

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




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JULY 6, 1988: THE PIPER ALPHA DISASTER



July 5 - Piper Alpha was an oil production platform in the North Sea operated by Occidental Petroleum (Caledonia) Limited. It began production in 1976, but on July 6, 1988 it was the site of the world's most lethal offshore disaster.

An explosion and resulting oil and gas fires destroyed the platform, killing 167 people, including two crewmen of a rescue vessel. Only 61 workers escaped. 30 bodies were never recovered.

The total insured loss was about \$3.4 billion, and at the time of the disaster, the platform accounted for approximately ten percent of North Sea oil and gas production.

A large fixed platform, Piper Alpha was situated on the Piper oilfield, approximately

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INTERNATIONAL NEWS (CONTINUED)

120 miles (193 kilometers) northeast of Aberdeen in 474 feet (144 meters) of water. It was made up of four modules separated by firewalls, and for safety reasons, the modules were organized so that the most dangerous operations were distant from the personnel areas.

A later conversion from oil to gas processing broke this safety concept, with the result that sensitive areas were brought together; for example, gas compression occurred next to the control room - this played a role in the accident.

In the late 1980s, major upgrade works had been planned by Occidental and by July 1988, the rig was already well into major work activities. Despite a complex and demanding work schedule, Occidental made the decision to continue operating the platform rather than shut it down temporarily.

Although the Cullen Inquiry found Occidental guilty of inadequate maintenance and safety procedures, no criminal charges were brought against the company.

The inquiry resulted in 106 recommendations for changes to North Sea safety procedures - all 106 were accepted by the industry.

The most significant recommendation was for the Health and Safety Executive (the U.K.'s body responsible for encouragement, regulation, and enforcement of workplace health, safety and welfare, and occupational safety research) to bear responsibility for North Sea safety, replacing the U.K.'s Department of Energy's obligation.

The reasoning for this was based on a potential conflict of interest when one organization oversees both production and safety.

The Maritime Executive / [Read more](#)

STRENGTHENING OIL SPILL PREPAREDNESS IN SOUTH-EAST ASIA

July 6 - Oil spill contingency planning was in the spotlight at an IMO regional workshop in Pulau Indah, Malaysia (2-6 July). The workshop helped countries* in South East Asia become more familiar with the ASEAN Regional Oil Spill Contingency Plan - designed to enhance cooperation between States. Participants reviewed a number of aspects of the plan and exercised its communication procedures.

IMO has long supported regional cooperation and capacity building in oil spill preparedness and response, including through a joint project with the oil and gas industry – the Global Initiative project for South East Asia (GI SEA). The workshop was carried out under IMO's Integrated Technical Cooperation Programme and hosted by the Government of Malaysia and the Marine Department of Malaysia, at the Maritime Transport Training Institute.

IMO was represented by Josephine Uranza, the Organization's Regional Coordinator for the Asia and Pacific Sector. Expert support comes from Petronas, PIMMAG, ITOPF, OSRL and the GI SEA Project.

*ASEAN Member States: Cambodia, Indonesia, Lao PDR, Malaysia, Myanmar, Thailand, Vietnam and Singapore. IMO / www.imo.org

PROGRESS FOR PROTECTION WHEN CHEMICAL-SPILLS FROM SHIPS CAUSE DAMAGE

July 4 - Denmark has acceded to the global regime on compensation for damage caused by the carriage by sea of hazardous and noxious substances of the 2010 HNS convention.

Chemicals and other dangerous substances occasionally end up in the ocean after ship collisions and other accidents at sea. And this can cause serious damage to the environment, property and health. Taking up the need for protection, Denmark has approved the 2010 protocol to the convention on liability and compensation for damage in connection with the carriage of HNS substances by sea. HNS substances can be defined as various hazardous and noxious substances.

The convention ensures a uniform and global set of liability rules for damage following carriage of HNS substances by sea. In the case of large pollution damage, where the damage exceeds a certain amount, the HNS Fund can be charged with the coverage of the damages by the HNS substances. The HNS Fund is administered by the IMO.

The HNS Fund is financed by contributions from importers of HNS goods in those countries, which have ratified the HNS convention. The amount to be paid by recipients of HNS is proportionate to the tons of HNS substances received in the preceding year.

Source: Danish Maritime Authority

Hellenic Shipping News / [Read the unabridged version of this article](#)

WORLD MARITIME UNIVERSITY CELEBRATES 35 YEARS

July 5 - Alongside the 70th anniversary of the IMO, in 2018, the World Maritime University (WMU) is celebrating 35 years. WMU has made a major contribution to global maritime education, research and capacity building, with 4,654 WMU alumni from 167 countries to date.

In the early 1980s, the IMO identified a shortage of well-qualified, highly educated maritime experts, particularly in developing countries. In order to support member States with high-caliber education in the maritime field, WMU was officially established by the IMO on May 1, 1983 and inaugurated on July 4, 1983, with the financial support of the Swedish government, the City of Malmö, the United Nations Development Program and private donations.

The establishment of WMU represented a major transformation in maritime education and capacity-building. Today, WMU graduates can be found in all parts of the maritime and port industries. Some have occupied positions as Prime Minister, government ministers, deputy ministers, ambassadors, representatives of their countries at the IMO, presidents of maritime academies, while many others hold senior positions in their maritime and port administrations, as senior surveyors and in shipping companies, to name but a few.

The current Secretary-General of the IMO and WMU Chancellor, Kitack Lim, is a 1991 graduate of the University. "WMU's work is indispensable for ensuring smooth and effective implementation and enforcement of IMO's shipping regulations," said Lim. "The University equipped generations of maritime leaders with the necessary skills to take on this important responsibility. WMU's 35th anniversary is a celebration of those 4,654 men and women who graduated from the University and went on to make an incredibly beneficial impact on shipping felt by all those who rely on the industry."

WMU's President, Dr Cleopatra Dombia-Henry, in marking this milestone stated: "As WMU celebrates its 35th anniversary, we applaud IMO for its vision when in 1983 it established this truly remarkable academic institution – a university for the world, dedicated to advance maritime education and research. We can look back with pride at its achievements, impact and its tremendous success as a unique international academic institution of the UN system. We are grateful for the support of our many donors throughout the history of WMU. As we look ahead, we will continue to enhance our education, research and capacity-building programs to serve the needs of the maritime and wider ocean community, taking into account the impact of technology, innovation, regulatory developments and the importance of delivering the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals."

The Maritime Executive / [Continue to read the rest of this article](#)

INCIDENT REPORTS (IN CHRONOLOGICAL ORDER)**USA: ETP SAYS ITS PIPELINE LEAKED INTO CREEK NEAR PHILADELPHIA**

June 26 - Energy Transfer Partners said Tuesday that it is the operator of a pipeline that leaked gasoline into a Delaware County creek last week. After a weeklong investigation, the parent company of Sunoco Pipeline said the 12-inch diameter pipeline was the source of the spill of an unknown quantity of petroleum product into Darby Creek to the south of Philadelphia International Airport, and about 1,000 feet from the Delaware River. [Why.org](#) / [Read more](#) [Thanks to Don Johnston of ISCO Industry Partner, DG & Hazmat Group]

UK: 'SMALL' DIESEL SPILL AS BOAT RUNS AGROUND AT PRESTONPANS

June 27 - Work is under way to safely remove a fishing boat which ran aground at Prestonpans this week. The boat, which bears the name Reaper II, was first spotted in shallow waters off the town on Monday.

Alan McPherson, chief harbour master at Forth Ports, said: "The Reaper II ran aground at Prestonpans on Monday evening. The cause of this is unknown. There was a small leak of diesel fuel into the water and all the remaining diesel on board has been removed by our expert oil recovery partner Adler and Allan". East Lothian Courier / [Read more](#) [Thanks to Don Johnston of ISCO Industry Partner, DG & Hazmat Group]

USA: OIL SPILL FROM IOWA TRAIN DERAILMENT SHOWS NEED FOR ENVIRONMENTAL INSURANCE

June 27 - A recent train derailment spilled an estimated 230,000 gallons of crude oil into floodwaters of the Little Rock River in northwest Iowa. Reports indicate that the tracks may have collapsed due to saturation from flooding caused by heavy rains.

Railroad network operator BNSF Railway has taken responsibility for the clean-up and mitigation of the incident, while ConocoPhillips, the company that owned the oil, has been working with the railroad, local authorities and regulators.

The incident is the latest example of the need many organizations have for Environmental Insurance. Transportation Pollution Liability and Site Pollution Liability policies can help mitigate the financial risk that a transporter and producer of goods may experience from environmental exposures.

Approximately 90 percent of all environmental losses are uninsured, amounting to about \$1 billion each year. "Many organizations may not understand the value of policies that protect against massive out-of-pocket expenses—until an incident occurs," said Gina Jones, Vice President and Director, Environmental Programs, Burns & Wilcox.

Unlike General Liability (GL) policies, there are no industry standards for environmental policies. "It can be a tough sell for many because they do not believe an environmental exposure can happen to them," Jones said. However, any substance or material that is in excess outside of its normal element can be a pollutant. That can apply to a wide range of incidents where chemicals, oil or other hazardous materials are spilled and adversely impact the environment. Insurance Market Source / [Read more](#)

USA: OHIO - FUEL SPILL IN POLAND BRINGS OUT FIRE CREWS, HAZMAT TEAM

June 29 - Firefighters and workers with the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency were back along the Burgess Run Creek in Poland Township Thursday morning after a fuel spill on Wednesday night.

This time, they were there to remove the booms that they had placed in the water after discovering the spill. wytv.com / [Read more and watch video](#) [Thanks to Don Johnston of ISCO Industry Partner, DG & Hazmat Group]

USA: MICHIGAN - FUEL LEAKS FROM CHICORY WAREHOUSE INTO BLACK RIVER

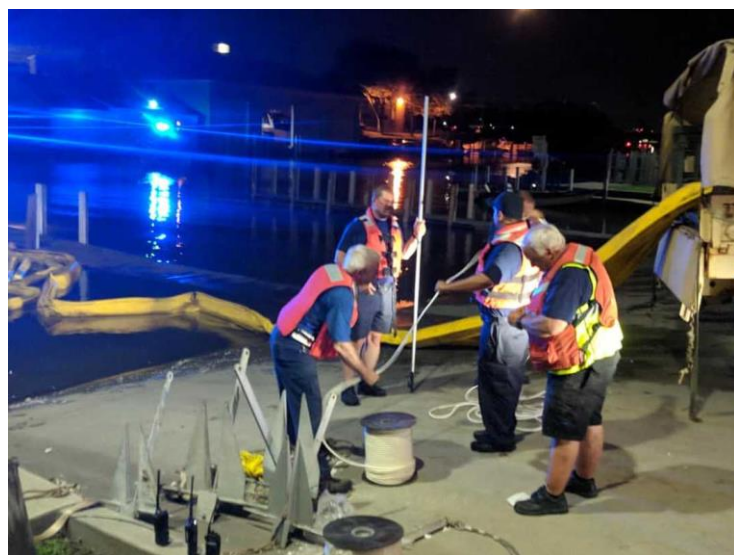


Photo : Members of the St. Clair County Dive Team Auxiliary and the Port Huron Fire Department deploy floating boom Friday to contain petroleum spilling from a tank at the Chicory Warehouse. St. Clair County Dive Team

July 1 - A leaking fuel tank at the Chicory Warehouse caused a petroleum sheen that temporarily closed the Black River to boat traffic Friday night. The fuel in the water has been cleaned up as of Sunday, according to Lt. j.g. Rahnal Harris of Coast Guard Sector Detroit.

The containment boom around the site will remain in place as a precautionary measure while cleanup of the Chicory Warehouse site continues on land, Harris said.

Port Huron Fire Chief Corey Nicholson said firefighters were alerted to a sheen on the Black River at about 9 p.m. Friday by officers from the St. Clair County Sheriff Maine Division.

He said the source of the petroleum was traced to a fuel tank in the basement of the Chicory Warehouse at 1125 12th Ave., Port Huron.

The warehouse was destroyed in a fire that started June 22.

Nicholson said the fuel tanks had been presumed to be empty. A fitting failed, however, allowing sludge to drain into a storm sewer that emptied into the river.

The Times Herald / [Read more](#) [Thanks to Don Johnston of ISCO Industry Partner, DG & Hazmat Group]

INDIA: CONTAINER SHIP SSL KOLKATA LOSING CONTAINERS, MAY BREAK UP

July 2 - Hapless container ship SSL KOLKATA is losing containers off the Sunderbans, close to the International Maritime Boundary with Bangladesh. According to latest updates from Indian media, based on official statements, containers are falling overboard from heavily listed ship. SSL KOLKATA may break in two, believe officials. There are some 400 tons of heavy fuel oil on board, but still, no leak. SSL KOLKATA is probably, aground with starboard list. Maritime Bulletin / [Read more](#)

More reports and updates –

July 3 - *Oil spill a worry as ship that caught fire starts to sink* The Times of India / [Read more](#)

July 4 - *Container ship SSL KOLKATA sank being aground after 3-week fire* Maritime Bulletin / [Read more](#)

July 5 - Burning Container Ship Grounds, Partially Sinks Off India



Photo: The SSL Kolkata burns off Kolkata port. Photo taken approximately June 14, 2018. Photo: Indian Coast Guard

Things are not looking up for an Indian containership which suffered an explosion and fire more than three weeks ago in the Bay of Bengal off the east coast of India.

Shreyas Shipping and Logistics, which operates the vessel, reports the vessel is now aground and more explosions have been heard on board the ship as the fire continues to burn.

The incident started on June 13 when an explosion rocked the cargo area of the SS Kolkata, causing a major fire which spread to other containers.

An update over the weekend from Shreyas said the vessel grounded in 'shallow water and soft mud' some 7.5 nautical miles off the Indian Sunderbans, Kolkata in West Bengal. However, explosions continue to be reported on board and the vessel has now developed a starboard list, complicating the salvage.

"The vessel remains in position Latitude 21 degrees 26.5'N, Longitude 088 degrees 46.4'E, aground in shallow water and soft mud. The international salvors, M/s. SMIT, have reported that further explosions have been heard from the stand-by vessel Lewek Altair, and that SSL Kolkata has developed a list to starboard with the deck now part submerged," Shreyas said in its 2 July 2018 update.

"The removal of bunker fuel and cargo remain a priority and the salvors and authorities are making every effort in this regard. Several support vessels are standing by for the observation and potential anti-pollution duties, with the primary aim of protecting the marine environment and preventing any pollution from cargo of fuel oil," the update said.

So far there have been no reports of fuel oil released, but plans and assets are being put in place to address this 'eventuality'.

gCaptain / [Read more](#)

MALAYSIA: OVER 100 FIREFIGHTERS BATTLE RAGING OIL TANK FIRE



Photo: Over 100 firefighters battle raging oil tank fire in Kemaman. — Bernama

July 6 - More than 100 firefighters are battling a raging fire, described as the biggest in Terengganu for years, that has destroyed two huge crude oil tanks and spread to a third 16 hours after it started at the Kemaman Bitumen Company (KBC).

Four people were injured by the blaze at the KBC in the Teluk Kalong Industrial Area, according to Terengganu Fire and Rescue Department (JBPM) director Azlimin Mat Noor.

He said the fire broke out at the three oil tanks containing about 20,059 litres of oil out of the five tanks at the facility. "The first tank contained 4,800 litres of oil, the second had 1,580 litres and the third 13,679 litres," he said.

"Of the three tanks, two have been gutted and we are trying to put out the fire at the third tank so that it does not spread to the other tanks ... we are using foam to put out the fire from the bottom by injecting it into the tank," he told reporters at the location today.

The firefighters were assisted by 41 members of the Emergency Response Team (ERT) from KBC and KSB, as well as other agencies, including the Royal Malaysia Police and the Civil Defence Force.

The Sun Daily / [Read more](#)

BANGLADESH: NATIONAL WORKSHOP ON THE INTERNATIONAL LIABILITY AND COMPENSATION REGIME



June 29 - At the invitation of the Department of Shipping of Bangladesh, the Director, José Maura, and Head of External Relations and Conference, Thomas Liebert, travelled to Dhaka on 28 June 2018 to deliver a one-day national workshop on the international liability and compensation regime and meet senior officials of the Ministry of Shipping, including the Honourable Abdus Samad, Secretary, Ministry of Shipping and Commodore Syed Ariful Islam, Director General of Shipping.

During the meeting with the Secretary and at the workshop itself, the Director emphasised the benefits for Bangladesh of ratifying the 1992 Civil Liability and Fund Conventions. He highlighted the importance of protecting its coastline and, in particular, the environmentally sensitive areas, including the Sundarbans which had been previously affected by the Southern Star 7 incident in 2014. IOPC Funds / [Read more](#)

CANADA: TRANSPORTATION SAFETY BOARD URGES RAIL EMPLOYEE TRAINING BE UPDATED

June 27 - Canada's Transportation Safety Board urged the country's regulator on Wednesday to update rules for training railway employees after an investigation into the 2016 case of a Toronto runaway train found employees lacked the know-how to stop it.

Transport Canada needs to modernize the 1987 rules used for training employees like conductors, who operate freight trains using new technologies, TSB board member Faye Ackermans said.

"Transport Canada has been promising a regulatory update for years, as far back as 2003. Now is the time for action," she said.

Incidents of uncontrolled train movements in Canada have risen 10 percent, on average, over the last five years, since the 2013 explosion of a runaway train carrying crude that killed 47 people in the town of Lac Megantic, Quebec. Nasdaq / [Read more](#)
[Thanks to Don Johnston of ISCO Industry Partner, DG & Hazmat Group]

CHINA: COAST GUARD NOW UNDER MILITARY LEADERSHIP

July 5 - Previously, the Coast Guard was supervised by the State Oceanic Administration. The leadership change began on July 1, and some commentators have indicated the change will enable the Coast Guard to be more involved with military drills and enable it to play a larger role in safeguarding China's maritime interests. Thus the new leadership is seen as a warning to other countries.

However, Ministry of National Defense spokesperson Wu Qian said on Saturday that the leadership change will not alter China's principles and stance on maritime issues. "The transferring of its control and reform of the command and control system will not change its basic mission to protect maritime rights and carry out law enforcement. It does not entail any change on the Chinese side in its principles and policies on maritime issues. Maritime Executive / [Read more](#)

DENMARK RATIFIES THE 2010 HNS PROTOCOL

July 5 - Denmark has become the fourth State to ratify the 2010 HNS Protocol. They join Canada, Norway and Turkey, who have also deposited instruments of ratification to the Protocol and who are leading the way towards entry into force of the 2010 HNS Convention.

Amongst the criteria for the Convention's entry into force, at least 12 States are required to ratify the Protocol, four of which must each have a merchant shipping fleet of no less than 2 million units of gross tonnage. As a result of this latest ratification, the Protocol now has one third of the number of States required for its entry into force and Canada, Denmark, Norway and Turkey each have more than 2 million units of gross tonnage, so this particular requirement is now met.

The IOPC Funds have been given the role of carrying out the tasks necessary to set up the International Hazardous and Noxious Substances Fund (HNS Fund) and making preparations for the first session of the HNS Assembly. The 1992 Fund Secretariat also remains available to work with the International Maritime Organization and support States in their efforts to prepare for ratification or accession to the HNS Convention as well as industry stakeholders on technical issues. For further information please visit www.hnsconvention.org IOPC Funds / [Read more](#)

INDIA: MAROONED SHIP MAJOR THREAT TO SUNDERBANS ECOSYSTEM

July 1 - Pollution due to an oil spill looms large on the Sunderbans as the MV SSL Kolkata has tilted nearly 40 degrees to starboard.

Though the fuel tanks are sealed, officials aren't sure whether the fuel would seep out from damaged pipelines. The ship has nearly 210 tonnes of Heavy Fuel Oil (HFO) that will prove difficult for chemicals used by the Coast Guard to disperse. In fact, salvors from

SMIT Salvage have warned that the dispersant could cause more ecological damage unless it reacts with the oil.

The tilting of the ship has made things difficult for the salvors and Indian agencies involved in preventing an oil spill near the Sunderbans. The Times of India / [Continue reading](#)

NEW ZEALAND THE MOST PERILOUS PLACE FOR SEABIRDS DUE TO PLASTIC POLLUTION



Picture: Seabirds like this albatross are particularly at risk from plastic pollution found in New Zealand's waters. Photograph: Visuals Unlimited, Inc. / Gerald & Getty Images/Visuals Unlimited

July 2 - Seabirds are more at risk of dying due to plastic in New Zealand than anywhere else in the world, new research presented to parliament has shown.

New Zealand is considered "the seabird capital of the world", according to the country's Department of Conservation, with the northern royal albatross raising their chicks on the Otago Peninsula, unique species of oystercatchers on the Chatham Islands and more penguin species than any country in the world. There are 36 seabird species that breed only in New Zealand. Mexico is a distant second

with just five. More than a third of all seabird species are known to spend time in New Zealand's waters.

Karen Baird from conservation group Forest & Bird, which produced the report, said: "Rubbish that ends up in our seas has a far worse effect on seabird species than anywhere else in the world. Even though we don't have the most plastic pollution, we are unique in the world in having so many seabird species. We also have the most threatened seabird species, many of which are found nowhere else."

Seabirds are particularly vulnerable to eating plastic because they are surface feeders, spotting food from the air and swooping down on it, scooping it up and swallowing it before the mistake is realised. Seabird chicks and adults face starvation when their stomachs fill up with plastic rather than food. The Guardian / [Continue reading](#)

NEW ZEALAND JOINS THE SUPPLEMENTARY FUND



July 4 - On 29 June 2018 New Zealand deposited an instrument of accession to the Supplementary Fund Protocol with the Secretary-General of IMO.

The Protocol will enter into force for New Zealand on 29 September 2018, bringing the number of Supplementary Fund Member States to 32.

The Supplementary Fund provides an extra layer of compensation to those 1992 Fund Member States that have also opted to ratify the Supplementary Fund Protocol, increasing the amount of compensation available for an incident to some SDR 750 million (around USD 1 090 million). The importance of increasing the number of States Parties to the Supplementary Fund Protocol is often discussed at meetings of the IOPC Funds' governing bodies and continues to be a priority for the IOPC Funds' Secretariat. IOPC Funds / [Read more](#)

NIGERIA: OLUREMI TINUBU HAILS VERDICT ON BONGA OIL SPILL

June 28 - Chairman, Senate Committee on Environment, Oluremi Tinubu, has lauded the judgment of the Federal High Court delivered by Justice Olatoregun, upholding the \$3.6billion fine levied against Shell Petroleum Development Company (SPDC) in respect of the Bonga Oil Spill of 2011.

In December 2011, during Shell's exploratory activities within OML 118, the company's vessel at the Bonga Deep Offshore spilled about 40,000 barrels equivalent to 6,400,000 litres of crude oil into the sea.

Consequently, the National Oil Spill Detection and Response Agency (NOSDRA) levied the sum of \$1.8billion as compensation for damage done to the environment and affected communities. The agency levied another \$1.8billion as punitive damages.

All Africa / [Read more](#)

NIGERIA: OGO NI ELDERS PETITION OSINBAJO OVER MOVE TO TRUNCATE CLEAN-UP PROCESS

July 5 - GBO Kabaari Ogoni, the Elders Forum of the Ogoni People, Rivers State, has petitioned Vice President Yemi Osinbajo over alleged move by the Minister of Petroleum for State to truncate the remediation process in Ogoniland. The elders urged Osinbajo to call the Petroleum Minister to order over the engagement process of personnel for the clean-up process, adding that unwholesome conditions were being introduced in the process by the minister. Vanguard / [Read more](#)

TANZANIA YET TO GET GLOBAL OIL SPILLS FUNDS DESPITE BEING A MEMBER SINCE 2010

July 1 – Tanzania has yet to receive monetary benefits from the International Oil Pollution Compensation Funds (IOPC Funds) since joining IOPC facility of the International Maritime Organization (IMO) in 2010.

Speaking to The Citizen, recently the chief engineer of Tanzania Shipping Agencies Corporation (TAZAC), Mr Eddyson Chalamila, said the country has yet to receive compensation funds due to the fact that despite being an active member it has not met qualifications. The Citizen / [Read more](#)

UK: TRAINING COURSES: OIL POLLUTION, CONTINGENCY PLANNING AND RESPONSE

July 5 - The MCA's Counter Pollution Branch offers courses to local authorities on planning for and responding to shoreline oil pollution. This leaflet and booking form contains details and dates of current courses. Download the leaflet using the link below - https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/722651/INF_NOTE_2018-19.pdf

This OCPR course is for emergency planning officers in LAs and national government officers and covers all aspects of spill response from the LA perspective. It provides management staff with an overview of oil pollution response and how their roles and responsibilities fit into the NCP.

MCA does not provide training materials on the course. You should download and print off these files and bring them with you to the course. To download these files, use the link below -

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/722728/Presentations_2018.zip

USA: MARITIME SAFETY ACT OF 2018 SEEKS TO IMPLEMENT LESSONS LEARNED FROM EL FARO TRAGEDY

June 29 - The Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure has unanimously passed a bi-partisan bill seeking to enhance maritime safety in response to the tragic loss of the American cargo ship SS El Faro and its 33 crewmembers during in 2015.

H.R. 6175, also known as the Maritime Safety Act of 2018, implements [the Commandant of the Coast Guard's final action memo](#), containing the Coast Guard's findings from its investigation into the casualty, as well as agency actions based on recommendations from the Marine Board of Investigation's [Report of Investigation](#).

H.R. 6175 will next go up for vote in the House of Representatives. View the full text: [Maritime Safety Acts of 2018](#)
gCaptain / [Read more](#)

USA: NOAA AND DEPARTMENT OF INTERIOR SCIENTISTS MEET WITH SHIPPING INDUSTRY EXPERTS TO PREPARE FOR OIL SPILLS

June 29 - NOAA and Department of the Interior (DOI) staff met with shipping industry representatives to exchange information and discuss ways to facilitate communication and cooperation before, during and after vessel oil spills.

The meeting was held at DOI headquarters in Washington, DC on June 26-27. The shipping industry was represented by the International Group of Protection and Indemnity Clubs (P&I Clubs, and the International Tanker Owners Pollution Federation (ITOPF).

The goal of the meeting was to renew relationships, update organizational structures, highlight evolving issues in response and natural resource damage assessment, and review the terms of the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) signed in 2007 between the P&I clubs and NOAA and DOI. The aim of the MOU is to promote expeditious and cost-effective restoration of injured natural resources and services resulting from ship-source oil spills in the USA, as authorized by the Oil Pollution Act of 1990. The meeting participants discussed a variety of response and NRDA topics designed to improve communication and coordination during spills and agreed to consider updating the current MOU. NOAA OR&R / [Read more](#)

USA: OR&R DISASTER PREPAREDNESS PROGRAM OFFERS SCIENCE OF CHEMICAL RELEASES CLASS IN ALABAMA

June 29 - During the week of June 25, nearly 40 participants from federal, state and local government, the U.S. Coast Guard, and private industry attended the Science of Chemical Releases class held at the Disaster Response Center in Mobile, Alabama.

Throughout the course of the week, participants utilized various response tools including CAMEO, ALOHA and MARPLOT. They also engaged in activities around chemical properties, destructive hazards of chemical agents, toxic hazards to human health and environmental fate and effects. NOAA OR&R / [Read more](#)



PEOPLE IN THE NEWS

USA: EPA ADMINISTRATOR SCOTT PRUITT RESIGNS

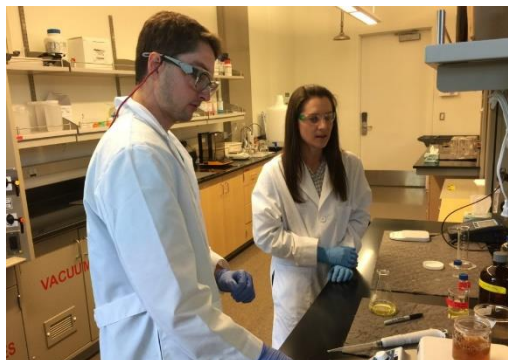


July 5 - Scott Pruitt, the administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency who was key to implementing President Trump's conservative agenda but came under intense scrutiny for a series of questionable ethical decisions, resigned Thursday afternoon. Pruitt's deputy at the EPA, Andrew Wheeler, will serve as the agency's acting administrator starting Monday, President Trump said in a tweet.

CBS News / [Read more](#)

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

USA: RESEARCHERS TARGET ON-SITE TREATMENTS FOR CONTAMINATED SOILS



In the picture: Dr Amanda Hohner and Master's student in Environmental Engineering Austin Pelletier in the lab.

July 2 - Washington State University researchers have received a grant to develop cost-effective ways to treat contaminated soils found during highway construction.

The goal is to find treatment methods for soils that are contaminated with a variety of toxic chemicals, such as petroleum hydrocarbons, arsenic or lead. Amanda Hohner, assistant professor in the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering, is principal investigator on the three-year, \$500,000 grant from the Illinois Center for Transportation.

Washington State University / [Read more](#)

NEW PRODUCTS & SERVICES

D4H LAUNCHES NEW INCIDENT MANAGEMENT SOFTWARE

July 5 - D4H Incident Management is a new real-time software programme that enables the coordination of an effective response to any situation.

It claims to easily create a common operating picture, communicate objectives, and collaborate on a resolution using forms, tasks, logs, maps, and status boards. D4H Technologies / [More information](#)

PUBLICATIONS

USA: THE OHMSETT GAZETTE QUARTERLY REPORT AVAILABLE ONLINE

July 2 – The Ohmsett Gazette helps to keep the oil spill response community abreast of new developments, build relationships within the industry, and provides a gentle reminder that Ohmsett exists to assist in R&D and testing of new technologies.

The current issue (PDF) can be downloaded from this link:

<https://www.ohmsett.com/ohmsett/Ohmsett%20Gazette%20Spring%202018.pdf>

ISCO Members and readers of the ISCO Newsletter can sign up to receive the quarterly issue by email. Please contact Jane-Ellen Delgado at jdelgado@marinc.com and click on www.ohmsett.com for more information about Ohmsett's activities.

JOURNAL OF ENVIRONMENTAL HAZARDS

July 3 – ISCO Members and readers of the ISCO Newsletter may also be interested in The Journal of Environmental Hazards.

The publication is aimed at addressing a wide range of environmentally hazardous events such as natural and manmade disasters and their immediate as well as long term effects on the ecosystem. The key goal of the journal is to highlight the impact of environmental hazards on human health and the ecosystem at large. The journal is keen in raising the awareness levels of its readers and users on various issues related to vulnerability and the risk involved due to the hazardous substances present in the environment.

The journal prominently projects research in areas including but not limited to pollution, transport and fate of pollutants in the environment, heavy metals and organic compounds in the environment, industrial ecology, physical hazards, biological hazards, chemical hazards, planetary hazards, hazardous waste management, bioremediation of contaminated sites, deforestation, global warming, overpopulation, ecological and human risk assessment, environmental impact assessment, improved energy management, physical alteration of the natural environment, and improper management of human waste.

The Journal of Environmental Hazards caters to a vast section of readers including: disaster management experts, waste management

PUBLICATIONS (CONTINUED)

personnel, environmental activists, health practitioners, climate change experts, ecologists, toxicologists, microbiologists, environmental advocates, NGOs and policy-makers, keen on preserving the ecological balance.

Read more about The Journal of Environmental Hazards at <https://www.omicsonline.org/journal-environmental-hazards.php>

LINKS FOR DOWNLOADING & READING OTHER PUBLICATIONS

Alga Chronicle	News from Australia on Contaminated Land Remediation	February 2018
AMSA Aboard	News from the Australian Maritime Safety Authority	December 2017
ATAC 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	April 2018
CROIERG Enews	Canberra & Regions Oil Industry Emergency Response Group	October 2017
EMSA Newsletter	News from the European Maritime Safety Agency	June 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	June 2018
Intertanko Weekly News	International news for the oil tanker community	July 6, 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	Latest issue
Ocean Orbit	Newsletter from the International Tanker Owners Pollution Federation	August 2017
OCIMF Newsletter	News from the Oil Companies International Marine Forum	May 2018
OHMSETT Gazette	Oil Spill Response Research & Renewable Energy Test Facility Quarterly	Spring 2018
PEMSEA E-Updates	Healthy oceans, people and economies in the East Asian Seas	June, 2018
Pollution Online Newsletter	News for pollution prevention & control professionals	July 7, 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	May 16-31, 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	July 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

UK: 9TH MARITIME SALVAGE & CASUALTY RESPONSE, LONDON, 5-6 SEPTEMBER

July 6 - Already on its 9th annual edition, this two day c-level event will once again bring together senior executives and experts from Salvage Companies, technology providers, P&I Clubs, Law Firms and Global Regulators to discuss the latest challenges and developments making an impact on the industry.

The conference will deliver the essential knowledge and experience from some of the best salvage professionals in the business and will uncover the complexity of issues surrounding Wreck Removal and Salvage Operations, not just on an operational scale, but will also make the legal, insurance and contractual issues more transparent. [View Conference Agenda](#)

Confirmed Speakers Include:

- Nick Sloane, *Director, Resolve Marine Group*
- Jim Elliott, *Vice President, T&T Salvage & President, ASA*
- Paul Hankins, *VP of Operations, Donjon Marine*
- George Tsavlis, *Principal, Tsavlis Salvage Group*
- Kyriakos Mitsotakis, *Commercial Director, Five Ocean Salvage*
- Andy Liddell, *Chief Salvage Officer, Ministry of Defence (MoD)*
- Jan de Boer, *Senior Legal Officer, International Maritime Organization (IMO)*
- Hans Petter Mortensholm, *Project Leader, Norwegian Coastal Administration*
- Sam Kendall-Marsden, *Head of Division, The Standard Club*
- Per Martin, *Claims Manager, Gard*
- Eamon Moloney, *Deputy Director (Claims), North P&I Club* and many more...

Topics that we will cover include:

- Market Overview: Where does the Salvage Industry Currently Stand?
- Nairobi Convention Updates and Developments
- Wreck Removal Case Studies
- The Role of the LOF: Can it be maintained?
- Ensuring Crew Competence in Dangerous Situations
- Autonomous Vessels – Can They Exist in the Salvage and Towage Worlds?
- Successfully Responding to the Challenges of a Burning Ship
- Examining Risk in the Salvage Industry
- Environmental Hazards and Limiting the Damage
- Co-operating with local communities, coastguards and authorities to salvage effectively
- Strategies and Implementations Across all Sectors to Improve the Salvage Industry

Join us in London where key industry players will give in-depth presentations and get involved in the Panel Discussions with senior level audience covering the most important topics within maritime salvage. The conference will also offer an exhilarating series of presentations, sessions and Q&A's to deepen connections and move the sector forward and engage in excellent networking.

Please click on the link below to visit our event's agenda:

http://www.wplgroup.com/aci/wp-content/uploads/sites/2/2018/02/MSSe9_Agenda_MKG.pdf

USA: NEW CONFERENCE TRACK AT CLEAN GULF - NOVEMBER 13-15, 2018 IN NEW ORLEANS

June 28 - The CLEAN GULF Conference & Exhibition continues to broaden the subject matter programmed for conference sessions to cover the most important topics for the spill prevention, preparedness and response community. For 2018, we've added a conference track covering training and exercise management best practices to the agenda.

Training and Exercise Management Best Practices Sessions: Exercise Success! Train like You Fight and Fight like You Train - This session will begin with a discussion about PREP exercise requirements and is it time for an evolution. Next it will cover the importance of making exercises more like realistic responses considering: extending the Incidence briefings (not writing an Incident Action Plan for a day one exercise, remote participation as is done in incidents, and other aspects). [View full session details here.](#)

How to Meet Expectations through Best Management Practices - Explore the various ways operators meet prerequisite and training requirements for small, medium, and large Incident Management Teams (IMTs). This session will cover several operator's programs.

Regulatory Expectations for Training and Exercises - A major reason oil spill responses are effective is the fact that drills and exercises are carried out by industry and the federal organizations that regulate them. This panel discussion will highlight expectations from government and industry on oil spill training and exercises.

Response Competency Processes - There are many ways to get to a response competency endpoint...mastery of incident management for example. This session will explore different processes to help you achieve a response competency endpoint!

Right Sizing the Incident Management Team for Exercises and Real Events - A panel discussion among operators, OSROs and government regulators to share recent, real-world experiences on the appropriate size for response and exercise Incident Management Teams (IMTs). Perspectives and expectations will be discussed from the active participants of the Unified Command.

[View the full agenda](#) [Register for Clean Gulf](#)

UK: SALVAGE & WRECK REMOVALS CONFERENCE – CALL FOR PAPERS

June 26 - We are pleased to announce the Call for Papers for this year's Salvage & Wreck Removals conference, due to take place in London on 5 and 6 December.

This is your chance to shape the agenda and we would like to hear from you. To submit an abstract please send the talk title and a brief description to me by Tuesday 31 July 2018.

In addition, if there are any particular topics or speakers that you would like to see on the 2018 agenda, or comments/feedback from previous events, please don't hesitate to let us know. Contact vanessa.darnborough@knect365.com

RESPONSE EVENTS DURING JULY & AUGUST 2018

BENIN: NATIONAL WORKSHOP TO STRENGTHEN THE NATIONAL SYSTEM FOR PREPAREDNESS AND RESPONSE TO OIL SPILLS

Cotonou, July 9-12. <http://www.giwacaf.net/en/>

CONGO: NATIONAL WORKSHOP TO STRENGTHEN THE NATIONAL SYSTEM FOR THE PREVENTION OF, PREPAREDNESS FOR AND RESPONSE TO OIL SPILLS

Kinshasa, July 23-26. <http://www.giwacaf.net/en/>

SWEDEN: HELCOM BALEX DELTA 2018 SPILL RECOVERY EXERCISE

Karlskrona Area, August 27-30. BALEX DELTA 2018 is an oil and chemical spill recovery exercise in the Baltic Sea. HELCOM BALEX DELTA exercises have taken place annually for the past 30 years. The exercise will look different from previous years, as it includes rehearsing the response to both oil and chemical spills, as well as a table-top exercise on on-shore and oiled wildlife response. In addition, the program for the observers is more extensive than usual, giving the observers the possibility to follow the exercise closer than ever before. <https://balexdelta2018.helcom.fi/>

If we have omitted to include an event of interest to our community, please let us know.

UPCOMING EVENTS – SEPTEMBER 2018 ONWARDS

COUNTRY	2018	TITLE OF EVENT	LOCATION
For more information click on Title of Event			
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
USA	October 1-3	Elastec's Annual Oil Spill Response Workshop	Carmi, IL
CANADA	October 2-4	AMOP Tech. Seminar on Environmental Contamination and Response	Victoria, BC
UAE	October 2-4	El Middle East HSE Forum	Dubai
AUSTRALIA	October 2-4	Ecoforum Conference & Exhibition	Sydney
FRANCE	October 8-12	Sea Tech Week	Brest
UAE	October 9-10	RECSO EnviroSpill Conference & Exhibition	Abu Dhabi
CANADA	October 17-19	Arctic Shipping Forum N. America Conference	Newfoundland
UK	October 22-26	IMO Marine Environment Protection Committee	London
UK	October 22-26	IMO Marine Environment Protection Committee	London
TURKEY	Nov. 6-8	Regional Workshop & Oil Spill Exercise	Istanbul
TURKEY	Nov. 7	MOIG General Assembly Meeting	Istanbul
USA	Nov. 13-15	Clean Gulf Conference and Exhibition	New Orleans, LA
PHILIPPINES	Nov. 27-30	East Asia Seas Conference 2018	Iloilo
UK	Dec. 5-6	Salvage & Wreck Removals Conference	London
COUNTRY	2019	TITLE OF EVENT	LOCATION
USA	February 4-7	Gulf of Mexico Oil Spill & Ecosystem Conference	New Orleans, LA
USA	March 26-27	SCAA Annual Meeting & Conference	Arlington, VA
USA	April 16-18	Clean Waterways Conference	Cincinnati, OH
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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