

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

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INTERNATIONAL NEWS

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A STEP FORWARD: THE NEW CASPIAN SEA CONVENTION



Above: Signing Ceremony for the Caspian Convention, August 12 (Russian Foreign Ministry)

August 17 - Demarcation of the Caspian Sea has been one of the longest lasting casualties of the disintegration of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics.

The Soviet collapse invalidated the 1940 Irano-Soviet treaty that had demarcated the rights of both countries regarding the Caspian Sea. Thus, after 1991, five territories

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INTERNATIONAL NEWS (CONTINUED)

became littoral states of the Caspian Sea, necessitating clarification of its legal status so that they could exploit and demarcate it among themselves.

The fact that this agreement has now been signed is a positive, albeit incomplete, step. The Maritime Executive / [Read more](#)

August 12 - Caspian Sea: Five countries sign deal to end dispute - The Caspian Sea has long suffered pollution from oil extraction and other industries.

The Caspian Sea's disputed legal status was also a risk factor for the environment - as no enforcement would have been possible to deal with a major oil spill or other pollution incident in disputed waters. BBC News / [Read more](#)

MAERSK DEPLOYS PLASTIC CLEAN-UP PROJECT IN PACIFIC GARBAGE PATCH



Above: Tow test of the collection system (Ocean Cleanup)

August 16 - Offshore vessel operator Maersk Supply Service has agreed to deploy the AHTS Maersk Launcher in support of the deployment of The Ocean Cleanup trash removal system, which aims to remove plastic debris from the waters of the North Pacific. It is the first large-scale initiative of its kind.

The effort will target the well-publicized "garbage patch" in the Pacific, which contains mismanaged plastic waste generated on shore. According to researchers at the Helmholtz Centre for Environmental Research, ten river systems in Asia and Africa account for as much as 95 percent of ocean plastic pollution worldwide, and six of ten flow into the seas of the Western Pacific region. The Ocean Cleanup estimates that about 85 percent of the total comes from Asia. The Maritime Executive / [Read more and watch video](#)

SEA ALARM ASSISTS IN THE BOW JUBAIL OILED WILDLIFE RESPONSE IN ROTTERDAM

Photo: Rehabilitated swans return to the wild

August 9 - Sea Alarm was active in the month-long response to wildlife affected by the Bow Jubail oil spill in Rotterdam Harbour, the Netherlands, coordinating the work of Dutch, European, and global responders in the care of more than 500 oiled swans.

Sea Alarm was activated on Saturday 23rd June via SON-Response, the umbrella organisation for oiled wildlife response in the Netherlands. Sea Alarm then contacted Rijkswaterstaat to suggest the national wildlife response plan be activated. Although the plan does not technically apply to the harbour area, it was used by Rijkswaterstaat as the official document to guide the set-up of a Temporary Wildlife Hospital (TWH).

In total, 497 birds were released after an intensive check for waterproofing, a veterinary examination, and placement of a unique identification ring on one leg. Ringing allows individuals to be identified when resighted, enabling scientists to study long term survival of treated birds. Sea Alarm / [Read more](#)



STRENGTHENING EMSA'S EQUIPMENT ASSISTANCE SERVICE IN THE BALTIC SEA



August 3 - In an effort to enhance the oil pollution response capacity available to member states through the Equipment Assistance Service (EAS), EMSA commissioned two high capacity skimmer systems in July.

These systems will be stored and integrated in the Equipment Assistance Service stockpile in the Baltic Sea (Gdansk, Poland).

The equipment comprises a skimmer unit with a brush adapter and screw pump, an umbilical hose system and a containerised hydraulic diesel power pack. It can be used standalone on board non-dedicated oil spill response vessels. Its capacity is 140m³/h at 12 bars (screw pump) which makes the equipment suitable for the recovery of heavy oils. EMSA Newsletter / [Read more](#)

ITOPF TO RECEIVE SPECIAL CERTIFICATE FROM IMO

August 13 - The IMO Council voted to award a special certificate to ITOPF in recognition of its contribution to the work of IMO at its 120th session in July. The certificate will be presented at the IMO Awards Ceremony on 6th December 2018, after the meeting of the 100th session of the Maritime Safety Committee.

INCIDENT REPORTS (IN CHRONOLOGICAL ORDER)

MALAYSIA: MAJOR OIL SPILL HEADING TOWARDS PERAK

July 27 - Up to six tonnes of diesel and hundreds of litres of engine oil floated from Penang seas towards Perak when a ship sank, threatening fish and shrimp farms and the coastal environment along several kilometres of northern Perak's coast.

The vessel's fuel and engine oil began spewing out about seven hours after it hit the remains of a shipwreck nicknamed Kapal Simen, 4km from Penang island's southern coast yesterday morning. The Star / [Read more and watch video](#) [Thanks to Don Johnston of ISCO Industry Partner, DG & Hazmat Group]

USA: OIL TRAINS DERAIL IN S. ST. PAUL, SPILLING FUEL INTO MISS. RIVER

August 8 - Crews are trying to clean up a large diesel spill in the Mississippi River after a train derailed early Wednesday morning.

The train went off the tracks in South St. Paul on the Hoffman Swing Bridge, near Pig's Eye Island and south of the St. Paul Airport. Minnesota CBS Local / [Read more and watch video](#) [Thanks to Don Johnston of ISCO Industry Partner, DG & Hazmat Group]

KENYA: KISUMU RESIDENTS PUT LIVES AT RISK, SCOOP OIL FROM LEAKING PIPELINE IN KONDELE



Photo: Oblivious of the dangers of oil, the residents scooped the oil in jerrycans with each one of them trying to get the lions share. Photo: Citizen DigitalSource: UGC

August 11 - The residents scooped the valuable commodity with big jerrycans at Kondele. Security officers arrived at the scene to stop the residents from making away with the fuel.

In 2009, over 110 people were killed in Sachangwan while scooping fuel from an oil tanker.

There was a scare in Kisumu after residents of Kondele scrambled to scoop fuel from a leaking pipeline near the Kisumu-Kibos Road. Oblivious of the danger the flowing oil posed to them, the residents scooped the loot in jerrycans with each trying to get the lion's share. Tuko / [Read more](#) [Thanks to Don Johnston of ISCO Industry Partner, DG & Hazmat Group]

INDIA: OIL WASHED ONTO BEACHES NORTH OF MUMBAI CAUSES CONCERN; EXPERTS SUSPECT OIL SPILL FROM SOUTH GUJARAT

August 11 - With thick sticky tar balls and oil being washed ashore on several beaches along the north coastal Maharashtra, marine experts and activists claimed that this could be the result of a suspected oil spill being that has been reported from southern Gujarat.



Photo: Oil washed on Bordi Beach - Sameer Bhalekar, DNA Photo

August 11 - With thick sticky tar balls and oil being washed ashore on several beaches along the north coastal Maharashtra, marine experts and activists claimed that this could be the result of a suspected oil spill being that has been reported from southern Gujarat.

While authorities have not confirmed this, several residents along Satpatti, Bordi, Kelva and Dahanu- located along the border of Maharashtra and Gujarat confirmed that there has been a large quantity of oil washed ashore on the beaches. By Thursday evening, there were reports of small quantities of oil being washed ashore Girgaum Chowpatty beach in South Mumbai too. DNA / [Read more](#)

COLOMBIA: CANO LIMON PIPELINE HALTED BY BOMB ATTACK

August 12 - Colombia's state-run oil corporate Ecopetrol SA has halted pumping on its Cano Limon-Covenas pipeline on account of a bomb attack, the corporate mentioned on Saturday.

The attack came about on Friday night in a rural space in Saravena municipality, in Arauca province close to the border with Venezuela.

Ecopetrol, which owns the pipeline by the use of its subsidiary Cenit, didn't characterize the attack to a particular armed workforce. However, in step with army resources, the pipeline has been attacked just about 60 instances this 12 months by the National Liberation Army (ELN), the rustic's closing lively guerrilla workforce.

"The incident caused a spillage of crude into vegetation and soil, without affecting water sources, and reached part of a tertiary road that provides alternative access from Saravena to Tame municipality," Ecopetrol mentioned in a remark. Redfox News / [Read more](#)

August 14 – Read related article in [The Maritime Herald](#)

SOUTH AFRICA: MSC CONTAINERSHIP LOSES 13 CONTAINERS OVERBOARD

August 14 - The South African Maritime Safety Authority has issued an urgent warning to vessels east of South Africa to be on the lookout for cargo containers that reportedly fell from a containership off the coast of Durban a week ago.

According to SAMSA, a total 13 containers were reportedly lost overboard from the MSC Chloe on 7 August 2018 while it was sailing in the Indian Ocean about 22 nautical miles ESE of Durban harbor.

"The vessel was on a voyage from Coega (Ngqurha port in Port Elizabeth) to Durban. Reportedly the vessel was drifting and awaiting berthing instructions when a huge swell struck and caused the vessel to roll about +/- 30 degrees on either side, thereby leading to the containers falling off their stacked position," SAMSA said in a statement. gCaptain / [Read more](#)

USA: CALIFORNIA - FISHING VESSEL GROUNDS NEAR MONTEREY BAY SANCTUARY



Photo: The wreck of the Quest after one day on the rocks, August 13 (USCG)

August 13 - The U.S. Coast Guard is leading the response to a grounded fishing vessel near Natural Bridges State Park, California, in Monterey County. The boat has as much as 1,200 gallons of diesel on board, and the grounding site is near the Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary.

The captain of the fishing vessel Pacific Quest contacted Sector San Francisco at about 0200 hours on Saturday to report that he had gone aground. The man and his dog were able to get off the boat at low tide and walk safely ashore, with no injuries reported. The Maritime Executive / [Read more, see more photos & video](#)

OMAN: SAILORS FLEE BURNING OIL TANKER

August 14 - At least four seafarers jumped at sea to escape a raging fire Tuesday on a very large crude carrier off the coast of Muscat operated by state owned Shipping Corp. of India Ltd.

"Assistance has been sought from the Oman Royal Navy and other ships in the vicinity," SCI said. "The flames have subsided and a fire fighting vessel is expected to reach the tanker shortly to cool down the tanks." The ship is unladen, meaning any potential spill would be limited to the fuel on board powering the vessel.

Wall Street Journal / [Read more](#)

CANADA: OIL SPILL REPORTED AFTER TUGBOAT CAPSIZES NEAR VANCOUVER

August 14 - The Canadian Coast Guard and other agencies are responding to a tugboat which sank overnight on the Fraser River near Vancouver.

The Coast Guard reports that the tug, named George H Ledcor, was towing a loaded barge when it capsized at about 11 p.m. on Monday. The overturned tug is located near Deering Island.

An oil spill has been reported in the area. The City of Vancouver said there is potential for a significant amount of fuel to have been released. Reports indicate the tug has as much as 22,000 liters of fuel on board. gCaptain / [Read more](#)

August 15 - Sunken tugboat will soon be pulled out of North Arm of Fraser River - The Ministry of Environment and Climate Change Strategy website states that containment booms have been placed around where diesel had been escaping.

Underwater crews have plugged fuel vents to stem the flow. The Western Canada Marine Response Corporation has used a skimmer and collected absorbent pads. Straight / [Read more](#)

CANADA: CLEANUP UNDERWAY AFTER NEXEN REPORTS 270,000 LITRES OF PRODUCED WATER LEAKED FROM NORTHERN ALBERTA PIPELINE

August 15 - A month after being ordered to pay \$750,000 in fines related to a 2015 pipeline leak, Nexen Energy is reporting a spill of 270,000 litres from a different pipeline in the same area of northern Alberta.

The Alberta Energy Regulator says in a post on its website that Nexen, a subsidiary of state-owned China National Offshore Oil Co. Ltd. or CNOOC, reported the release of produced water from a pipeline near Anzac, south of Fort McMurray, on Sunday.

It says no waterbody or wildlife impacts have been reported and the line has been isolated and depressurized.

It adds that cleanup is underway. Produced water, often contaminated with salt and other substances, is a byproduct of the oil and gas extraction process. Global News / [Read more](#) [Thanks to Dr Merv Fingas, Hon.FISCO, Member of the ISCO Council for Canada]

CHINA: PRODUCT TANKER AND CARGO SHIP COLLIDED IN EAST CHINA SEA, OIL SPILL

August 15 - Product tanker and cargo ship collided in East China sea early in the morning Aug 15. Tanker hull was breached in cargo tanks area, some 300 tons of fuel leaked. Salvage under way. Maritime Bulletin / [Read more](#)

MALTA: VIDEO: BUNKER TANKER REFLOATED

August 15 - Salvors from a ship repair yard in Malta have finally refloated the small bunkering tanker Hephaestus, which went hard aground in a storm near Qawra in mid-February.

No injuries or pollution resulted from the grounding, and damage to her hull was repaired in preparation for the refloat attempt. The salvage crew worked to bring the ship off the rocks by pushing it from the shore side with hydraulic jacks and pulling with a tug. The Maritime Executive / [Read more and watch video](#)

August 15 – See related report in [The Independent](#)

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

AUSTRALIA: TANKER OPERATORS BE AWARE: AUSTRALIA HAS INCREASED POLLUTION FINES

August 1 - The West of England P&I Club has issued a warning to members that the level of pollution fines has been increased in Australia. The news comes via Australian law firm, HWL Ebsworth.

Tanker owners, charterers, masters, operators and insurers should be aware of potential liabilities for fines in Australia on top of pollution clean-up and damage claims. As at 1 July 2018, the majority of Australian States (and the Northern Territory) have increased their penalty unit value in accordance with their annual indexation adjustments. The Commonwealth has also completed its three-year increase of the applicable penalty unit, in accordance with the Consumer Price Index.

The State and Territory legislation and penalties apply to oil spills that are within, or migrate to within, three nautical miles of the coast. Beyond three nautical miles the Commonwealth legislation will apply. Tanker Shipping / [Read more](#)

AUSTRALIA: MAJOR OIL SPILL DRILL FOR TORRES STRAIT GEARS UP

August 2 - A major two-day exercise to help prepare for an oil spill and develop environmental protection measures in the Torres Strait concluded in Cairns of Queensland state on Thursday, as part of the runup to a broader pollution scenario to be staged later this year, according to authorities.

About 120 participants from the public and private sector, including Torres Strait island communities, took part in discussions and activities ranging from prevention and preparedness to response actions and transboundary movement, a statement from Queensland's Acting Minister for Transport and Main Roads Mick de Brenni said. Xinhuanet / [Read more](#)

CANADA: NEWFOUNDLAND - OIL SPILL RESPONSE USING REAL TIME TRACKING AND GIS TECHNOLOGY



Photo: In November 2008, the Odyssey, a British-owned oil tanker, broke in two, caught fire and sank in heavy seas about 900 miles east of Newfoundland, spilling about a million barrels of oil.

July 16 - A new project taking place of the coastline of St. John's Newfoundland aims to reshape marine oil spill response through real-time tracking and GIS technology.

Integrated Informatics Inc., headquartered in Houston, Texas, recently received funding from the Newfoundland and Labrador Innovation Council to undertake a project that will aim to reshape the way in which asset and personnel tracking are handled for Marine Oil Spill Response in Newfoundland and Labrador.

The project will include the development of a new Tracking Data Management System to be deployed to Marine Emergency Response Industry users. Hazmat Magazine / [Read more](#)

CANADA: WHAT IT TAKES TO REMOVE OIL FROM A SHIPWRECK

Photo: The Tidewater Enabler has been contracted to remove oil from the sunken Manolis L through international company Ardent Global, which has expertise in underwater salvage. (Eddy Kennedy/CBC)

August 8 - Work began Tuesday to remove oil from the sunken paper carrier Manolis L in Notre Dame Bay, and the undertaking will take nearly 140 people to ensure the operation is successful.

Those involved will come from agencies in Canada and the United States to remove 150,000 litres of oil, which sank with the vessel in 1985. The federal government pledged \$15 million for the operation.



Over the next four weeks a salvage vessel, Tidewater Enabler, will pump oil from the wreck, which lies in 70 metres of water near Change Islands on Newfoundland's northeast coast. Crews have been testing equipment now that it is on site with hopes of beginning to recover the oil in the next few days.

The coast guard will be tasked with taking preventive measures on the surface in the event any oil might spill during the removal process. CBC News / [Read more](#)

CANADA: DISCUSSION ON THE REVIEW OF OIL SPILL RESPONSE ORGANIZATIONS

As part of the [Oceans Protection Plan](#), Transport Canada is committed to "set tougher requirements on industry to provide quicker action for any spills from a ship." To meet this commitment, we're reviewing the regulations and standards that govern Canada's oil spill response organizations.

This page is meant to prompt discussion about Canada's oil spill preparedness and response, with a focus on how we certify industry response organizations. It is not final and does not reflect the final views of Transport Canada.

After several high-profile oil spills, including the Nestucca in 1988 and Exxon Valdez in 1989, the Government of Canada commissioned the Public Review Panel on Tanker Safety and Marine Spills Response Capability. In 1990, the panel delivered a report on how to improve oil spill preparedness and response in Canada. There were two outcomes:

Together with industry, we created the Ship-Source Oil Spill Preparedness and Response Regime. Canada's shipping and oil industries created 4 oil spill response organizations to prepare for and clean up oil spills caused by their vessels or oil-handling facilities

Canada is recognized as having strong oil spill preparedness and response but the requirements for response organizations were developed over 20 years ago. Since then, environmental response has evolved. It is time to review the standards and regulations so we can identify areas for improvement.

[Continue reading this article](#) [Introduction](#) [Background](#) [For discussion: response organization requirements](#) [Tell us what you think](#)

CANADA: ENVIRONMENTAL EMERGENCY (E2) PLANS

Environmental Emergency (E2) plans are required by Environment and Climate Change Canada for all industries that have large volumes of hazardous substances produced or stored at their facilities.

ERAC can assist Plan Participants in meeting the regulations by developing new E2 plans, reviewing and editing existing E2 plans, and developing or assisting with annual drills and exercises.

The E2 Regulations apply to any person who owns or has the charge, management or control of a listed substance that: is at or above the quantity set out in column 3 of Schedule 1 of the E2 Regulations at any time during a calendar year; or is at a quantity greater than zero and is stored in a container that has a maximum capacity equal to or exceeding the threshold quantity for that substance (see subsection 3(1) of the E2 Regulations). ERAC / [Read more](#)

INDIA: COAST GUARD, OTHER AGENCIES DISCUSS OIL SPILL PREPAREDNESS

August 3 - Indian Coast Guard has been mandated for implementing the National Oil Spill Disaster Contingency Plan (NOS-DCP) by the government and its 23rd meeting was conducted at Gandhinagar on Thursday.

A total of 86 representatives of various agencies participated in the meeting. Indian Coast Guard, ministries, coastal state administrations and Union Territories, central and state departments, major and minor port authorities, oil handling agencies and onshore oil installation agencies assembled at Gandhinagar to discuss national preparedness in combating oil spill.

The Times of India / [Continue reading this report](#)

LIBERIA: ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY LAUNCHES CLIMATE CHANGE POLICY AND RESPONSE STRATEGY

August 15 - Monrovia – The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) with support from the United Nations Development Program (UNDP) through the National Adaptation Plans (NAP) project will on Wednesday, August 15, launch the National Policy & Response Strategy on Climate Change. The NAP project is funded by the Green Climate Fund (GCF).

The event will be attended by high-level policymakers and representatives from government entities, partners, representatives of the donor community, international and local NGOs, women and youth groups, and research and academic institutions. Following the official launch, copies of the policy will be distributed amongst participants and posted on the EPA website.

Front Page Africa Online / [Read more](#)

NIGERIA: TACKLING ENVIRONMENTAL DISASTERS

August 8 - How UN Environment is working with communities in the northern city of Kaduna to reduce environmental risks.

Kaduna city, in northwestern Nigeria, is a bustling metropolis of about 1.5 million people. Established from quasi-virgin territory by Lord Frederick Lugard in 1912, it was initially a garrison town which then morphed into the regional capital of the then Northern Protectorate.

Between February and June 2018, UN Environment and Nigeria's Minna-based Federal University of Technology/Centre for Disaster Risk Management and Development Studies carried out a study on how the communities around the refinery respond to natural and

man-made hazards and emergencies. The assessment was conducted within the framework of the Awareness and Preparedness for Emergency at Local Level (APELL) initiative, designed by UN Environment. UN Environment / [Continue reading this article](#) [Thanks to Don Johnston of ISCO Industry Partner, DG & Hazmat Group]

PANAMA: REPORTS FROM ITOPF AND NOAA OR&R ON ECOCANAL 2018

August 13 - ITOPF attended the annual EcoCanal seminar and exercise at the Panama Canal from 7th-9th August, jointly organised by the Panama Canal Authority (ACP) and the US National Response Team (NRT). At the seminar on 7th August, Phil Ruck presented on the role of ITOPF in pollution incidents. The seminar also featured presentations on the Incident Command System (ICS) and safety aspects of LNG tankers and tug boats. It was attended by approximately 90 representatives from both the Canal and various Panamanian government agencies. ITOPF / [Read more](#)

August 17 – [Read a more comprehensive report from NOAA OR&R](#)

ST.KITTS AND NEVIS: HAZMAT TRAINING FOR EMERGENCY RESPONSE AGENCIES BY THE FLANG



July 27 - Four members of Florida National Guard's Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear and High Yield Explosive (CBRNE) Enhanced Response Force Package (C-ERFP) are supporting the State Partnership Program (SPP) by providing the St. Kitts and Nevis Defense Force, National Emergency Management Agency, and St. Kitts and Nevis Fire Rescue Services (SKNFRS) classes on the Emergency Response Guidebook with a focus on hazmat placards.

After the successful training sessions on the last day for the FLNG Soldiers of the St. Kitts and Nevis SPP mission, members from local agencies are already moving forward with additional requests for more training in the near future. DVIDS / [Read more](#)

USA: FEDS MOVE TO BAN ANCHORING IN STRAITS OF MACKINAC AFTER OIL LINE DENTED

August 6 - The U.S. Coast Guard has proposed an indefinite ban on anchoring in the Straits of Mackinac in an effort to prevent further anchor strikes on lake-bottom utility lines. If implemented, the ban would replace the need for Gov. Rick Snyder to renew the "no-anchor zone" emergency rule [he signed in late May](#).

[The proposal](#) is open for public comment until Sept. 4. Michigan Live / [Read more](#) [Thanks to Don Johnston of ISCO Industry Partner, DG & Hazmat Group]

August 13 – Related article – Top-level federal officials will gather in northern Michigan next week to testify how prepared they are for a Line 5 oil spill in the Straits of Mackinac.

The panel of federal emergency-responders and regulators will join area stakeholders for a hearing before the U.S. Senate Commerce, Science and Transportation Committee on Aug. 20, U.S. Sen. Gary Peters, D-Michigan, announced Monday. The venue for the talks, which are scheduled for 10 a.m., is the Milliken Auditorium on Northwestern Michigan Community College's campus, 1410 College Drive, in Traverse City. Michigan Live / [Read more](#)

USA: OR&R'S EMERGENCY RESPONSE DIVISION SUPPORTS TWO U.S. COAST GUARD "OIL SPILL ROADSHOW" TRAININGS IN CALIFORNIA

August 17 - The U.S. Coast Guard's (USCG) District 11 Response Advisory Team (D-11 DRAT) works extensively with OR&R's Emergency Response Division providing direct operational decision support to USCG responders during oil spills.

To better prepare USCG spill responders for future emergencies, the D-11 DRAT sponsored a three-day, customized "Oil Spill Roadshow" training this week (August 14-16) for pollution responders at USCG Sector San Diego.

During the training, roughly 30 attendees (including USCG and State responders) learned about NOAA's scientific support roles during

NEWS REPORTS FROM AROUND THE WORLD (CONTINUED)



oil spills as well as useful NOAA tools (ADIOS oil weathering model, CAMEO Chemicals, etc), aerial observations during oil spills, properties & behavior of non-floating oils, applied response technologies like dispersants and in-situ burning, NOAA's Environmental Response Management Application (ERMA), remote sensing tools like satellite imagery and un-manned aerial systems (UAS or "drones"), and Shoreline Assessment Cleanup Technique (SCAT).

Photo on left: Response personnel from United States Coast Guard Sector San Diego and California Office of Spill Prevention & Response (OSPR) participate in a Shoreline Cleanup and Assessment (SCAT) activity during the three day training event. Image credit: NOAA

A similar class will also be held in the Los Angeles/Long Beach area for other USCG and State responders in two weeks (August 28-30). For more information, contact Jordan.Stout@noaa.gov.

PEOPLE IN THE NEWS

USA: ASA NAMES DR. RICHARD BURKE AS HONORARY MEMBER



In the picture: Rebecca Garcia-Malone, ASA Education Committee Chair, presents Dr. Richard J. Burke, ABS Professor of Naval Architecture & Engineering, SUNY Maritime College, with an official invitation to join the ASA.

August 15 - On July 20, 2018, the American Salvage Association (ASA) welcomed Dr. Richard J. Burke, of SUNY Maritime College as the Association's very first honorary maritime academy faculty member representative. This initiative is designed to broaden the knowledge about the marine salvage and emergency response industry, and the academic community's access to it.

It was with complete confidence that the ASA called upon Dr. Richard J. Burke to join the Association as its very first honorary maritime academy faculty member representative as he has shown unwavering support of the ASA's Education Committee and shares in its commitment to raising awareness of the various functions and responsibilities of the marine salvage industry. "I am honored and touched that the ASA should think of me at this time. The salvage industry is immensely important as a service to mariners, to shipowners and their underwriters, and to the public. The industry represents a tremendous professional challenge and may provide rewarding careers for our graduates. Salvage work is the ultimate test of what you know and what you can do" said Dr. Burke. The Maritime Executive / [Read more](#)

AUSTRALIA: TOBY STONE IS LEAVING AMSA



August 17 - Toby Stone writes – "After eight very good years with AMSA I have made the decision to leave. The decision was not taken lightly but I have decided it is time for a change. My last day in the office will be the 31st August 2018. It will also be my last day in Canberra as I relocate to Queensland.

I will take this opportunity to thank everyone that I have had the opportunity to meet, interact and work with".

The acting General Manager from the 01st September will be Julian Mitchell Julian.mitchell@amsa.gov.au The responsibilities of MERCOM from the 01st September will be assumed by Gary Prosser dceo@amsa.gov.au

SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

WE'RE GETTING BETTER AT SAVING SEABIRDS AFTER OIL SPILLS

August 17 - A new study of brown pelicans after the Refugio oil spill in California shows how far oil rehabilitation techniques have come in the last few decades.

SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY (CONTINUED)

Not so long ago, after the Deepwater Horizon oil spill of 2010, some experts despaired of saving the hundreds of thousands of birds thought to have been caught in the muck. But results from the Oiled Wildlife Care Network's Refugio response offer some evidence that people are getting better at caring for birds, post-spill.

Among the brown pelicans that did well after being stabilized and cleaned, Fiorello and her team chose 12, at random, to outfit with little backpacks carrying radio transmitters. From those birds, they learned a bit of good news: A year later, 10 of the pelicans' transmitters were still working and indicating they were alive. One's transmitter had stopped functioning, but it was unknown how the bird was faring, while another pelican died and its body was found. In comparison, among eight unaffected pelicans scientists had netted from a nearby harbor as a control group, at least six seemed to have survived.

This was a major departure from the results of the last in-depth study of how brown pelicans fared after oil spills in Southern California in 1990 and 1991. In that study, cleaned and rehabbed birds mostly died within six months. "We conclude that oil and/or rescue and treatment result in long-term injury to brown pelicans," the 1990s study team wrote in a paper published in the journal *Marine Pollution Bulletin*. "Our results and a growing number of other studies indicate that current rehabilitation techniques are not effective at returning healthy birds to the wild." As recently as 2010, news organizations ran a spate of articles questioning whether people should even try to rehabilitate oiled birds, or just euthanize them.

Fiorello and her team used a physical exam and a battery of blood tests to check that the pelicans were healthy before they were released. On average, the birds needed 19 days of care before they were ready to fly free. Several weeks later, some of their radio pings indicated they were feeding off the coast of central Oregon, thousands of miles away. "We were very encouraged that the birds were healthy enough to do that," Fiorello says. "It seemed like what they were doing was very normal behavior."

There was one typical behavior they didn't engage in. None of the pelicans, neither oiled-and-rehabilitated nor those from the control group, appeared to breed successfully in 2015. That might be because of the effects of the oil spill, Fiorello says. But it may have been due to other factors as well. "It wasn't a great year for breeding," she says. There was an El Niño weather pattern that year, which made fish less available for pelicans to eat. It's not unusual for brown pelicans to skip a year in breeding when conditions aren't ideal, she says.

Perhaps the biggest advance oil-spill wildlife rescue has made in the last two decades, Fiorello says, is recognizing that when a bird comes in covered in oil, cleaning isn't the first thing it needs. A bird like that hasn't been able to eat. Because seabirds get all of their water from their food—they can't drink seawater—it's dehydrated too. An oiled bird now first gets fluid, food, and heat to counteract the effects of oiling, which mats their feathers and exposes their skin to the cold. Pacific Standard / [Read more](#)

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
ATRAC Newsletter	News from the Adriatic Training and Research Centre	July 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	August 2018 issue
EUROWA Newsletter	European Oiled Wildlife Response Assistance Module	October 2017
IMO News Magazine	News from the International Maritime Organization	Summer 2018 issue
IMO Publishing News	New and forthcoming IMO publications	June 2018
Intertanko Weekly News	International news for the oil tanker community	August 17, 2018
JOIFF "The Catalyst"	Int'l Organisation for Industrial Hazard Management	Q3 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
Nautical Institute News	News from the Nautical Institute	June-July, 2018
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	June 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	August 15, 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	July 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	August 1, 2018

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

UK: CONTAMINATION EXPO – LONDON, 12-13 SEPTEMBER, 2018

The Contamination Expo Series is now less than 2 months away. Located at the NEC, Birmingham on the 12th and 13th September for 2018, this event is recognised as one of Europe's leading exhibition and conferences for spill response professionals.

Environment Agency-supported, and home to 150 industry-leading exhibitors, this year's event is going to be unmissable. Register for your complimentary ticket now at the Contamination Expo Series website.

The seminar schedule for this year's show has just gone live here.

- Keynote speaker Tony Francis of Veolia. With over 15 years of experience working as an Emergency Response Coordinator, he is the go-to guy for advice on how to prepare for chemical accidents and emergencies.
- The tag team seminar by Akshay Singhal and Kartik Hajela. Speaking about the new materials being used for spill cleanups, this is an unmissable seminar for those wishing to know about the newest innovations in the market.
- Keynote speaker Graham Finnigan of NARU. Representing the National Ambulance Resilience Unit, Graham will discuss the Ambulance Service's response to Chemical, biological, radiological, nuclear and explosive (CBRNe) incidents.

While you're at the show learning from these speakers, do not forget to take a look at the stands of 150 supplier exhibitors from across the contamination industry, take advantage of the networking opportunities the show provides, and visit the four other co-located shows running alongside the Contamination Expo Series – Flood Expo, Recycling and Waste Management Exhibition, Marine & Coastal Civil Engineering Expo and Future Resource Expo.

For more information visit <http://www.contaminationexpo.com/tracker.asp?code=ISCOsolus2>

UK: 9TH MARITIME SALVAGE & CASUALTY RESPONSE – LONDON, 12TH & 13TH SEPTEMBER 2018

We're now only 4 weeks away from 9th Maritime Salvage & Casualty Response!

This 9th annual two-day conference - taking place in Holiday Inn Bloomsbury Hotel London on 12th & 13th September 2018 - will address the technical challenges of salvage operations as well as the legal, insurance and commercial implications of these. Confirm your space at the event and get latest updates through case studies and expert views from senior level representatives in the salvage industry and benefit from excellent networking.

To view the latest conference agenda please [click here](#)

Sample list of confirmed attendees: Tindall Riley (Britannia) Limited * MIKO Marine * Mapfre Global Risks * Tsaviris Salvage * AKD * The Standard Club * IMO * Maritime Coastguard Agency * Five Oceans Salvage * UK Ministry of Defence * RESOLVE Marine Group * DSM Dyneema * Gard * Polytechnic University of Catalonia * T&T Salvage * London Offshore Consultants (LOC) * North P&I Club * EMSA * Donjon Marine * Norwegian Coastal Administration * Alpha Marine Shipping Services * European Tugowners Association * Bernicia Marine Consultants Limited * Constellation Marine Services * WK Webster & Co Ltd. * MINERVA MARINE INC * Clyde & Co * Caspian Marine Service * Sea2Cradle * Cunningham Lindsey.

Key topics include:

- Market Overview: Where does the Salvage Industry Currently Stand
- The Role of the LOF: Can it be Maintained? Salving the LOF
- The US Salvage and Marine Firefighting Regulatory Framework: A Ten Year Perspective
- Nairobi Convention Updates and Developments
- Accidents in European ports Involving Chemical Substances: Characteristics and Trends
- Places of Refuge: The involvement of the European Maritime Safety Agency
- Tugowners Perspective on Salvage & Wreck Removal
- The Parameters Surrounding Casualties and Salvage with Autonomous/Unmanned ships
- Successfully Responding to the Challenges of a Burning Ship
- Good stakeholder engagement during salvage incidents and wreck removal
- The "Benita" Salvage Case Study
- Risk Mitigation in Salvage and Wreck Removal Operations
- Managing Salvage and wreck removal operations – Gard's Perspective
- Overview: Examining Risk in the Salvage Industry
- Protecting the Environment during Salvage and Wreck Removal
- WWII wrecks and the pollution risk

THE NETHERLANDS: INTERNATIONAL SPILL EXPERIENCE 2018

- Rotterdam, Friday the 6th of September 2018
- Thursday the 7th of September 2018 , as part of and in co-operation with the World Harbour Days

The International Spill Experience is an event powered by members of the SRGH. Its members will be showcasing the latest developments and innovations in spill response & preparedness and related activities in the broadest sense of the word. We will take you through the entire chain of events from preparing for a spill to actual clean up and salvage.

Dockside demonstrations:

- Sea Trophy system demonstration
- Large variety of spill equipment and material; booms, pumps, ab- and adsorbants, spill kits
- Dedicated spill response vessels
- Containerised equipment; sweeping arm, Foru
- Ballast water treatment container
- Fire fighting simulation on vessels
- Sensing oil underneath the water's surface

Onwater demonstration:

Directed and guided by a speaker the onwater demonstration will show you the response to a spill with a variety of vessels and equipment.

[More information, programme and register for this event.](#)

USA: CLEAN GULF CONFERENCE & EXHIBITION – NEW ORLEANS, NOV. 13-15

PLANNING AND PREPAREDNESS TRACK

- Impacts of Wildlife Regulations
- Meeting Compliance Challenges
- Planning Tools to Improve Response Strategies and Tactics
- PREP 2016.1 – An Update on Proposed Changes
- Regulatory Updates
- Response, Natural Resource Damage Assessment (NRDA), and Restoration
- Wildlife Response Updates for Planning

RESPONSE TRACK

- In Situ Burn: A Historical Perspective and Advances in Technical and Regulatory Framework
- Lessons Learned from Hurricanes Irma/ Maria Vessel Removal Operations Under ESF-10
- Response Community: Past, Present, and Future
- Salvage and Marine Firefighting Case Studies and Lessons Learned
- Shoreline Assessment and Response: The Future of SCAT
- Strategies and Lessons Learned from Major Natural Disasters

SUBSEA AND DISPERSANT TRACK

- Case Study: Stone Energy SSDI Application - API 4719
- MC-20 Insight into the Longest Running Active Unified Command in Response History
- SSDI - Comparing Relative Risks, Setting Expectations, and Managing Data
- Well Containment Companies - What is their Future?
- Subsea Oil Release Modelling

NEW FOR 2018! TRAINING AND EXERCISE BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES TRACK

- Exercise Success! Train Like You Fight and Fight Like You Train
- How to Meet Expectations Through Best Management Practices
- Regulatory Expectations for Training and Exercises
- Response Competency Processes
- Right Sizing the Incident Management Team for Exercises and Real Events

INFORMATION/RESPONSE TECHNOLOGIES AND RESEARCH TRACK

- Detection of Submerged Oil
- Oil Spill Response Science and Technology: Bridging from Research to Response

EVENTS (CONTINUED)

- Response Research
- Surface Oil Surveillance and Detection
- Surveillance and Visualization Technologies

INLAND PREPAREDNESS AND RESPONSE TRACK

- Case Studies in the Inland Zone
- In Situ Burn Case Studies
- Pre-Planning for the Inland Zone
- Rail Response Plan Requirements

EMERGING TRENDS TRACK

- International Challenges and Lessons Learned
- Mexico Exploration and Production
- Risks and Security in a Digital World
- Technology Innovations
- The Human Element
- The Consideration of Environmental Data Management

[More information](#)

RESPONSE EVENTS DURING AUGUST 2018

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			
NETHERLANDS	Sept. 6	International Oil Spill Experience	Rotterdam
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 1-3	EI Middle East HSE & Sustainability 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	Oct 29 – Nov 1	Meeting of IOPC Funds Governing Bodies	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			

BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

USA: GRANT FUNDING AVAILABLE FOR OIL SPILL PREVENTION AND RESPONSE STUDIES

August 13 - The California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) is currently accepting proposals to fund up to \$200,000 in specialized oil spill-related scientific studies in marine and inland environments. Eligible studies must relate to improved oil spill prevention and response efforts, best technologies and the improved understanding of the effects of oil on state waters.

CDFW's Office of Spill Prevention and Response (OSPR) operates the California Oil Spill Study and Evaluation Program (COSSEP), which fulfills a legislative mandate to provide funding to any person or entity that qualifies to contract with the state for studies in the following areas:

- Investigation and evaluation of applied spill prevention and response technologies
- Effects of oil and spill response on fish and wildlife habitat and water quality
- Strategies for best achievable protection of wildlife and habitats
- Wildlife collection and rehabilitation during a spill incident
- Natural resource damage assessment technologies and methods

Applications must be received by Sept. 12, 2018, and award recipients will be notified in December.

Full funding for COSSEP projects comes from the Oil Spill Prevention and Administration Fund, which assesses a per-barrel fee on oil entering California refineries. No taxpayer-funded dollars are directed to this account.

The number of contracts to be awarded is not pre-determined, but the total amount budgeted for Fiscal Year 2019-2020 is approximately \$200,000. There is also no specified minimum amount to be awarded.

For more information, please visit www.wildlife.ca.gov/OSPR/Science/SSEP or contact CDFW Contract Analyst Heather Sironen at (916) 324-6252.

INFORMATION FOR ISCO MEMBERS AND OTHER READERS OF THE ISCO NEWSLETTER

A REQUEST FROM YOUR EDITOR – ARTICLES FOR PUBLICATION

It has been quite a while since the newsletter featured any contributed articles (either one-off or serialised).

The ISCO Newsletter has in the past published excellent serialised articles on such matters as inland spill response, aerial observation of oil spills, in-situ burning, etc.

Bearing in mind that the membership of ISCO includes many whose interests are primarily in the inland response sector, articles on inland spill response would be most welcome. For example, an article on sorbents and their use in inland spill situations. To comply with ISCO policy such articles should be generic and not contain sales promotional content for specific products. The use of sorbents is one of the most widely used techniques in inland spill response situations and a relevant article would be appreciated.

Members and readers who have prepared interesting articles for seminars or conferences might wish to share these with a wider audience through publication in the ISCO Newsletter.

Your editor is currently looking for interesting articles. If you think you can help and would like to submit an article for consideration, please get in touch with john.mcmurtrie@spillcontrol.org

Disseminating news about new technical developments is of value to our community. Corporate Members and others are also invited to contribute articles.

You editor is also interested to receive interesting case histories for publication. Dealing with spill events often requires an innovative approach and you are invited to share your experiences.

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 and your acceptance of ISCO's Data Protection and Privacy Policy.
