

## 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



**SEASON'S GREETINGS  
TO ALL OUR READERS**

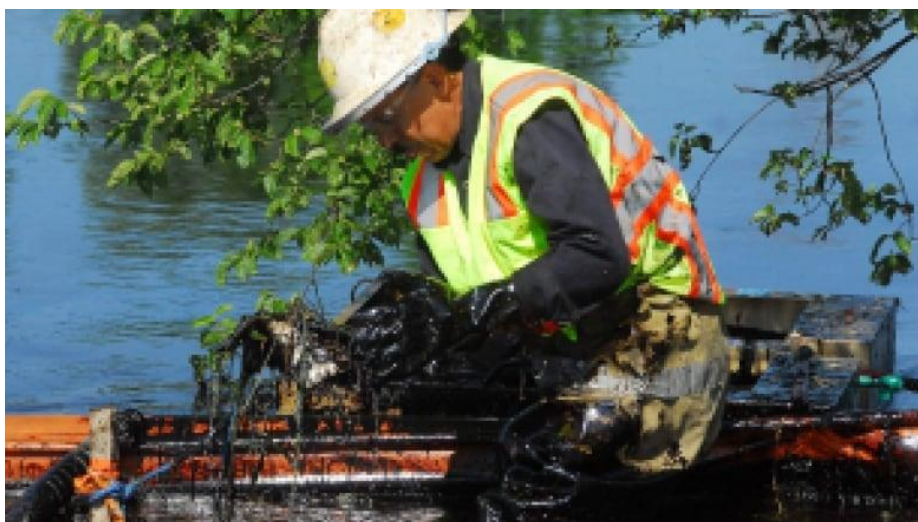


CLICK ON THE BANNERS BELOW FOR MORE INFORMATION ON THE EVENTS FEATURED

**SPILLCON**  
20 – 24 May 2019 Perth, Australia

**ADRIASPILLCON 2019**  
4<sup>th</sup> Adriatic Conference on spill prevention,  
preparedness and response  
28 – 30 May 2019 Opatija, Croatia

## USA & CANADA: BINATIONAL REPORT LISTS 15 GREAT LAKES SITES AS MOST VULNERABLE TO OIL SPILLS



*In 2010, a pipeline carrying oil to Sarnia, Ont. leaked more than three million litres of oil into a creek in south-western Michigan.*

December 11 - A new report from the science advisory board for a U.S.-Canadian group has identified 15 sites on the Great Lakes that are the most vulnerable to crude oil spills. The [report released Monday by the International Joint Commission's](#) Great Lakes Science Advisory Board lists sensitive shoreline areas near pipelines or rail corridors that

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Go to [www.spillcontrol.org](http://www.spillcontrol.org) and enter your name and email address in the Registration Form (located on the right-hand side of the home page) then click on "subscribe".

## INTERNATIONAL NEWS (CONTINUED)

transport oil. The St. Louis River Estuary in Duluth-Superior, the Apostle Islands National Lakeshore, northern Green Bay and the Straits of Mackinac between Lakes Michigan and Huron are among the most vulnerable areas.

The IJC assesses progress by the U.S. and Canada to restore and protect the Great Lakes under the Great Lakes Water Quality agreement that was signed by the two countries in 1972. The commission investigates a range of issues based on goals to enhance water quality and prevent ecological harm to the lakes.

Crude oil production in the U.S. has been increasing over the past decade. The Energy Information Administration [forecasts](#) that production will average 10.9 million barrels per day this year and increase to around 12.1 million barrels per day in 2019.

WPR / [Read more](#) Related report from [CBC News](#)

## FURTHER SUB-REGIONAL COOPERATION ON MARINE POLLUTION IN THE EASTERN MEDITERRANEAN REGION

December 6 - Following the signature of the Implementation Agreement on the Sub-regional Marine Pollution Contingency Plan between Cyprus, Greece and Israel in May 2018, REMPEC facilitated a follow-up meeting which took place on 6 December 2018 in Larnaca, Cyprus.

During the meeting, the three countries made considerable progress on ensuring the efficient implementation of their common contingency plan, and addressed operational matters, trans-national issues and compliance with IMO's Convention on

Oil Pollution Preparedness and Response (OPRC 90). REMPEC provided valuable input to the discussions based on its extensive experience with developing national and (sub)regional contingency plans in other parts of the Mediterranean (see also the recent Meeting on the Sub-Regional Contingency Plan between Algeria, Morocco and Tunisia).

Ahead of the meeting, REMPEC also organised on 4 and 5 December, with the support of the International Oil Pollution Compensation Funds (IOPC), the International Tanker Owners Pollution Federation Limited (ITOPF), and the International Group of P&I Clubs, the Sub-Regional Workshop on Compensation for Oil Pollution Damage, which included a visit of the Cyprus Joint Rescue Coordination Centre "Zenon". The active participation of the countries throughout the three days demonstrated the willingness to reinforce sub-regional cooperation on pollution prevention in the Eastern Mediterranean region. REMPEC / See [Photos](#)

## PHILIPPINES, INDONESIA AND JAPAN PREPARE FOR 2019 MARPOLEX

November 20 - The Philippines will host the 2019 MARPOLEX in Bacolod, Philippines. Plans are on the way to realising this bi-annual event in cooperation with Indonesia and Japan. <http://www.gisea.org/news/>

## SALVAGE & WRECK REMOVAL CONFERENCE: WRECK REMOVAL CHALLENGES



December 7 - A ship wreck can be a hazard to navigation. Other vessels and their crews can potentially be endangered, and, depending on the nature of the cargo and remaining fuel on board, a wreck may also cause damage to marine environments and other coastal interests. Then there is the issue of costs and risks involved in marking and removing hazardous wrecks.

To help resolve these issues, IMO's Nairobi Wreck Removal Convention, covers the legal basis for States to remove, or have removed, shipwrecks, drifting ships, objects from ships at sea, and floating offshore installations.

To spread knowledge of the specific aspects of the Convention, IMO led a panel discussion on wreck removal challenges, at the Salvage & Wreck Removal Conference in London, United Kingdom (5-7 December). To-date, 41 States have signed up to the Convention, representing more than 72% of world merchant

shipping tonnage. Find out more about the Convention, [here](#). IMO / [Read more](#)



## ITOPF WINS LLOYD'S LIST GLOBAL AWARD

December 12 - ITOPF was the winner in the category for best Environmental Programme at the Lloyd's List Global Awards event last night. This award honours the institution, company or individual that has done the most to reduce pollution of the marine environment from maritime sources.

ITOPF achieved top spot in this category as the judges felt that its 50th anniversary would be a fitting moment to recognise the valuable contribution that ITOPF makes towards promoting effective spill response and to endorse its vision for the future.

Dr Karen Purnell collected the award on behalf of ITOPF, its staff, directors, shipowners and their insurers. "For 50 years," she commented, "our team of highly credible and experienced scientists have been working on a not-for-profit basis to educate government and industry entities around the world, with the sole aim of reducing environmental and economic damage that may result from accidental spills of oil and chemicals from ships. We are delighted to receive this prestigious award in recognition of that work, marking a perfect end to our golden anniversary celebrations."

To see the full list of Lloyd's List Awards winners please visit:

<https://maritimeintelligence.informa.com/events/awards/lloyds-list-global-awards/2018/winners>

Picture shows Karen Purnell and Richard Johnson with Lloyd's List reporter Anastassios Adamopoulos and event host, comedian Jon Culshaw, at the London Hilton Hotel, Park Lane. <http://www.itopf.org/news-events>



## INCIDENT REPORTS (IN CHRONOLOGICAL ORDER)

### RUSSIA: RAIL TANKS WITH FUEL OIL OVERTURNED NEAR OMSK

December 1 - On the border of Omsk and Tyumen oblasts overturned freight train with tracked military equipment, reports "WORLD 24". Drove it to the repair plant. On the tracks stood not more than 70 cars, more than 20, including tanks with fuel oil, overturned. KozWeek / [Read more and watch video](#) [Thanks to Don Johnston of ISCO Industry Partner, DG & Hazmat Group]

### USA: COAST GUARD RESPONDS TO FUEL LEAK ON OHIO RIVER

December 1 - The Coast Guard says it is responding to contain diesel fuel leaking from two sunken vessels on the Ohio River. Coast Guard personnel are assessing potential environmental and waterway impacts caused by the fuel spill near Greenup, Kentucky. The Coast Guard said late Friday that an oil response organization, Clean Harbors, was also responding to help contain the spill.

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

### CANADA: NEWFOUNDLAND - NORTH ATLANTIC OIL REFINERY REPORTS OIL LEAK

December 7 - About 8:30 a.m. Friday, a pipeline was observed to be leaking bunker oil into Placentia Bay from the North Atlantic Refinery. North Atlantic Refining Ltd. in a statement said it immediately activated its response procedure, and within one hour the product was contained. The spill is estimated to have leaked less than one barrel into the water. The refinery said situation is under control and clean-up was underway Friday, insisting there is no risk to the general public and no further risk to the environment. The Packet / [Source Report](#) [Thanks to Don Johnston of ISCO Industry Partner, DG & Hazmat Group]

### USA: LOUISIANA - OIL SPILLS FROM WELL IN RATTLE SNAKE BAYOU



*Photo Credit: US Coast Guard*

December 9 - The U.S. Coast Guard is responding to an oil discharge near Port Sulphur, Louisiana.

On Sunday, Watchstanders at Coast Guard Sector New Orleans received a report from the National Response Center that a crude oil well in Rattle Snake Bayou, southwest of Port Sulphur, was leaking. The amount discharged has not been determined; the well is rated to produce 5,476 gallons of oil per day, but it is not known when the discharge began.

The source of the discharge has not been secured. Hilcorp, the owner of the well, has contracted ES&H as an oil spill response organization. ES&H currently has four response

## INCIDENT REPORTS (CONTINUED)

boats and 13 personnel conducting containment and clean-up operations. Wild Well Control has been contracted to work on securing the source.

Also involved in the response are Plaquemines Parish Sheriff's Department, the Louisiana Oil Spill Coordinator's Office and the National Oceanic Atmospheric Administration. The Maritime Executive / [Read more](#)

## URUGUAY: OIL SPILL REPORTS FROM CARLOS SAGRERA, MEMBER OF ISCO COUNCIL FOR PANAMA

**December 10** – “Here enclosed some Uruguayan links concerning an oil spill last week end in the Ancap oil mooring buoy in José Ignacio (two miles from the coast), Maldonado (Atlantic Uruguayan Coast). As indicated were remnants of crude left in the discharge hoses in the last operation in November. According the news no local OSROs carried out specific clean-up tasks at sea or shore, limited to surveillance and monitoring with aircraft of the Navy Aviation and a tug of the State Company Ancap so the strategy used was natural recovery. There were not any reactions of local NGOs”.

<https://www.elpais.com.uy/informacion/armada-monitoreo-mancha-petroleo-costa-jose-ignacio.html>

<https://www.elobservador.com.uy/nota/armada-busca-frenar-derrame-petrolero-en-la-costa-de-jose-ignacio--201812818614>

<https://www.elobservador.com.uy/nota/se-descarto-impacto-del-derrame-de-petroleo-sobre-la-costa-en-jose-ignacio-2018129123410>

<https://www.elpais.com.uy/informacion/servicios/concluyen-reparacion-boya-limpian-costa.html>

**December 11** “Here enclosed more news and photos concerning this incident and the reactions of the local NGOs that shows the impacts on wildlife of the spilled oil and contradicts the statements of the National Oil Company (ANCAP) about the consequences of the spill over the shore and beaches. We include the declarations of the community authorities of the affected Department of Maldonado and the clean-up work carried out on 5 miles of the polluted coastline two days after the spill”.



<https://www.elobservador.com.uy/nota/animales-quedaron-cubiertos-de-petroleo-por-derrame-en-jose-ignacio--201812119169>

<http://www.maldonado.gub.uy/?n=36971>

**December 13** – “Here news concerning this spill of the National Oil Company (ANCAP) in Uruguay. After 5 days from the beginning of the spill and several official statements of clean up finished, the impacts continue to appear on Uruguayan beaches and coast and there are political reactions about the management of the contingency”.

<https://www.elpais.com.uy/informacion/sociedad/retoman-limpieza-playa-san-ignacio-nueva-aparicion-manchas-petroleo.html> [Thanks to Carlos Sagrera, M.Sc, MISCO]

## BRAZIL: 60,000 LITERS OF OIL SPILLS FROM PIPELINE INTO GUANABARA BAY

December 10 - About 60,000 liters (15,850 gallons) of oil spilled from a pipeline into the Estrela River and spread to Rio de Janeiro's famed Guanabara Bay over the weekend, according to Reuters and local reports. The pipeline is owned by Transpetro, the largest oil and gas transportation company in Brazil, and a subsidiary of Petroleo Brasileiro (commonly known as Petrobras). Transpetro claims the leak resulted from an attempted robbery.

"It was a leak of significant proportions, with an impact on the mangroves," said Maurício Muniz, an analyst at the Instituto Chico Mendes, which is associated with the Brazilian environment ministry, according to Reuters. EcoWatch / [Read more](#)

**December 10 - Oil thieves cause damaging spill in Brazilian river** - Thieves who broke into a pipeline near Rio de Janeiro to steal oil caused a four-kilometer spill of crude in waterways that is damaging mangroves and wildlife, the company and a Brazilian biologist said Monday.

Transpetro, a pipeline subsidiary of state oil company Petrobras, said it was “a victim of criminal acts through the stealing of oil and derivatives” and was cooperating with authorities in their investigations. India / [Read more](#)

## RUSSIA: TECHNOLOGICAL DISASTER IN TRANSCARPATIA: A MASSIVE OIL SPILL

December 11 - A press-service of the head of the Transcarpathian regional state administration Gennady Moskal said that there was a leak of oil from pipeline “Friendship”. While it is known that at the scene emergency crews work. “On Tuesday, December 11, the morning dispatcher services of the oil pipeline “Friendship” recorded a depressurization in the system pipeline with a leak of crude oil in a field near the village of Russian Mukachevo district. Now aware of soil contamination with a size of about 250 square meters “, – stated in the message. KozPost / [Read more](#)

*More Incident Reports - See also Breaking News on Page 13*

## **CANADA: CLEAR SEAS - SPILL RISK REMAINS TOP CONCERN IN CANADA**



December 9 - Clear Seas Centre for Responsible Marine Shipping, in partnership with the Angus Reid Institute, has found a majority of Canadians believe transporting goods by sea is safe, and most say marine shipping is growing in importance in this era of heightened trade uncertainty between Canada and the U.S. However, the risk of oil and fuel spills and water pollution from marine shipping remain Canadians' top concerns.

The new public opinion poll builds on a benchmark study on public attitudes about the shipping industry first conducted in March 2016. Today, the Canadian public places a higher degree of importance on marine shipping than it did back then. Greater numbers now say the industry is "critically important" to the Canadian economy.

The Maritime Executive / [Read more](#)

## **CANADA: HUSKY ENERGY APOLOGIZES FOR LARGEST EVER NEWFOUNDLAND OIL SPILL**

December 12 - Canadian company Husky Energy has apologized for Newfoundland's largest-ever oil spill last month, which saw 250,000 litres leak into the ocean.

The huge spill of oil, water and gas happened while Husky Energy's SeaRose platform was preparing to restart production during a storm that earlier that afternoon had been the most intense in the world.

A Husky spokesperson said Monday the firm began to restart production "because the storm was subsiding."

In a statement, the company says it is "deeply sorry" for the spill and is committed to learning from it and putting measures in place "to ensure it doesn't happen again."

On Friday, Husky submitted its preliminary report on the Nov. 16 spill, stating that it appears that a flowline connector failed near the South White Rose Extension drill centre -- about 350 kilometres east of St. John's. The company says the initial release occurred during the 20 minutes that crews were troubleshooting a drop in flowline pressure, and a re-test led to a second release lasting about 15 minutes. IMarEST / [Read more](#)



## **CHINA VOWS TO TACKLE MARINE POLLUTION IN BOHAI SEA**

December 11 - China has promised to take action to "significantly reduce" the volume of industrial wastewater flowing into the Bohai Sea, one of the world's busiest and most polluted shipping routes, the environment ministry said on Tuesday.

China has been struggling to reverse the environmental damage done to the Bohai Sea, which stretches along the coast of the major heavy industrial provinces of Liaoning, Hebei and Shandong. Its waters have been contaminated by sewage, heavy metals, plastic waste and fertiliser run-off.

Served by major coal, iron ore and crude oil ports like Dalian, Tianjin, Caofeidian and Qinhuangdao, the Bohai Sea was also the location of a 2011 oil spill from a well operated by the U.S. firm ConocoPhillips. NASDAQ / [Read more](#)

## **CROATIA: ADRIATIC SPILL CONFERENCE - ADRIASPILLCON 2019**

December 12 – The Fourth Adriatic Spill Conference - ADRIASPILLCON 2019 is being organized by ATRAC in Opatija, Croatia, between 28 and 30 May 2019 under the auspices of the Ministry of the Sea, Transport and Infrastructure of the Republic of Croatia.

Since its first edition the Conference became the most important regular regional gathering of players active in the field of accidental marine pollution prevention, preparedness and response.

All previous editions of the Conference were supported by other key organizations active in the field of OPRC, namely IMO, EMSA, REMPEC, ITOPI, IOPC Funds, ISCO, CEDRE and MOIG, and their representatives participated in the Conference. It is expected that these organizations will extend their support to ADRIASPILLCON 2019.

More information will be available in due time on ATRAC's website, and the official website of the conference will be launched mid January 2019.

Atrac Newsletter / [Read more](#)



## GHANA: DIALOGUE ON PETROLEUM GOVERNANCE HELD

December 8 - As part of efforts to create a better understanding on how the challenges of the petroleum sector should be addressed, a two-day policy dialogue on Petroleum sector governance has been held at Takoradi. The workshop was also meant to mainstream resource governance at the sub national level and bridge the gap between maximizing petroleum revenues and ensuring environmental sustainability.

According to Mr Solomon Kusi Ampofo, Natural Resources Coordinator of the Friends of the Nation, the workshop was critical since Ghana was doing everything to avoid a natural resource curse as in the case of other African countries. He said since the commercial production of oil in 2010, there have been lots of successes, challenges and lessons learnt from the exploration of the resources with affected communities experiencing top environmental and livelihood challenges, which must be addressed through stakeholder consultation and dialogue.

Mr Larry Kotoe, Principal Programme Officer who spoke on Ghana's readiness for an offshore oil spill response, said the country's coastline of about 550km with vast lagoons and rivers, is ecologically rich in five Ramsar sites. Mr Kotoe said some activities to be carried out in 2019 by EPA would include the updates of coastal sensitivity map, oil spill sensitivity ranking, and establishment of marine spatial centre in Takoradi and mapping of sensitive areas in the four sedimentary basins in Ghana.

Modern Ghana / [Read more](#)

## GUYANA MOVING TO SET UP UAE CONSULATE NEXT YEAR



*Photo: Minister of Foreign Affairs Carl Greenidge addressing the National Assembly on Friday*

December 9 - By the end of the first quarter of 2019, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs is hoping to set up a Guyana consulate in the United Arab Emirates (UAE) as part of efforts to extend its diplomatic presence as it seeks partners to assist in the preparation for the development of the oil and gas sector.

The move follows the ministry's analysis of the implications for foreign policy of the development of the oil and gas sector here, according to Minister of Foreign Affairs Carl Greenidge.

Guyana is exploring the placement of a resident ambassador in the UAE because government believes that Guyana can learn a lot and could also

benefit from the oil rich nation's willingness to fund projects. "There is a lot for us to benefit from. They are interested in funding developments in areas in culture, health as well as in things like ports. It is a good partner to have," Greenidge said.

The ministry is also working with the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA), which provides technical cooperation.

And with concerns raised over the implications of a possible oil spill and Guyana's preparation for such an incident, Greenidge told the House that while the risk is real, no single developing state has ever been called on to meet the cost of a spill in its entirety. "In fact, states insulate themselves from this risk by the time-worn device of insurance as well as national disaster arrangements. For example, the 1992 International Oil Pollution Compensation Funds and the International Oil Pollution Compensation Supplementary Fund. I want to say that Guyana will be no exception in this regard. Stabroek News / [Read more](#)

## INDIA: PARADIP PORT CONDUCTS MEGA MOCK DRILL AT NORTH OIL JETTY



December 8 - On 07 December 2018 at 1130 hrs, Heavy Hydrocarbon leakage and later Major Fire scenario were created at North Oil Jetty of Paradip Port Trust.

The spillage of oil at the sea water was diffused by "KALI" ship meant for controlling the same. The fire occurred at the Jetty areas was controlled by using Foam through different method and systems. The Water Curtain, Jumbo Jet, Tower Monitors, Ground monitors, numerous Fire Tenders from Mutual Aid Members were pressed into service for extinguishing the Fire.

A team 25 personnel from NDRF, Mundali also actively participated in the Mega event and extend First Aid to the victims. The Fire-fighting Tugs of PPT also take part to contain the fire occurred in the Ship. Three personnel injured at various locations were also rescued and sent to PPT Hospital.

Port Wings / [Read more](#)

### KOREA: JOINT TRAINING WORKSHOP WITH KOREA COAST GUARD

December 6 - In November, ITOPF was invited to participate in a joint training workshop with Korea Coast Guard at their training academy in Yeosu. ITOPF delivered presentations over two days that aimed to provide the necessary technical background to support strategic decision making in the event of an oil spill. The third day constituted a claims and compensation workshop in the morning, followed by ITOPF's table-top spill response exercise in the afternoon. On the fourth day, KCG demonstrated various response techniques to clean up a spill of heavy fuel oil in their training pool.

The 35 participants included representatives from the main regional KCG branches, the Marine Pollution Response Planning Division HQ in Incheon, the KCG research centre, Korea Environment Institute, KOEM, and NOWPAP MERRAC. ITOPF / [Read more](#)

### NIGERIA: CLEAN NIGERIA ASSOCIATES LAUNCHES ITS NEWSLETTER

December 11 - CNA WELCOMES NEW GENERAL MANAGER + TECOM HONOURS RETIRED CNA GENERAL MANAGER, EX-TECOM CHAIRMEN AND SECRETAR + CNA Signs a Mutual Support Agreement with Oil Spill Response Limited OSRL – UK

[Read the first issue of CNA's new newsletter](#)

### PHILIPPINES: GUIMARAS ISLAND RISES

December 11 - The pre-conference video presentation on Guimaras during the East Asia Seas (EAS) Congress held in Iloilo City last November 27 to 29, 2018 showcased how the province got through the devastating oil spill incident that happened 12 years ago with the sinking of the tanker Solar 1 off the Guimaras Strait. The tanker with its approximately 2,000 tonnes of fuel oil was found to have spilled almost all of its oil cargo to the sea.

The spilled oil contaminated about 125 kilometers of shoreline on the south and south-west coasts of the island. The oil reached approximately 500 hectares of mangroves and fishponds, seaweed farms and tourist establishments took a heavy toll from the incident. Manila Times / [Read more](#)

### USA: OR&R'S DISASTER PREPAREDNESS PROGRAM PROVIDES NOAA-SPECIFIC INCIDENT COMMAND SYSTEM TRAINING

December 14 - This week in Silver Spring, Maryland, OR&R's Disaster Preparedness Program (DPP) held a three day NOAA-Specific Incident Command System 300 Level Training (ICS 300).

The ICS 300 course initially created by FEMA provides an in-depth focus on the National Incident Management System (NIMS) Incident Command System (ICS). This includes the resources, procedures, and practices that are used to effectively manage emergency incidents concerning NOAA missions. However, unlike typical ICS - 300 courses provided by other agencies, OR&R's Disaster Preparedness Program created a NOAA-centric ICS 300 Level Training Course that includes key information on NOAA's authorities and responsibilities relative to preparedness, emergency response, resilience, and recovery activities for major man-made incidents and natural disasters. NOAA OR&R / [Read more](#)

## PEOPLE IN THE NEWS

### IMO 2017 INTERNATIONAL MARITIME PRIZE



December 12 - The Secretary General of the IMO, His Excellency Mr Kitack Lim, awarded its prestigious annual International Maritime Prize for 2017 at its annual awards ceremony last week to Mrs. Birgit Sølling Olsen, former Deputy Director-General of the Danish Maritime Authority.

Mrs Olsen was nominated for the award jointly by the Danish Maritime Authority (DMA), the International Group and the International Chamber of Shipping (ICS) in recognition of her distinguished career in the maritime field and her outstanding contribution to the objectives of the IMO, which included her significant contribution to the work of the IMO's Legal Committee over many years. This included the development and adoption of a framework of international treaties governing liability and compensation for ship-sourced pollution damage, death and

personal injury to passengers and removal of wrecks on which the International Group - as NGO with consultative status at the IMO - was also closely involved. Mrs Olsen's work during this time also included invaluable contribution to the work and objectives of the IOPC Funds and seafarer welfare within the ILO, forums in which the International Group is also an active participant. [IG P&I](#)



## PHOTOS: MEMBER OF ISCO COUNCIL, CAPT. D. C. SEKHAR AT INDIAN COAST GUARD SEMINAR



See report in last week's ISCO News - Captain D. C. Sekhar was invited to talk in the Indian Coast Guard Chennai RHQ seminar on Oil Spill Preparedness. Captain Sekhar also gave a short presentation on the work being done by ISCO in support of the global spill response community.

## ISCO AT OSRW 2018 IN BEIJING, CHINA



*In the picture: (left) Lee Guobin, Member of the ISCO Executive Committee; (centre) Matthew Sommerville, Secretary of ISCO and (right) Mr. Zhao Shaozhen, Deputy director of PetroChina Emergency Responding Center.*

**Matthew Sommerville writes** – “While the spill control industry has numerous regular and very good conferences and exhibitions through the year targeted at an international, regional and national audiences. For anyone who attends you can expect to see many of the same faces and hear the same presentations and debates.

The 6th Oil Spill Response Workshop in Beijing 6-7th December and my last conference of the year was something a bit different while also allowing us the opportunity to see some of our ISCO members from China.

With some 150 delegates and only China-based companies, it is not the biggest event in the year and international participation was limited although local agents or partners were represented many of the key international manufacturers. The breadth of presentations as we see elsewhere wide and covered government legislation, research, incident response and new technologies. What did make it interesting however was that as a smaller conference it had only one stream, and the room was not filled with people who

had picked to hear about just one subject or issue or limited to the conference delegates while exhibitors were elsewhere but was filled with all the speakers, delegates and exhibitors. As a result, all attendees were exposed to the full width of presentations, the evolving list of issues presented and questions asked as the day progressed.



Breaks to the exhibition area and for lunch allowed the normal networking but were backed by a common participation in what had and would be discussed and the questions presentations had raised.



A further aspect of the conference is that while China is a significant shipping nation with vast imports and exports it does not have the same connection with the evolution of the spill control industry and no Torrey Canyon, Amoco Cadiz or Exxon Valdez event on which its development is seen as being hinged. In fact given its place in world shipping trading its oil spill history is very good.

That said, China has developed its own legislation, compensation regimes, response contracting arrangements and a combination of state-owned and commercial spill response capabilities particularly over the last decade. From the presentations and discussions, it was also clear that as we see elsewhere, successes in prevention and

reduced frequency and scale of spills mean that new models for response contractors will need to be deployed. Similarly, on the incident costs, there was a clear message that small spills from smaller vessels were a problem and that ways to increase funds or raise liability limits to pay for these is being considered.

Another interesting area discussed in the conference was the use of drones in spill response and management. This is something we hear at many conferences but in China they have moved rapidly from theory to routine and widespread employment and from the hobby and small industrial units we see and hear about being tested elsewhere to larger and more capable aircraft closer in capability and sensor and load-carrying capacity to military systems.

So for those of you looking to budgets and conferences next year if the 4 day international conference Spillcon (20th to 24th May 2019 Perth, Australia) is beyond your budget then perhaps the 7th Oil Spill Response Workshop in China could offer a regional alternative later in the year". Contact for information is Crystal Qin - [crystalqin@topcoevents.com](mailto:crystalqin@topcoevents.com)

## NEWS FROM ISCO MEMBERS

### UPDATE ON AQUA-GUARD'S SUPPLY TO THE CANADIAN COAST GUARD FOR THE OCEAN PROTECTION PLAN

December 11 - Aqua-Guard was awarded the first contract of Canada's Environmental Response Equipment Modernization initiative of the Oceans Protection Plan in March 2018. Aqua-Guard to date have supplied and successfully commissioned twenty-three (23) oil skimming systems packages to Canadian Coast Guard bases across Canada (including Hay River, NWT). CCG has exercised options for more oil skimming systems to be delivered early 2019.

In addition to working closely with the Canadian Coast Guard, Aqua-Guard has also collaborated with the U.S. Coast Guard and their Research and Development Center (RDC) by participating in their Arctic Technology evaluation onboard the CGC Healy in 2017. The 30 day expedition left Seward, Alaska and tested Aqua-Guard's RBS TRITONTM 150 RotoX oil skimmer head designed for oil recovery in broken ice conditions.

Read more: <http://aquaguard.com/news/update-on-aqua-guards-supply-for-the-ocean-protection-plan-canada>

### BRIGGS MARINE CANADIAN ACQUISITION

The Briggs Group is delighted to announce it has recently acquired a consortia of three marine companies in Canada. The Companies; Foreshore Technologies, Balanced Environmental and Ocean Tech are based in North Vancouver, British Columbia and have been trading for 25 years. Briggs Marine / [Read more](#)

### OIL SPILL RESPONSE LIMITED SIGNS MUTUAL SUPPORT AGREEMENT WITH CLEAN NIGERIA ASSOCIATES

OSRL and Clean Nigeria Associates are pleased to announce the signing of a Mutual Support Agreement in Oil Spill Preparation and Response. The agreement was signed on 16th November 2018.

This agreement will facilitate closer cooperation between our two well-established spill preparedness and response industry co-operatives, which will offer our members, more efficient and effective response. [OSRL / Read more and see photos](#)

**ISCO MEMBERS ARE INVITED TO SEND THEIR PRESS RELEASES TO THE EDITOR**

## DOCUMENTING DECADES IN OIL SPILL CONTROL: MINIBYTES # 10



THIS IS THE TENTH IN A SERIES OF SHORT ARTICLES BY ALAN A. ALLEN

Allan A. Allen has over five decades of experience as a technical advisor and field supervisor involving hundreds of oil spills around the world. AI is recognised as a leading consultant and trainer involving oil spill surveillance and spotting techniques, the application of chemical dispersants, and the containment, recovery and/or combustion of spilled oil under arctic and sub-arctic conditions.

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On the Elastec website there is a facility for you to be able to read this article in different languages – Arabic, Chinese, French, German, Hindi, Japanese, Malay, Polish, Portuguese, Russian, Spanish and Turkish. Visit <https://www.elastec.com/expectation-management-part-2/>

## Expectation Management – Oil Spills, Marriage and Golf (Part 2)

Expectations can stimulate positive incentives, encourage and support creative ideas, and lead to fun and excitement. Some expectations, however, can fuel distrust, fear, impatience, confusion and sadness. Wow! Haven't we all allowed both types of expectation to impact our lives -- such expectation created from within, or from the world around us? The answer has to be a resounding "YES" if you live on earth, and especially if you have attempted to find satisfaction in a career dealing with oil spills; in a relationship living with another individual; or, in "playing" the game of golf.

The management of expectation obviously involves many other careers, activities, relationships and games; however, since I have spent about two thirds of my life enjoying and being humbled by spills, spouses and golf balls, I can't help but relate to these three missions. Besides, I have no choice. I suspect that I am addicted to the relentless challenge of better understanding the fate and behavior of oil, my own fate related to behavior in marriage, and the ultimate fate of a tiny ball, struck with an oddly shaped club into a field of sand traps, water hazards and trees!

In my last blog #9 (Part 1) I described some of the problems that arise when expectation is mismanaged involving oil spills, marriage and golf. A few examples of mismanaged expectations involving spills were presented involving confusion over "planning" standards versus "performance" standards. I described how such confusion can result in unreasonable expectations over the type and amount of resources needed for a successful response. Even the expectations for what a "successful response" is can lead to problems as some people believe that all (or a major portion) of every spill should be recovered. Such expectations stem from a lack of appreciation for the difficulty of removing oil from the environment. They may also arise from a belief that the treatment of oil in place (i.e., in-situ) with chemical dispersants or controlled burning is ineffective and harmful to the environment. I trust that my discussions of dispersants and burning in blogs #5 & #6 help in providing realistic expectations about these response options.

During many oil spill events (especially large marine spills of long duration), strong differences of opinion often arise from preconceived expectations, anger, bias, and/or inaccurate information. Such feelings and expectations should be heard and given serious consideration. Unfortunately, a respectful and timely assessment of those views is often complicated by inaccurate media coverage, uncontrolled public demonstrations, and the need to make quick, operational decisions. Fortunately the goals and procedures of the National Incident Management System (NIMS) provides effective protocols not only for the effective management of an incident, but for the careful assessment of response options and impacts. Opinions, concerns and expectations of the public, specific stakeholders, and the response community are considered within the framework of the Incident Command Systems (ICS), so that a broad range of opinions and expectations can be dealt with fairly.

One of the most difficult types of expectation sometimes surfaces from within the response community itself. It often happens when the concerns of a well-intentioned individual or group is so focused upon a perceived high-priority issue that the resolution of that issue threatens the effectiveness or the timing of the response. Such was the case during the Deepwater Horizon spill in the Gulf of Mexico in 2010. Our in-situ burn (ISB) team was slowed down (and nearly stopped on one occasion) when concerns/requests arose from within the response community including:

- Special precautions by our ISB field teams to ensure that turtles were not being trapped within the fire boom containment area; and that if they were, to remove them and eliminate such impact during subsequent burns.
- Desires to coordinate the ongoing burns with aerial sampling of the smoke plumes with balloons tethered to the boats towing fire boom or separate vessels nearby – the goal being to measure and confirm the nature and amount of pollutants in such plumes.

Considerable time and effort went into the assessment of these requests (and many others!), carefully evaluating ways to comply with each. However, operational goals and safety issues were often in conflict with the potential environmental benefits, involving challenging trade-offs and difficult decisions. I am proud of the way our ISB team dealt with these kinds of expectations, working to achieve mutually acceptable solutions, while keeping the ISB field operations running smoothly and efficiently.

Several examples of expectation and their potential impact on oil spill response have been addressed in this blog and in my previous blog #9. I am sure that you recognize, as have I, the enormity of this topic. We could identify so many other examples of both constructive and potentially destructive expectations. However, I believe that enough has been said already about the reality that



## CONTRIBUTED ARTICLE (CONTINUED)

expectations cannot be avoided. Let's turn for a minute to solutions on how to anticipate and deal with negative expectations. Three words, I believe, represent "Key" reminders of how we might think about and hopefully manage such expectations. And..., by the way, these three words will have unique importance and relevance as I show their connection with expectations in "marriage" and "golf". They are:

- INTEGRITY – not just telling the truth, but searching for truth regardless of its cost and impact on one's title or position, ego, prior beliefs, and path forward.
- COMPASSION – not just kindness, empathy and support, but the gathering and sharing of information for a mutual understanding leading to shared goals and expectations.
- COURAGE – not just unafraid, but willing to face difficult conflicts and challenges of truth, purpose or belief with respect, an open mind, and a forgiving heart.

I have to admit that this Blog #10 is a bit fat on oil spill issues, and a bit lean on marriage and golf. However, I promise that Part 3 of this Expectation Management series will change all that. I will use the above "Key" words for matters involving spills, spouses and golf balls. I will also tell you about a truly profound message of wisdom related to these key words that I will never forget. The "message" was given to me by my youngest son, at the age of 7 (almost 30 years ago), following our routine bedtime story – it has blessed and enhanced my life, work, and marriage ever since. Golf..., not so much!

THE NEXT EPISODE IN THIS SERIES WILL APPEAR IN JANUARY 2019

## SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

### UKRAINIAN SCIENTIST WINS COMPETITION FOR HIS WATER PURIFICATION DEVELOPMENT



December 9 - How to save water bodies from pollution with oil products – this issue is dealt with by a young Ukrainian scientist Nikolai Ivanchenko. He won the international competition in Mexico.

To remove from the water surface petroleum products, the Ukrainian special offers to spill adsorbent. In their patented method, the scientist uses as a basis the perlite – volcanic glass, cheap and available in Ukraine, which is used in construction and even gardening. However, for water purification young scientist modified it. As it keeps secret.

"It is porous and gets to the medium water-oil. In its pores comes both water and oil. But my adsorbent is good because it gidrogenizirovannye, that is, on its surface applied water repellent which repels water. Oil goes into the pores and stays there," explains the winner of the international competition. KTelegram / [Read more](#)

## TECHNICAL SUPPORT

### NEW VERSIONS OF CAMEOFM AND TIER2 SUBMIT ARE NOW AVAILABLE

For more information please contact Alan Finkelstein [afinkelsteinsfd@yahoo.com](mailto:afinkelsteinsfd@yahoo.com)

## EVENTS

### USA: CLEAN PACIFIC CONFERENCE – TIME LIMITED SPECIAL OFFER

Do you have leftover budget from 2018? Don't let it go to waste! [Register](#) your team for [CLEAN PACIFIC](#), taking place June 18-20 in Vancouver, British Columbia. In addition to saving on your 2019 budget, you'll also receive the deepest registration discounts available for CLEAN PACIFIC if you [register](#) before 12/28!

#### Individual Registration Rates:

Full Conference Pass: ~~\$849~~ **\$549 until 12/28**

Full Conference Pass – Government: ~~\$599~~ **\$299 until 12/28**

Expo Only Pass: ~~\$179~~ **\$99 until 12/28**

#### Group Registration Rates:

Unlimited Plan (Unlimited full conference attendees): ~~\$8,400~~ **\$6,900 until 12/28**

Corporate Plan (10 full conference attendees): ~~\$5,200~~ **\$3,600 until 12/28**

Plant Pack (5 full conference attendees): ~~\$2,600~~ **\$1,800 until 12/28**

Trio (3 full conference attendees): ~~\$1,900~~ **\$1,300 until 12/28**

To secure a group registration plan, contact [Jill Dean](#) at 713-343-1880 [More info](#)

## RESPONSE EVENTS DURING DECEMBER 2018 AND JANUARY 2019

At time of publication no requests have been received for posting of events taking place between 17<sup>th</sup> and 31<sup>st</sup> December

### UK & IRELAND: ISAA ALL IRELAND STEERING GROUP MEETING

Hillsborough, January 15. The next ISAA meeting will discuss setting standards for remediation of contaminated land and domestic heating oil spill clean-up. For more info contact [johnadawes@btinternet.com](mailto:johnadawes@btinternet.com)

### USA: MICHIGAN - 29th ANNUAL NO SPILLS CONFERENCE

Traverse City, January 30 – February 1. The theme is "Lessons from the Past and Planning for the Future." We are looking forward to a variety of presentations from local, regional and industry responders active in Michigan. [More info](#)

## UPCOMING EVENTS – JANUARY 2019 ONWARDS (UPDATED)

COUNTRY	2019	TITLE OF EVENT	LOCATION
For more information click on Title of Event			
USA	February 4-7	<a href="#">Gulf of Mexico Oil Spill &amp; Ecosystem Conference</a>	New Orleans, LA
KUWAIT	February 18-20	<a href="#">Int'l HSSE Environmental Conference &amp; Exhibition</a>	Kuwait
SAUDI ARABIA	February 19-21	<a href="#">PetroEnvironment 2019</a>	Al Khobar
UK	February 26	UK Spill Annual Members Meeting, Dinner, Awards	TBA
FRANCE	March 5	<a href="#">CEDRE Information Day</a>	Paris La Défense
UK	March 5-6	<a href="#">Chemical &amp; Product Tanker Conference</a>	London
KENYA	March 11-15	<a href="#">UN Environment Assembly</a>	Nairobi
UK	March 22	<a href="#">Marine Insurance London Conference</a>	London
USA	March 26-27	<a href="#">SCAA Annual Meeting &amp; Conference</a>	Arlington, VA
USA	April 16-18	<a href="#">Clean Waterways Conference</a>	Cincinnati, OH
USA	May 14-17	<a href="#">Hands-on OSR Strategies and Tactics Training</a>	Leonardo, NJ
UK	May 15-16	<a href="#">NCEC HAZMAT 2019 Conference</a>	Stratford on Avon
AUSTRALIA	May 20-24	<a href="#">SPILLCON 2019 Conference and Exhibition</a>	Perth
CROATIA	May 28-30	ADRIASPILLCON 2019 Conference and Exhibition	Opatija
CANADA	June 4-6	42 <sup>nd</sup> AMOP Technical Seminar on Environmental Contamination & Response	Halifax, Nova Scotia
BELGIUM	June 12-13	<a href="#">European Environmental Ports Conference 2019</a>	Antwerp
CANADA	June 18-20	<a href="#">Clean Pacific Conference and Exhibition</a>	Vancouver BC
USA	October 28-31	<a href="#">Clean Gulf Conference and Exhibition</a>	New Orleans LA
COUNTRY	2020	TITLE OF EVENT	LOCATION
USA	May 11-14	<a href="#">International Oil Spill Conference &amp; Exhibition</a>	New Orleans LA
To request posting of an event of interest to the Spill Response Community please send details to the Editor			

## LINKS FOR DOWNLOADING & READING OTHER PUBLICATIONS

<a href="#">Alga Chronicle</a>	News from Australia on Contaminated Land Remediation	November 2018
<a href="#">AMSA Aboard</a>	News from the Australian Maritime Safety Authority	December 2017
<a href="#">ATRAC Newsletter</a>	News from the Adriatic Training and Research Centre	Dec. 2018 issue
<a href="#">BIMCO Bulletin</a>	Marine and shipping-related news from BIMCO	Nov. 2018 issue
<a href="#">Newsletter from George Holliday</a>	News and commentary on HSE issues from George Holliday	On request email
<a href="#">Bow Wave</a>	Sam Ignarski's Ezine on Marine & Transport Matters	Current issue
<a href="#">Cedre Newsletter</a>	News from Cedre in Brittany, France	October 2018
<a href="#">Clean Nigeria Associates Newsletter</a>	News from CNA about Oil Spill Response in Nigeria	December 2018
<a href="#">EMSA Newsletter</a>	News from the European Maritime Safety Agency	December 2018
<a href="#">GISEA Quarterly Newsletter</a>	News from Global Initiative for South-East Asia	December 2018
<a href="#">IMO News Magazine</a>	News from the International Maritime Organization	Autumn 2018 issue
<a href="#">IMO Publishing News</a>	New and forthcoming IMO publications	December 2018
<a href="#">JOIFF "The Catalyst"</a>	Int'l Organisation for Industrial Hazard Management	October 2018 issue
<a href="#">Maritime Executive Magazine</a>	Often contains articles of interest to the spill response community	March-April, 2018
<a href="#">MOIG Newsletter</a>	News from the Mediterranean Oil Industry Group	October 2018 issue
<a href="#">Nautical Institute News</a>	News from the Nautical Institute	June-July, 2018
<a href="#">Navigate Response</a>	Global crisis communications network for shipping & marine	December 2018
<a href="#">NOAA OR&amp;R</a>	Weekly round-up of news from NOAA's Office of Response & Restoration	Latest issue2
<a href="#">OCIMF Newsletter</a>	News from the Oil Companies International Marine Forum	November 2018
<a href="#">OHMSETT Gazette</a>	Oil Spill Response Research & Renewable Energy Test Facility Quarterly	Fall 2018
<a href="#">PEMSEA E News</a>	Healthy oceans, people and economies in the East Asian Seas	October, 2018
<a href="#">Pollution Online Newsletter</a>	News for pollution prevention & control professionals	Dec 12, 2018



## LINKS FOR DOWNLOADING & READING OTHER PUBLICATIONS (CONTINUED)

[Safe Seas, Clean Seas](#)

[Salvage World](#)

[Sea Alarm Foundation Newsletter](#)

[Spill Alert](#)

[Technology Innovation News Survey](#)

[USA EPA Tech Direct](#)

Quarterly Newsletter from Maritime New Zealand

Quarterly Newsletter of the International Salvage Union

Oiled wildlife Preparedness and Response news from Sea Alarm

Newsletter from the UK Spill Association

News from US EPA – Contaminated Site Decontamination

Remediation of contaminated soil and groundwater

July 2018 issue

Current issue

Spring 2018 issue

December 2017

Oct.16-31, 2018

Dec. 1, 2018

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

## STOP PRESS – BREAKING NEWS – LATE REPORTS RECEIVED

### USA: NEW MEXICO - TENS OF THOUSANDS OF GALLONS OF GASOLINE SPILLED IN CHAMBERINO

December 14 - A hazmat crew is working to clean up a gasoline spill at 4220 Three Saints Road in Chamberino, the Doña Ana County Sheriff's Department confirmed Friday. ABC-7 has learned a 12 inch pipe burst, spilling approximately 30,000 gallons of gasoline into the ditch running alongside Three Saints Rd. The spill extended north and south approximately to W. Berino and Harding Road. ABC KVIA / [Read more](#) [Thanks to Don Johnston of ISCO Industry Partner, DG & Hazmat Group]

### USA: LOUISIANA – RESPONSE CONTINUES FOR SPILL NEAR PORT SULPHUR

December 14 - The wellhead at the source of the spill in Rattlesnake Bayou, Louisiana has been brought under control, but clean-up teams and response boats are still working to remove pollution from the waterway. "It's a big spill," said Patrick Harvey, emergency response director for Plaquemines Parish, speaking to local media. "Hopefully, the impact is not as bad as it was originally thought to be and, hopefully, they can get it cleaned up in a short period of time."

About 5,000 gallons of oil/water mixture has been recovered so far, but the exact extent of the spill is still unknown. The wellhead is still not fixed: responders are pumping saltwater into the well in order to keep back the mixture of oil, gas and water that began to spill out over the weekend, but a permanent repair has not yet been completed.

Louisiana's Oil Spill Coordinator's Office, the U.S. Coast Guard, NOAA, Hilcorp Energy and state and local agencies are working on the response. Over 100 personnel have been deployed for the containment and clean-up effort, along with ten response boats, five work boats, ten skimming vessels, two drum skimmers, ten airboats and three drones. The Maritime Executive / [Read more](#)

### USA: GULF OF MEXICO - U.S. COAST GUARD TO TACKLE MC20 OIL SPILL CONTAINMENT FOURTEEN YEARS AFTER THE LEAK LIKELY BEGAN

December 14 - The U.S. Coast Guard has partially assumed federal control over the operation to contain an oil discharge from the site of MC20 platform in the U.S. Gulf of Mexico that has likely been leaking since the platform toppled back in 2004. The platform, owned by Taylor Energy, LLC, was located in Mississippi Canyon Block 20, approximately 11 miles south of the mouth of the Mississippi River. It toppled in September 2004 during Hurricane Ivan after storm surge triggered an underwater mudslide. The incident left the platform well conductor pipes buried in more than 100 feet of mud and sediment, impacting 25 of 28 connected wells. The spill went unnoticed for years until 2008 when it was identified as the source of daily sheen reports. Now more fourteen years after the hurricane, crude oil continues to discharge from the site and surface on the Gulf waters.

In November, Coast Guard contracted a specialized team to conduct a comprehensive site survey, fabricate a containment system, and install it at the source to start collecting the oil, however, as of now, the team is still in the planning phase. The Coast Guard says weather and sea state will largely dictate operations, which is expected to involve cumulative weeks at sea, extensive dive and remotely operated vehicle (ROV) operations, and underwater equipment installation. gCaptain / [Read more](#)

Legal disclaimer: Whilst ISCO takes every care to ensure that information published in this newsletter is accurate unintentional mistakes can occur. No liability for consequences of errors is accepted but, if an error is brought to our attention, a correction will be printed in a following issue of this newsletter. Products and services featured in the ISCO Newsletter and/or the ISCO website, including the International Directory of Spill Response Supplies and Services, have not been tested, approved or endorsed by ISCO. Any claims made by suppliers of products or services are solely those of the suppliers and ISCO does not accept any liability for their accuracy. It should not be assumed that views and opinions expressed in linked reports, articles and other content reflect the views of the organization. Subscription is subject to acceptance of ISCO's Terms and Conditions as published on the website [www.spillcontrol.org](http://www.spillcontrol.org) and your acceptance of ISCO's Data Protection and Privacy Policy.