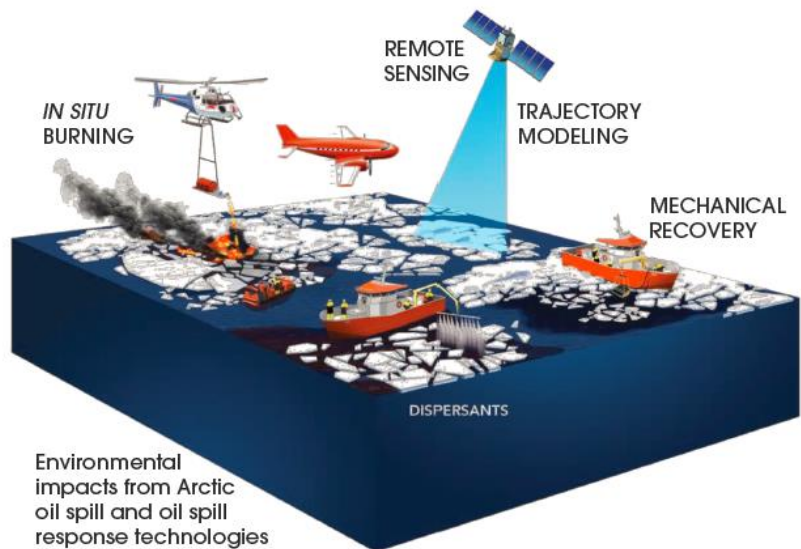
Spill prevention and response for oil and hazardous materials in the marine and inland environment

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SPILLCON

20 – 24 May 2019 Perth, Australia

INVESTING IN SPILL RESPONSE AND CONTAINMENT



The low oil price has intensified the industry's focus on improving oil recovery and reducing costs, but while these initiatives have been in the spotlight, somewhat in the shadows is a vital body of work that is advancing technology to improve operations by mitigating risk.

Over the past eight years, there has been considerable investment in spill response and containment technology development that has brought about significant advances. Out of these initiatives have emerged some noteworthy new products and some very interesting R&D efforts that are aimed at managing unplanned hydrocarbon discharges in new and exciting ways.

[Read the complete text of this article by Judy Murray Senior Contributing Editor, Offshore, E&P Hart Energy](#)

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[Benefits of Membership](#)

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Go to 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)

APRIL 2018 IOPC FUNDS' MEETINGS

May 3 - The governing bodies held meetings from Monday 30 April to Wednesday 2 May 2018 at its headquarters and that of the International Maritime Organization (IMO) in London. Fifty-eight States, representing 54 Member States of the 1992 Fund, 20 Member States of the Supplementary Fund and four observer States, as well as 13 observer organisations, attended sessions of the 1992 Fund Administrative Council, the 1992 Fund Executive Committee and the Supplementary Fund Assembly. A brief summary of the key decisions taken is available [here](#)

ONE YEAR AFTER THE LAUNCH OF #CLEANSEAS, THE TIDE IS TURNING

April 30 - The tide is already beginning to turn. Just over a year since the launch, 43 governments – accounting for more than half the world's coastline – have signed up to the #CleanSeas campaign with many making specific commitments to protect oceans, encourage recycling and cut back on single-use plastics.

Learn more about UN Environment's [Clean Seas campaign](#).

Here are the countries that had joined the campaign as of April 2018: Bahrain, Barbados, Belgium, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Denmark, the Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Finland, France, Grenada, Iceland, Indonesia, Israel, Italy, Jordan, Kenya, Kiribati, Madagascar, the Maldives, Malta, Montenegro, the

Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Oman, Panama, Peru, the Philippines, Poland, Saint Lucia, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Sweden, United Kingdom, Uruguay. UN Environment / [Read more and watch videos](#)

EMERGENCY SPILL RESPONSE MARKET: TOP KEY PLAYERS (POLYECO, ELASTEC, MARKLEEN A/S, CLEAN HARBORS), TECHNOLOGY, INDUSTRY CHALLENGES AND GLOBAL FORECAST TO 2023

May 3 - Overview of the Global Emergency Spill Response Market: The report spread across 135 pages is an overview of the 2018 Global Emergency Spill Response Industry Report – History, Present and Future. This report study is based on the Emergency Spill Response Market. It is a complete overview of the market, covering various aspects and prevailing market landscape. It accumulates comprehensive information and research methodologies. Business Services 24 / [Read more](#)

INCIDENT REPORTS (IN CHRONOLOGICAL ORDER)

USA: TEXAS - CREWS WORK TO CLEAR TEXARKANA TRAIN DERAILMENT



April 23 - Crews are working to clear a train derailment in Texarkana, Texas, Sunday afternoon. It happened around 11:30 a.m. at the Union Pacific Texarkana Rail Yard.

A Union Pacific spokesman said the southbound train that derailed had 12 tank cars carrying crude oil from Canada down to Beaumont, Texas. Nine cars are on their side and three are standing upright. No injuries or leaks have been reported.

ABC News / [Read more and watch video](#)

CANADA: DRILLING MUD SPILLS FROM TRANSOCEAN BARENTS OFF NEWFOUNDLAND AND LABRADOR

April 29 - Drilling has been halted on the semi-submersible drilling rig Transocean Barents after drilling fluid was spilled during operations off Newfoundland and Labrador, Canada. Suncor Energy has reported to the Board that on April 27, 2018 an unauthorized discharge of 28m³ (28,000 L) of synthetic based mud (SBM) was accidentally released. gCaptain / [Read more](#)

SPAIN: OIL LEAK FROM CRUISE SHIP, PALMA DE MALLORCA

May 2 - A minor oil leak from docked cruise ship MARELLA DREAM occurred in the morning May 1 in Palma de Mallorca, Balearic Islands, Spain. It is understood there was some technical problem or mistake in handling fuel and ballasting systems, some fuel leaked from fuel tank on deck and from deck leaked into water. All necessary anti-pollution measures were taken.

Maritime Bulletin / [Read more](#)

TRINIDAD & TOBAGO - OIL SPILL AT SOLDADO FIELDS

May 2 - Divers were up to late yesterday trying to clamp a major oil leak from an offshore line at the Trinmar 694 Northfield Soldado, off the south western peninsula of Trinidad. Expecting that over 30 barrels of oil had spilled into the sea over a 24-hour period, members of the Oil Spill Contingency crew tried to isolate the oil line as divers tried to fix the leak. T&T Guardian / [Read more](#)

INDIA: FRESH OIL SPILL TRIGGERS RENEWED DEMAND FOR ONGC OUSTER

May 2 - While the sit-in stirred by the public of Kadiramangalam in Thanjavur district against the Oil and Natural Gas Corporation (ONGC) exploration activities in their village is nearing the 350th day, the recent oil spill following a pipeline burst on Sunday has invigorated the demand for the oil major to quit the delta region. The Hindu / [Read more](#)

NEW ZEALAND: OIL SPILL DRILL ON-HAND TO CLEAN UP OIL SPILL IN PICTON HARBOUR

May 3 - Several tonnes of oily water and oily "clumps" have been scooped from Picton harbour after a fuel spill on Thursday. Maritime New Zealand were in Picton for an oil spill training exercise and were able to help with the clean-up. Stuff / [Read more](#)

USA: LARGE OIL SPILL REPORTED ON MONTANA RESERVATION, CONTAMINATING POND

May 3 - An estimated 600 barrels of oil and 90,000 barrels of brine (production water) leaked from the well, the Glasgow Courier reported, citing officials with the reservation's Office of Environmental Protection and the Bureau of Land Management.

According to MTN News, Anadarko has developed a clean-up plan with oversight from tribal officials, the Bureau of Indian Affairs, the Bureau of Land Management and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. Eco Watch / [Read more](#)

USA: FROM NOAA OR&R - INCIDENT RESPONSES FOR APRIL 2018

May 4 - Every month NOAA OR&R's Emergency Response Division provides scientific expertise and services to the U.S. Coast Guard on everything from running oil spill trajectories to model where the spill may spread, to possible effects on wildlife and fisheries, and estimates on how long the oil may stay in the environment. [View reports on incidents collated by NOAA OR&R during April 2018](#)

NEWS REPORTS FROM AROUND THE WORLD (COUNTRIES LISTED IN ALPHABETICAL ORDER)

CANADA: MCKENNA PENS OPEN LETTER TO B.C. PROPOSING JOINT PANEL TO STUDY OIL SPILLS RESPONSE MEASURES



April 26 - Environment and Climate Change Minister Catherine McKenna has written an open letter to B.C.'s environment minister proposing the creation of a joint scientific panel to study oil spills and response measures.

"Such a panel would build on our science investments and results, take stock of work on the fate, behaviour and effects of various oil products in different spill conditions and under extreme Canadian climates in order to inform further scientific work under the [ocean protection plan] and spill response modelling, preparedness and response measures," McKenna said in the letter.

The joint federal-provincial-Indigenous panel would be made up of independent experts, would have a national scope and would look at a variety of oil products, the letter said.

[Read Minister McKenna's open letter here](#)

CBC News / [Read more and watch videos](#)

CANADA: TRANSPORT CANADA – “OUR RESPONSE TO BRITISH COLUMBIA’S POLICY INTENTIONS PAPER FOR ENGAGEMENT: ACTIVITIES RELATED TO SPILL MANAGEMENT”

April 30 - The Government of Canada makes the following submission in response to British Columbia’s Policy Intentions Paper for Engagement: Phase Two Enhancements to Spill Management in British Columbia. British Columbia does not address the robust federal safety regimes, the long-standing scientific expertise, and significant recent investments made by the Government of Canada related to spill management in its paper.

This submission outlines the full scope of federal activities in this sphere, to provide Canadians with a complete and accurate picture of spill management in Canada, and to allow a full understanding of the world-leading federal regimes that are well established, and where federal jurisdiction is clear.

Click on the links below to read the contents of Canadian Governments submission –

- [Summary – Government of Canada Activities Related to Spill Management](#)
- [Chapter 1 – Oil Spill Response Science and Research](#)
 - [Understanding Spills of Diluted Bitumen into Aqueous Environments](#)
- [Chapter 2 – Marine Regime Related to Spill Management](#)
- [Chapter 3 – Railways and Surface Transportation Regime Related to Spill Management](#)
- [Chapter 4 – Pipeline Regime Related to Spill Management](#)

CANADA: THE GOVERNMENT OF CANADA ENSURING THAT POLLUTERS PAY FOR CAUSING HAZARDOUS AND NOXIOUS SUBSTANCES SPILLS

May 1 - Canada depends on the marine sector to bring commodities to and from overseas markets in a way that protects our coastlines from the risk of a serious spill that could cause severe damage. Under the Oceans Protection Plan, the Government of Canada is ensuring ongoing protection of our coasts as part of the building of a modern, competitive and sustainable economy.

On April 23, 2018, the Government announced its ratification of the 2010 Hazardous and Noxious Substances Protocol, a global regime that ensures compensation for those affected by a hazardous and noxious substances spill.

[Continue reading this article published in Oil & Gas 360](#)

FIJI: QUICK ACTION NEEDED: KOROILAVESA

May 2 - Quick action needs to be taken by concerned authorities on oil spills similar to what occurred at Fiji Ships and Heavy Industries Limited’s dock and repair berth, last Saturday. Minister for Fisheries Semi Koroilavesau said the effect of the oil spills depended on the effect of damages.

A Chinese fishing vessel Shi Dao was caught pumping out oil into the sea at the FSHI dock last Saturday in Suva.

“I have not received any reports on the oil spills that happened last Saturday at the Walu Bay dock and repair berth,” Minister Koroilavesau said. “The immediate effects of toxic and smothering oil waste may be mass mortality and contamination of fish and other food species, but long-term ecological effects may be worse”. Fiji Sun Online / [Read more](#)

Photo below: Minister for Fisheries, Semi Koroilavesau.



GUYANA: THIRTY-SEVEN PERSONS TRAINED IN OIL-SPILL RESPONSE

April 29 - The Guyana government sought to assure residents that the country was prepared for an oil-spill and all companies engaging in offshore oil extraction must put in place measures to prevent or handle such an incident.

“We have to put in place measures, which are more proactive rather than reactive and the companies that are operating offshore Guyana will have to satisfy us of those measures,” Minister of State, Joseph Harmon said at Friday’s closing of an Oil-Spill Response Training Course. That training course marked the end of a one-week Incident Command System (ICS) Workshop for Oil-related Disaster Preparedness.

The workshop was organised by the Ministry of Natural Resources in collaboration with the Civil Defence Commission (CDC) and Exxon Mobil, which provided the instructors. A total of 37 participants undertook to workshop, who were awarded with certificates after they gave a practical demonstration of the skills and training they have received over the past few days. Demerara Waves / [Read more](#)

GUYANA: OIL SPILL RESPONSE PLAN IN LINE WITH INTERNATIONAL GUIDELINES – CDC DIRECTOR GENERAL



Pictured on left: Lieutenant Colonel Kester Craig, Director General of the Civil Defence Commission (CDC)

May 1 - Guyana's National Oil Spill Contingency Plan has benefited from the input of several notable international organizations and following a series of reviews, the document will be open for public consultations in the South American country.

Director General (ag) of the Civil Defence Commission (CDC) Lieutenant Colonel Kester Craig said the development of the draft locally has in no way excluded the input and involvement of international experts. "At this juncture, it is important to note that Guyana's National Oil Spill Contingency Plan has been developed in draft locally, drawing on material available regionally and internationally, and in keeping with the International Maritime Organization Guidelines. Our local capacity in this regard, in no way distances us from, nor negates the involvement of international experts," he told those gathered at the opening of an Incident Command Systems (ICS) and Oil Spill Response training programme last week.

Colonel Craig highlighted the agencies that were involved in the development of the Contingency Plan which, he said, is still being reviewed and streamlined. "The First Draft of the National Oil Spill Contingency Plan benefited from expert support and guidance through the United States Department of State-Led Energy Governance and Capacity Initiative (EGCI) and the United States Coast Guard. It was also reviewed by the International Maritime Organisation, in February, 2018 and what was presented thus far, was said to be commendable," he pointed out. Oil Now / [Read more](#)

KAZAKHSTAN: NEBA WORKSHOP HELD IN ASTANA



May 3 - The Republic of Kazakhstan has embedded the principle of NEBA within its national oil spill preparedness and response framework. To support practical implementation of NEBA, a workshop was held in Astana on 27 April titled 'Evaluation of relative risk to resources from an oil spill and response options based on Net Environmental Benefit Analysis (NEBA)'. A similar workshop was held two days earlier in Atyrau, on Kazakhstan's Caspian Sea coast. These events form part of on-going joint activities between government and industry to develop national oil spill preparedness.

The aims of the workshops were to:

- extend awareness of NEBA as decision tool to achieve optimal mitigation of ecological and socio-economic impacts from potential spills; and
- introduce Spill Impact Mitigation Assessment (SIMA) methodology as a practical NEBA tool for response strategy development.

The events were co-organized by the North Caspian Operating Company (NCOC) and OSPRI (an IPIECA initiative), under the umbrella of the Ministry of Energy of the Republic of Kazakhstan and within the framework of the Kazakhstan Upstream Oil and Gas Technology and R&D Roadmap implementation. Participants were drawn from key Ministries and agencies across central and local government, alongside industry, including the national oil company KazMunaiGaz (KMG). The lead technical presenter was Dr. Victoria Broje (Shell), who shared international experiences of oil spill preparedness and response in the context of NEBA implementation. The events also included a presentation from Mr. Zhaxybek Kulekeyev (KMG), concerning recent oil spill response R&D activities in Kazakhstan.

The workshops succeeded in meeting their aims and the Astana event agreed specific actions to strengthen further the application of the NEBA/SIMA approach within Kazakhstan. Further information about the workshops and associated activities may be obtained from Dinara Amanzholova (OSPRI Coordinator, dinara@ipieca.org). [Thanks to Peter Taylor for providing this report]

OMAN: SCIENTISTS CONFIRM FLORIDA-SIZED DEAD ZONE IN THE GULF OF OMAN

April 30 - Using data collected by underwater robots, researchers have confirmed the presence of one of the world's largest marine dead zones in the Gulf of Oman, an area that has been largely off-limits to scientists in recent decades due to piracy and geopolitical tensions. The dead zone, an area in the ocean with almost no oxygen, encompasses nearly the entire 63,700-square-mile Gulf of Oman, according to new research in the journal *Geophysical Research Letters*.

Scientists first discovered the Gulf of Oman dead zone in the 1960s, and collected data on it again in the 1990s. But no comprehensive

surveys had since been conducted of the dead zone, located between India, Iran, and Oman. From 2015 to 2016, researchers at the University of East Anglia (UEA) and Oman's Sultan Qaboos University deployed underwater robots known as Seagliders, which surveyed the Gulf of Oman for eight months, sending scientists data about oxygen levels and ocean currents via satellite.

"Our research shows that the situation is actually worse than feared," the study's lead author, Bastien Queste, a marine biogeochemist at UEA, said in a statement. "The area of dead zone is vast and growing. The ocean is suffocating. All fish, marine plants, and other animals need oxygen, so they can't survive there. It's a real environmental problem, with dire consequences for humans, too, who rely on the oceans for food and employment." Yale Environment / [Read more](#)

USA: DEALING WITH OIL AND CHEMICAL SPILLS, ONE BY ONE

April 27 - As chief of the [New York State Department of Environmental Conservation \(DEC\) Spill Response program](#) in New York City, Randy Austin oversees six people who fan out every day across all five boroughs to respond to tips and complaints about environmental pollution. Some weeks the team logs 60 responses. Mr Austin has been with the DEC for nearly 40 years, and is dedicated to his work. We ran into him recently at a Newtown Creek Alliance event, and soon had the opportunity to ask about his job.

Editor: In this interesting article Randy Austin recalls some of his experiences in dealing with oil spills, HNS incidents and other events in the City of New York over a period of nearly 40 years. Worth reading. Waterfront Alliance / [Read the article](#)

USA: MICHIGAN - ENBRIDGE REDUCES LINE 5 PRESSURE AFTER DIVERS FIND 'MARRING' ON PIPES

April 28 - The Line 5 oil and gas pipeline crossing the Straits of Mackinac, damaged earlier this month, continues to operate.

But the maximum pressure at which liquids are pumped through the pipeline has been decreased, according to a Friday, April 27, [Enbridge Energy statement](#).

The decrease in pressure is a precaution requested by the Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA), the federal agency that provides oversight of pipelines like Enbridge's Line 5, according to a statement from Michigan Agency for Energy spokesperson Nick Assendelft. M Live / [Read more](#)

USA: U.S. REVISITS BLOWOUT PREVENTER RULES

April 28 - The Trump administration has proposed relaxing rules put in place after the 2010 Deepwater Horizon disaster. On Friday, the Bureau of Safety and Environmental Enforcement (BSEE) proposed changes that include removing "prescriptive requirements" for real-time monitoring of offshore drilling facilities, modifying capability requirements for remotely operated vehicles and making allowance for independent third-parties to undertake some certification of blow-out preventers.

The Proposed Blowout Preventer Systems and Well Control Rule is the result of analysis of all 342 provisions of the 2016 Well Control Final Rule, says Angelle. It was determined that 59 of those provisions were appropriate for revision. BSEE compared each of the proposed changes to the 424 recommendations arising from 26 separate reports from 14 different organizations developed in the wake of – and in response to – the Deepwater Horizon incident. The team determined that none of the proposed rule changes would ignore or contradict any of those recommendations. The Maritime Executive / [Read the unabridged report](#)

USA: FIRST RESPONDERS INVITED TO TAKE FREE RAILROAD EMERGENCY RESPONSE TRAINING



Photo on left: Norfolk Southern Corporation hazardous materials compliance officer, John Lerner, points to a feature of a tank car to Danville firefighters, from left, Sammy Young, Donnie Burke, Lt. Chris Siler and Battalion Chief Mike Mulholland during Norfolk Southern's Operation Awareness and Response class Tuesday afternoon. The free class is open to all first responders from any county who want to attend

May 2 - Area first responders have an opportunity to receive free training in railroad emergency response so they can be more prepared to handle a train derailment that involves hazardous chemicals.

Boyle County Emergency Management, in conjunction with Norfolk Southern Railroad brought the operations, awareness and response class to Danville. The class is held in a special train used to show first responders what to do — and not do — when there is a chemical leak or explosion involving train cars.

The Advocate Messenger / [Read more](#)

USA: MICHIGAN - STUDY PUTS \$6.3 BILLION PRICE TAG ON POTENTIAL MACKINAC STRAITS OIL SPILL

May 2 - A new study from a Michigan State University researcher estimates an oil spill in the Straits of Mackinac could have an economic impact of more than \$6 billion.

The study, led by MSU professor Robert B. Richardson, was prepared for For Love of Water (FLOW), a Traverse City-based advocacy group that has advocated for the shutdown and decommissioning of Enbridge Energy's Line 5 oil and gas pipeline. [Read the study](#) M Live / [Read more](#)

USA: LARGE-SCALE OIL SPILL DRILL IN EL SEGUNDO, CALIFORNIA



Photo: OR&R response and NRDA staff discuss mocked-up incident data with California's GIS (Geographic Information Systems) lead. Mapping tools like ERMA (foreground) have become integral to timely evaluations and decisions throughout present day Command Posts. Image credit: NOAA.

May 4 - An industry-led oil spill drill was held the week of April 30 in El Segundo, California, involving the hypothetical collision of a passing vessel with a Chevron oil tanker while it off-loaded crude oil from the offshore marine terminal to the nearby Chevron refinery.

This drill simulated the release of 18,000 barrels (756,000 gallons) of Arabian Light crude oil into nearshore waters of Los Angeles County, threatening coastal waters and shorelines of Marine del Rey and Santa Monica. The U.S. Coast Guard (USCG),

California's Office of Spill Prevention & Response (OSPR), and Chevron led the oil spill clean-up efforts with support from NOAA and numerous other federal, state, and local agencies.

OR&R's Emergency Response Division provided input on oil fate and transport, the potential use of Applied Response Technologies (ART; dispersants, in-situ burning, etc.), fisheries closures, oiled wildlife response, and other aspects of scientific support to the USCG and others within the cooperative response. NOAA OR&R / [Read more](#)

ISCO NEWS

ISCO SECRETARY ATTENDS IOPC FUNDS MEETINGS IN LONDON

Last week ISCO Secretary, Matthew Sommerville, represented ISCO at the IOPC Funds meetings. A short report is given on Page 2 with a link for reading about the key decisions taken.

OPPORTUNITIES FOR DIVERSIFICATION

Some ISCO members may be looking at business diversification as a source of additional business and for increasing productive utilisation of personnel and response assets. Options worth looking at might, for example, include involvement in decommissioning of oil production facilities and redundant pipelines, provision and installation of portable flood barriers, emergency floodwater pumping, decontamination of polluted sites, etc. etc. ISCO would appreciate hearing from members. Information received from members could in future influence content of the ISCO Newsletter and reference material posted on the ISCO website.

LINKS FOR ACCESSING OTHER PUBLICATIONS

The ISCO Newsletter tends to focus on spill response involving the marine environment, lakes and rivers. We don't report on road tanker incidents, tank leaks and overfills – these are probably the most frequent source of oil pollution and there are just too many. In any case, the weekly round-up "Newsy Stuff" circulated by Don Johnston of ISCO Industry Partner, the DG & Hazmat Group covers these so well that it would be superfluous for ISCO to duplicate the excellent work he does.

Another area that ISCO does not cover well is remediation of polluted soil and groundwater. To compensate for this, the links provided

in the newsletter include several that give direct access to publications that are specialised in this area, enabling members to keep up-to-date on the latest R&D and methodologies.

Currently, the Newsletter provides more than 25 links to other publications. Subject to their regular receipt by ISCO, these links are updated regularly and we trust that this facility is useful to members and other readers of the newsletter. Members and readers can request addition of new links. The latest new link enables access to NOAA's weekly round-up of news from the Office of Response and Restoration (OR&R).

GETTING A BETTER BALANCE OF NEWS REPORTING IN THE ISCO NEWSLETTER

Your editor does his best to find interesting news from all over the world but it's not easy. Members and other readers are invited to help rectify the balance of world news reporting. News stories from North America, UK, Australia, etc. are much more accessible on the internet than reports from other parts of the world and especially from non-English-speaking countries.

If you are finding that there are no news reports from your part of the world, you can help to correct this. Your editor asks you to share information that will be of interest to our worldwide community.

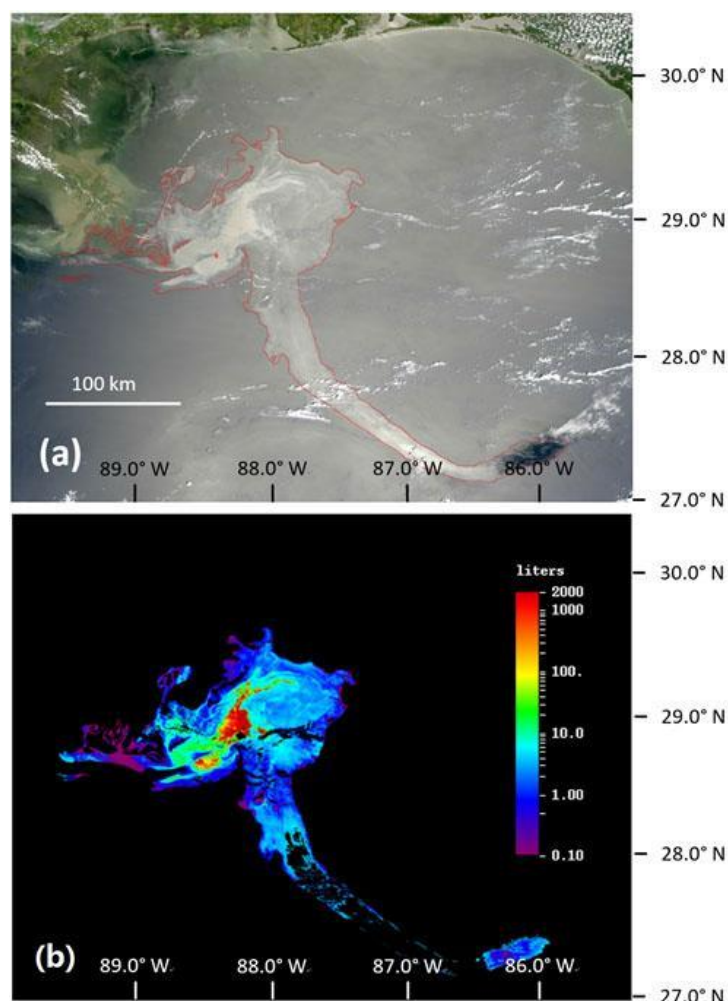
... AND PASSING ON KNOWLEDGE AND EXPERIENCE

By contributing articles and case histories for publication you can help ISCO achieve its objective of advancing response preparedness, professional development and competency. As the years go by, hard won knowledge and experience is lost as people retire or move on. The benefits of past learning and new R&D work both need to be widely shared.

Articles that pass on valuable know-how are particularly useful – overcoming difficult challenges, innovating, relating what you did, why you did it that way, how you did it and what was achieved.

SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

SPIE JOURNAL OF APPLIED REMOTE SENSING ARTICLE REPORTS COMPREHENSIVE ESTIMATE OF OIL SPILL



May 2 - In an article published in SPIE's Journal of Applied Remote Sensing, researchers announce that optical remote sensing observations may provide close estimates of relative oil thickness/volume for large oil slicks in the ocean captured by satellites. This is a critical scientific advancement for monitoring large-scale oil spills using operational civilian satellites, according to Journal of Applied Remote Sensing associate editor, Weilin "Will" Hou, that will ultimately increase our ability to assess and understand the impact of oil spills on marine and coastal resources, as well as our ability to prepare appropriate responses for future spills.

The open-access article, "Remote Sensing Estimation of Surface Oil Volume During the 2010 Deepwater Horizon Oil Blowout in the Gulf of Mexico: Scaling up AVIRIS Observation with MODIS Measurements," suggests that optical remote sensing observations from coarse-resolution satellite instruments can estimate the thickness and volume of large oil slicks in the vast ocean when some fine-resolution aircraft measurements are available: the combined measurements of two NASA satellite instruments (MODIS on Terra and Aqua) and one NASA airborne instrument (AVIRIS) resulted in maps that revealed surface oil volume, relative oil thickness, and probable distributions of the various thicknesses for the northern Gulf of Mexico.

"This research comes from a stellar team of scientists. It is the result of great collaborations amongst universities, government agencies and industry," says Hou. "The lead article author, Chuanmin Hu, is a top researcher on ocean monitoring and remote sensing; another author, Rebecca Green, is a well-known expert in the federal government when it comes to oil-spill monitoring and impact assessment. Brinkwire / [Read more](#)

TECHNICAL SUPPORT

AUSTRALIA: VICTORIAN UNDERGROUND PETROLEUM STORAGE SYSTEMS A GUIDE TO PREVENTING AND MANAGING LEAKS AND SPILLS

April 26 - If you own or operate underground fuel tanks, this guide may help you to save money and manage your legal responsibilities. Leaks and spills don't just hurt the environment; they can come at a cost in lost stock and expensive cleanup bills. Use this guide to protect your business, property values and local community.

- What are your legal obligations?
- How can you prevent leaks and spills?
- How should you prepare?
- How can you save money?

[Download this publication online in PDF format](#) EPA Victoria / [More info](#) [Thanks to Don Johnston of ISCO Industry Partner, DG & Hazmat Group]

TRAINING

USA: ALABAMA - "SCIENCE OF COASTAL NATURAL HAZARDS" TRAINING COURSE

May 3 - NOAA's Gulf of Mexico Disaster Response Center (DRC) is currently accepting applications for the "Science of Coastal Natural Hazards" Course on June 19-21, 2018 in Mobile, Alabama. The goal of the course is to enhance understanding of the risks, physical processes, and NOAA products and services related to coastal natural disasters available to improve decision making and planning in the Southeast, Gulf and Caribbean Regions.

During the course, participants can expect to learn about physical processes associated with each disaster type, information and tools necessary to improve on the job decision making and planning for coastal natural disasters and NOAA's role during the evolution of a response from preparedness to response and long-term recovery. Additionally, the course provides a unique opportunity to network with other response professionals across various levels of government and industry.

To register for the class, please complete the form here: <https://goo.gl/forms/uPimXlmRoUHfCIJ3>

The application deadline is Friday, May 25, 2018. Applicants will be notified via email regarding their participation status no later than Friday, June 1, 2018.

Some applicants may have trouble accessing the application form from their workstations. If that occurs, please consider registering from a personal device (home computer, smartphone, etc.). Applicants may also contact the Disaster Preparedness Program training coordinator, JD Hoyle, at jamechia.hoyle@noaa.gov for more information.

LINKS FOR DOWNLOADING & READING OTHER PUBLICATIONS

Alga Cronicle	News from Australia on Contaminated Land Remediation	February 2018
AMSA Aboard	News from the Australian Maritime Safety Authority	December 2017
ATRAC Newsletter	News from the Adriatic Training and Research Centre	April 2018 issue
Newsletter from George Holliday	News and commentary on HSE issues from George Holliday	On request email
Bow Wave	Sam Ignarski's Ezine on Marine & Transport Matters	Current issue
Cedre Newsletter	News from Cedre in Brittany, France	February 2018
CROIERG Enews	Canberra & Regions Oil Industry Emergency Response Group	October 2017
EMSA Newsletter	News from the European Maritime Safety Agency	April 2018 issue
EUROWA Newsletter	European Oiled Wildlife Response Assistance Module	October 2017
IMO News Magazine	News from the International Maritime Organization	Spring 2018 issue
IMO Publishing News	New and forthcoming IMO publications	March 2018
Intertanko Weekly News	International news for the oil tanker community	April 27, 2018
JOIFF "The Catalyst"	Int'l Organisation for Industrial Hazard Management	Q2 2018 issue
Maritime Executive Magazine	Often contains articles of interest to the spill response community	March-April, 2018
MOIG Newsletter	News from the Mediterranean Oil Industry Group	April 2018 issue
NOWPAP Quarterly	News from the North West Pacific Action Plan	Quarter 2, 2017
NOAA OR&R	Weekly round-up of news from NOAA's Office of Response & Restoration	April 27, 2018
Ocean Orbit	Newsletter from the International Tanker Owners Pollution Federation	August 2017
OCIMF Newsletter	News from the Oil Companies International Marine Forum	April 2018
PEMSEA E-Updates	Healthy oceans, people and economies in the East Asian Seas	April, 2018
Pollution Online Newsletter	News for pollution prevention & control professionals	May 2, 2018
Safe Seas, Clean Seas	Quarterly Newsletter from Maritime New Zealand	August 2017 issue
Salvage World	Quarterly Newsletter of the International Salvage Union	Current issue
Sea Alarm Foundation Newsletter	Oiled wildlife Preparedness and Response news from Sea Alarm	Spring 2018 issue
Spill Alert	Newsletter from the UK Spill Association	December 2017
Technology Innovation News Survey	News from US EPA – Contaminated Site Decontamination	March 1-15, 2018
Transport Canada Newsletter	News and articles re transport of dangerous goods in Canada	June 2017 issue
USA EPA Tech Direct	Remediation of contaminated soil and groundwater	May 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

Towards the end of each month the ISCO Newsletter publishes a round-up describing events taking place in the following two months. Every week a Summary of Upcoming Events during the next 12 months is published in the ISCO Newsletter. Requests for inclusion of new entries should be sent to the Editor.

UK: 9TH MARITIME SALVAGE & CASUALTY RESPONSE - AGENDA UPDATED

This event takes place on 12th & 13th September in London. To view the latest agenda please [click here](#).

UPCOMING EVENTS SUMMARY

COUNTRY	2018	TITLE OF EVENT	LOCATION
For more information click on Title of Event			
AUSTRALIA	May 7-8	Alga Risk Assessment Workshop	Hobart
EQUATORIAL GUINEA	May 7-10	National workshop on contingency planning	Malabo
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
USA	May 22-24	Inland Boom Shop 2018 (Hands-on Training)	Carmi, IL
UK	May 23-24	HAZMAT 2018	Stratford on Avon
NAMIBIA	May 29 – June 1	Sub-regional w'shop shoreline response to oil spills	Namibia
USA	June 11-15	NOAA Science of Oil Spills (SOS) Classes	Seattle WA
ITALY	June 20-22	INTERTANKO Annual Event 2018	Rome
USA	June 19	Pacific States/British Columbia Oil Spill Task Force Annual Meeting	Portland OR
USA	June 19-21	Clean Pacific Conference and Exhibition	Portland, OR
UK	June 21	9th Premium Conference 2018	London
USA	June 25-28	NOAA Science of Chemical Releases (SOCR) class	Mobile AL
UK	June 25-28	Int'l Harbourmasters Assoc. Congress & Exhibition	London
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	9th Maritime Salvage & Casualty Response	London
UK	Sept. 12-13	Flood Expo	Birmingham
UK	Sept. 12-13	Spill Response Expo	Birmingham
SINGAPORE	Sept. 25-26	Salvage & Wreck Asia	Singapore
CANADA	October 2-4	AMOP Tech. Seminar on Environmental Contamination and Response	Victoria, BC
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
TURKEY	Nov. 6-8	Regional Workshop & Oil Spill Exercise	Istanbul
USA	Nov. 13-15	Clean Gulf Conference and Exhibition	New Orleans, LA
COUNTRY	2019	TITLE OF EVENT	LOCATION
Australia	May 20-24	SPILLCON 2019 Conference and Exhibition	Perth
To request posting of an event of interest to the Spill Response Community please send details to the Editor			

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