

## ISCO & THE ISCO NEWSLETTER

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

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

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## INTERNATIONAL NEWS

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

**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



**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](#)



The premier annual event for planning, preparedness and response for oil and hazardous materials spills

October 28-31, 2019  
New Orleans, LA

[LEARN MORE HERE](#)

## INTERNATIONAL GROUP P&I SIGNS MOU



April 12 - The International Group and the Chinese Ship-Sourced Oil Pollution Compensation Fund (COPC Fund) signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) in Shanghai on Wednesday 10th April to strengthen the ties between the two organisations and to ensure that the International Group Clubs and the Fund work in a collective and co-operative manner to handle claims in the event of a future ship sourced oil spill in Chinese waters. IG P&I / [Read more](#)

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## INTERNATIONAL NEWS (CONTINUED)

### OCEANIA OIL SPILL WORKSHOP FOCUS ON MARINE PROTECTION

April 13 – Lieutenant-Colonel Petero Talemaivatuwiri greeted participants and facilitators at the Oceania Oil Spill Workshop held at the Sofitel Resort on Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> April 2019. Participants in the workshop comprised representatives from the United States, Fiji, Marshall Islands, New Zealand, Tonga, Tuvalu and Samoa. Fiji Sun / [Read more](#)

### MOIG & ATRAC SIGN MOU

April 18 - The Mediterranean Oil industry Group (MOIG) Director was invited by the Adriatic Training and Research Centre for Accidental Marine Pollution Preparedness and Response (ATRAC), Technical Partner of MOIG, based in Rijeka in Croatia.

ATRAC is an institution established by the Primorje-Gorski Kotar County (Croatia) within the EU financed project – HAZADR and its main mission is to provide training and education to the personal from all Adriatic countries in all matters related to oil spill preparedness and response, to improve cross-border cooperation and communication, to harmonize national legislations within the region by continuously monitoring all the activities related to prevention, preparedness and response to accidental marine pollution in the whole Adriatic-Ionian region.

The meeting concluded with the signature of a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between ATRAC and MOIG. Both parties agreed to further strengthen collaboration and work together towards common objectives related to oil spill prevention, preparedness and response in the Adriatic and the Mediterranean Regions. MOIG / [Read more in the April issue of the MOIG Newsletter](#)

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

### CANADA: ONTARIO - SCIENTISTS GEAR UP FOR YEAR TWO OF OIL SPILL RESEARCH IN EXPERIMENTAL LAKES AREA



*Photo: A drone photo of a shoreline enclosure at the Experimental Lakes Area in northwestern Ontario in 2017. This enclosure was set up as a test; salt was added to demonstrate there was no exchange of water between the lake and the enclosure. Scientists will apply oil to enclosures like this one. (Scott Higgins/IISD-ELA)*

April 15 - Researchers are gearing up for phase two of a project involving simulating oil spills at a freshwater research facility in northwestern Ontario.

The project, which began in the summer of 2018, is looking at the impact of oil spills on freshwater environments, as well as examining cleanup methods, explained Vince Palace, head research scientist for

the Experimental Lakes Area, which is run by the International Institute for Sustainable Development (IISD-ELA).

Palace noted that, in particular, they're looking for environmentally friendly ways to clean up "residual oil."

Researchers will experiment with use of shoreline cleaners, and other treatment methods such as using nutrients to stimulate natural bacteria that eat the oil, he said.

The IISD-ELA wants stakeholders, including the public, and industry to be engaged in the project, which could impact future policies, and oil spill cleanup procedures, Palace said. CBC News / [Read more](#)



## CANADA: NORTHWEST B.C. LEADERS DIVIDED OVER OIL TANKER BAN

*Photo: Joy Thorkelson, president of the United Fishermen and Workers Union (FAWU-UNIFOR) argues for the oil tanker ban at the Prince Rupert hearings on April 16. (Shannon Lough / The Northern View)*



April 18 - Senate hearings in Prince Rupert and Terrace show Bill C-48 is at a crossroads.

On April 16 and 17, more than 50 witnesses spoke to senators in Prince Rupert and Terrace on Bill C-48, legislation that would effectively ban more than 12,500 metric tonnes of persistent oil and crude oil from being transported from the Alaskan border down British Columbia's north coast to the tip of Vancouver Island.

Midway through day one, Alberta Senator Paula Simons spoke on what she'd heard so far. "We heard from delegations of hereditary and elected chiefs who are passionately in favour of C-48, because they're concerned the effect a potential oil spill can have not just on their fisheries, but on their culture, their spirituality, their relationship to the land and the sea," Sen. Simons said.

In the second half of the day, three local leaders from the municipal, provincial and federal level filled the third panel — all in support of Bill C-48. Dawson Creek Mayor Dale Bumstead described oil as a "world-class" resource that can open up access to global markets. "It's going to create a long term economic benefit for our community, our region, our province, and our country," Bumstead said.

Senators will take the conversation to Alberta and Saskatchewan next, wrapping up public hearings in early May before making their decision to approve or amend Bill C-48. Terrace Standard / [Read more and watch video clips](#)  
Read another related report in [The Globe and Mail](#)

## NEW ZEALAND: COASTAL BIRD SURVEY HIGHLIGHTS KEY RISK AREAS FOR OIL SPILLS

April 16 - Greater Wellington Regional Council conducted a coastal bird survey recently to assess where wildlife would be most affected by an oil spill around our region's coast.

Senior environmental scientist at Greater Wellington Roger Uys says the region needs to be prepared for oil spills and part of that includes looking after our precious wildlife.

The survey, mandated by Maritime New Zealand, saw Wildlife Management International's Nikki MacArthur and Samantha Ray walk the region's 500 kilometre coastline to gather information on locations of coastal birds and the population numbers for each species.

"The survey has given us a much better idea of where our high risk areas would be if an oil spill were to happen," Roger says. "It has also given us a better insight into how healthy the populations of some of our rare and threatened species are." Roger says the survey has improved our knowledge of threatened species such as banded dotterel, which are nationally vulnerable, and reef heron, which are nationally endangered. Scoop / [Read more](#)

## NIGERIA: ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT: STAKEHOLDERS DECRY CONFLICTING ROLES OF REGULATORY AGENCIES

April 18 - Stakeholders in the Niger Delta have identified overlapping roles of regulatory agencies as a major factor contributing to conflict in the management of the polluted environment of the region. They also indicted the government, operating oil companies and host communities for not doing enough to minimise conflict in environmental management in the region.

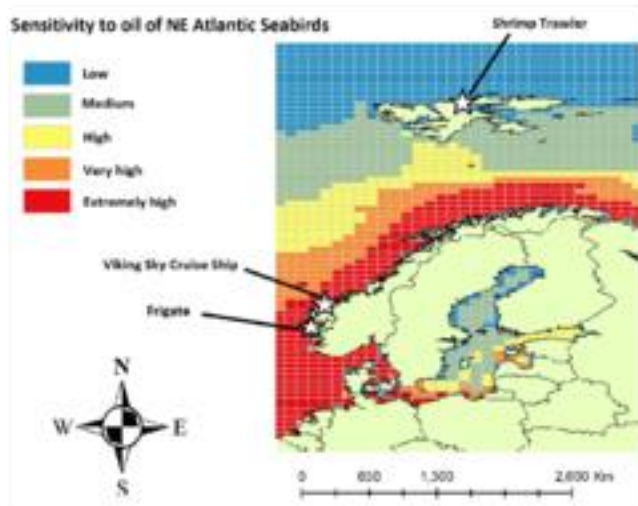
The stakeholders made their position known during a one-day interactive session on "the challenges faced by environmental regulators during oil spill management" organised in Yenagoa, Bayelsa State, by the Centre for Environment, Human Rights and Development (CEHRD) with support from the Embassy of the Netherlands, Abuja. Independent / [Read more](#)

## NORWAY: RECENT NEAR MISSES IN THE NORWEGIAN WATERS AND SEABIRDS

April 4 - The eastern North Atlantic Ocean holds large concentrations of breeding and wintering seabirds. Since November there has been three incidents in the Norwegian waters involving vessels that could have resulted in major oil spills: a frigate that collided with a Malta-registered oil tanker off Bergen in November 2018; a shrimp trawler that ran aground in north Svalbard in December 2018;

## NEWS REPORTS FROM AROUND THE WORLD (CONTINUED)

and the Viking Sky cruise ship that lost power off Hustadvika in March 2019. If conditions were different, how would a major oil spill at these locations affect the wintering seabirds?



*Left: Map illustrating the recent incidents and the vulnerability of the seabirds to oil (downloadable version available below the text)*

We can explore this by looking at our spatial OVI map for this region for seabirds during non-breeding season. The map highlights the sensitivity of seabirds to oil spills during non-breeding season, from low to extremely high (note that this is based on seabird distributions only so it does not consider seabird densities). Looking at the incident in Svalbard, if an oil spill had occurred it is unlikely to have had a major negative impact on wintering seabird populations, as we would expect, with few seabirds present in these waters at this time of year. Conversely, the incidents off Bergen and Hustadvika could have had a greater negative impact on non-breeding seabirds, due to the extremely low sensitivity of seabirds in this area. A

large number of species winter off the coast of Norway and their behaviour (specifically spending a large amount of time on the water) means they are susceptible to oil spills. The species potentially affected by the oil spill would have included large numbers of Razorbill, Little Auk, Puffin, Guillemot, Common Scoter and Great Northern Diver. Fortunately, for these seabirds and other marine life, these incidents did not result in any major spills. App4Sea / [Read more](#)

## USA: OR&R PARTICIPATES IN SEA GRANT OIL SPILL WORKSHOP



April 12 - On March 29, Sea Grant hosted an Oil Spill Workshop in Virginia Beach, Virginia.

Historically, oil spill workshops have primarily focused on the environmental impacts associated with oil spills. What is unique about these workshops is that they focus on the protection of community health and well-being, including physical, mental, economic, and social aspects of health and well-being. The purpose of this workshop was to bring together community leaders, oil spill and health practitioners, and oil spill responders to collaborate and educate one another about protecting community health and well-being in the event of a future oil affecting Virginia and its neighboring states. NOAA OR&R / [Read more](#)

## USA: OR&R AND USCG SECTOR BUFFALO CONDUCT OIL SPILL RESPONSE TRAINING IN GREAT LAKES REGION

April 12 - On April 3-5, OR&R's LT Michael Doig and LT Joshua Valdivia, of the U.S. Coast Guard (USCG) provided spill response training for USCG Sector Buffalo.

The two-day training included: An overview of the Incident Management Software System (IMSS); An introduction to Scientific Support at Spills; Aerial Observation of Oil; An overview of Environmental Response Management Application (ERMA); and A refresher on geographic response strategies (GRS) and environmental sensitivity index (ESI) maps. NOAA OR&R / [Read more](#)



## USA: PREPARING FOR OIL SPILLS IN THE EASTERN GULF: HEALTH, ECONOMIC RESILIENCE, AND COMMUNITY WELL-BEING

April 15 - May 6-7, 2019 – Mobile, AL (Registration opens at 8 am daily.)

May 7, 2019 – Bayou la Batre, AL (Registration opens at 5:15 pm.)

This seminar is [free](#) and [open to the public](#). The workshop is being offered at two locations; a full **two-day workshop** in downtown Mobile, and an abbreviated **evening workshop** in Bayou La Batre.

Attendees can choose to attend either the Mobile or Bayou La Batre sessions—or both. Meals will be provided for attendees [who register online](#) on or before April 30.

Click [here](#) to see a draft agenda for Mobile. Click [here](#) to see a draft agenda for Bayou la Batre. See below for additional details. Gulf Sea Grant / [Read more](#)

*ISCO Members are invited to send news items for insertion in this section*

### NRC AWARDED CONTRACT TO PROVIDE OIL SPILL SERVICES TO SOCAR IN TURKEY

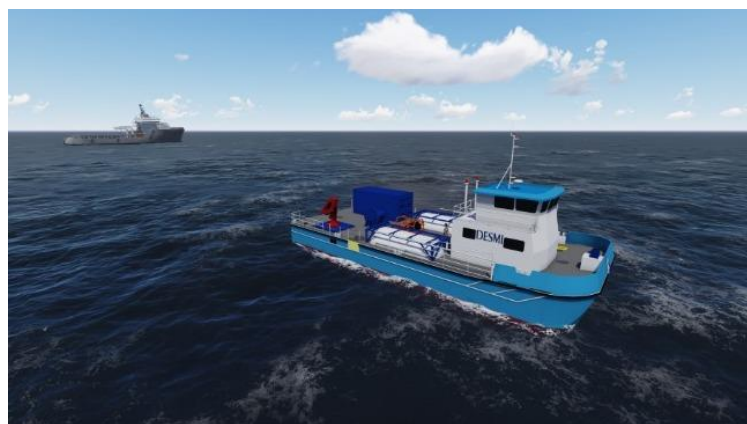
NRC has announced the award of a contract for the provision of Tier 2 and 3 Oil Spill Response services for SOCAR Turkey. This multi-year contract is to provide oil spill response services for three SOCAR-owned facilities located in the Aliaga – Izmir region, including Turkey’s key STAR Refinery. The contract will include the establishment of an oil spill base within the STAR Refinery, providing dedicated project staff and a significant oil spill equipment stockpile including offshore and nearshore marine assets.

About NRC - NRC is a global provider of comprehensive environmental, industrial and emergency response services and is a wholly-owned subsidiary of NRC Group Holdings Corp., a public company listed on the New York Stock Exchange (NYSE:NRCG). With a broad range of capabilities and global reach, NRC provides solutions for the critical, non-discretionary needs of more than 5,000 customers across diverse industries and end markets, ensuring compliance with environmental, health and safety laws around the world. [www.nrcc.com](http://www.nrcc.com)



About SOCAR Turkey - Headquartered in Istanbul, SOCAR Turkey is part of the State Oil Company of Azerbaijan Republic (SOCAR) group who provides integrated energy solutions to both domestic and international markets. With its total investment volume of USD 19.5 billion, SOCAR is proud to stand as the biggest foreign direct investor of Turkey. SOCAR’s group companies in Turkey, namely Petkim, STAR Refinery, SOCAR Terminal and Trans-Anatolian Natural Gas Pipeline (TANAP) represent the largest-scale investment Azerbaijan has made to a single country to date. SOCAR Turkey’s giant investment STAR Refinery processes 10 million tonnes of crude oil annually, on start-up the refinery will meet more than 25% of the processed oil products need of Turkey.

### DESMI ANNOUNCES NEW MULTI-PURPOSE CATAMARAN VESSEL DESIGN



DESMI KaziCat is a true Multi-Purpose Catamaran Vessel despite its compact size; just below 24 meters at waterline and 9.6 meters in width. It fulfills the MCA category 2 requirements allowing operation up to 60 nautical miles from safe haven.

What is unique for this vessel is its modular design concept allowing shift of operation mode within the hour. The KaziCat can carry up to 4 x 20’ ISO containers carrying various equipment allowing the vessel to handle the more than 10 different tasks:

- Removal of floating debris including compacter allowing long operation time
- Special 20’ container with seats and safety gear for 12 persons
- Special 20’ container with 4 special bunks

- 20’ container with equipment for carrying out hull cleaning of larger vessel
- 20’ container with de-compression tanks allowing the vessel to work as sophisticated diving vessel – the opening access to the water between the two hulls gives excellent conditions for divers
- Special 20’ container with double DESMI Compact Clean 340 m<sup>3</sup>/h treatment system allowing ballast water to be pumped to the container and then immediate discharge to the water after double treatment
- 20’ container including fire-fighting pump, foam tanks and remote controlled fire monitor allowing the vessel to assist during larger fires
- Normal work boat duties in ports where 20’ flat racks can be used for safe transport of larger cargo
- Module including WASSP multi-beam scanner for accurate and detailed seabed scanning
- Able to carry scientific containers allowing the vessel to act as platform for carrying out water investigations
- Oil Spill Combat vessel using Belt Skimmer module placed between the hulls, and using 20’ tanks containers allowing the vessel to change to empty tanks in minutes instead of hours
- Operation center during larger operations involving more vessels

The main physical parameters for the vessel: Length overall: 24.60 meters; Load line length: 23.95 meters; Breadth (moulded): 9.60 meters; Draft loaded: 1.75 meters; Fuel tank: 15,000 liters; Fresh water tank: 10,000 liters; Sewage holding tank: 3,500 liters; Engine: 2 x 610 kW Yanmar @ 1900 rpm; Lightship weight: 92 tons; Full load displacement: 193 tons; Speed lightweight: 14 knots; Speed loaded: 13 knots.

With accommodation for 5 persons, 2 individual cabins and 1 cabin for 3 persons. For more information about this unique vessel, please do not hesitate to contact Business Development and Sales Manager Christian Ole Ingvorsen at [coi@desmi.com](mailto:coi@desmi.com) or at +45 65 48 16 35 / +45 20 16 00 26. <https://www.desmi.com>



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Model: ECO-UBoom

Based in Taiwan, China, Eco Equipments has advised a new website and email address. [www.ecoequipments.com.tw](http://www.ecoequipments.com.tw)

## SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

### USA: TEXAS A&M-LED RESEARCH TEAM DEVELOPS MODEL FOR IMPROVED OIL SPILL FORECASTS



*Photo: Dr. Scott Socolofsky | Image: Courtesy of Specialties Photography*

February 21 - The Deepwater Horizon oil spill of 2010 was the largest oil spill in history, estimated to have pumped more than 200 million gallons of oil into the Gulf of Mexico during a period of more than 85 days. Nearly a decade ago, methods for tracking the flow of an oil spill and determining the extent of its negative impacts neglected processes that proved important during Deepwater Horizon. Lessons learned by researchers as a result of Deepwater Horizon have empowered them to create tools to better facilitate response and mitigation efforts in the event of future spills.

Through a collaborative research effort, Dr. Scott Socolofsky, A.P & Florence Wiley Professor II and the division head for environmental, water resources and coastal engineering in the Zachry Department of Civil Engineering at Texas A&M University, has developed a model that can accurately predict where contaminants from an oil spill will travel, helping response teams such as the U.S. Coast Guard better prepare, plan for and mitigate damage to human and ecological populations.

“We are interested in this model for response,” Socolofsky said. “If there were a new type of Deepwater Horizon event, our modeling system is fast and efficient so that it can help responders answer questions they need to know. Texas A&M / [Read more](#)

### USA: STUDY CREATES MICROCOSM THAT MIMICS BACTERIA ENCOUNTERING RISING OIL DROPLETS



*Photo: The monitor screen, which is connected to the microscope computer, shows oil droplets. The printing process is done in a cleanroom environment to control temperature, humidity, and air particle count. The cleanroom smock (white outfit) is made of a fabric which does not shed particles and fiber. Photo credit: Terry Brough at the Minnesota Nano Center.*

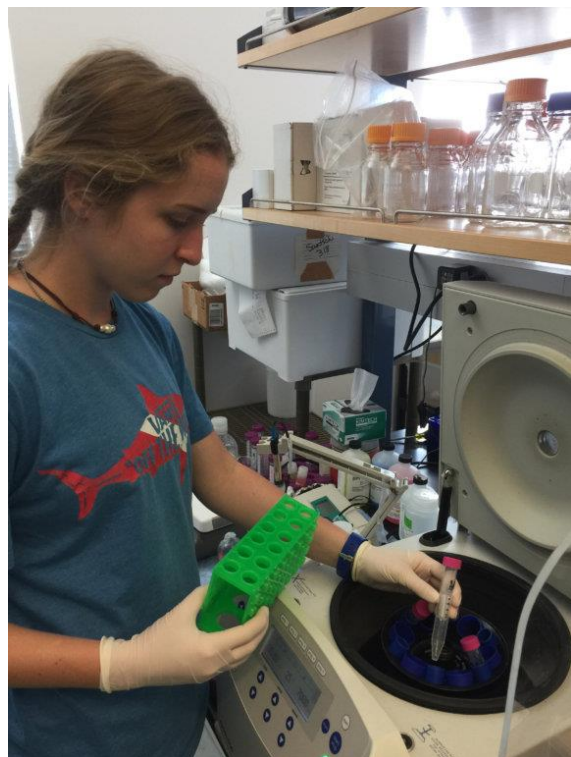
March 19 - Scientists developed a platform at environmentally-relevant scales to advance the study of oil-water interface interactions, biofilm formation, and particle dispersion. Their techniques allow one to control the size, shape, and volume of oil micro-drops and then affix them onto a stable substrate where microbes can live and grow. The technology provides an unprecedented capability in investigating complex interactions of bacteria, cells, and interfaces and to study key microbial processes involved in remediation of environmental pollutants, such as from

Deepwater Horizon. The team applied the new technique to study biofilm formation at the oil-water interface, demonstrating the method's suitability for biophysical microbial studies.

The researchers published their findings in *Scientific Reports*: [Fabrication and characterization of a scalable surface textured with pico-liter oil drops for mechanistic studies of bacteria-oil interactions](#).

Nanofabrication and microfluidics play a crucial role in studying complex chemical and biological processes, such as microbial aggregation and biofilm formation, microbial streamer formation, quorum sensing, particle mobility, and cellular motility near interfaces. In the context of oil spills, microorganisms play a significant role in degrading hydrocarbons by promoting interfacial instability at oil-water interface via bio-surfactant production or metabolizing the oil as a carbon food source. GoM RI / [Read more](#)

## USA: STUDY FINDS GEL-LIKE BIOFILMS MAY BE MORE EFFICIENT AT OIL DISPERSAL THAN COREXIT



*Photo: Alexandra Yard, a sophomore Marine Biology major with a Chemistry minor at Texas A&M Galveston, applies an ultrafilter centrifugal device to concentrate and purify EPS (biopolymers excreted from microbes) from mesocosm samples for quantifying proteins and polysaccharides. Photo by Chen Xu.*

April 2 - Scientists conducted mesocosm experiments with natural microbial communities to compare oil emulsion and dispersion mechanisms by microbial secretions of exopolymeric substances, EPS, also known as gels, and Corexit, a dispersant. In the dispersed-oil treatment, microbial secretions had a higher protein-to-polysaccharide ratio and lowered surface water tension more compared to seawater-only and seawater with oil treatments, suggesting effective bio-emulsifying effects of EPS. EPS molecules appeared more efficient in inducing micelle self-assembly of oil with amphiphiles (molecules that have water soluble and water repelling regions) even in very low concentrations, suggesting that EPS can greatly contribute to forming emulsions. Corexit-oil treatments (20 to 1 ratio) maintained a more stable emulsion of colloidal materials containing oil droplets than EPS only molecules; however, they had lower enzymatic action, lower marine-oil-snow sedimentation efficiency, lower phytoplankton diversity and abundance, lower biodegradation extent, and lower oxidative change in molecular composition.

The researchers recently published their findings in *Marine Chemistry*: [Protein: Polysaccharide ratio in exopolymeric substances controlling the surface tension of seawater in the presence or absence of surrogate Macondo oil with and without Corexit](#).

The sea surface microlayer acts as a gateway for moving substances in and out of the water and is an interface between water-soluble and water-repelling molecules. Thus, amphiphilic molecules that have both water-soluble and water-repelling regions (such as man-made surfactants or EPS) and water-repelling molecules (such as oil) that accumulate at the air-water interface can affect the water's surface tension. However, little is known about the ability of EPS to reduce surface tension, which enhances oil dispersion. GoM RI / [Continue reading](#)

## USA: DISPERSANTS CAN BE AN EFFECTIVE TOOL FOR MANAGING IMPACTS DURING A MAJOR MARINE OIL SPILL, REPORT CONCLUDES

April 5 - A new report from the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine examines the effects and efficacy of using dispersants in marine oil spill response. Dispersants reduce oil at the water's surface by promoting the formation and diffusion of small oil droplets that may biodegrade more readily.

Field and modeling studies show that dispersants can be a useful tool for oil spill response, says [The Use of Dispersants in Marine Oil Spill Response](#). Dispersants can reduce the amount of surface oil, thereby reducing response personnel's potential exposure to hazardous compounds in oil and lessening the extent of surface oil encountered by marine species. Dispersants may also reduce the fouling of shoreline habitats by reducing the amount of surface oil that is blown ashore.

Every oil spill presents unique circumstances and challenges, the report notes, and dispersants are one of a variety of options – each with advantages and disadvantages -- available to responders as they work to contain and clean up a marine oil spill. Other response options include mechanical recovery of the oil using skimmers and booms, burning of the oil, and monitoring of the environment to assess how it recovers naturally over time.



## SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY (CONTINUED)

In evaluating trade-offs and making choices about dispersants and other response options, decision-makers should use Net Environmental Benefit Analysis (NEBA) tools to assess the comparative environmental benefits and drawbacks of various options. The NEBA tools should be expanded to address the health of response personnel, community health, and socio-economic impacts of various response options as well.

The report also stresses the importance of transparency in cases where dispersants are used. Real-time information on dispersant use and up-to-date health risk information or guidance should be publicly available. National Academies / [Continue reading](#)

## TRAINING

### CHINA: HONG KONG – UPCOMING OSR TRAINING COURSES

Swire Emergency Response, working with our local partner Hongkong Salvage and Towage, will be running a 5 day On Scene Commanders Course (IMO Level 2 equivalent) and a 3 day Oil Spill Management Course (IMO Level 3 equivalent) commencing on the 6th May 2019. The courses will focus on the Tactical Management of Oil Spills and Strategic Management of Oil Spills respectively. Both courses will be delivered using a mix of formal presentations, video, group discussions, table top and practical exercises.

For both courses we are offering companies a free place for every 2 paying places booked. For more information on the courses or to reserve a place, please email [simon.valentine@swire.com.sg](mailto:simon.valentine@swire.com.sg)

## CONTRACTS & TENDERS

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## PUBLICATIONS

### USA: ASTM STANDARD AIMS TO HELP OIL SPILL CLEANUP, CONTINGENCY PLANNING

April 8 - ASTM International released a new standard aimed at improving both cleanup of and contingency planning for crude oil spills on Apr. 8. [The new guide](#) standardizes the way laboratories both prepare and measure “weathered oil,” which is naturally different from the “source oil” at a facility, ASTM International member Merv Fingas said.

“This is important because, after an oil spill occurs, the oil weathers, leading to changes in its properties and behavior,” said Fingas, who formerly led Environment Canada’s Emergencies Science and Technology Division.

“In order to predict and understand how the oil will behave in the environments, it is necessary to prepare weathered samples by weight percent lost and then to measure its properties and behavior at each weathered point,” he said.

Resulting data can be incorporated into oil spill models to help predict behavior, including oil spill trajectory, Fingas indicated.

“With this guide, spill-response individuals will have standardized means to understand how a given oil will behave once spilled and can then use this information in computerized models to predict behavior and effects of a spill,” he said.

“This information can be used for contingency planning for a spill, as well as management of a spill once it occurs,” he said.

ASTM International’s Committee on Hazardous Substances and Oil Spill Response developed the new standard, ASTM F3337.

Oil & Gas Journal / [Read more](#)

### IOPC FUNDS - UPDATED CLAIMS MANUAL PUBLISHED

April 9 - A new edition of the 1992 Fund Claims Manual has been published.

This latest edition incorporates the text approved by the governing bodies in April 2018 setting out revised assessment criteria for claims for compensation made by employees who have suffered a reduction in wages, been placed on part-time work or been made redundant as a consequence of an incident.

The Guidelines for presenting claims in the fisheries, mariculture and fish processing sector (Fisheries Guidelines) and the Guidelines for presenting claims in the tourism sector (Tourism Guidelines) have also been amended to reflect the change in the criteria.

The revised publications are available to download via the Publications section. <https://www.iopcfunds.org/>

### EUROPE: EMSA - DRILLS & EXERCISES ANNUAL REPORT 2018

March 11 - In order to provide additional support to the pollution response mechanisms of EU Member States in a cost efficient way, the European Maritime Safety Agency (EMSA) operates, in European waters, a range of oil pollution response (OPR) services consisting of a Network of stand-by oil spill response vesselsEquipment Assistance Service (EAS) including specialised stand-alone equipment



## PUBLICATIONS (CONTINUED)

arrangements, as well as dispersant stockpiles. The OPR services are available for responding to oil spills at sea caused by ships as well as by oil and gas installations at the request of a coastal State<sup>1</sup>, a Private Entity, and/or the European Commission.

At the end of 2018, 17 fully equipped oil spill response vessels, 6 dispersant stockpiles and 3 EAS arrangements were available for mobilisation. To achieve the level of performance for pollution response required by the Agency, the contracted OPR services have to perform regular training, drills, Equipment Condition Tests (ECTs) and exercises. [Download the 2018 Annual Report](#)

### NEW ITOPF HANDBOOK PUBLISHED

April 12 - ITOPF has just published its annual Handbook for 2019/20. This contains a wealth of valuable information and guidance for those likely to be involved in spills of oil, chemicals or other substances from ships.

This year's edition has been fully revised with the introduction of new graphics, expanded information on ITOPF's technical services and a brand new section on different types of marine spills. It also includes updated oil spill statistics and revised information on pollution liability and compensation, as well as regular features on clean-up techniques and the fate and effects of oil. [More info](#)

### BALTIC SEA: BALEX DELTA 2018 FINAL REPORT LOOKS INTO ONE OF THE WORLD'S LARGEST EXERCISES ON RESPONSE TO OIL AND CHEMICAL SPILLS AT SEA

April 12 - With the [Main Exercise Evaluation report on the BALEX DELTA 2018 exercise](#) now publicly available, insight is given into one of the world's largest response exercises at sea dealing with oil and chemical spills that took place earlier in 2018 in Swedish waters .

According to the report, the [BALEX DELTA 2018 exercise](#) confirmed the ability of the Baltic Sea countries to carry out a joint maritime response operation of large scope and dealing with maritime incidents of high complexity. The BALEX DELTA 2018 was particularly challenging, testing capabilities such as chemical diving, night-time oil recovery operations directed by a reconnaissance aircraft, and vessel-to-vessel lightering. It was the largest exercise ever held in the Baltic Sea, mobilizing 18 maritime vessels and about 500 personnel from eight countries and the EU.

The findings of the report may also be used to develop proposals to update the [HELCOM Manual on Co-operation in Response to Marine Pollution](#), as well as providing recommendations for the design of future exercises. HELCOM / [Download the report](#)

### MEDITERRANEAN: MOIG ISSUES “VERSION 2019” NEW BROCHURE

The new brochure contains 6 pages, including information on the MOIG Framework, Guiding Principles, Mission and Vision, Membership, Members and Technical Partners, as well as the Benefits of membership. [Read more in the April 2019 Moig Newsletter](#)

## RESPONSE EVENTS DURING APRIL & MAY 2019 (UPDATED)

### USA: HOW DOES SCIENCE GUIDE OIL SPILL RESPONSE?

St. Petersburg FL, April 24. Join researchers and responders as they discuss how science guides oil spill response. This workshop is designed to bring area scientists and emergency responders together to network, communicate, and form partnerships. Scientists will share research results and responders will explain response processes and priorities. [More info](#)

### LIBERIA: NATIONAL TRAINING WORKSHOP ON INCIDENT MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

Monrovia, 29 April – 2 May. The workshop will provide Liberia with the opportunity to have an effective Incident Management System that will strengthen its national oil spill preparedness and response system. [More info](#)

### FRANCE: SEMINAR ON CHEMICAL SPILLS IN CONTINENTAL WATERS

Châtenay-Malabry, 10<sup>th</sup> May. Organised by the French alliance of pharmacists belonging to the fire and rescue service [More info](#)

### USA: ELASTEC'S SPRING 2019 RIVER SPILL WORKSHOP

Carmi IL, May 14-16. Our intensive, hands-on SPRING OIL SPILL WORKSHOP is designed for spill responders who desire in-depth river booming and oil skimmer training. The three day workshop begins with a full day of classroom orientation at Elastec in Carmi, Illinois followed by two rigorous booming and skimmer deployment days on the Wabash River in New Harmony, Indiana. This workshop also qualifies as an 8-hour Hazwoper refresher course. [More info](#)

### UK: IMO MARINE ENVIRONMENT PROTECTION COMMITTEE

London, May 13-17. [More info](#)

## RESPONSE EVENTS DURING APRIL & MAY 2019 (CONTINUED)

### USA: OHMSETT HANDS-ON OSR STRATEGIES AND TACTICS TRAINING

Leonardo NJ, May 14-17. This course is designed to assist oil spill personnel in the development of the decision-making skills necessary to make quick and informed decisions during oil spill incidents; and provide hands-on spill response equipment handling and oil recovery training using full-scale equipment with real oil in the Ohmsett test tank. [More info](#)

### UK: NCEC HAZMAT 2019 CONFERENCE

Stratford on Avon, May 15-16. Hazmat is an essential opportunity for Hazmat specialists to share experiences and knowledge with like-minded professionals working in the hazmat and chemical incident industry. The event draws upon the knowledge and experience of a range of hazmat professionals and industry leaders, as well as that of NCEC's own emergency responders and experts. [More info](#)

### SINGAPORE: INTERTANKO ANNUAL TANKER EVENT

Singapore, May 20-24. Running since 1996, the INTERTANKO Annual Tanker Event is into its 23rd edition and is recognised as THE event for tanker-related matters. This year, the event will be held at the W Sentosa in Singapore, an ideal location to facilitate discussions during the day and relaxation in the evenings. [More info](#)

### AUSTRALIA: SPILLCON 2019 CONFERENCE AND EXHIBITION

Perth, May 20-24. Spillcon 2019 will bring together local, regional and global environmental and shipping representatives across industry, government and non-government organisations to provide an avenue to discuss issues including cause and prevention, preparedness, response management and environmental issues. [More info](#)

### UK: ARCTIC OIL & GAS CONFERENCE

London, May 21-22. Assessing the challenges and solutions for oil and gas exploration, production and transportation in Arctic and ice-infested regions. Bringing together key stakeholders from the oil and gas industry [More info](#)

### CROATIA: ADRIASPILLCON 2019 CONFERENCE AND EXHIBITION

Opatija, May 28-30. Participants, speakers and exhibitors will include those from the Adriatic coastal States, the Mediterranean region, the European countries and other parts of the world too, the organizers, ATRAC (Adriatic Training and Research Centre for Accidental Marine Pollution Preparedness and Response), embarked upon the organization of the 4th successive Adriatic Spill Conference and Exhibition ADRIASPILLCON 2019 which will be held once again in Opatija, a resort on the northern Adriatic coast of Croatia. [Read more](#)

### CANADA: SHIP-SOURCE OIL POLLUTION FUND CONFERENCE & 30<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

Ottawa, May 28. The Fund's in-house counsel will examine the application of the "polluter pays" principle in the context of important case law. A panel will discuss recent legislative changes, their impact on the Fund and other concerns shared by the Fund, TC and the CCG. A panel discussion will focus on advancing equality, diversity and inclusion and facilitating access to justice for victims of oil spills, including Indigenous and small communities. [More info](#)

## UPCOMING EVENTS – JUNE 2019 ONWARDS (UPDATED)

COUNTRY	2019	TITLE OF EVENT	LOCATION
<b>For more information click on Title of Event</b>			
CANADA	June 4-6	<a href="#">42<sup>nd</sup> AMOP Technical Seminar on Environmental Contamination &amp; Response</a>	Halifax, Nova Scotia
UK	June 11-12	<a href="#">Ports and Terminals Insurance Seminar</a>	London
MALTA	June 11-13	<a href="#">REMPEC Focal Points Meeting</a>	Valetta
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
UK	June 25-26	UK Spill Annual Conference	Moreton-in-Marsh
NEW ZEALAND	Sept. 3-5	<a href="#">Ecoforum Conference 2019</a>	Auckland
UK	Sept. 11-12	<a href="#">Maritime Salvage &amp; Casualty Response Conference</a>	London



## UPCOMING EVENTS – JUNE 2019 ONWARDS (CONTINUED)

UK	Sept. 11-12	<a href="#">The Spill Response Expo</a>	Birmingham
CROATIA	October 2-5	<a href="#">Pollution Response Challenges in the Mediterranean Conference</a>	Split
USA	October 7-10	<a href="#">Elastec's Fall 2019 River Spill Workshop</a>	Carmi, IL
NORWAY	October 14-18	<a href="#">NOSCA Seminar 2019</a>	
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
<b>COUNTRY</b>	<b>2020</b>	<b>TITLE OF EVENT</b>	<b>LOCATION</b>
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

<a href="#">Alga Chronicle</a>	News from Australia on Contaminated Land Remediation	March 2019
<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	Apr. 2019 issue
<a href="#">AUSMEPA Bulletin</a>	News from the Australian Marine Environment Protection Assoc'n	Summer 2019
<a href="#">BIMCO Bulletin</a>	Marine and shipping-related news from BIMCO	Feb. 2019 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	March 2019
<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	April 2019
<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	Spring 2019
<a href="#">IMO Publishing News</a>	New and forthcoming IMO publications	March 2019
<a href="#">JOIFF "The Catalyst"</a>	Int'l Organisation for Industrial Hazard Management	January 2019 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	April 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	Current issue
<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	January, 2019
<a href="#">Pollution Online Newsletter</a>	News for pollution prevention & control professionals	April 3, 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	Current 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	Mar. 1-15, 2019
<a href="#">USA EPA Tech Direct</a>	Remediation of contaminated soil and groundwater	April 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)

### BORNEO: OIL SPILL NOW LARGER THAN PARIS RAVAGES INDONESIAN ISLAND, 5 DEAD



April 6 - An oil spill in Borneo that began over the past weekend has now spread across an area greater than the city of Paris and is heading out to the open ocean, the Indonesian government said.

The spill, first reported on March 31, stems from a pipeline operated by state-owned oil firm Pertamina in the city of Balikpapan, in East Kalimantan province. A report released April 4 by the Ministry of Environment and Forestry said the slick was spreading out from Balikpapan Bay and into the Strait of Makassar, covering some 130 square kilometers (50 square miles).

Pertamina, which for days had denied responsibility for the disaster, finally admitted on April 4 that one of its pipes used for transporting crude oil was the source of the slick. "Our preliminary investigation had indicated that the oil was ship fuel, but it was only until [the evening of April 3] that we got confirmation that it was from us," Pertamina general manager Togar M.P. told reporters. "Ever since the incident was discovered, we have shut down the pipes."

The incident has been blamed for the deaths of five fishermen in a fire sparked by clean-up workers who were trying to clear the oil by burning it off the water's surface. Eco Watch / [Read more](#) [Thanks to Don Johnston of ISCO Industry Partner, DG & Hazmat Group]

### **USA: ILLINOIS - CLEANUP UNDERWAY AFTER LEAK OF SUBSTANCE INTO LOCAL WATERWAY**

April 10 - Cleanup continues after a leak of diesel exhaust fluid from Pilot Truck Stop on Effingham's north side into a local waterway. XFM / [Read more](#) [Thanks to Don Johnston of ISCO Industry Partner, DG & Hazmat Group]

### **USA: 210,000 GALLONS OF FERTILIZER SPILL IN NORTHWESTERN NEBRASKA**

April 13 - A failure of storage tanks belonging to Farmer's Cooperative in Hemingford spilled 210,000 gallons (794,913 liters) of liquid fertilizer in northwestern Nebraska. Hemingford Fire Chief Shad Bryner says nine tanks failed — two of them containing roughly 40,000 gallons of water and the others holding the liquid fertilizer ammonium polyphosphate. US News / [Read more](#) [Thanks to Don Johnston of ISCO Industry Partner, DG & Hazmat Group]

### **USA: WYOMING - DEQ NAMES CULPRIT IN POPO AGIE GAS SPILL**

April 15 - The Wyoming Department of Environmental Quality has identified the source of a costly gasoline seep that leached an unknown quantity of fuel into the Middle Fork of the Popo Agie River in Lander. WyoFile / [Read more](#) [Thanks to Don Johnston of ISCO Industry Partner, DG & Hazmat Group]

### **USA: LOUISIANA - LUGGER TUG SINKS NEAR MOUTH OF MISSISSIPPI**

April 16 - On Monday, a small lugger tug sank near Venice, Louisiana after striking a submerged object. The 55-foot tug DeJeanne Maria went down at about 0200 hours Monday in Pass-a-Loutre, a wildlife reserve area at the mouth of the Mississippi. The Maria was headed downriver with two empty barges when she struck an unknown object underwater and began to sink. According to the Coast Guard, the Maria sank with as much as 7,000 gallons of fuel on board, and roughly 60 gallons were released during the sinking. Spill response contractor ES&H was hired to deploy a containment boom and monitor the site. The Maritime Executive / [Read more](#)

### **USA: TEXAS - A CREEK FLOWING TO THE COLORADO RIVER TURNED BLACK.**

April 17 - For more than two months, the waters of Skull Creek have flowed black, its surface covered in an iridescent sheen. Yellowed fish skeletons line the pebbled banks of the Colorado River tributary, and a dizzying chemical odor hangs in the air. Locals and elected officials in this small southeast Texas community near the intersection of Interstate 10 and Texas 71 say the source of the problem is obvious: an oil and gas waste recycling facility near the creek that is owned by Columbus-based Inland Environmental and Remediation. Texas Tribune / [Read more](#)

### **UK: OIL POLLUTION ON THE RIVER LEE NAVIGATION**

April 18 – Report from EA Incident Room – “We are currently responding to an environmental incident on the Lee Navigation, between the Stonebridge and Tottenham Locks. The incident involves oil which is currently affecting the watercourse. We have deployed booms and absorbent pads in response to this incident. Our Officers are continuing to monitor the incident and we will deploy additional resources as necessary”. More info - [HNLenquiries@environment-agency.gov.uk](mailto:HNLenquiries@environment-agency.gov.uk).

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