

## 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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ISCO is managed by an EXECUTIVE

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## INTERNATIONAL NEWS

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



**CLEAN WATERWAYS**  
Improving oil and hazardous materials spill prevention and response on and around inland river systems  
April 16-18, 2019 ♦ Cincinnati, OH  
Use VIP code ISCO for a \$50 registration discount



**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



**CLEAN PACIFIC**  
JUNE 18-20, 2019  
HYATT REGENCY VANCOUVER, BRITISH COLUMBIA  
CLEAN PACIFIC brings together the tight-knit response community in the Western United States and Canada to address spill prevention and response matters pertinent to that region's environmental sensitivities  
[LEARN MORE](#)



## IOPC FUNDS: ACTION PLAN FOR SETTING UP INTERNATIONAL HNS FUND

March 6 - IOPC Funds has published an update on the work carried out by the 1992 Fund Secretariat with regard to the administrative tasks necessary for the setting up of the HNS Fund and the preparations for the first session of the HNS Assembly. [IOPC Funds / Request more info](#)

## IPIECA CELEBRATES ITS 45TH ANNIVERSARY



March 13 - Today marks the 45th anniversary of the foundation of IPIECA. On 13 March 1974, IPIECA was established at the request of United Nations Environment (formerly UNEP) to develop a shared industry response to environmental and social issues.

IPIECA remains the global oil and gas industry's principal channel of engagement with the UN. As a recognised consultative body, IPIECA has forged strong partnerships with UN Environment, UN Framework Convention on Climate Change, International Maritime Organization, UN Working Group on Human Rights, the UN Environment Programme- World Conservation Monitoring Centre, and the UN Development Programme.

## MEMBERSHIP OF ISCO

[Benefits of Membership](#)

[Online Membership Application Form](#)

### ADVANCE YOUR CAREER BY GAINING PROFESSIONAL RECOGNITION.

Professional recognition is a visible mark of quality, competence and commitment, and can give you a significant advantage in today's competitive environment.

All who have the relevant qualifications and the required level of experience can apply for Professional Membership of ISCO.

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 Membership, Associate Membership (AMISCO), MEMBERSHIP (MISCO) or FELLOWSHIP (FISCO)

[About Professional Membership](#)

[Application Form \(Professional Membership\)](#)

### TO RECEIVE THE FREE ISCO NEWSLETTER

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)



For 45 years, IPIECA has been working with its members to advance environmental and social performance across the oil and gas industry. IPIECA facilitates collaboration and knowledge sharing between its members and stakeholders to improve operational and product performance to meet

society's expectations, and to contribute to the sustainable development agenda.

From a handful of founding members, IPIECA's global membership now stands at 39 companies, operating in 180 countries and employing 1.1 million people. Our 24 association members represent an additional network of more than 1800 oil and gas companies.

'Our growing membership continues to work together through IPIECA to advance the environmental and social performance of the industry's operations and products', said IPIECA's Executive Director, Brian Sullivan. 'The challenges of sustainable development, addressing climate change and meeting the world's energy needs are all areas where working in partnership is the key to success and where no individual company can succeed on their own.'

Looking forward, IPIECA will continue to use its unique position within the industry to develop, promote and share good practices with the oil and gas sector, forming new alliances and partnerships to continue advancing environmental and social performance across the industry. <http://www.ipieca.org/>

## STRENGTHENING OIL SPILL RESPONSE IN THE WIDER CARIBBEAN REGION



March 13 - Training is underway for oil spill response managers in the wider Caribbean region at a course\* in St Kitts and Nevis (11-14 March).

Participants from 15 countries\*\* are attending the IMO-funded event, which is focused on tactical aspects of spill preparedness and response, and applying incident management systems to assist effective coordination of spill response. The event is showcasing success stories of several countries in ratifying relevant international preparedness and response conventions, adopting national oil spill legislation and developing oil spill response capacity.

This training course supports the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the associated Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), in particular SDG 14 – Life Below Water, by developing capacity to protect marine and coastal ecosystems.

The course is taking place under the auspices of REMPEITC-Caribe, the Regional Marine Pollution Emergency, Information and Training Centre for the Caribbean, which was set up under the UN Environment's Regional Seas Programme for the Caribbean.

\* IMO-OPRC (Convention on Oil Pollution Preparedness, Response and Co-operation) Level 2 Training Course

\*\*Anguilla, Antigua and Barbuda, Aruba, Barbados, Cuba, Curacao, Dominica, Guyana, Grenada, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, St Kitts and Nevis, Suriname, Trinidad and Tobago, Venezuela [www.imo.org/EN/Pages/Default.aspx](http://www.imo.org/EN/Pages/Default.aspx)

## **EUROPE: NEW ENVIRONMENTAL COMMITMENT WORKSHOP DRAWS STRONG INTEREST**



March 13 - More than 90 representatives, from 23 EU countries and 53 organisations with coast guard-related functions gathered to attend the “New European environmental commitment” workshop held in EMSA on 27-28 February. The workshop was organised jointly by EMSA and the Italian chair of the European Coast Guard Functions Forum. Delegates joined from the European Commission, EFCA and Frontex as well as from regional organisations such as Ramoge, Helcom, and the Bonn Agreement.

The focus was on marine pollution prevention, response and enforcement from two main perspectives: risk assessment and education and training. On the first, participants emphasized the need to manage risk in terms of both human and asset resources, by developing regional tools, increasing data sharing and integration, and filling legislative gaps to ensure a consistent approach. On the second, the sectoral qualification framework (SQF) was highlighted as a valuable tool for the implementation of training schemes as well as for co-operation on coast guard functions. The workshop concluded with a round-up of existing best practices and technological developments, and underlined the need for further cross-sectoral co-operation. [EMSA Newsletter, March 2019](#)

## **MARCH 24, 2019 WILL BE THE 30TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE GROUNDING OF THE TANKER EXXON VALDEZ**



March 9 – In this article “Exxon Valdez, danger of offshore oil transport and production” Dan Haifley, author of the book “40 Years of Saving Our Shores”, reviews the incident and its implications for shoreline environments.

“March 24, 2019 will be the 30th anniversary of the grounding of the tanker Exxon Valdez on a reef near Prince William Sound, Alaska, which ruptured its hull and sent more than 10 million gallons of crude oil into the water, precipitating a nationally televised environmental disaster.

Much like the 1969 oil spill from an offshore oil platform off Santa Barbara 20 years before, the Exxon Valdez incident acquainted the television viewing public of the danger of producing and transporting oil offshore. It led to legislation to tighten rules on the transport of oil and very likely helped to fuel

the successful drive for the largest boundary for Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary.... Santa Cruz Sentinel / [Continue reading](#)

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

### **AUSTRALIA: NEW DRAFT GUIDE FOR THE STORAGE AND HANDLING OF NON-EXPLOSIVE DANGEROUS GOODS IN WESTERN AUSTRALIA**

March 7 - The Department of Mines, Industry Regulation and Safety (DMIRS) is seeking public comment on a draft guide developed for the storage and handling of non-explosive dangerous goods in Western Australia.

This guide provides practical guidance on how to comply with the Dangerous Goods Safety (Storage and Handling of Non-explosives) Regulations 2007, for persons who manufacture, import, supply, store or handle dangerous goods and all persons at dangerous goods sites. Western Australia Government / [Read more](#) [Thanks to Don Johnston of ISCO Industry Partner, DG & Hazmat Group]

## AUSTRALIA: GREAT AUSTRALIAN BIGHT OIL DRILLING PROPOSAL GAINS ATTENTION IN NORWAY

March 11 - A Norwegian MP has called for a state-owned Norwegian oil and gas company not to start drilling in the Great Australian Bight, while a scientist says noise from the project could hurt marine life.

The Norwegian Government has a 67 per cent majority stake in Equinor, which wants to start searching for oil off the coast of South Australia at a depth of almost 2.5 kilometres by the end of 2020. ABC News / [Read more](#)

## CANADA: SPILL RESPONSE VESSELS UNLOADED IN NANAIMO



*Photo: Western Canada Marine Response Corporation says three spill response boats will be delayed from entering service because there is no money available to crew and provision them due to delays surrounding the Trans Mountain pipeline project. CHRIS BUSH/ The News Bulletin*

February 28 - Three coastal spill response boats unloaded in Nanaimo are becalmed by funding delays.

Western Canada Marine Response Corporation received a shipment of three spill response boats Wednesday, but delays in starting the Trans Mountain pipeline expansion will keep the boats from entering service.

The three nearly identical 300-tonne craft, christened Strait Sentinel, Coastal Sentinel and Gulf Sentinel, were built and sea-trialled in Singapore by ASL Shipyards and

were hoisted from the deck and hold of the MV Happy Dynamic cargo ship at the Port of Nanaimo's Assembly Wharf this week.

WCMRC refers to the craft as coastal response vessels, a new class of spill response vessel for the company, designed to work in heavier seas by Vancouver-based naval architecture and marine engineering company, Robert Allan Ltd.

Nanaimo Bulletin / [Read more and watch video](#)

## CANADA: 'ONE IN 10 BILLION' CHANCE CELL PHONE COULD IGNITE VAPOURS AT GAS STATION: REPORT

March 12 - Ontario's safety regulator says it will permit cellphones at gas stations after a new report corrected the long-held assumption that they pose a fire risk at the pump.

The analysis by U.S. engineering consulting firm BakerRisk found that there is "one chance in 10 billion" that a cellphone could ignite gas vapours while refuelling.

"There is a very low probability of cell phones being able to ignite even an ideal flammable gas mixture in air," said BakerRisk in the February report commissioned by the Canadian Fuels Association. "There have been no fires reported at gas stations attributed to cell phone ignition in the last 20 years." With around one billion fills every year in Canada, according to BakerRisk, the cellphone "ignition probability" is one in 10 billion. CTV News / [Read more](#) [Thanks to Don Johnston if ISCO Industry Partner, GG & Hazmat Group]

## CANADA: WILL MORE PIPELINES STOP OIL TRAINS AND THE GROWING RISK OF DERAILMENTS?

*Photo: A Canadian Pacific Railway Ltd. train transporting oil leaves Hardisty, Alberta. Brett Gundlock/Bloomberg/File*

March 13 - There are now twice as many oil trains on Canadian rails as at the time of the Lac-Mégantic disaster - This month, the Transportation Safety Board confirmed that more than one million liters of oil were spilled when an eastbound oil train tipped onto a ranch near St. Lazare, Manitoba in mid-February.

It is frequently argued in Alberta that if Canadians don't want oil trains tipping into their streams and reservoirs, they should probably start approving some pipelines. "We can ship our energy products safely or we can ship them by rail," wrote Alberta



premier Rachel Notley in a 2018 op-ed. Sure enough, her government is now buying up rail cars to ship oil in spite of stonewalled construction on new export pipelines. National Post / [Read more](#)

### FRANCE: CEDRE – ACTIVITY REPORT FOR FEBRUARY 2019

March 15 - Following the CSL Virginia spill, Cedre continued to provide support to the Var authorities, in the form of weekly operation summaries and sample analysis. In another incident, we were called out by a commune in the Côtes d'Armor, following the discovery of old pollution by a heavy product (estimated volume of 1 m<sup>3</sup>).

Cedre has also been present in the Yvelines area since the 27th, at the request of Total, following the rupture of the Ile-de-France pipeline (PLIF), contaminating the ground and certain watercourses. We were called upon by the Loire-Atlantique authorities (DML, Delegation for the sea and shoreline) after tarballs washed up on a beach in Batz-sur-Mer (Cedre was able to confirm that the balls were paraffin).

The DDPP and the POLMAR correspondent for Hérault contacted us following reports of pollution in Thau lake caused by a deliberate release from a vehicle operating at a nearby worksite. Finally, Cedre was called upon in relation to a spill of foaming agent in a mangrove area within the premises of a refinery in the Caribbean. CEDRE / [Read more in the CEDRE Newsletter](#)

### ISRAEL OFFERS ASSISTANCE TO SOLOMON ISLANDS

March 13 - In expressing his sadness to the destruction of the UNESCO protected atoll, Israel's Ambassador to the Pacific, Tibor Schlosser, said his Government is offering five International Maritime Organisation (IMO) certified experts from the Ministry of Marine Environment Protection to help contain further destruction and the oil spill. "Our thoughts are with the communities and the beautiful people of the Solomon Islands who have been left without sources of sustenance following the destruction of their fishing grounds," he said. OnePNG / [Read more](#)

### ITALY: WORLD OCEAN CIRCULATION USER CONSULTATION MEETING 2019, ESRIN, FRASCATI, ITALY

March 15 - The aim of this meeting was to inventory user needs in relation to the acquisition and knowledge of surface currents on a global scale from embedded sensors on satellites. Cedre gave a presentation on the use of ocean data for tracking and modelling oil slick drift at sea. This presentation provided the audience with a better understanding of the data and models available on a global scale and the opportunity to talk to other users and modellers. CEDRE / [Read more in the CEDRE Newsletter](#)

### JAMAICA: WORKSHOP ON LIABILITY AND COMPENSATION



March 13 – From IOPC Funds - On 9 March 2019, the Director, José Maura and Legal Counsel, Kensuke Kobayashi, attended a one-day workshop on liability and compensation which was organised by the International Seabed Authority (ISA), the Centre for International Governance Innovation (CIGI) and the Commonwealth Secretariat.

The workshop, which took place in Kingston, Jamaica, where the Headquarters of the ISA is located, was attended by members of the Legal and Technical Commission who were seeking to acquire a basic understanding of the general rules and principles governing liability and compensation.

On 11 March, Mr Maura and Mr Kobayashi held a meeting with the Secretary-General of the ISA, Mr Michael W Lodge. They discussed in further detail the potential liability and compensation issues that could arise from the seabed activities and also the possible future cooperation between the two organisations. IOPC Funds / [Read more](#)

### NIGERIA: BUHARI REJECTS BILL TO AMEND NOSDRA ACT

March 13 - President Muhammadu Buhari, Wednesday, declined assent to the National Oil Spill Detection and Response Agency Act (Amendment) Bill handed by the National Assembly.

Buhari, in a letter addressed to the Senate President, Bukola Saraki and browse at plenary, stated his choice was pursuant to Section 58 (4) of the 1999 Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria (as amended).

Specifically, the President stated the bill undermined the powers of the Minister of Petroleum Resources and the features of the ministry.

He additionally rejected the imposition of 0.5 per cent of Operation Funds on oil corporations, explaining that this can create addition tax burden on oil companies working within the nation. The Emirate / [Read more](#)



### USA: UNDERWATER MUDSLIDES ARE THE BIGGEST THREAT TO OFFSHORE DRILLING, AND ENERGY COMPANIES AREN'T READY FOR THEM

*[The source of this article by Ian MacDonald, Florida State University is an independent and non-profit source of news, analysis and commentary from academic experts]*

March 11 - Like generals planning for the last war, oil company managers and government inspectors tend to believe that because they survived the 2010 BP Deepwater Horizon oil spill, they are ready for all contingencies. Today they are expanding drilling into deeper and deeper waters, and the Trump administration is opening more offshore areas to production.

In fact, however, the worst-case scenario for an oil spill catastrophe is not losing control of a single well, as occurred in the BP disaster. Much more damage would be done if one or more of the thousand or so production platforms that now blanket the Gulf of Mexico were destroyed without warning by a deep-sea mudslide.

Instead of one damaged wellhead, a mudslide would leave a tangled mess of pipes buried under a giant mass of sediments. It would be impossible to stop the discharge with caps or plugs, and there would be little hope of completing dozens of relief wells to stop discharge from damaged wells. Oil might flow for decades.

This scenario has already occurred, and we are seeing the results at a well off Louisiana, owned by Taylor Energy, that has been leaking oil since 2004. Based on this disaster and my 30 years of experience studying deep-sea oil and gas seeps, I believe that regulators and energy companies should be doing much more to prevent such catastrophes at other sites. San Francisco Chronicle / [Read more](#)

[Editor: The Taylor Energy spill and its cause appears to be a very exceptional and unusual occurrence but having happened once, it could happen again]

### USA: HAZSUB SPILL RESPONSE PLANS

*An excerpt from article by Denis Bryant of Bryant's Maritime Consulting.*

On 25 June 2018, the EPA issued a notice proposing no new HazSub spill prevention and response requirements under OPA 90. On 8 February 2019, the US Coast Guard issued notices withdrawing its previously proposed rulemakings for HazSub spill response plans for tank vessels and marine transportation-related facilities. The Coast Guard stated in those notices that the proposed rules are no longer appropriate due to the current state of spill response in the chemical industry. The Coast Guard avers that it remains committed to fulfilling its OPA 90 mandate and intends to better analyze the current spill response capabilities of the chemical industry before conducting any further rulemaking in this area.

In my opinion, the EPA action is contrary to the Congressional mandate. The failed Coast Guard rulemaking, on the other hand, constitutes a failure of imagination. While the chemical industry is to be lauded for its safety record, there are certain measures, required by OPA 90, that appear to be missing. The law requires the appointment of qualified individuals empowered to implement spill response plans and the sharing of those plans with the federal government. The chemical carriers and facilities are required to have under contract spill response contractors (similar to OSROs) and salvage and marine firefighting (SMFF) resource providers so that response contracts do not have to be negotiated after a casualty occurs. Regular drills and exercises are also required.

I recommend that the Coast Guard meet with the marine transportation chemical sector and determine which current industry measures can be considered as providing an equivalent level of safety to measures mandated in OPA 90. The gaps identified can then be filled in a rulemaking. This will meet the Congressional requirements while simultaneously improving safety, security, and protection of the marine environment. Marine Link / [Read the complete version of this article](#)

## NEWS FROM ISCO MEMBERS

**AQUA-GUARD** is pleased to report that they have been able to assist several clients over the past several months in Latin America with their spill response needs in both training and real spill situations. Aqua-Guard has supplied a myriad of equipment ranging from spill response trailer systems equipped with state of the art RBS Triton™ 35, 60 and 150 skimming machines, power units, pumping systems & storage tanks for near shore response along with Airflex™ neoprene boom systems on powered reels for open water containment. Aqua-Guard completed commissioning and training sessions in Spanish, helping train the trainer in their local language. Thanks so much to Aqua-Guard's Latam team for going the extra mile to help our local customers. See more here: <http://aquaguard.com/news/aqua-guard-opens-with-strong-first-quarter>

**OHMSETT** Staff to Exhibit at [Clean Waterways](#) - Ohmsett, The National Oil Spill Response Research & Renewable Energy Test Facility will have an exhibit at the Clean Waterways Conference April 16-18, 2019, at the Hyatt Regency in Cincinnati, Ohio. CLEAN Waterways will focus on the issues most important to improving oil and hazardous materials spill prevention and response on

## NEWS FROM ISCO MEMBERS (CONTINUED)

inland river systems, will focus on spill prevention and response for oil and hazardous materials in the marine and inland environment. Stakeholders from government, environmental, emergency planning and emergency response industries will come together to discuss lessons-learned, hear best practices, and view new products and solutions from a wide-variety of companies.

**DESMI** presents three new videos - **POLLCAT WORKBOAT**: DESMI presents a new video about our PollCat Workboat which is able to handle: Mechanical oil spill response, dispersant oil spill response, normal harbor duties and many other duties. [View the video](#)  
**TRAINING IN ECUADOR**: A new video from our Oil Spill Response Training Course in Inland Water with EP Petroecuador Esmeraldas in January 2019. Here was another group of professionals successfully trained in Oil Spill Response. [View the video](#)  
**SEA TURTLE SARGAZO PROJECT**: DESMI presents a new video about our Sea Turtle Sargazo Project. Watch the equipment in action in this video from Mexico 2019. DESMI Sargazo Mesh Boom performs in any weather condition, shallow water and rocky beaches. [View the video](#)

## TRAINING

### LLOYDS MARITIME ACADEMY: ADVANCED CERTIFICATE IN DESIGNATED PERSON ASHORE

Starts: 10 April 2019 | Studied online. Over 12 weeks, you will learn: how to ensure the safe operation of each vessel + to monitor safety and pollution-prevention aspects + to guarantee adequate resources and shore-based support + to provide a link between the Managing Company and those on board, and more. [More info](#)

## CONTRACTS & TENDERS

*ISCO Members are invited to post tender invitations in this section*

### OPEN TENDER NOTIFICATION SERVICE

This is a subscription service. [Have a look to see examples of open tenders.](#)

## NEW PRODUCTS & SERVICES

### CONFINED SPACE GAS DETECTOR / MONITOR / COMMUNICATOR

March 14 - Blackline Safety's G7c turns three devices into one. Not only is it a gas detector and lone worker safety monitor, it now functions as a walkie-talkie too. [More info](#)

## MESSAGES RECEIVED FROM EVENT ORGANISERS

Arctic Oil & Gas, London, May 20-21 [Preliminary Agenda Released](#)

Marine Insurance, London, March 22 [Registration for this event will close on 20<sup>th</sup> March](#)

Clean Pacific, Vancouver, June 18-20 [Early Bird Registration Rates expire on 22<sup>nd</sup> March](#)

## RESPONSE EVENTS DURING MARCH 2019

### GUYANA: -NATIONAL WORKSHOP ON OPRC CONVENTION

Guyana, March 18-21. More info [carla@cep.unep.org](mailto:carla@cep.unep.org)

### CÔTE D'IVOIRE: REGIONAL WORKSHOP ON RATIFICATION AND EFFECTIVE IMPLEMENTATION OF IMO CONVENTIONS RELATING TO OIL SPILL RESPONSE PREPAREDNESS AND RESPONSE

Abidjan, March 18-22. GI WACAF Sub-regional workshop on the ratification and effective implementation of IMO conventions relating to oil spill response preparedness and response and to liability and compensation [More info](#)

### RUSSIA: XX ANNIVERSARY INTERNATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL FORUM

St. Petersburg, March 21-22. On March 21-22, 2019, representatives of the Baltic countries will gather in Saint-Petersburg (Russia) for the 20th time to exchange experiences, discuss the achieved results and future plans, moreover ways of reaching the ambitious goals in conservation and protection of the Baltic Sea environment. [More info](#)

## RESPONSE EVENTS DURING MARCH 2019 (CONTINUED)

### UK: MARINE INSURANCE LONDON CONFERENCE

London, March 22. London's first and only premier marine insurance conference where Insurers, Brokers and third parties can discuss the latest developments in the market. View the agenda at <https://marineinsurancelondon.com/agenda/>

### USA: SCAA ANNUAL MEETING & CONFERENCE

Arlington VA, March 26-27. Gather with the leaders in the spill control industry and gain exposure to cutting edge business information specifically targeting spill control professionals during SCAA's Annual Meeting & Conference. Nowhere else will you learn from and exchange information with the very best that the spill control industry has to offer. [More info and registration](#)

### HAITI: - NATIONAL WORKSHOP ON MARPOL CONVENTION

Haiti, March 27-29. More info [carla@cep.unep.org](mailto:carla@cep.unep.org)

## UPCOMING EVENTS – APRIL 2019 ONWARDS (UPDATED)

COUNTRY	2019	TITLE OF EVENT	LOCATION
<b>For more information click on Title of Event</b>			
UK	April 1-2	<a href="#">IOPC Funds Meetings at IMO</a>	London
TUNISIA	April 2-4	<a href="#">W'shop on Crisis Management &amp; Decision Making</a>	Tunis
USA	April 16-18	<a href="#">Clean Waterways Conference</a>	Cincinnati, OH
USA	May 13-15	<a href="#">Elastec's Spring 2019 River Spill Workshop</a>	Carmi, IL
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
SINGAPORE	May 20-24	<a href="#">INTERTANKO Annual Tanker Event</a>	Singapore
AUSTRALIA	May 20-24	<a href="#">SPILLCON 2019 Conference and Exhibition</a>	Perth
UK	May 21-22	<a href="#">Arctic Oil &amp; Gas Conference</a>	London
CROATIA	May 28-30	<a href="#">ADRIASPILLCON 2019 Conference and Exhibition</a>	Opatija
CANADA	June 4-6	<a href="#">42<sup>nd</sup> AMOP Technical Seminar on Environmental Contamination &amp; Response</a>	Halifax, Nova Scotia
BELGIUM	June 12-13	<a href="#">European Environmental Ports Conference 2019</a>	Antwerp
CANADA	June 17	<a href="#">APICOM General Managers Meeting</a>	Vancouver BC
UK	June 17-21	<a href="#">IOPC Funds' Short Course</a>	London
CANADA	June 18-20	<a href="#">Clean Pacific Conference and Exhibition</a>	Vancouver BC
NEW ZEALAND	Sept. 3-5	<a href="#">Ecoforum Conference 2019</a>	Auckland
UK	Sept. 11-12	<a href="#">The Spill Response Expo</a>	Birmingham
USA	October 7-10	<a href="#">Elastec's Fall 2019 River Spill Workshop</a>	Carmi, IL
USA	October 28-31	<a href="#">Clean Gulf Conference and Exhibition</a>	New Orleans LA
TUNISIA	Nov. 13-14	Incident Management System Training Workshop	Tunis
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

Note: Where event titles are not shown in blue ink it just means that the relevant websites are not yet available

## LINKS FOR DOWNLOADING & READING OTHER PUBLICATIONS

[Alga Chronicle](#)

[AMSA Aboard](#)

[ATRAC Newsletter](#)

[AUSMEPA Bulletin](#)

[BIMCO Bulletin](#)

[Newsletter from George Holliday](#)

[Bow Wave](#)

[Cedre Newsletter](#)

[Clean Nigeria Associates Newsletter](#)

[EMSA Newsletter](#)

[GISEA Quarterly Newsletter](#)

[IMO News Magazine](#)

[IMO Publishing News](#)

[JOIFF "The Catalyst"](#)

News from Australia on Contaminated Land Remediation

News from the Australian Maritime Safety Authority

News from the Adriatic Training and Research Centre

News from the Australian Marine Environment Protection Assoc'n

Marine and shipping-related news from BIMCO

News and commentary on HSE issues from George Holliday

Sam Ignarski's Ezine on Marine & Transport Matters

News from Cedre in Brittany, France

News from CNA about Oil Spill Response in Nigeria

News from the European Maritime Safety Agency

News from Global Initiative for South-East Asia

News from the International Maritime Organization

New and forthcoming IMO publications

Int'l Organisation for Industrial Hazard Management

November 2018

December 2017

Dec. 2018 issue

Summer 2019

Feb. 2019 issue

On request email

Current issue

February 2019

December 2018

March 2019

December 2018

Winter 2018 /19

February 2019

January 2019 issue



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

<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	Jan. 2019 issue
<a href="#">Nautical Institute News</a>	News from the Nautical Institute	March, 2019
<a href="#">Navigate Response</a>	Global crisis communications network for shipping & marine	March 2019
<a href="#">NOAA OR&amp;R</a>	Weekly round-up of news from NOAA's Office of Response & Restoration	Latest issue
<a href="#">Oceanbuzz</a>	Newsletter giving news on the Ocean Technology Industry	March 12, 2019
<a href="#">OCIMF Newsletter</a>	News from the Oil Companies International Marine Forum	February 2019
<a href="#">OHMSETT Gazette</a>	Oil Spill Response Research & Renewable Energy Test Facility Quarterly	Fall 2018
<a href="#">PEMSEA Newsletter</a>	Healthy oceans, people and economies in the East Asian Seas	December, 2018
<a href="#">Pollution Online Newsletter</a>	News for pollution prevention & control professionals	March 13, 2019
<a href="#">Safe Seas, Clean Seas</a>	Quarterly Newsletter from Maritime New Zealand	July 2018 issue
<a href="#">Salvage World</a>	Quarterly Newsletter of the International Salvage Union	Current issue
<a href="#">Sea Alarm Foundation Newsletter</a>	Oiled wildlife Preparedness and Response news from Sea Alarm	Spring 2018 issue
<a href="#">Spill Alert</a>	Newsletter from the UK Spill Association	December 2017
<a href="#">Technology Innovation News Survey</a>	News from US EPA – Contaminated Site Decontamination	Jan. 16-31, 2019
<a href="#">USA EPA Tech Direct</a>	Remediation of contaminated soil and groundwater	Mar. 1, 2019

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

## INCIDENT REPORTS (IN CHRONOLOGICAL ORDER)

### USA: NORTH CAROLINA - CONTAINER SHIP CONTAINERS COLLAPSE, LOSS



March 7 - Container ship HELSINKI BRIDGE berthed at Wilmington, North Carolina, USA, on Mar 6, a week behind schedule. The ship went into trouble on the way from Boston to Wilmington on Feb 27, several containers stacks toppled, as can be seen on photo. Highly probably, some containers were lost overboard.

Maritime

Bulletin / [Read more](#) [Thanks to Voytenko Mikhail, [vmd@odin.tc](mailto:vmd@odin.tc)]

### SOLOMON ISLANDS: UPDATES ON THE SPILL RESPONSE

**March 7 – From the Government of Australia** - On 1 March, the Minister for Foreign Affairs, Senator the Hon Marise Payne, announced Australia's mobilisation of a targeted, two-week pollution mitigation and remediation sweep. The operation, which commenced on 7 March, involves the deployment of specialised equipment and vessels from Australia and Honiara. An eight person spill response crew from AMSA has been deployed, together with a Paramedic and a liaison officer from Emergency Management Australia. In addition, further vessels, specialist equipment and personnel from Australia were deployed, including embedded personnel from Maritime New Zealand. Efforts are focused on targeted oil spill mitigation and remediation activities offshore in Kangava Bay. Australia expects to hand its component of the operation over to the commercial entities from 18 March. Australia DFAT / [Read more](#)

**March 13 - Status of request for assistance** - On 13 March 2019, the Solomon Islands Government, through the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and External Trade, requested technical assistance to UNOCHA and its UN Environment/OCHA Joint Unit to support the Ministry of Environment and Climate Change and the Ministry of Fisheries and Marine Resources as lead response agencies on ecological assessments, ecotoxicology and livelihood impact assessments. Global Disaster Alert and Coordination System / [Read more](#)

**March 14 - Salvors plug Solomon Trader oil spill, Insurer Korea P&I says it is close to ending further spills from grounded bulker.** They have removed 230 tonnes of bunkers from the 74,000-dwt Solomon Trader (built 1994), according to the vessel's protection and indemnity insurer Korea P&I.

Lightering of the fuel oil from the stricken bulker began Sunday, it said, following the arrival of a tank barge brought in from Vanuatu.

Korea P&I said the operation to take fuel off the vessel is scheduled to be completed "in the coming days." "Pumping and skimming operations in the flooded engine room have collected remaining oil from damaged tanks that had been leaking to the ocean through a hull breach. This has resulted in mitigation of escaping oil over the past two weeks," it said. "Only minor residual amounts have been detected entering the water since. The wreck's stern is surrounded by oil spill containment booms." Salvage company Resolve Marine has been appointed by Korea P&I. It now has 30 salvage experts on site with specialist salvage equipment to tackle the incident. Trade Winds / [Read more](#)

### FRANCE: BURNING GRIMALDI CON/RO SINKS IN BAY OF BISCAY



Photo: Grande America's last moments (Marine Nationale)

March 12 - The master ordered abandon ship at 0200 hours, and the crew of the Royal Navy frigate HMS Argyll worked through difficult conditions to bring America's crew on board. All survived, but some required medical treatment, and they were evacuated by helicopter on Monday morning. In a statement, shipowner Grimaldi Group said that the fire was caused by "some cargo loaded on board the vessel." Grimaldi is now arranging for pollution prevention measures to mitigate any potential damage to the marine environment resulting from the vessel's sinking. The Maritime Executive / [Read more](#)

**March 13 - Oil Slick Spotted Near Sunken Grande America** - French authorities said an oil slick measuring several miles long has been spotted in the vicinity of the sunken ship Grande America in the Bay of Biscay one day after its sinking. The oil was spotted during an overflight of a French Navy Maritime Patrol Aircraft and confirmed by the response vessel VN Sapeur which remains in the area. France's Maritime Prefecture for the Atlantic has ordered the immediate departure of the anti-pollution vessel Argonaute from Brest. The vessel is expected to arrive in the area on Thursday morning. The agency reports that the spill measures ten kilometers long by one kilometer wide. It has requested the assistance from the European Agency for Maritime Safety (EMSA). gCaptain / [Read more](#)

**March 13 - 'Dangerous materials' in sunken cargo ship off France:** authorities - French authorities said Wednesday that an Italian cargo ship which sank in the Atlantic was carrying 45 containers of "dangerous materials." "For now the possible pollution risk consists mainly of the 2,200 tons of heavy fuel oil onboard," Jean-Louis Lozier, head of the regional maritime authority, told reporters in Brest on France's Brittany coast. Lozier said the ship's Italian owner Grimaldi had indicated that 365 shipping containers were onboard, "of which 45 are carrying dangerous materials," as well as around 2,000 vehicles. He declined to identify what might be in the containers. Escaped fuel could begin reaching the French coast along the Gironde and Charente-Maritime departments near Bordeaux in the coming days based on current wind forecasts, Lozier said. France 24 / [Read more](#)

**March 14 - EMSA contingency plan for emergencies activated in response to the Grande America accident** - EMSA's CleanSeaNet satellite service was activated by the French authorities to support in the detection of oil spills, lost containers and wreckage. Both SAR (synthetic aperture radar) and optical acquisitions have been provided. In addition to the detection of containers, the images identified an oil spill. CleanSeaNet satellite services will continue to monitor the area of the incident over the coming days to track the evolution of the spill and localisation of containers. Two of EMSA's standby oil spill response vessels are in preparation for deployment and are scheduled to be on site tomorrow afternoon (15 March).

The VN Partisan has on board the standard equipment arrangement for mechanical recovery of oil. The arrangement comprises sweeping arms, an offshore boom, and high capacity skimmer system. It is supported by radar-based oil slick detection and a remotely piloted aircraft system (quadcopter) operated by a trained pilot. The heated storage capacity of the vessel for recovered oil is 1 000 m3. The Ria de Vigo also has on board the standard equipment arrangement for mechanical recovery of oil. The arrangement comprises sweeping arms, an offshore boom, and high capacity skimmer system. It is supported by radar-based oil slick detection and a remotely piloted aircraft system (quadcopter) operated by a trained pilot. The heated storage capacity for recovered oil is 1 500 m3. EMSA / [Read more](#)

### ITALY: CONTAINER SHIP COLLIDED WITH TUG, CAUSING FUEL LEAK, RAVENNA

March 13 - Container ship BF PHILIPP allided with moored tug while entering port Of Ravenna, Italy, in the morning Mar 13. BF PHILIPP struck tug with her bulbous bow, breaching hull in fuel tank area. Diesel fuel leaked into water. Antipollution operation was launched, no information yet on leaked fuel quantity. Maritime Bulletin / [Read more](#) [Thanks to Voytenko Mikhail, [vmd@odin.tc](mailto:vmd@odin.tc)]

### TRINIDAD & TOBAGO: THIS IS THE VIEW FROM THE HYATT



March 13 - The Environmental Management Authority (EMA) is investigating the source of an oil spill in the waters off the Hyatt Regency Trinidad hotel in Port of Spain.

Photos of the spill began appearing on social media yesterday morning, and while the source of the spill has not yet been officially identified, Gary Aboud, of Fishermen and Friends of the Sea (FFOS), pointed to an industrial barge docked at the Port of Spain harbour. Most of the oil had already dissipated by 4.30 p.m. yesterday.

In a news release, the EMA said: "We are working along with our partner agencies, including the Ministry of Energy and Energy Affairs, Institute of Marine Affairs, Coast Guard, Maritime Services Division and the Office of Disaster Preparedness and Management, to determine its source." Trinidad Express / [Read more](#)

### USA: MISSISSIPI – TUG CAPSIZED, FUEL SPILL

March 14 - Tug pushing barge Michelle Anne capsized and sank in Mississippi River, 4 crew went to barge, which remained afloat, and were later picked up, safe and sound. Fuel leak spotted. Maritime Bulletin / [Read more](#) [Thanks to Voytenko Mikhail, [vmd@odin.tc](mailto:vmd@odin.tc)]

### MALAYSIA: UPDATE – DUMPING OF CHEMICAL WASTE IN PASIR GUDANG

*Photo: Emergency personnel wearing protective suits clean up the Sungai Kim Kim River in Pasir Gudang, Johor, on March 14, 2019.*

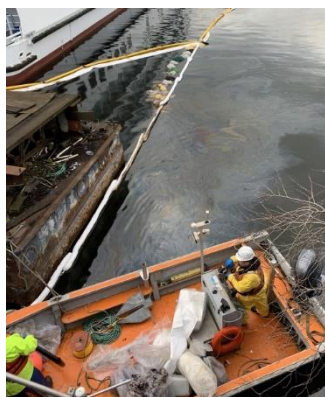
March 16 - The [illegal dumping of toxic chemicals into a river in Pasir Gudang, Johor](#), has sickened more than 2,700 people, including hundreds of students. Malaysia's Environment Minister Yeo Bee Yin said on Wednesday (March 13) that a number of chemicals have been ascertained from the samples taken. They include benzene, acrolein, acrylonitrile, hydrogen chloride, methane, toluene, xylene, ethylbenzene and d-limonene. Straits Times / [Read more](#)

Related Reports - [Pasir Gudang Chemical Spill: Number of People Affected Rises to 3,555](#) + [Pasir Gudang Toxic Spill: No Anomalies Detected in Singapore's Air & Water Quality](#) + [Chemical Fumes in Johor's Pasir Gudang](#)

[Were from Dumped Oil Waste: Report](#) [Thanks to Don Johnston of ISCO Industry Partner, DG & Hazmat Group]



### USA: NOAA OR&R – FEBRUARY 2019 INCIDENT RESPONSES



*Photo: On Feb. 2, 2019, the U.S. Coast Guard Sector Puget Sound contacted NOAA regarding a release of Bunker C fuel oil into North Lake Union in Seattle.*

Every month our Emergency Response Division provides scientific expertise and services to the U.S. Coast Guard on everything from running oil spill trajectories to model where the spill may spread, to possible effects on wildlife and fisheries, and estimates on how long the oil may stay in the environment.

This month OR&R responded to 17 incidents, including oil discharges, sunken vessels, and hazardous material releases.

Here is the complete list of last month's incidents, click on the links to find out more:

- [Northlake Way Bunker C Seepage](#)
- [Hobby Airport JP-8 Discharge](#)
- [Mystery Sheen - Cape Lookout State Park](#)
- [FV Big John Vessel Grounding](#)
- [T/V Ed McLaughlin Sinking Ohio River](#)
- [Trawler Aground Swinomish Channel, Puget Sound](#)
- [Lindsey Lake Tanker Spill](#)
- [FV Pacific 1](#)
- [West Cameron 398 Unknown Sheen](#)
- [M/V St Clair Vessel Fire Maumee River](#)
- [FV Kaia](#)
- [Cargo Plane Crash, Trinity Bay, TX](#)
- [Sump Pump Discharge into Lake St. Clair](#)
- [Guardian Plane Search](#)
- [FV Arctic Storm](#)
- [LC Don Quixote](#)
- [Olympia Brewery Transformer Spill](#)

[Read more and see more photos](#)

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