

ISCO & THE ISCO NEWSLETTER

The International Spill Control Organization, a not-for profit organization dedicated to raising worldwide preparedness and co-operation in response to oil and chemical spills, promoting technical development and professional competency, and to providing a focus for making the knowledge and experience of spill control professionals available to Intergovernmental, Governmental, NGO's and interested groups and individuals

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

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INTERNATIONAL NEWS

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



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THE OCEAN CLEANUP LAUNCHES FIRST SYSTEM



September 8 - The Dutch non-profit Ocean Cleanup launched the world's first ocean cleanup system from the San Francisco Bay on Saturday.

The cleanup system (System 001) is heading to a location 240 nautical miles offshore for a two-week trial before continuing its journey toward the Great Pacific Garbage Patch, 1,200 nautical miles offshore, to start the cleanup. System 001 is being towed from the San Francisco Bay by the Maersk Launcher, which has been made available to the project by A.P. Moller-Maersk and DeepGreen, its current charter holder.

After hundreds of scale-model tests, a series of prototypes, research expeditions and multiple iterations, The Ocean Cleanup has enough confidence in its technology to

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The organization offers independent validation and integrity. Each grade of membership reflects an individual's professional training, experience and qualifications.

You can apply for Student Mem launch its first full-scale cleanup system. System 001 consists of a 600-meter (2,000-foot) U-shaped floating barrier with a three-meter (10-foot) skirt attached below. The system is designed to be propelled by wind and waves, allowing it to passively catch and concentrate plastic debris in front of it. Due to its shape, the debris will be funneled to the center of the system. Moving slightly faster than the plastic, the system is anticipated to act like a giant Pac-Man, skimming the surface of the ocean.

The system will be deployed in the Great Pacific Garbage Patch, the world's largest accumulation zone of ocean plastics. Situated halfway between Hawaii and California, the patch contains 1.8

INTERNATIONAL NEWS (CONTINUED)

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The system will be deployed in the Great Pacific Garbage Patch, the world's largest accumulation zone of ocean plastics. Situated halfway between Hawaii and California, the patch contains 1.8 trillion pieces of plastic, and covers an area twice the size of Texas. The Maritime Executive / [Read more and watch video](#)

EUROPEAN COMMISSION PROPOSES INDEPENDENT EU COAST GUARD

Photo: EU Frontex coast guard officer (Frontex)

September 12 - In his final state of the union speech Wednesday, European Commission President Jean-Claude Juncker announced a plan to bolster the European Border and Coast Guard Service with a standing force of 10,000 personnel within two years. The proposal is seen as a response to the heated intra-European debate over migration, including the Italian government's decision to ban maritime migrants from Sicilian ports.



The existing EU Border and Coast Guard Service has limited authority over the border forces of individual member nations, despite a 2016 upgrade in its powers. Reports suggest it has largely operated as a consultative and coordinating body. Under the new plan, the agency would have six times as many guards and a range of new abilities. According to an early draft reported by FT, these could include the use of force to police the EU's external borders; the ability to accelerate the "effective return of irregular migrants" to their home countries or to "disembarkation platforms" outside the EU; and the ability to operate in non-EU nations. These changes would require the approval of EU member states before taking effect.

CHEVRON WINS ECUADOR RAINFOREST 'OIL DUMPING' CASE

September 8 - An international tribunal in The Hague has ruled in favour of the US oil company, Chevron, in an environmental dispute with the government of Ecuador.

Chevron had been ordered to pay \$9.5bn (£7.4bn) compensation to thousands of residents in Ecuador's Amazon region.

They accused the company of dumping toxic waste in local lakes and rivers of the Lago Agrio region for decades.

The court said that the 2011 Ecuador Supreme Court ruling had been obtained through fraud, bribery and corruption.

The oil giant now stands to be awarded hundreds of millions of dollars in costs by The Hague's Permanent Court of Arbitration.

Chevron maintained that it never owned any assets in Ecuador.

The alleged environmental damage was done by Texaco between 1964 and 1992. Texaco was later acquired by Chevron.

Chevron has argued that Texaco spent \$40m (\$31m) cleaning up the area during the 1990s, and signed an agreement with Ecuador in 1998 absolving it of any further responsibility. BBC News / [Read more](#)

EMSA TO TAKE PART IN PORTUGAL SHIPPING WEEK

September 10 - EMSA is holding a series of events as part of Portugal Shipping Week which kicks off on 17 September and is organised by Portugal's Ministry of the Sea and the global shipping event company Shipping Innovation.

Open day tours of EMSA are scheduled on 17 and 19 September and will include an introduction to EMSA's role and responsibilities as well as a visit to EMSA's Maritime Support Services operation centre. An open ship event is being held on 19 September on board the Bahia Tres oil spill response vessel where participants will hear about the challenges of recovering oil at sea and the various techniques which can be deployed. Finally, two workshops will also be delivered on 19 September on accident investigation and maritime surveillance. EMSA Newsletter / [Read more](#)

USA: WASHINGTON DC – OIL SPILL AT APPLE VALLEY MARINA

September 1 – An unknown amount of fuel oil spilled into the Apple Valley Marina on Friday afternoon. Members of the East Knox County Joint Fire District placed containment booms, absorbent mats and pads throughout fuel docks to soak up the gasoline. Mount Vernon News / [Read more](#) [Thanks to Don Johnston of ISCO Industry Partner, DG & Hazmat Group]

BULGARIA: OPERATION TO DRAIN TANKS OF OIL SPILL SHIPWRECK OFF SOZOPOL BEGINS



September 3 - The operation to drain heavy fuel oil from the wreck of US merchant vessel the Mopang off the coast of Sozopol on Bulgaria's southern Black Sea began on September 3.

The Mopang went down in July 1921 after hitting a mine while en route from Bourgas to Istanbul. In recent weeks, there have been leaks of heavy fuel oil from the wreck.

Mopang was recorded as having held 650 tons of heavy fuel oil. Diver and Black Sea shipwreck expert Mihail Zaimov, who in August first sound the alert about the

leaks from the Mopang. Sofia Globe / [Read more](#) [Thanks to Don Johnston of ISCO Industry Partner, DG & Hazmat Group]

USA: MICHIGAN – GAS STATION BELIEVED TO BE SOURCE OF FUEL SPILL IN SYLVAN LAKE

September 3 - Marine Unit Deputies arrived on the scene along with Officers from the Sylvan Lake Police Department. Deputies were able to see that a large portion of the lake had been covered with the fuel. The preliminary investigation indicated the fuel was likely to be coming from several storm drains in the area. Hazmat Teams and responders from the Oakland County Water Resources Commissioners Office deployed containment booms into the water to assist with containment of the fuel spill. Oakland County Times / [Read more](#) [Thanks to Don Johnston of ISCO Industry Partner, DG & Hazmat Group]

USA: INDIANA – CLEAN-UP OF 8,000 GALLONS OF JET FUEL IN ST. MARYS RIVER CONTINUES

September 7 - Just after 6 p.m. Friday, a pipeline failure was reported around Monmouth Road near the Riverview Bar in Decatur. The pipeline company, Buckeye Pipe Line Company, confirmed Saturday that the leaked resulted in a spill of around 195 barrels (8,190 gallons) of jet fuel into the St. Marys River. The pipeline was shut down immediately, and crews from Buckeye's Emergency Response Team were continuing to clean up the area and remediate any environmental impact. On Wednesday, crews were still on the scene working to clear fuel from the river. Wane News / [Read more and listen to audio report](#) [Thanks to Don Johnston of ISCO Industry Partner, DG & Hazmat Group]

USA: NORTH CAROLINA – FUEL SPILL KILLS OVER 250 FISH IN WEST CHARLOTTE TRIBUTARY

September 7 – The fish kill is the result of a major traffic accident that involved an overturned gasoline truck on Mt. Holly Road on Wednesday afternoon. The overturned truck released around 7,500 gallons of gasoline into the tributary of Long Creek.

Emergency responders from the Charlotte Fire Department were able to quickly contain the gasoline within the creek, preventing it from moving downstream. Environmental contractors were hired to clean up the majority of the gasoline.

Fox News / [Read more](#)

[Thanks to Don Johnston of ISCO Industry Partner, DG & Hazmat Group]



SRI LANKA: CLEANUP OPERATION UNDERWAY FOLLOWING OIL SPILL IN DIKKOWITA

September 9 - The Navy said that it had deployed a team to minimize the environmental damage caused by the oil spill from a pipeline carrying oil to the Muthurajawela Oil Refinery Complex.



Kollannawa storage complex of CPSTL. The leak in the pipeline was identified when 35,000 metric tonnes of furnace oil was being unloaded from a ship which arrived from the United Arab Emirates. Reports say that about 25 metric tonnes of furnace oil had leaked into the ocean

While authorities acted promptly to repair the leak, the damage had already been done to the coast and surrounding sea area. A joint operation was conducted by Sri Lanka Navy, Sri Lanka Army and Coast Guard to extract the oil on Monday (Sept 10). [News First / Read more and watch video](#)

September 14 - Oil spillage clean-up operations completed - Ceylon Petroleum Corporation (CPC) said on Friday that as per information of Marine Environment Protection Authority (MEPA), the major oil clean-up operations have been completed on Wednesday (12) and small groups are engaged in beach cleaning operations continuously.

However, Ceylon Petroleum Storage Terminals Ltd. (CPSTL), MEPA, Coast Guard and Sri Lanka Navy will continue to monitor the developments in the affected area, a statement said.

Dammika Ranatunga, Chairman of Ceylon Petroleum Corporation said, "The burst in the buoy hose could have occurred due to rough sea conditions that prevailed on 08th September 2018. However, we are yet to determine the exact reason for the rupture and we have requested the Secretary to the Ministry of Petroleum Resources Development to conduct an independent investigation to identify the exact cause. Taking into consideration the possible impact of the oil spill on the environment, we took immediate measures to stop the leakage and informed the relevant authorities to enlist their support in the clean-up effort."

Adaderana / [Read more](#) Another report in [The Colombo Gazette](#)

USA: NEW JERSEY - UNIFIED COMMAND CONTINUES RESPONSE FOR DIESEL SPILL NEAR PORT READING

September 11 - The Unified Command at Port Reading, N.J., continues to respond to and clean up a diesel fuel oil spill that occurred Thursday night at the Buckeye Terminal.

The Marine Transportation System in the Port of New York and New Jersey was affected as the spill contaminated areas of the the Arthur Kill waterway, creating a domino effect leading to multiple vessels being diverted and two facilities impacted.

Numerous vessels as well a second fuel facility on the Arthur Kill have been decontaminated and have also resumed operations.

Multiple Oil Spill Removal Organizations have been contracted to clean up the oil, which includes placing boom around the affected facilities and sensitive areas, as well as deploying skimming vessels to recover product in the water. Shoreline cleanup assessment teams are in place assessing the impact to the local area. As of Sunday afternoon, an estimated 50,000 gallons of oily product has been recovered during clean-up operations. [Coast Guard News / Read more](#)

CANADA: ARDENT COMPLETES REMOVAL OF FUEL OIL FROM THE MANOLIS L

Ardent Global, Tidewater and the Canadian Coast Guard have completed the removal of oil from the wreck of the Manolis L, a paper carrier that grounded and sank off Newfoundland in 1985. The salvage operation ensures that risks to marine life and fisheries from the wreck are minimized.

When the Manolis L went down in Notre Dame Bay, north of St. John's, she was estimated to be carrying 550 tonnes of diesel and heavy fuel oil in her bunker tanks. In early 2013, the local Canadian Coast Guard Environmental Response unit received reports of oil on the water in the vicinity of the wreck. They discovered two cracks in the hull of the ship, one 22 inches and one 12 inches long, each leaking a small quantity of oil. The service used neoprene sealants and a cofferdam to temporarily contain the leaks.

Small amounts of oil have occasionally been observed on the surface over the years since, usually after storms stir up stronger undersea currents. After an advocacy campaign by a group of local residents and environmental scientists, the Canadian Coast Guard

INCIDENT REPORTS (CONTINUED)

commissioned a technical assessment by Resolve Marine. In 2016, the assessors found that about 110-150 tonnes of hydrocarbons remained trapped in the wreck, about 17 percent of the total capacity of the ship's tanks. The remaining contents likely escaped from the vessel during the sinking or seeped out over the years since. The survey found that the hull was minimally degraded by corrosion and that the ship is on stable ground.

To reach a more permanent solution, the Canadian Coast Guard selected Ardent Global to remove the remaining oil and seal the wreck's hull. The \$15 million contract was awarded to Ardent in April, and the joint team finished its work last weekend. The oil is being offloaded from the chartered offshore construction vessel Tidewater Enabler for treatment and safe disposal. The amount of oil recovered has not yet been quantified. The Maritime Executive / [Read more and watch video](#)

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

BULGARIA REQUESTS OIL SPILL MONITORING ASSISTANCE FROM EMSA

September 10 - On 20 August the Bulgarian Maritime Administration contacted EMSA to report that oil was leaking from a sunken wreck off the Bulgarian coastline, six nautical miles from the port of Sozopol, and to request emergency assistance.

The M/V Mopang, an American cargo ship, had sunk in 1921; and oil was observed in the area on 20 August. It was estimated that 60-70m³ of heavy fuel oil had been released into the marine environment, of an estimated 600m³ on board. EMSA immediately ordered more CleanSeaNet images to monitor the extent and spread of the oil. Between 20 and 31 August, EMSA delivered three optical and seven SAR images over the area.

The Bulgarian authorities acted quickly to seal the hull of the vessel and started an underwater operation to pump-out the oil remaining into the wrecks. The operation is still in progress. EMSA Newsletter / [Read more](#)

CANADA: \$150M SPILL-RESPONSE BOOST FOR B.C. COAST ON HOLD AFTER TRANS MOUNTAIN RULING



Photo: Michael Lowry, a spokesperson for the Western Canada Marine Response Corporation, says some spill improvements have been put on hold. (Megan Thomas/CBC)

September 6 - New oil spill-response bases planned for Vancouver Island have been thrown into limbo by the Federal Court of Appeal decision that halted construction on the Trans Mountain pipeline expansion.

The Western Canada Marine Response Corporation, which is responsible for cleaning up oil spills on B.C.'s South Coast, has been moving forward with a \$150-million plan to enhance spill-response times and capability, in preparation

for the pipeline project.

The Western Canada Marine Response Corporation, which is responsible for cleaning up oil spills on B.C.'s South Coast, has been moving forward with a \$150-million plan to enhance spill-response times and capability, in preparation for the pipeline project.

The funds for enhanced response capabilities were a condition of the pipeline expansion approval.

"It's frustrating being in a holding pattern, but we are prepared to wait to see what the outcome of the federal actions are on the pipeline," Lowry said. The halt to expanding spill response capabilities comes after leases were already signed for some of the new base locations, including in Nanaimo, where the [corporation is tied into a 25-year lease](#). While construction of the new bases is on hold, existing spill-response vessels will continue to operate. New spill-response ships already being built will also be completed, Lowry said. CBC News / [Read more and watch video](#)

CANADA: DFO ANNOUNCES \$1M-PLUS INVESTMENT IN ENVIRONMENTAL RESPONSE EQUIPMENT FOR B.C.



Photo: The Canadian Coast Guard now owns 22,000 feet of curtain boom and three medium-sized portable skimmers, equipment used to clean up pollutants and spills from the ocean. The more than \$1 million worth of equipment is split between the Victoria and Richmond bases. Nicole Crescenzi/VICTORIA NEWS

September 7 - The Pacific region of the Canadian Coast Guard is receiving over \$1 million worth of marine environmental response equipment.

Jonathan Wilkinson, Minister of Fisheries, Oceans and the Canadian Coast Guard, announced in Victoria on Friday that Coast Guard bases in Victoria and Richmond have taken delivery of 22,000 feet of boom curtain and three medium-sized portable skimmers.

These additions are designed to clean oil spills and other pollutants from the water. The curtain boom will be used to keep the materials in a controlled area so the skimmers can remove it from the surface.

“This new equipment is part of the Environmental Response Equipment Modernization Initiative, which is bringing new infrastructure equipment and technologies to more than 80 Coast Guard locations across this county,” Wilkinson said. “By leveraging advanced technology, this investment puts the Canadian Coast Guard on the cutting edge of environmental response innovation.”

Victoria News / [Read more](#)

CANADA: TRANSPORT CANADA - OUR RESPONSE TO BRITISH COLUMBIA'S POLICY INTENTIONS PAPER FOR ENGAGEMENT: ACTIVITIES RELATED TO SPILL MANAGEMENT

Updated 26 April 2018 – Click on the links below to read the contents of this paper –

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

Source Document: <https://www.tc.gc.ca/eng/mediaroom/our-response-bc-policy-intentions-paper-activities-spill-management.html>

FRANCE: ACTIVITY REPORT FROM CEDRE

September 11 - Over the summer, our duty team was contacted about a variety of issues. We provided support and advice to the engineers mobilised in Guadeloupe at the request of the French Environment and Energy Management Agency (ADEME), after vast quantities of Sargassum seaweed washed up on the shoreline (see article below). In response to another incident, the duty team, Cedre's laboratory and the French Navy LASEM laboratories in Toulon and Cherbourg were all mobilised to confirm the nature of balls found on several sections of coastline. First in Corsica, where detection at sea and drift forecasts helped to prevent a large proportion of what turned out to be paraffin from reaching the shoreline, with the mobilisation of Ceppol and French Navy vessels to implement trawling operations (over a tonne of paraffin balls recovered). In Calvados, around 3 km of beaches were affected, leading to them being closed to the public and clean-up operations being conducted to recover the paraffin balls (municipalities of Vierville-sur-mer and Saint-Laurent-sur-mer). Sightings of a red-orange tinge to the seawater, due to high concentrations of phytoplanktonic algae (*Noctiluca scintillans*), promoted by the rise in water temperature, alerted MRCC Etel and several coastal municipalities in southern Finistère and in Morbihan. At the request of the civil protection service and in collaboration with the fire brigade, Cedre was called out to provide on-site advice after a refrigerated lorry fell into the river Aulne near Terenez bridge (Finistère), causing a slight leak of diesel. We were also called upon by civil protection (DGSCGC) and INERIS (CASU) for advice after a lorry transporting a hazardous substance (sodium chlorite) fell into a ravine of the Gave d'Aspe (Pyrénées-Atlantiques), leading to the release of around 10 m3 of this chemical. Enquiries were also received in relation to a barge in difficulty on the Seine (Seine-et-Marne) with 410 tonnes of fertiliser onboard, a motor yacht grounded near the port of Menton (Alpes-Maritimes) which resulted in a leak of 300 litres of diesel, sightings of several trails of sheen at sea off Cannes (Alpes-Maritimes), Sables-d'Olonne (Vendée), Batz Island (Finistère), and Cap d'Agde (Hérault), and a spill in Bouches-du-Rhône of 2 to 3 m3 of pyrolysis oil, a dense, viscous substance which partly washed up on the shore and partly sank to the seafloor. [Read more in the latest issue of the Cedre Newsletter](#)

NIGERIA: Ogoniland Cleanup to Start December – FG

September 11 - The Federal Government has concluded plans to commence the cleanup of Ogoni impacted communities on or before the end of last quarter of 2018.

Minister of Environment, Ibrahim Jibril, made this known at a Pre-contract Award meeting organised by the Hydrocarbon Pollution Remediation Project in Port Harcourt on Tuesday. Jibril, who was represented by Dr Ishayaku Mohammed, Senior Technical Assistant to the minister, said the deadline for the cleanup would be achieved.

The Minister said that the Federal Government had concluded all processes outlined in the agreement, while funds for the project had been provided.

He said: “The stage we are in now is the procurement process. We have 183 companies that are pre-qualified and have been asked to submit their documents to bid for contract. Punch / [Read more](#)

PHILIPPINES: SUPREME COURT: 10-CENTAVO LEVY ON OIL, PETROLEUM TANKERS CONSTITUTIONAL

September 13 - The Supreme Court (SC) has upheld the constitutionality of the establishment of an Oil Pollution Management Fund (OMPF) that shall be mainly sourced from imposing a levy of 10-centavos per liter for every delivery or transshipment of oil by tanker barges and tanker haulers to the Philippines.

In a 35-page decision, the high court granted a petition filed by the Department of Transportation (DOTr), Maritime Industry Authority (Marina), and Philippine Coastguard (PCG) against a trial court ruling that declared the imposed contribution unconstitutional.

The levy is mandated under Oil Pollution Compensation Act of 2007 or Republic Act 9483. ABS CBN News / [Read more](#)

USA: SUNOCO'S 12-INCH PIPELINE LEAKED 33,000 GALLONS OF GASOLINE INTO CREEK, PHMSA SAYS



Photo: An environmental clean-up crew works to remove gasoline fuel from an ETP/Sunoco pipeline spill in Darby creek on June 21, 2018 in Tinicum Township, Pa. (Kimberly Paynter/WHYY)

September 4 - An 81-year-old pipeline that Sunoco plans to convert for natural gas liquids leaked more than 33,000 gallons of gasoline into a creek near Philadelphia in June because of an unspecified pipe failure, according to new data from a federal agency.

The Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration released a spreadsheet disclosing details of its investigation into the spill that was first reported by a member of the public on June 19 at Darby Creek near Philadelphia International Airport.

The data show that 798 barrels, or 33,516 gallons, of gasoline were “unintentionally” released by the pipeline that runs from Point Breeze near Philadelphia to the Montello terminal at Sinking Spring near Reading, Berks County. State Impact / [Read more](#)

USA: FLORIDA RED TIDE UPDATE: TOXIC TIDE MOVES IN ON TAMPA BAY, KILLING FISH MASSES

September 9 - Florida's toxic red tide has now reached the Tampa Bay area, killing hundreds of thousands of fish in recent days and disturbing visitors to the beach. Massive fish kills were reported in Pinellas County, from Clearwater to St. Petersburg – a swatch covering 20 miles.

Pinellas County employees have worked this weekend to clear the dead fish.

The toxic red tide has plagued areas along the southwest Gulf Coast side of Florida's beaches for months, killing sea life and sickening residents and tourists, but Tampa Bay area had been largely spared. That changed this weekend, however, when toxic red tide moved in, killing hundreds of thousands of fish. Popular beaches in the Tampa Bay area including Madeira Beach, Redington Beach, and Treasure Island have been impacted, according to reports. Newsweek / [Read more](#)

USA: EXPLORING SCIENCE AND NATURAL RESOURCES AT RISK IN THE NEW YORK-NEW JERSEY HARBOR AT UPCOMING MARINE SCIENCE FESTIVAL

September 10 - Why the New York-New Jersey Harbor Matters - Sitting at the mouth of the Hudson River where it empties into Upper New York Bay and the Atlantic Ocean, the New York-New Jersey Harbor is located at the center of commerce.

The harbor is a multi-billion dollar port, an industrial complex, and a transportation hub — but the natural resources both in and around the harbor are often overlooked.

The New York-New Jersey Harbor supports over a hundred different species of fish and a wide variety of marine life. Among the harbor's habitats are intertidal and subtidal zones, hardened and natural shorelines, mussel beds, beaches, woodlands, and saltmarsh.

Contamination is found in sediment from the Dundee Dam to the mouth of the river, throughout Newark Bay, and other portions of the New York/New Jersey Harbor.

The natural resources of this area provide fishing, boating, scenic enjoyment, economic vitality, and coastal resiliency to millions of people. But being at the center of the modern world has its challenges, with negative effects from urbanization and industrialization posing a threat to these natural resources. [Continue reading this article from NOAA](#)

USA: NOAA OR&R STAFF DEPLOYED FOR HURRICANE FLORENCE RESPONSE

September 14 - As Hurricane Florence continues to impact North Carolina and South Carolina throughout Friday, NOAA's Office of Response and Restoration is beginning to deploy personnel on scene to provide NOAA scientific support to the U.S. Coast Guard. OR&R personnel will focus on pollution-related assistance — though responders will likely not be able to assess the full scope of the storm's impacts until next week at the earliest. In previous hurricanes, NOAA has assisted the U.S. Coast Guard with information management, derelict vessels, oil spills, hazardous material releases, and marine debris.

In addition to household hazardous materials, commercial oil, and other materials, the area of impact has a significant number of waste lagoons associated with the agricultural industry which are also a pollution concern. The Environmental Protection Agency has identified 40 Superfund sites, oil sites, and other facilities that pose a pollution risk. NOAA OR&R / [Read more](#)

ISCO NEWS

ISCO WELCOMES NEW MEMBERS

ISCO is pleased to welcome the following new members –

Cynthia J. Beegle-Krause has joined ISCO as an Individual Member. Cynthia is a Senior Scientist with SINTEF and is based in Trondheim, Norway. SINTEF is an independent research organisation founded in 1950 that conducts contract research and development projects. <https://www.sintef.no/en/>

Leonard Garcia has joined ISCO as an Individual Member. Leonard is with Navarro International LLC and is based in Miami, Florida, USA. The company is a supplier of oil sorbent products and its website is www.peatsorbusa.com

Amergent Techs Inc. has joined ISCO as a Corporate Member. The company is a Disabled Veteran-owned small business based in Long Beach, CA with an additional office in San Diego, CA. AT was formed in 2005 to provide maritime safety and security services, as well as business continuity specialists to the transportation and energy industries. In 2016, Amergent Techs, merged with BlueWater & Associates, Inc. a small business specializing in emergency preparedness training, safety, and environmental support for terminals, pipelines, and maritime related industries. Since 1994 Bluewater has provided full scope support to over 100 companies and facilities. Bluewater's emergency readiness support and services includes development of effective response plans, customized emergency response job aids, and practical applied training. The company's website is at <https://www.amergenttechs.com/>

Captain Nigel John Collingwood has joined ISCO as an Individual Member. His company, Edge Enviro Services, based in Minster, Kent, UK has been providing environmental services for more than 25 years. Its main specialisations are Oil Spill Clean Up, 24hr Oil & Chemical Spill Response, Contaminated Land Remediation, Tank Cleaning & Decommissioning, Site Investigations, Survey and Auditing, and Pollution Control Training. The company's website is at <http://www.edge-enviro.com/>

OHMSETT has joined ISCO as an Industry Partner and is located at Leonardo, New Jersey USA. The Ohmsett test tank allows testing of full-scale equipment. The tank's wave generator creates realistic sea environments, while state-of-the-art data collection and video systems record test results. Our facility has proven to be ideal for testing equipment, evaluating acquisition options, and validating research findings. Government agencies, academia, public and private companies use Ohmsett as a research center to test oil spill containment/clean-up equipment and techniques, to test new designs in response equipment, and to conduct training with actual oil spill response technologies. <https://www.ohmsett.com>

LINKS FOR DOWNLOADING OTHER PUBLICATIONS

As a service to its members and to readers of the ISCO Newsletter in more than 70 countries worldwide ISCO regularly provides links for downloading current issues of other publications that are of interest to our community.

Provision of this service depends on the regular receipt by the Editor of the listed publications. If these are not received, together with the necessary links for downloading, relevant entries will be discontinued.

A recent review has shown that a few of the listed publications have not been received for a period of more than six months. Under this circumstance the Editor has no choice but to assume that the featured publications have been discontinued and they will be **removed** from the publications listing.

Members, readers and newsletter publishers who would like to recommend the **addition** of publications to the list are invited to send information to the Editor.

REMINDER

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. by respected experts including Dr Merv Fingas and Mark Francis. Your editor is currently looking for more interesting articles on response related topics. If you think you can help, please get in touch. john.mcmurtrie@spillcontrol.org

NEWS FROM ISCO MEMBERS

VIKOMA ANNOUNCES UPGRADE OF ITS FASFLO SKIMMER

Fasflo now comes with a new boom array, a reinforced bow section and strengthened boom bridle which provides extra stability to the deflector booms.



The Fasflo is a free floating skimmer for the recovery of oil in open, fast flowing water such as rivers, estuaries and offshore sweep systems. It is a cost effective solution with minimal ongoing maintenance suited to many applications and can be used with boom attachments or boom array, as a side sweep, in a large V shape boom configuration, with a hydrovane or fixed in a river.

The skimmer is preassembled ready to go complete with GRP or Aluminium floats (model dependant). It is lightweight and the angle of Hydrofoils supporting the skimmer can be adjusted to suit the speed of water. It is an efficient skimmer which collects a high oil to water ratio when skimming.

There are two sizes available. Mini Fasflo comes complete with a boom array to funnel

the oil and a separate recovered oil transfer pump. Maxi Fasflo has a boom array as an option and comes with an on board pump.

It has a self-adjusting weir lip to optimise the oil collection rate. This, together with the simplicity of the system, ensures minimal maintenance and spare part requirements. [More info](#)

CORRESPONDENCE

LETTER FROM DR. ILIANA CHRISTODOULOU-VAROTSI, PROGRAMME DIRECTOR AND MAIN AUTHOR OF LLOYD'S MARITIME ACADEMY MARINE POLLUTION PREVENTION & MANAGEMENT COURSE

September 4 - I am a legal consultant and industry trainer specialised in regulatory compliance in shipping - author of the book 'Marine Pollution Control: Legal & Managerial Frameworks' (Informa Law from Routledge). I wanted to reach out to you to let you know about our next offering of the online 3-month course Marine Pollution Prevention & Management, which will be starting on 24th October.

This is an introductory, yet comprehensive course. It is useful to maritime professionals with diverse educational backgrounds seeking the global picture and/or updates in an area which is going through critical changes. The chapters of the course are self-contained and written in a user-friendly manner. They will give you the skills to adapt yourself to any prospective updates with respect to regulations, policies and best practice affecting marine pollution. Here is a link for you to get more info on the course - [Lloyd's Maritime Academy Marine Pollution Prevention & Management course](#)

CASE HISTORY

OIL POLLUTION STILL OOZES AT STAR LAKE MINE



September 7 - In 1810, a team of surveyors scouting a military road in St. Lawrence County noted a point where the needles on their compass began to tremble in bizarre fashion. Thirty years later, geologist Ebenezer Emmons explained why. A thick slab of valuable magnetic iron ore, up to 80 percent pure, appeared above the ground, stretching for two and a half miles just east of present-day Star Lake.

Throughout the century, many men fantasized about the potential profit represented by this wilderness deposit, but it wasn't until 1887 that Pennsylvania oilman Byron David Benson opened a mine. Still, while the vein was rich by Adirondack standards, it was chicken scratch compared with the emerging Mesabi Rangen in Minnesota, and so the Benson Mines operated in fits and starts until shutting down at the end of World War I.

CASE HISTORY (CONTINUED)

Had it not been pressed into duty during World War II, the weathered pits likely would have remained a forgotten artifact of nineteenth-century industrialization. But with government help and the urgency created by war, the mine was hastily returned to production—perhaps too hastily. An apparent decision by some long-forgotten contractor to cut one very small corner has ended up causing an environmental disaster that will cost upwards of \$30 million.

In 1941, with the nation in need of every drop of molten steel it could produce, the mighty Jones & Laughlin Steel Corporation of Pittsburgh leased the mines and operated an adjacent ore-refining plant, built by the U.S. Defense Plant Corporation.

The operation did its share for the war effort, sending millions of tons of refined ore to steel plants in the Ohio Valley and employing as many as 1,200 people in the process, according to Mark Hall, a member of the county Industrial Development Agency. After the war, J&L purchased the property from the government and kept the operation afloat with some success before closing for good in 1978.

More than 350 people lost their jobs, the machinery was auctioned, and the decaying buildings remained a silent monument to a lost industrial era. It was a stinging disappointment, but there was no indication that a far greater problem was lurking underground.

Then in 1987 came complaints that the fish downstream of the plant tasted of fuel and that an oil sheen was visible on the Little River, a tributary of the Oswegatchie.

Officials were not immediately concerned. Oil slicks on the water can look a fright, even if they've been caused by just a discarded can of Quaker State. But it soon became clear this was different. "Every time they sucked a thousand gallons of oil off the river it was replaced by another thousand gallons of oil," said Gary McCullough, regional spill engineer for the state Department of Environmental Conservation. "This was a lot bigger than losing a little bit of oil in the water."

Engineers were amazed when the wells and trenches they dug to collect the oil filled right back up again after they'd been emptied. Recovery crews dug more trenches through the years to collect oil, but it soon became apparent that the five thousand to six thousand gallons they were draining each week were not even making a dent.

In time, the reality became apparent. The old plant was somehow straddling a subterranean plume brimming with a million gallons of No. 2 fuel oil. Hall said the oil lies on top of the water table (oil floats on water), which is about ten feet below ground. It was now up to engineers to figure out how to contain and remove it before it caused an even greater environmental catastrophe.

By 1994, a polyvinyl curtain 1,500 feet long and fifteen deep was separating the source of the contamination from the Little River. That bought engineers some time, and by the decade that ended in 2007, some 350,000 gallons had been pumped from the site. Then funding ran out, and the project was put on hold.

During this whole operation, a lingering question remained in the back of everyone's mind: how did J&L manage to, unwittingly it seems, lose a full million gallons of fuel? (Picture a football field nearly four feet deep in oil.) There was no record of any major spill—as if it would even be possible to spill that much at once—and the oil bunkers were still in decent shape.

How did this happen? – [Read the rest of this account by Tim Rowland in The Adirondack Explorer](#)

NEW PRODUCTS AND SERVICES

REVOLUTIONARY WELL INTEGRITY MONITORING SYSTEM

September 11 - Sentinel Subsea has created a revolutionary well integrity monitoring system, has had its technology tipped to become ubiquitous within the global decommissioning industry.

Long-term well integrity verification specialist, Sentinel Subsea – which is being supported to accelerate its commercialisation by the Scottish Enterprise High Growth Ventures team – has also announced it is working towards its first offshore field trials with a large independent UK operator.

Taking place during Q2 2019, the trials will see deployment of the technology in the North Sea. Passively monitoring the subsea environment around a suspended or abandoned well for over 10 years without the requirement for intervention, its early detection of leaks aims to mitigate the potential environmental consequences of long-term issues following well plug and abandonment (P&A) activity. For further information visit www.sentinel-subsea.com From an article in OCEANBUZZ ISSUE 551 – 11 September 2018

RESPONSE EVENTS DURING SEPTEMBER AND OCTOBER 2018

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?

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

FINLAND: CEFIC-LRI AND CONCAWE WORKSHOP ON RECENT DEVELOPMENTS IN SCIENCE SUPPORTIVE TO THE PERSISTENCE/BIODEGRADATION ASSESSMENT

Helsinki, September 27. The objective of the workshop is to discuss results from recent and ongoing research (e.g. Cefic LRI) and other programmes and projects (e.g. ConcaWE, ECHA), and consider how the results of these projects could be used to improve persistence assessments of chemicals. A poster on persistence/biodegradation assessment will be featured at SETAC, in Rome. Read the [abstract](#) for more details. [More info](#)

USA: ELASTEC'S ANNUAL OIL SPILL RESPONSE WORKSHOP

Carmi, IL, October 1-3. Presentations by distinguished speakers, on-water Exercises, equipment demos and drills. The workshop qualifies as an 8 hour Hazwoper Refresher Course. View the whole programme at <https://www.elastec.com/inland-workshop/>

CANADA: 41ST AMOP TECH. SEMINAR ON ENVIRONMENTAL CONTAMINATION AND RESPONSE

Victoria, BC, October 2-4. The full programme has just been released. Visit <https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/services/science-technology/arctic-marine-oilspill-program.html> or contact Natalie Jones at natalie.jones@canada.ca
Tel. : 613-991-1114 Fax: 613-991-9485

UAE : ENERGY INSTITUTE MIDDLE EAST HSE & SUSTAINABILITY FORUM

Dubai, October 1-3. Free to attend event - This international technical forum will deliver essential learning and sharing of international good practice - HSE and process safety, Operations, Risk Assessment, Compliance and Audit, Occupational Health, Medical Prevention and Emergency Response, Environmental Protection, Control and Monitoring, Energy Managers, Energy Engineers, Sustainability, and Clean Energy. [More info](#)

AUSTRALIA : CONFERENCE & EXHIBITION

Townsville, Queensland, October 2-5. An exciting 4 day event (Tuesday - Friday), in addition to the 2 day conference sessions (5 parallel streams) there are plenty of networking opportunities along with the PFAS Summit, workshops & site tours. [More info](#)

FRANCE: SEA TECH WEEK

Brest, October 8-12. This year, the main theme is marine bioresources, covering a broad sweep from resource characterisation and production to economic development. The objective: to spotlight all the latest technologies on offer in these different fields of application. [More info](#)

CANADA: ARCTIC SHIPPING FORUM NORTH AMERICA CONFERENCE

St. Johns, Newfoundland, October 17-19. Programme includes management of environmental risks in the Arctic. Conference and networking forum with accompanying exhibition. [More info](#)

BRAZIL: NOSCA SEMINAR 2018

Rio de Janeiro, October 22-25. Topics include Cost efficient oil spill contingency by inter-company sharing of resources and equipment; Early warning and new response methods that allow for more cost-effective spill response. [More info](#)

UK: IMO MARINE ENVIRONMENT PROTECTION COMMITTEE

London, October 22-26. <http://www.imo.org/EN>

UK: MEETING OF IOPC FUNDS GOVERNING BODIES

London, October 29 – November 1. [More info](#)

UPCOMING EVENTS – NOVEMBER 2018 ONWARDS

| COUNTRY | 2018 | TITLE OF EVENT | LOCATION |
|--|--------------|---|-----------------|
| For more information click on Title of Event | | | |
| UAE | Postponed* | RECSO EnviroSpill Conference & Exhibition | Abu Dhabi |
| TURKEY | Nov. 6-8 | Regional Workshop & Oil Spill Exercise | Istanbul |
| TURKEY | Nov. 7 | MOIG General Assembly Meeting | Istanbul |
| POLAND | Nov. 8 | Transboundary Response Exercise | Świnoujście |
| 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 |
| GERMANY | Dec. 5-6 | 13th Arctic Shipping Summit | Hamburg |
| 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

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|---|--|-------------------|
| Alga Chronicle | News from Australia on Contaminated Land Remediation | August 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 | July-August 2018 |
| EMSA Newsletter | News from the European Maritime Safety Agency | September 2018 |
| 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 | Sept. 14, 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 |
| Navigate Response | Global crisis communications network for shipping & marine | September 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 |
| 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 | Sept. 12, 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 |
| USA EPA Tech Direct | Remediation of contaminated soil and groundwater | September 1, 2018 |

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

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