

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

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SPILL RESPONSE: TIME IS OF THE ESSENCE



Above: AN oil spill clean-up demonstration at the Clean Pacific 2015 conference in Vancouver, British Columbia. Photo courtesy of Pacific States/BC Oil Spill Task Force.

September 1 - When it comes to responding to an oil spill, time is of the essence, and coordinating with local agencies and the private sector on contingency plans is key to mitigating spills.

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INTERNATIONAL NEWS (CONTINUED)

"It's critical," said US Coast Guard Lt. Commander Bonnie Shaner, chief of the Incident Management Division at Sector San Francisco.

Her experience in oil spill response includes overall mission support and actual oil spill response at Sector New Orleans in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina, which resulted in some 7.4 million gallons of oil spilled.

"The initial response is the biggest part of the cleanup," she said. "If we get that information as soon as possible that's when you're going to have the most effective response because the oil hasn't spread and impacted more areas. It is easier to get the oil cleaned up and out of the environment as soon as the spill occurs versus days later when it's washing up as a tarball on the beach."

There are contingency plans in the event of an oil spill at the local, regional and national level. There are three Coast Guard sectors in California alone: San Francisco, Los Angeles/Long Beach and San Diego and each have contingency plans tailored specifically for their area.

"The Coast Guard has been pretty-forward leaning with the concept of an incident command system," part of a national contingency plan that came out after 9/11 that establishes a framework for how to run an incident response event, Shaner said.

"We already have outlined qualified commanders for oil spill response, so we set up the organization using the incident command system so we knew which roles to fill ahead of time before an event," she said.

Each Coast Guard area has an area contingency plan that identifies what resources and sensitive sites are available and who the partners are before any event.

"It's so that when the worst case scenario occurs, you already know the people you're going to be working with and what roles and responsibilities and jurisdictions everyone

has," Shaner said.

As part of an area contingency plan, there are area committees made up of regulators, Coast Guard, California Department of Fish and Wildlife, the Office of Spill Prevention and Response, as well as industry and local police and fire who meet quarterly to discuss lessons learned from recent cases and make changes to area contingency plans.

"We know already there are sensitive sites where we would put the boom in the event of a major oil spill and we test those strategies every few years to make sure they still work and we do that with the locals and what we call oil spill response organizations, which includes the clean-up contractors for oil spills," Shaner said. "And we have all those contractors identified all throughout the state. So when an oil spill happens we know who is available and who we can hire."

Once plans are in place, it needs to be practiced on a regular basis.

"We test our strategies - our area contingency plans have booming strategies and preventative strategies in different areas," Shaner said. "There's always lessons learned. There's always new things you learn and no system is perfect, but the idea is if you have a plan and you exercise a plan either through a plan exercise or a real world event. Each time one of those events occurs, the lessons you learn following the event you incorporate back into the plan. So every event, or every exercise, your plan should be getting better. It should be improving. And that's what we do."

The private sector also has contingency plans in place, which are checked by the Coast Guard. "So if the spill occurs on their vessel or at their facility, it's within their plan already on who their qualified individuals are and who their spill response contractors are going to be," Shaner said. "They can enact that very quickly in the event of a spill."

When an oil spill does occur, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration lends its scientific expertise to the Coast Guard and the Environmental Protection Agency. "One of the first questions we get in a spill is, 'Where's the oil going to go?'" said Doug Helton, NOAA's Office of Response and Restoration incident coordinator who manages NOAA scientific support coordination staff for the West Coast and Great Lakes region.

"Once you spill oil, it doesn't stay next to a ship or pipeline," said Helton, who is based in Seattle. "It starts to move, and generally that movement will be because of oceanic and weather conditions. We have computer models and we can forecast where that oil is going to be tomorrow or the next week and that helps responders to be ahead of it. You don't want to send your booms and oil skimmers to the wrong place." The meeting was a planning session for an upcoming trans-boundary exercise in Sakhalin, Russia in November 2018. The visiting Russian representatives from their Marine Rescue Service included Andrey Kushev, Natalia Kutaeva, and 1st Deputy Director Victor Chernov. The Russian group also observed an ExxonMobil-led PREP exercise in Anchorage and received briefings on U.S. spill response policies and the Incident Command System. There was also an opportunity for briefings on NOAA tools including GNOME and ERMA. [Continue reading this article in the Pacific Maritime Magazine](#) For more information, contact Doug.Helton@noaa.gov [Thanks to NOAA OR&R]

BIOPADE, 2017-2019 - BIOLOGICAL IMPACT OF OIL POLLUTION IN ARCTIC AND DEEP-SEA ENVIRONMENT

Cedre, in partnership with the University of Western Brittany (UBO) and the Norwegian firm Akvaplan Niva (based in Tromsø), is involved in the research project BIOPADE (Biological Impact of Oil Pollution in Arctic and Deep-sea Environment), funded by Europe through a Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions (MSCA) fellowship and additional funding from the French oil and gas company TOTAL.

This project focuses on the potential biological impacts of anthropogenic activities in new oil exploration and production areas, mainly situated in Arctic and deep-sea marine environments. These potential biological impacts will be assessed through exposure experiments on organisms representative of such environments. The chosen model species cover several trophic levels: Atlantic cod *Gadus morhua*, the Northern prawn *Pandalus borealis* and the coral *Lophelia pertusa*.

In addition to these studies, applied research will be conducted in order to develop bioassays designed to characterise the effects of hydrostatic pressure on the toxicity and fate of a chemical.

The BIOPADE project has 4 main objectives:

To assess the potential long-term effects of dispersed oil on a key Arctic species

To improve knowledge of the impacts of dispersed oil on the deep-sea benthic ecosystem

To develop bioassays to assess the biological impacts in deep-water environments

To strengthen scientific knowledge for the Spill Impact Mitigation Assessment (SIMA) process in Arctic and deep-sea areas

Further information: European Commission website, project description: www.cordis.europa.eu/project/rcn/210586_fr.html

OIL SPILLS IN THE OCEAN: WHY THE ARCTIC IS PARTICULARLY VULNERABLE



August 14 - During the clean-up operations of the Exxon Valdez spill in Alaska and Deepwater Horizon in the Gulf of Mexico, only 15% to 25% of oil was successfully removed through mechanical methods, such as mechanical recovery and burning of the spilled oil. The bulk of the clean-up was carried out by oil-eating bacteria in the water.

Of particular interest to scientists is the way in which oil-eating microbes are slowed down in ice-cold temperatures. The Arctic Research Centre at Aarhus University in Denmark has found that low temperatures change the chemical properties of the spilled oil and slow down biodegradation. Cold oil is said to be more viscous, making it harder for oil-eating microbes to break it down.

The lack of waves in the Arctic Ocean poses another challenge. Where there is sea ice and therefore fewer waves, the oil does not disperse into small droplets.

There is also a lower level of nutrients, such as nitrogen and phosphorus, which feed algae and bacteria in the water. Without these nutrients, the bacteria cannot develop at an optimum rate.

Another interesting feature is the long (often 24-hour) periods of sunlight in the Arctic summer, which can both help and hinder clean-up operations. On the one hand, long hours of sunlight help the microbes to break up oil molecules, but conversely this could make the oil compounds more toxic for aquatic organisms. Cedre / [Source document](#)

INCIDENT REPORTS (IN CHRONOLOGICAL ORDER)

ICELAND: OIL SPILL CAUSED BY FAILED METER

August 20 - Clean up of an oil spill which occurred yesterday evening in Fáskrúðsfjörður, East Iceland, has gone well, RÚV reports.

An employee of Skeljungur was pumping oil onto a ship in Fáskrúðsfjörður fjord around 6.00pm yesterday when he noticed an unusually strong smell of oil. According to Skeljungur, a failed meter had caused oil to spill into the ocean. Authorities were

immediately notified, and search and rescue teams were called to the scene to stop the spread of the substance. Cleaning operations were begun immediately afterward.

Skeljungur CEO Hendrik Egholm stated rescue teams estimated around 1,000-1,500 litres of oil entered the ocean. Quick notification of the accident to authorities, along with quick response from search and rescue and calm weather led to a relatively easy clean up. "We think cleaning is over, but in such cases we always need to monitor the environment well. We do this to ensure that no oil is left," Hendrik stated. Iceland Review / [Read more](#) [Thanks to Don Johnston of ISCO Industry Partner, DG & Hazmat Group]

USA: OHIO - COAST GUARD INVESTIGATING, OVERSEEING CLEAN-UP OF GAS LEAK IN VERMILION RIVER

August 21 - The Coast Guard is investigating a gas leak in the Vermilion River, officials from the District 9 office confirm. Authorities with the Coast Guard were first alerted to the leak on August 17.

Master Chief Alan Haraf said their crews worked with the Vermilion Fire Department to secure the leak on Friday afternoon. But additional work needs to be done to clean up the spill.

Daniel Forbis, chief of incident manager with the marina safety unit, said the pipe that leads from the ground storage tank to the service fuel tanks at the marina ruptured underground.

This soaked the soil under the parking lot, leaking gas into the river. Officials don't know how much gas was left out in the leak.

Haraf said they believe the petroleum product leaking out is gasoline from an underwater storage tank, but their office is planning to run more tests to confirm the materials involved. An absorbent boom was used to contain the leak to the Valley Harbor Marina. News 5 Cleveland / [Read more and listen to commentary](#) [Thanks to Don Johnston of ISCO Industry Partner, DG & Hazmat Group]

USA: CALIFORNIA - EVACUATIONS ORDERED AFTER 13 TANKER CARS DERAIL IN SAN BERNARDINO

August 21 - A train derailed in San Bernardino Tuesday, knocking 13 tanker cars off the track and forcing evacuations as hazmat crews made their way to the area.

The tankers, filled with gas and alcohol, were heading south when the train cars derailed. No other details were immediately available. NBS San Diego / [Read more and watch video](#)

USA: MICHIGAN SEARCHES FOR SOURCE OF PFAS CONTAMINATION IN HURON RIVER

August 22 - Michigan officials continue to hunt for the source of the contaminant that prompted an urgent "do not eat" advisory for fish in three southeast Michigan counties.

The advisory - issued in early August for the Huron River from Kensington Metropark near Milford into Washtenaw County, north of Ann Arbor - comes after fish tested at 3 to 4 times the state's maximum safety threshold. Mlive.com / [Read more](#) [Thanks to Don Johnston of ISCO Industry Partner, DG & Hazmat Group]

UK: FUEL SPILLING FROM SINKING BOAT AT BIDEFORD QUAY, DEVON

August 24 - Emergency services are at Bideford Quay dealing with an 'ongoing incident' of a fishing boat sinking and spilling fuel. North Devon Gazette / [Read more](#) [Thanks to Don Johnston of ISCO Industry Partner, DG & Hazmat Group]

BAHAMAS: PIPELINE LEAK LEADS TO EXUMA OIL SPILL, SHELL SAYS

August 24 - Sun Oil confirmed late Thursday evening that a pipeline leak is believed to have been responsible for the diesel oil spill which occurred in the Emerald Bay Marina on Monday.

"Following an initial assessment and joint containment efforts by Sun Oil and Emerald Bay personnel, an emergency response team from Nassau was dispatched to Exuma to provide additional resources and support to manage the incident,"

"Containment, in conjunction with the immediate dispatch of our emergency management team allowed us to quickly remediate the situation to minimize environmental impact." Eye Witness News / [Read more](#) [Thanks to Don Johnston of ISCO Industry Partner, DG & Hazmat Group]

USA: CAROLINA - CSX: RAIL CARS DERAIL IN GREENWOOD YARD

August 25 - One of the rail cars carrying Hydrogen Peroxide began to leak product and was contained to the immediate area around the railcar. here are no injuries, no safety risk to the public and no waterways impacted. CSX personnel are working on site to contain the leak and re-rail the derailed rail cars. Fox News / [Read more and watch video](#)

INCIDENT REPORTS (CONTINUED)

USA: ARIZONA - MASSIVE NITRIC ACID CHEMICAL SPILL LEAKED 28,000 GALLONS FROM THE FERTIZONA FERTILIZER PLANT ON EAST MALEY STREET IN WILLCOX

August 26 - Hazmat crews were called out late Sunday night to clean up a nitric acid chemical spill that leaked 28,000 gallons from the Fertizona fertilizer plant on East Maley Street in Willcox.

Prevailing winds were eastward in nature away from city population and no evacuations were planned for a chemical that is apparently only a minor irritant for airborne purposes, but is serious if contacted directly, said Willcox DPS police chief Jose Rios. Rex Allen Jr. Metroforsenics / [Read more](#) [Thanks to Don Johnston of ISCO Industry Partner, DG & Hazmat Group]

USA: TEXAS - BARGE-RO/RO COLLISION LEADS TO SPILL IN PORT ARTHUR

August 31 - On Wednesday evening, the U.S. Coast Guard and the Texas General Land Office launched a response to a fuel spill after an accident involving the towboat Savage Pathfinder and the ro/ro Endurance at Dock Four near Port Arthur, Texas.

Local media report that the Savage Pathfinder's barge tow made contact with the Endurance while preparing to transfer fuel. No injuries were reported.

An estimated 13,000 gallons of marine diesel was discharged after the collision. The source of the leak has been secured and cleanup efforts are under way, and the cause of the incident is under investigation.

Coast Guard Marine Safety Unit Port Arthur and TGLO personnel attended the scene to investigate and respond to the spill. A containment boom was placed around a vessel, and crews continued recovery efforts on Thursday. The USCG has issued a marine information broadcast to alert mariners transiting near Texaco Point and Port Arthur.

"We are working with TGLO, the responsible party and all maritime stakeholders to minimize impact as quickly as possible," said Capt. Jackie Twomey, federal on scene coordinator and commanding officer of MSU Port Arthur.

As of Friday, the Endurance was moored at a multipurpose terminal in Port Arthur, and the Savage Pathfinder was moored near a barge fleeting area at the 1000 Foot Cut Fleet facility on Humble Island. The Maritime Executive / [Read more](#)

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

BRAZIL: THE NEXT NOSCA SEMINAR WILL BE HELD IN RIO DE JANEIRO

The 23rd NOSCA seminar will be held on 22-25 October 2018 in Rio de Janeiro.

The seminar topics will cover:

- Cost efficient oil spill contingency by inter-company sharing of resources and equipment – examples from international models and regulation
- Early warning and new response methods that allow for more cost-effective oil spill response.
- Oil spill response in challenging waters
- Towards a standardisation of oil spill response strategies?

A detailed program will be published within short and will be updated continuously. <http://nosca.no/events/categories/seminar/>

CANADA: SCIENTIFIC STUDIES ARE ONGOING TO ENSURE DILBIT BEHAVIOUR UNDERSTOOD

August 26 - Extensive research shows that diluted bitumen behaves much the same way as other heavy oils. Here is an excerpt from the Citizen's Guide to Tanker Safety and Spill Response on BC's South Coast, published earlier this month.

Better ability to predict behaviour of oil in water - In response to concerns raised by indigenous and coastal communities regarding risks posed by existing tanker traffic, under the Oceans Protection Plan the Government of Canada will ensure that its scaled-up research initiative includes further analysis on how various types of oil and petroleum products behave when spilled in a marine environment. This will provide scientific advice to oil spill responders that will improve the Net Environmental Benefit Analysis approach to a spill and the resulting decision-making process.

Kinder Morgan Canada has undertaken considerable research in oil fate and behaviour to inform and improve oil spill response. Industry is continuing this type of research in collaboration with government scientists as part of continuous improvements in the area of spill response planning.

Diluted bitumen behaves much the same as other heavy oils - A major aspect of spill response has been ongoing work to understand the exact nature of the spill risk. One of the concerns for oil spill recovery has been how heavy crude oils such as diluted bitumen, or dilbit, behave if such oils are spilled on water. Resource Works / [Continue reading](#)

Note from Editor: Readers who are interested in finding out more detailed information about the properties and behaviour of DILBIT are recommended to read the excellent technical article "Bitumens and Diluted Bitumens from Western Canadian Oil Sands" by Dr Merv Fingas. Readers will need to log into the ISCO website at www.spillcontrol.org

Click on the "Members' Area" and select "Technical Articles". Dr Fingas' article is No. 8 in the list and clicking on this will download the article.

CANADA: COURT REVOKES TRANS MOUNTAIN PIPELINE'S FEDERAL APPROVAL



Above: Construction under way on the Trans Mountain expansion (Kinder Morgan)

August 30 - Canada's Federal Court of Appeal has struck down the regulatory approval for the multi-billion-dollar Trans Mountain oil pipeline expansion because of a "critical error": the government's project review did not consider the sevenfold increase in local tanker traffic that will accompany the expansion. The environmental review noted but did not incorporate the expected impact on the endangered Southern resident killer whale population, which inhabits Georgia Strait, Haro Strait and the Strait of Juan de Fuca.

"The unjustified exclusion of project-related marine shipping from the definition of the project rendered the Board's report impermissibly flawed," the court concluded. "This exclusion permitted the Board to conclude that, notwithstanding its conclusion that the operation of project-related marine vessels is likely to result in significant adverse effects to the Southern resident killer whale, the project was not likely to cause significant adverse environmental effects."

The Trans Mountain expansion would triple the capacity of the pipeline connecting Alberta's tar sands oil fields with the sea, bringing its maximum volume to 890,000 bpd. This would provide Canada's inland energy firms with expanded access to Pacific Basin markets: For the first time, they would be able to sell in high volume to non-American buyers at prevailing international prices. This has made the pipeline a top priority for the Liberal government of Prime Minister Justin Trudeau - such a priority that the government has promised to buy it from owner Kinder Morgan in order to overcome regional opposition and bring it to completion.

In a coincidence, the court's decision to pause the expansion came on the same day as Kinder Morgan shareholders voted to approve the pipeline's sale to the Canadian government. The parties now have seven days to conclude the transaction, and Kinder Morgan said that it still expects the deal to close Friday. At a press conference Thursday, Canadian finance minister Bill Morneau confirmed that the government intends to move ahead with the purchase despite the court order for further review.

The Maritime Executive / [Continue reading](#)

EGYPT: NEW NAVAL IN PARTNERSHIP WITH NGP TRAINING CENTER TO RUN IMO LEVEL 3 OIL SPILL RESPONSE TRAINING COURSE AT HURGHADA

IMO Level 3 (3 days; optional 2 additional days), Hurghada, Egypt (Red Sea), October 1-3(5), 2018 – The course includes on-site modules, interactive e-course modules by guest lecturers, on-site training; Participation and support of the largest in-county OSR organization (Petrosafe) +4th day to visit PETROSAFE OSRC and PERSGA +5th day marine tour including dive program in coral reefs areas. For more info on this and other courses please contact Tristan Owens at New Naval Ltd. t.owens@newnaval.gr

FINLAND: ALGAL BLOOM MONITORING 2018

August 30 - Summary of algal bloom monitoring 2018: Sweltering summer brought exceptional cyanobacterial surface blooms to sea areas, in lakes abundant cyanobacterial blooms took place earlier

In the Gulf of Finland, cyanobacterial blooms during the summer of 2018 were strongest for the 2010's. Surface blooms covered at worst almost the entire Gulf of Finland. Also in the southern parts of Archipelago Sea and Sea of Åland cyanobacterial surface blooms were abundant. In lakes cyanobacteria became abundant already in late June due to warm weather and cyanobacteria were observed in lakes more than typically until the beginning of August. SYKE - Finnish Environment Institute / [Read more](#)

GREECE: NEW NAVAL IN PARTNERSHIP WITH NGP TRAINING CENTER TO RUN IMO LEVEL 3 OIL SPILL RESPONSE TRAINING COURSE AT LAVRIO

IMO Level 2 (3 days), Lavrio, Greece (NGP Training Center); October 22-24, 2018. The course includes on-site modules, interactive e-course, and on-site training. Guest lecturers include Dr. Ed Owens. For more info on this and other courses please contact Tristan Owens at New Naval Ltd. t.owens@newnaval.gr

RUSSIA: VOLUNTEERS CONDUCTING CLEAN-UP ON DESERT ISLAND IN ARCTIC

August 22 - Volunteers have collected 129 tonnes of garbage this summer on Vilkitsky island, located in the Kara Sea and part of Russia's Yamal-Nenets Autonomous Area, but it will take more than one year to clean up the territory completely, the chief of one of the cleanup shifts, Evgeny Rozhkovsky, told Sputnik.

The cleanup operation on Vilkitsky island showed that there were many people beyond the Yamal-Nenets Autonomous Area who cared about the environmental fate of the Arctic. Citizens of Kazakhstan, Kirghizia, Israel as well as residents of more than a dozen Russian cities, including Moscow, St. Petersburg, Kazan, Tyumen, Salekhard, have joined the efforts. Urdu Point / [Read more](#)

SOUTH AFRICA: UPCOMING OIL SPILL TRAINING COURSE COURSE

OSRL will run an Oil Spill Response refresher (IMO Level 1-3) - 12th October in Cape Town, South Africa

Industry best practice suggests that refreshing knowledge should be undertaken within three years to maintain a degree of competency. Being personally prepared for an incident will help to induce a level of proficiency into the response.

This one day course provides a comprehensive refresher of the technical and regulatory aspects of oil spill response. [Register here](#)

USA: IMPROVING REGIONAL PREPAREDNESS FOR FUTURE OIL SPILLS



Photo: A responder performs an aerial survey after the Bouchard Barge 120 oil spill in Buzzards Bay near Massachusetts and Rhode Island in 2003. Image credit: NOAA.

August 22 – Since the [Deepwater Horizon](#) disaster occurred in 2010, the Gulf of Mexico has received much of the attention focused on the impacts of oil spills. Researchers have meticulously studied how spills affect the region, from public health effects, to social disruption, to economic impacts. However, oil spills occur throughout the country, with different areas facing unique issues and concerns. To improve preparedness for oil spills in additional communities, the [Gulf Research Program](#) of the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine is collaborating with the [Sea Grant Oil Spill Science Outreach Program](#) on a [series of workshops](#) in coastal regions across the country.

Between fall 2018 and winter 2019, workshops will be held in five coastal regions of the United States: the western Gulf of Mexico, the eastern Gulf of Mexico, the West Coast, the mid-Atlantic, and Alaska. At the events, existing knowledge about the impacts of oil spills will be combined with the perspectives and experiences of a variety of local audiences, including the oil spill response and public health sectors, elected officials and community leaders, industries and groups directly impacted by spills, social workers, scientists, and educators.

The events are being organized in response to a prior workshop, held by the National Academies in August 2017, which identified opportunities to improve the protection of community health and well-being from oil spills. The regional workshops focus on addressing two of the four broadly defined opportunities identified in that original workshop: (1) improving communications and building trust, and (2) improving understanding of oil spill science, impacts, and mitigation strategies.

Interested in participating in one of the regional workshops? Details will be posted on the Sea Grant Oil Spill Science Outreach Program [website](#) as they become available. NOAA OR&R / [Read more](#)

USA: AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF PORT AUTHORITIES (AAPA) ANNOUNCES ENVIRONMENTAL WINNERS

August 29 - The American Association of Port Authorities (AAPA) has announced the winning entries into its 2018 Environmental Improvement competition, with the Port of San Diego taking out three awards.

The port is the winner in the Environmental Enhancement category for its threatened and endangered species stewardship program. The program assists in the management and recovery of two federally listed species that occur at the D Street Fill; the California least tern and western snowy plover. Tern nesting success has increased from sporadic nesting in the 1970s and 1980s (zero to a few dozen nests) to over one hundred nests in each of the past 14 years. In 2017, at least 162 tern chicks hatched successfully under a management plan that has included action on vegetation and predators, along with public education.

This year's Mitigation category winner also goes to the Port of San Diego for its successful marine debris removal project. Through its newly established Blue Economy Incubator, the port, in partnership with Zephyr Marine Debris Removal, is demonstrating a new marine vessel and skimming technology. Since the start of the pilot project operations in February 2018 over 5,000 pounds of marine debris has been removed from the San Diego Bay. The Maritime Executive / [Read more](#)

PEOPLE IN THE NEWS

REMPEC: FAREWELL TO MR. GUILLAUME POIRIER AND ARRIVAL OF THE NEW JUNIOR PROGRAMME OFFICER MR. CHRISTOPHE BLAZY



In the pictures: on left, Mr Guillaume Poirier and on right, Mr Christophe Blazy

August 8 - Mr. Guillaume Poirier, Junior Programme Officer - Voluntary International Scientific (VIS) of the French Government who was seconded in August 2016 to REMPEC by the French Oil Company Total S.A. has concluded his support to the Centre on 31 July 2018.

REMPEC greatly appreciated his involvement and contribution to the work of the Centre in the field of preparedness for and response to marine pollution from ships. Guillaume's contributions included the organisation of training courses and workshops abroad, participation in antipollution exercises, and representations of REMPEC at international events.

Guillaume supported the preparation of the Mediterranean Guide on Cooperation and Mutual Assistance in Responding to Marine Pollution Incidents, which has been adopted by the 20th Ordinary Meeting of the Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention held from 17 to 20 December 2017 in Tirana, Albania.

The secondment by France of Junior Programme Officers in the framework of the French mechanism of International Scientific Volunteering has enabled REMPEC to benefit from the technical knowledge and dynamism of newly graduated student since 1979. The recruitment process for the selection of the new Junior Programme Officer has been completed and REMPEC is pleased to announce the arrival of Mr Christophe Blazy who took the position of Junior Programme Officer at REMPEC on 2 August 2018.

Mr Blazy holds a Master's Degree in Environmental Sciences and Agronomy from the Institut supérieur d'agriculture Rhône-Alpes (ISARA-Lyon) as well as a Master's Degree in Oceanography specialised in Marine Environment from the Aix-Marseille University. Mr. Blazy worked for different marine ecology research centres in France, addressing European Marine Strategy Framework Directive (MSFD) related matters. He is seconded to REMPEC by the French oil company TOTAL S.A. as International Scientific Volunteer (VIS) for 18 up to 24 months. REMPEC / [Read more](#)

UK: BRIAN JOHNSON APPOINTED CHIEF EXECUTIVE OF MCA

August 30 - Brian Johnson to replace Sir Alan Massey as the Maritime & Coastguard Agency's new Chief Executive - Brian Johnson will become the Maritime & Coastguard Agency's new Chief Executive when the current CEO, Sir Alan Massey, steps down from running the agency on 31 October 2018.

Brian started his career as a chemical engineer in Imperial Chemical Industries and then Tate and Lyle, designing and managing manufacturing plants. He joined Remploy in 2000 where he was Operations Director, leading substantial improvements in the manufacturing operations. His interest in leading organisations delivering aspects of public service took him into social housing where he was CEO of 3 housing organisations, most recently leading the successful turnaround of Metropolitan. Brian is currently interim Chief Operating Officer at Abzena, a bio-pharmaceutical company. MCA / [Read more](#)



ISCO WILL BE AT CONTAMINATION EXPO IN BIRMINGHAM UK

You are invited to call at the ISCO Stand 5U62 in the Spill Response section of the Contamination Expo event being held in Birmingham on 12 and 13 September 2018. This is Europe's leading event for environmental professionals, showcasing the latest in modern strategies, techniques and technologies. More info at <http://contaminationexpo.com/>

NEW PRODUCTS & SERVICES

MALTA: NEW €10,000 INTERFACE CAN DETECT HIGH-RISK OIL SPILL AREAS



A new online interface developed by marine biologist Alan Deidun could help stakeholders identify risks from oil spills.

August 16 - Marine biologist Alan Deidun has developed a new online interface to help identify maritime risks from oil spills.

The €10,000 interface, called Biodivalue, is based on the existing automated information system (AIS) used to identify vessels longer than 10 metres.

The AIS provides information on ships in a given area, including the type, dimensions, destination port and even sailing speed and distance from shore.

In accordance with International Maritime Organisation provisions, all ships longer than 10 metres must carry the on-board tracking system, Prof. Deidun said.

The public can find out which ships are to be in Maltese waters and when, through software linked to the AIS antenna and a code developed at the University of Malta.

Prof. Deidun hopes the system will be used to identify high-risk areas for oil spills and other marine environmental impacts, as well as areas where shipping traffic could pose a threat to migrating marine mammals.

Minimising the impact of adverse conditions at sea could help in avoiding "considerable delays" in marine transportation. The system could also prevent higher operational costs and fuel consumption, Prof. Deidun noted. The Times of Malta / [Read more](#)

THURAYA UNVEILS WORLD'S FIRST SATELLITE SMARTPHONE

August 30 - Thuraya Telecommunications Company has unveiled the world's first satellite smartphone. The Thuraya X5-Touch runs on the Android Operating System and has a 5.2" full HD touchscreen.

It targets users who frequently move in and out of terrestrial coverage across a range of market sectors including government missions, energy projects, enterprise communications, and NGO deployments.

The phone offers fast and simple connectivity on the move, in remote areas normally beyond the reach of smartphones.

The Thuraya X5-Touch is a step closer towards complete convergence between terrestrial and satellite communications through its full dual-mode and dual-SIM capability. It has two SIM-card slots for full user flexibility, and with the dual-active mode it has the ability to have both its satellite and GSM (2G, 3G, or 4G) modes 'always on' simultaneously.



To cater for the needs of users in harsh and remote conditions, the Thuraya X5-Touch comes with a Gorilla® glass display, is the most rugged phone in the MSS industry with an IP67 standard for full dust and water protection, and complies with MIL standard. It also has a host of advanced features and functionalities including a high-capacity battery for extended talk time and standby time, a built-in SOS button and a front and rear camera. The Maritime Executive / [Read more](#)

EVENTS

THE RECSO ENVIROSPILL CONFERENCE 2018 HAS BEEN POSTPONED

August 29 - Due to unforeseen circumstances The RECSO EnviroSpill Conference 2018 which was initially scheduled on 9-10 October, 2018 has been postponed.

New dates will be announced later this year. The new dates will be posted in the ISCO Newsletter as soon as they are available.

EVENTS (CONTINUED)

TURKEY: REGIONAL WORKSHOP ON “BUILDING AN EFFECTIVE NATIONAL AND REGIONAL PREPAREDNESS AND RESPONSE CAPACITY”

In conjunction with an Oil Spill Response Exercise code-named “Golden Horn-Istanbul” will be organized under the patronage of the Ministry of Transport Maritime Affairs and Communication and Ministry of Environment and Urbanization of Republic of Turkey in cooperation with Turkish Petroleum (TP) and MEKE Marine from 06th to 08th November 2018 in Elite World Hotel Istanbul, Sehit Muhtar Street N°: 42, 34435, Taksim in Istanbul-Turkey.

The event will open on Tuesday, 06th November 2018 at 08:00 hours and is expected to close on Thursday, 08th November 2018 at 13:00 hours.

The main objective of this workshop are to reinforce and develop Sub-Regional contingency plans, to enhance National and Regional coordination capacity, to share information, lessons learned and best practices of the previous exercises as well as to stay abreast of the newest technologies and benefit from Responders and Manufacturers technical expertise.

The first two days workshop programme will include technical oral presentations hinged around the six following topics:

1. T1: Contingency Planning & Regulatory and Legal Requirements
2. T2 : National and International Response Management Level
3. T3 : Oil Spill Modeling and Training
4. T4 : Oil Spill Response Services
5. T5 : Oil Spill Response Equipment Industry and New Technology
6. T6 : National and Regional Oil Spill Exercises

The third day event will be dedicated to Oil Spill Response Exercise code-named “Golden Horn-Istanbul” that will be conducted by MEKE Marine. The exercise will comprise a water deployment of marine response equipments including containment booms, skimmers, storage tankers using vessels and boats, according to oil spill scenario that will be selected by MEKE Marine and communicated to you later.

This event will host representatives from Government, Oil and Gas Industry, Responders, Manufacturers, National and International Organizations, Academics, CEOs, Directors, Managers, experts, consultants and Engineers and will be a good opportunity to exchange ideas to improve knowledge and skills on Oil Spill Prevention, Preparedness and Response as well as to network and develop new contacts.

The working languages of the event will be English and Turkish. Turkey-English translation will be available.

In order to enable MOIG to have all logistic arrangements made on time, it would be appreciated if you could have the attached Registration Form completed and returned to houcine.mejri@moig.org.tn or info.moig@planet.tn at your earliest convenience but not later than 12th of October 2018. We would like to bring to your kind attention that participation in this event could not be guaranteed for nominations received after the abovementioned deadline.

For hotels booking, please contact Ms. Sena Elik from Elite World Istanbul Hotel (05 Stars) and Elite World Prestige Hotel (04 Stars) by Mail at sena.elik@eliteworldhotels.com.tn and copying also MOIG Secretariat. Both hotels are next to each other.

AUSTRALIA: 2018 ECOFORUM CONFERENCE & EXHIBITION

Australasian Land and Groundwater Association is pleased to launch the 2018 EcoForum Conference & Exhibition to be held at the International Convention Centre Sydney from the 3rd - 4th October 2018, with workshops being held on the 2nd & 5th.

Craig Reucassel & Robyn Williams will be joining us as guest presenters at EcoForum 2018 - Craig Reucassel* is an Australian writer and comedian who is best known for his work with The Chaser and for going through your bins on The War on Waste. Robyn Williams* is a science journalist and presenter of Radio National's Ockham's Razor and The Science Show, one of the longest running programs on Australian radio.

With only 5 weeks until EcoForum, now is your chance to secure your spot at ALGA's biggest event of the year! With three days worth of conferences, a boat cruise and exciting guest speakers, join us at this exclusive event. Plus we don't want you to miss this opportunity to converse with industry leading professionals. [More info](#)

RESPONSE EVENTS DURING SEPTEMBER 2018

NETHERLANDS: INTERNATIONAL OIL SPILL RESPONSE EXPERIENCE 2018

Rotterdam, September 6-7. 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. <http://www.srgh.nl/ise-2018.html>

RESPONSE EVENTS DURING SEPTEMBER 2018 (CONTINUED)

UK: THE SPILL RESPONSE EXPO 2018

Birmingham, September 12-13. The Spill Response Expo is the UK's largest event designed to showcase the latest innovations that further the prevention, detection and management of chemical spills on water and on land.

This is Europe's leading event for environmental professionals, showcasing the latest in modern strategies, techniques and technologies currently used across the industry.

The Expo incorporates seven zones:

Hazardous materials
Land Remediation
Spill Response
Clean Air Technology

Nuclear Decommissioning and Remediation
Geotechnical and Geoenvironmental Engineering
Wastewater

Inclusion of all seven of these zones makes the Contamination Expo Series one of the most comprehensive exhibitions of its type in the world. Its focus is firmly fixed on providing solutions by highlighting and demonstrating the new, efficient, and cost-effective methods of preventing and managing contamination of our environment. Whether you're a professional working to prevent further contamination of the planet's water, land or air – the technologies, designs and research that will shape the future of the sector will all be found at this show. <http://www.contaminationexpo.com/index.asp>

UK: 9TH MARITIME SALVAGE & CASUALTY RESPONSE

London, September 12-13. ACI's 9th Maritime Salvage & Casualty Response Conference 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 2017 event also took place in London and brought together industry professionals from organisations including Tsavlis Salvage Group, Resolve Marine, Five Ocean Salvage, The Standard Club and IMO to name just a few.

This year's edition will look further into the relationship of all stakeholders in the industry and attempt to create healthy discussions between all to achieve productive results for the industry. There will also be insightful and technical presentations on salvage operations from the top industry experts. <https://www.wplgroup.com/aci/event/maritime-salvage-casualty-response/>

UK: EMERGENCY SERVICES SHOW

Birmingham, September 19-20. The Emergency Services Show offers ALL emergency workers a great place to network and learn. As well as being able to meet with **over 450 exhibitors** there were also many other opportunities at the Show for visitors

- Over 90 groups who work with the blue light services in [The Collaboration Zone](#)
- [Free CPD accredited seminars](#) covering Lessons Learnt, Technology, Collaboration and Health & Wellbeing
- Over 80 [new exhibitors](#) to see
- Free CPD workshops with [The College of Paramedics](#)
- [WMFS Extrication Challenge](#) and [First Aid & Trauma Challenge](#)
- A huge range of [new products](#) to see at the Show

[More info](#)

SINGAPORE: SALVAGE & WRECK ASIA 2018

Singapore, September 24-26. Analyse the final versions of the BIMCO/ISCO spill response contracts.

Gauge industry opinion on whether salvage contracting will really change.

What steps ensure effective management of salvage claims? What should shipowners be asking insurers?

Forge new business connections and network with existing contacts including salvage companies & contractors, port & state authorities, insurance companies (P&I, H&M), shipowners, technology providers, and lawyers, consultants and surveyors.

<https://maritime.knect365.com/salvage-wreck-asia/>

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

UPCOMING EVENTS – OCTOBER 2018 ONWARDS

COUNTRY	2018	TITLE OF EVENT	LOCATION
For more information click on Title of Event			
USA	October 1-3	Elastec's Annual Oil Spill Response Workshop	Carmi, IL
CANADA	October 2-4	41st AMOP Tech. Seminar on Environmental Contamination and Response	Victoria, BC
UAE	October 1-3	EI Middle East HSE & Sustainability Forum	Dubai
AUSTRALIA	October 2-5	Ecoforum Conference & Exhibition	Townsville

UPCOMING EVENTS – OCTOBER 2018 ONWARDS (CONTINUED)

FRANCE	October 8-12	Sea Tech Week	Brest
UAE	Postponed*	RECSO EnviroSpill Conference & Exhibition	Abu Dhabi
CANADA	October 17-19	Arctic Shipping Forum N. America Conference	Newfoundland
BRAZIL	October 22-25	NOSCA Seminar on Spill Response	Rio de Janeiro
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			

* Event postponed. New dates will be advised ASAP.

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
ATRAAC 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 31, 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 News	Healthy oceans, people and economies in the East Asian Seas	August, 2018
Pollution Online Newsletter	News for pollution prevention & control professionals	August 29, 2018
Safe Seas, Clean Seas	Quarterly Newsletter from Maritime New Zealand	July 2018 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	September 1, 2018

Note from Editor: If one of the problems you have to address is intrusion of hydrocarbon vapours, there are some relevant articles in this week's USA EPA Tech Direct.

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

NEWS FROM ISCO CORPORATE MEMBERS

AQUA-GUARD DEVELOPS NEW APP TO HELP SHORELINE CLEAN-UP

Aqua-Guard's founders have developed an app called Trubeach (www.trubeach.co) which allows beachgoers and volunteers to post reviews of what they see and do to help bring awareness to the true condition of our global coastlines.



Above: This summer the ISCO members and founders of Aqua-Guard along with family and friends volunteered to help clean provincial beaches.

August 28 - During the last few months, our [Trubeach](#) crew have been joining volunteers from the [Surfrider Foundation](#) to help clean up beaches and other locations around the Pacific Northwest.

See full story at: <http://aquaguard.com/news/aqua-guard-founders-develop-app-to-help-protect-our-oceans-and-beaches>

VIKOMA EXTENDS ITS PRODUCT RANGE WITH A PORTABLE MINI-PIPELINE



An obstacle that is commonly encountered is the requirement to move recovered oil from a recovery site or a spill on land in a remote location, where contaminate liquid needs to be pumped to a different location for access by equipment such as vacuum trucks.

The Vikoma Mini Pipeline System has the ability to solve this issue. It has the capability to move liquid over distances of up to 1.5km using a combination of decanting tanks and highly efficient positive placement lobe pumps. The Vikoma Mini Pipeline System also uses a series of rigid pipework with special adaptors that allow a 30 degree alignment to adapt to even the most uneven terrain. The local connections between rigid pipework and tanks are flexible to allow connections to the pumps and valves to be done on-site. [More info](#)

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