

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



CLEAN GULF

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](#)

IMO AND UN ENVIRONMENT WORKING TOGETHER TO KEEP THE MEDITERRANEAN CLEAN



June 14 - A key IMO-administered pollution response facility in the Mediterranean is to undertake a far-reaching programme of activities designed to help address the adverse effects of shipping on human health and marine ecosystems.

At their bi-annual meeting in Malta (11-13 June), focal points for the Regional Marine Pollution Emergency Response Centre for the Mediterranean Sea (REMPEC), have agreed:

- to continue developing and strengthening pollution response capacity and cooperation at national, sub-regional and regional levels
- to explore and establish synergies between the Regional Plan on Marine Litter Management in the Mediterranean and the IMO action plan to address marine plastic litter from ships
- to examine further the possibility of designating the Mediterranean Sea area as an Emission Control Area for Sulphur Oxides under MARPOL Annex VI
- the need to define a sustainable and collaborative approach to implement the Offshore Protocol and its action plan effectively, and
- to launch a wide consultation process to prepare a draft post-2021 Mediterranean strategy for prevention of, and response to, marine pollution from ships involving all coastal States and relevant regional organizations.

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Go to 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)

The meeting marked the 25th anniversary of the Mediterranean Assistance Unit (MAU), a group of experts and centres of expertise that can be mobilised by REMPEC in emergencies, and welcomed its latest member, the Adriatic Training and Research Centre for Accidental Marine Pollution Preparedness and Response.

More than 80 participants attended the meeting, from IMO, 19 Mediterranean coastal states, the European Union/European Maritime Safety Agency (EMSA), UN Environment, as well as other governmental and non-governmental organizations and shipping industry representatives.

Shipping activity in the Mediterranean has been rising considerably in recent highlighting the need for continued regional cooperation on pollution prevention and response. In particular, a rapid rise in cruise activity makes it now the world's second busiest region for cruises. www.imo.org/EN

G20 LAUNCH NEW FRAMEWORK FOR COMBATING MARINE PLASTIC POLLUTION

June 17 - Environment ministers representing the G20 block of nations have agreed to a new framework tackling ocean plastic waste.

The move, which was made during a meeting of environment and energy ministers from the 20 nations in Japan this week, follows the action plan on marine litter in 2017 which was signed off at the Hamburg Summit.

The new framework will see member states promote a lifecycle approach to prevent

and reduce plastic waste entering oceans, using international co-operation through the sharing of best practice, innovation and scientific monitoring of waste.

Estimates by the UK government claim more than 150 million tonnes of plastic waste end up in the ocean each year. The impact on wildlife is significant with approximately 1 million birds and more than 100,000 sea mammals dying each year from either eating plastic waste or becoming entangled in it. EDIE News / [Read more](#)

GULF OF OMAN: FURTHER NEWS ON RECENT TANKER ATTACKS

June 18 - Tanker Attacks Seen as Calibrated But Risky Iranian Response to U.S. Sanctions - If, despite its firm denials, Iran was behind attacks on two oil tankers in the Gulf last week and a further four last month, they represent a calibrated yet risky pushback against a U.S. sanctions squeeze, regional experts say.

The targeting of six vessels on a major artery for world oil supplies was a vivid reminder of the stakes involved in the standoff pitting Iran against the United States and its regional allies.

The latest two attacks, on Thursday, were much more complex than last month's because the tankers were moving rather than at anchor as previously, said Hossein Aryan, a military analyst who served 18 years in Iran's navy before and after the 1979 Islamic revolution. gCaptain / [Continue reading](#)

June 19 – US Navy: "Limpet Mine Used in Attack was Similar to Iranian Munition" - On Wednesday, the U.S. Navy released new information to back up the American claim that Iran was responsible for the recent attacks on tankers in the Gulf of Oman.

The unexploded limpet mine that Iranian forces allegedly removed from one of the vessels, the Kokuka Courageous, bears a "striking" resemblance to mines "publicly displayed in Iranian military parades," according to Cmdr. Sean Kido, the leader of a diving and salvage unit at Central Command. The Maritime Executive / [Continue reading](#)

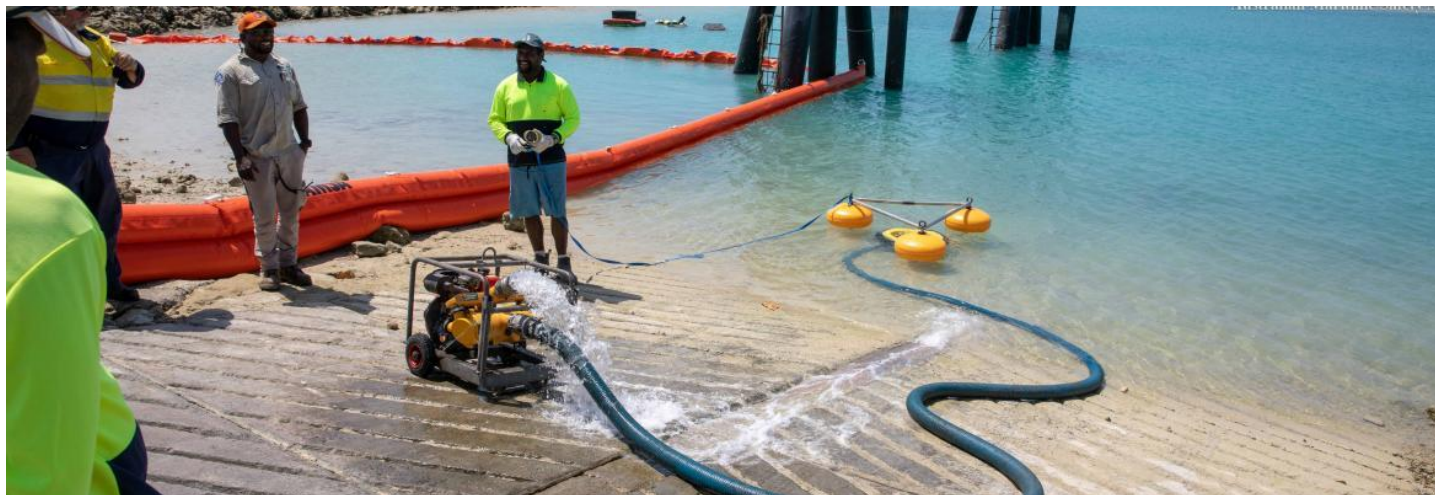
June 19 - U.S. Navy Says Mine Fragments Suggest Iran Behind Gulf Tanker Attack - The United States sought on Wednesday to bolster its case for isolating Iran over its nuclear and regional activities by displaying limpet mine fragments it said came from a damaged oil tanker and saying the ordnance looked Iranian in origin.

Iran has denied involvement in explosive strikes on two tankers in the Gulf of Oman last week and four tankers off the United Arab Emirates on May 12, both near the Strait of Hormuz, a major conduit for global oil supplies.

Two Western security sources told Reuters this week the attacks seemed calibrated to inflict only limited damage and avoid injury to show that Iran could sow chaos if it wanted to, possibly to persuade Washington and other foes to back off rather than trigger conflict.

Iranian officials have made no comment about the attack but have strongly denied all other allegations that Tehran has targeted energy tankers and facilities in the region. Although the United States and Saudi Arabia have pointed fingers at Iran for all the tanker attacks, several European nations have said more evidence is needed. gCaptain / [Read more](#)

AUSTRALIA: EXERCISE TORRES CLEANS UP



June 19 - Australia is home to some of the world's most sensitive marine areas - the Coral Sea, Great Barrier Reef and Torres Strait. These areas are protected by strong safety standards against reef damage and pollution from vessels transiting north-east waters.

AMSA recognises the enormous consequences of maritime emergencies on communities where the environment has great subsistence and cultural value to traditional owners. It's the reason why we carried out Exercise Torres 2018, a multi-agency exercise based on an oil spill scenario in waters near remote communities in the Torres Strait.

Key agencies from local councils, traditional owner groups, Maritime Safety Queensland and other government agencies took part in Exercise Torres 2018. AMSA / [Read more](#)

AUSTRALIA: AUSTRoadS SETS FRAMEWORK FOR DG RISK ASSESSMENT IN TUNNELS

June 21 - The transport of Dangerous Goods (DG) carries some inherent risk but banning DG from tunnels can shift this risk to other areas that may increase the overall risk profile and have an economic impact, according to a new report from Austroads.

The research report sets out a framework for undertaking risk assessments of transporting dangerous goods in road tunnels.

Dangerous goods, according to Austroads, are items or substances which are a risk to health, safety, property or the environment such as petrol, liquefied petroleum gas, paints, pesticides and acids. TrailerMag / [Read more](#) [Thanks to Don Johnston of ISCO industry partner, DG & HYazmat Group]

BENIN: THE GI WACAF COLLABORATES WITH GOGIN TO SUPPORT OPERATIONAL TRAINING ON OIL POLLUTION RESPONSE – COTONOU, BENIN, 25 JUNE-3 JULY 2019

June 17 - The GI WACAF organizes the 3-day training course that will precede an operational training in Benin in the field of pollution response organized by the [GoGIN project \(Interregional Network for the Gulf of Guinea\)](#). This training is the result of the first collaboration between the GI WACAF and GoGIN Projects. Its purpose is to prepare a simulation exercise aimed at managing an incident of illegal oil release at sea and the follow-up that may be given to it.

The technical training will take place from 25 to 27 June 2019 in Cotonou, Benin. It will be delivered by two consultants, Anne Réglain and Romain Chancerel, and will cover various aspects useful to the participants in the following week's anti-pollution operation (emergency planning, recognition and characterization of oil spills at sea and the international regime of liability and compensation in the event of an oil spill). GI WACAF / [More info](#)

CANADA: ENGAGEMENT ON FISHERIES AND OCEANS CANADA'S NEW ARCTIC REGION

June 13 – Consultation - Opened on June 13, 2019, and will close to new input on August 31, 2019.

On October 24, 2018, Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO) and the Canadian Coast Guard announced the creation of a stand-alone Arctic Region. The region is led by a new Regional Director General and Assistant Commissioner, based in Rankin Inlet and Yellowknife respectively. As part of the establishment of the new region, the department and Coast Guard have commenced face-to-face engagements with Northern Indigenous organizations, provincial and territorial governments, industry and others to identify the boundaries and priorities of the new region. Government of Canada / [Read more](#)

CANADA: MAJOR OIL SPILL REHEARSAL IN VANCOUVER HARBOUR

June 19 – This event was organised by Western Canada Marine Response Corp. (WCMRC) and took place during last week at the Clean Pacific Conference and Exhibition in Vancouver. Yahoo News / [Watch an excellent video with commentary](#)

ISCO Secretary, Matthew Sommerville, watched the WCMRC demonstration and has sent photos -



CANADA: B.C. AND OTTAWA STILL SPARRING OVER 'GAPS' IN OIL SPILL RESPONSE PLANS

June 19 - Ottawa says it's confused about the "gaps" B.C. keeps claiming exist in the oil spill response. B.C. officials say they've been clear - Canada's fisheries minister says he doesn't know about the "gaps" B.C. keeps saying exist in Ottawa's oil spill response plan, though the province insists it has been highlighting them for more than a year.

Fisheries and Oceans Minister Jonathan Wilkinson said his government doesn't know why Premier John Horgan again cited "gaps in the ocean protection plan" at a news conference Tuesday. Horgan was responding to Prime Minister Justin Trudeau's re-approval for the expansion of the Trans Mountain pipeline expansion from Alberta to B.C.

B.C. has identified five gaps. Vancouver Sun / [Read the whole article](#)

CANADA: TRANS MOUNTAIN PIPELINE EXPANSION APPROVED; 'SHOVELS IN GROUND' SOON, CANADA'S PM SAYS

June 19 - Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau on Tuesday approved a major expansion of the Trans Mountain Pipeline that would result in a surge of new oil tanker traffic through Pacific Northwest waters, telling reporters, "the company plans to have shovels in the ground this construction season."

This gives new momentum to the project, but opponents will continue attempts to block it through legal challenges and protests. This has been a difficult decision for Trudeau, who has consistently said that economic growth and strong environmental stewardship could go hand-in-hand. The Daily World / [Read more](#)

COTE D'IVOIRE: GI WACAF EXERCISE

June 18 – News from ITOPF - ITOPF recently attended a GI WACAF (Global Initiative for West, Central and Southern Africa) national exercise in Côte d'Ivoire. The exercise activated the POLLUMAR contingency plan and was facilitated by CIAPOL (Centre Ivoirien Antipollution). The Minister for Environment and Sustainable Development was also in attendance. The exercise involved a crisis cell simulation, as well as at-sea boom deployment and a shoreline response exercise. Representatives from GI WACAF and OTRA (consultants in oil spill preparedness and response) attended alongside ITOPF and provided training and feedback. www.itopf.org

DENMARK: LOCATION CHANGE: SEND YOUR POST TO THE DANISH EPA IN ODENSE

May 24 - From the 3rd of June the new main office of The Danish Environmental Protection Agency will reside at Tolderlundsvej 5, DK-5000 Odense C, Denmark Danish EPA / [Read more](#) [Sorry for late announcement – No one passed on this information to ISCO]

FRANCE: CEDRE – EMERGENCY RESPONSE ACTIVITIES IN MAY 2019

June 17 - Following reports by the Finistère authorities (Prefecture) of 2 m³ of oil in a stream which flows into the river Horn, an expert from Cedre provided assistance in the field. The Prefecture for the Mediterranean called upon Cedre's services to analyse photos in relation to a suspected illegal discharge. The Lagarde MRCC requested technical advice following a small-scale spill. The Bouches-du-Rhône authorities (DDTM) sought Cedre's opinion to dispel doubt on the presence of tarballs mixed with Posidonia. In connection

with the PLIF pipeline spill, an association enquired about our monitoring actions for flora and fauna. Finally, Cedre provided its expertise to the Prefecture for the Mediterranean, as well as the Alpes-Maritimes Operational Centre, within the framework of the RAMOGEPOL exercise. CEDRE / [Read more in the latest CEDRE Newsletter](#)

GERMANY: ICE MEETING IN LUDWIGSHAFEN (GERMANY)

June 17 - As the France's national centre and a level 1 support centre, Cedre attended the annual meeting of the ICE (Intervention in Chemical transport Emergencies) scheme coordinated by CEFIC. The aim of this scheme is to provide several levels of assistance: remote advice, advice from an expert at the scene of an incident or assistance with personnel/equipment at the scene of an incident during chemical transport or storage. Cedre also attended this meeting in its role as a focal point of the MAR-ICE Network set up by EMSA. CEDRE / [Read more in the latest CEDRE Newsletter](#)

INDIA: DERELICT TANKER ANCHORED OFF INDIAN COAST

June 18 - Tanker is loaded with cargo of naphtha. Chemical tanker NU SHI NALINI on Jun 17 reported unmanned, unlit, anchored in vicinity 09 50N 076 05E, some 10 nm SW of Kochi, India. Maritime Bulletin / [Read more](#) [Thanks to Voytenko Mikhail, vmd@odin.tc]

KENYA: OIL LEAK TECH TO RAISE COST OF MOMBASA- NAIROBI PIPELINE



June 19 - Taxpayers will dig deeper into their pockets to finance a leak-detection system for the Sh51 billion Mombasa-Nairobi oil pipeline that burst in Makueni spilling more than 551,000 litres of oil. Petroleum Secretary John Munyes said procurement for a state-of-the art leak-detection system was ongoing, a confirmation that earned him a barrage of questions from Senators, who wondered why the technology was not part of the original contract. Mr Munyes was taken to task over why the system was not factored in the construction of the 450-km pipeline that was commissioned last July. "With the lack of leak detection system, this spillage is bound to happen. But we are in process of

procuring a system to detect leaks. In the meantime, KPC has developed three systems that include an inline inspection to inspect the entire 450km line," Mr Munyes said. Business Daily / [Read more](#)

MONTENEGRO: NATIONAL OIL SPILL RESPONSE TRAINING COURSE (IMO OPRC MODEL COURSE, LEVEL 2) DELIVERED BY REMPEC IN MONTENEGRO

June 19 - REMPEC delivered from 19 to 21 June 2019, a National oil spill response training course ([IMO OPRC Model Course](#), Level 2) in Bar, Montenegro, aimed at supervisors and On-Scene Commanders, to prepare national competent authorities to co-ordinate and manage the response and make decisions on response strategies and tactics to be used in clean-up operations. This capacity building activity is part of a larger plan to protect Montenegro and the Adriatic against adverse effects of oil spills, which started with the support of REMPEC in the drafting of the National Contingency Plan adopted in April 2011, and which will follow with the preparation of the "Adriatic Sub Regional Oil Spill Contingency Plan ([ASOSCoP](#))" within the EU Strategy for the Adriatic-Ionian Region (EUSAIR), as discussed during the IMO-supported [4th edition of the Adriatic Oil Spill Conference \(ADRIASPILLCON 2019\)](#), held in Opatija, Croatia (28-30 May). These developments are encompassed in a wider approach supported by IMO and REMPEC, through the preparation of the National Action Plan of Montenegro for the implementation of the Regional strategy for prevention of and response to marine pollution from ships (2016-2021). REMPEC / [Read more](#)



NEW ZEALAND: MID-POINT REVIEW OF THE OIL POLLUTION LEVY

June 18 - Maritime NZ consultation on proposed changes to the Oil Pollution Levy closed on 18 January 2019 - The purpose of the review was to seek feedback on three options covering the amount of revenue sought and how the levy is applied for the second-half of the six year Oil Pollution Levy period.

The Government has approved the revised Oil Pollution Levy rates, which take effect from 1 July 2019. The OPL applies to all commercial vessels over 100 gross tons and more than 24 metres in length (except those operating in fresh water) that use oil as fuel and/or carry oil as cargo, offshore oil installations, exploration wells and oil pipelines. [View the new fee list](#)
Maritime New Zealand / [Read more](#)

NEW ZEALAND: BIG JUMP PROPOSED IN OIL AND GAS INDUSTRY INSURANCE COVER

June 21 - The Government is proposing a big rise in the level of insurance oil and gas operators would need to hold, to ensure they can cover the cost of an oil spill. The level of insurance needed would depend on the level of risk posed by an installation, and could be as high as \$1.2 billion, associate transport minister Julie Anne Genter said. Now, operators needed to hold insurance worth around \$27 million. An industry representative said operators supported an increased limit, although \$1.2 billion sounded "very high". Stuff NZ / [Read more](#)

SOLOMON ISLANDS: MARINE DISASTER LOOMS FOR NAMUGA



June 19 - THE marine ecological system in Star Harbour will be highly polluted and destroyed if nothing is done to remove the sunken MV Takana from Namuga in East Makira last week. The \$3 million dollar un-seaworthy ship was laid to rest in the once beautiful Star Harbour. Namuga people that witnessed the incident said this will be a big disaster to their health and environment if responsible authorities are reluctant of removing the ship from the bottom of the sea.

"The sunken ship still has oil and other leaking chemical substance that will do greater harm to our mangroves, environment and the whole marine ecosystem. Solomon Star / [Read more](#)

THAILAND: HNS TRAINING FOR A PETROCHEMICAL FIRM IN SRIRACHA

June 17 - In a bid to effectively respond to a chemical spill at a loading arm or at sea, the THAI OIL group called on Cedre's expertise for a 3-day training course, from 14th to 16th May, at their site in Sriracha for 19 participants. This tailor-made course was designed to meet the challenges of a spill of chemicals manufactured at or transported to the Sriracha site. Learning was facilitated by the interactive approach applied and practical exercises to ensure solid preparedness and an effective approach to HNS response. CEDRE / [Read more in the latest CEDRE Newsletter](#)

USA: OREGON HOUSE PROPOSES OIL TRAIN FEES TO FUND SPILL PREVENTION, RESPONSE

June 18 - The Oregon House of Representatives Monday passed a bill that would create new fees on oil train cars to pay for spill prevention and planning in the state. The House passed the bill on a 55-3 vote, according to a report by The Oregonian/OregonLive, sending it to the state Senate for consideration. KVAL / [Read more](#)

USA: BOEM AND CPRA SIGN AGREEMENTS TO HELP RESTORE LOUISIANA'S GULF COAST

June 19 - The Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM) and the State of Louisiana's Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority (CPRA) have signed two agreements to aid in the restoration of Louisiana's Gulf coast.

Nearly seven miles of shoreline and 1,400 acres of beach, dune, supratidal and marsh habitats will be restored using approximately 10 million cubic yards of sand from the Outer Continental Shelf (OCS) on Trinity-East Island, Timbalier Island and West Belle Barrier Headland. In addition, the project will create a 68-acre feeder beach for West Belle Barrier Headland. The restoration effort will provide and improve habitats for marine and estuarine fisheries resources and their forage species, sea turtle nesting and a wide variety of avian communities. International Dredging Review / [Read more](#)

USA: CARGILL GLOBAL PARTNERSHIP FUND AWARDS FUNDING TO NAMEPA

June 20 - The North American Marine Environmental Protection Association (NAMEPA) has received funding from Cargill's Global Partnership Fund to implement an after-school enrichment program for learners in grades six to eight in under-served communities near the Teaneck, NJ area with a goal to educate and activate students to be "Marine Environment Protectors." The Maritime Executive / [Read more](#)

USA: LATEST ACTIVITY REPORTS FROM NOAA OR&R

June 21 – Please click on the links below to read the latest News Reports from NOAA OR&R

[A Day on the Water: Derelict Crab Pot Removal in Washington State](#)

[OR&R Addresses Radiation Effects to Aquatic Habitat and Biota](#)

[Microplastics Research Shared at the International Association of Great Lakes Research Conference](#)

NEWS REPORTS FROM AROUND THE WORLD (CONTINUED)

[BP Shipping/Alaska Tanker Company Drill in San Mateo, California](#)

[Engaging with Communities around Restoration in New York City](#)

[Science of Chemical Releases Course Conducted for Multiple Audiences from Seattle](#)

[Marine Debris on the Agenda at the 2019 Gulf of Mexico Alliance All Hands Meeting](#)

[OR&R Conducts Spill Response Training in Michigan](#)

[Debris Removal Updates from the Carolinas](#)

YEMEN: 'DECAYING' OIL TANKER OFF YEMEN COAST THREATENS MASSIVE OIL SPILL, SAYS UN

June 17 - The United Nations has warned that a "decaying" oil tanker moored 60 km north of Yemen's port city of Hodeidah threatens to spill more than one million barrels of oil into the Red Sea.

UN aid chief Mark Lowcock told the UN Security Council on Monday that he was working with the Houthi rebel forces to access the deteriorating tanker and take steps to avert a crisis that could be worse than the Exxon Valdez oil spill of the late 1980s. "If the tanker ruptures or explodes, we could see the coastline polluted all along the Red Sea," Lowcock, the under-secretary-general for humanitarian affairs and emergency relief coordinator, said. "Depending on the time of year and water currents, the spill could reach from Bab el Mandeb to the Suez Canal, and potentially as far as the Strait of Hormuz," he added.

The oil tanker, named Safer, was constructed in 1976 and has been moored off Yemen's coastline near Hodeidah since 1988, acting as a floating storage and offloading (FSO) terminal to receive Yemeni export crude and load it onto vessels. Safer has not been in use since the Houthis took control of Hodeidah in 2015, but it is estimated to hold 1.1 million barrels of oil. Because of its age, a lack of maintenance, and the breakdown of the crude inside, it has led to a growing risk of a chemical explosion.

Middle East Eye / [Read more](#)

PEOPLE IN THE NEWS

DENMARK'S INGER ANDERSEN TAKES OVER AS HEAD OF UN ENVIRONMENT PROGRAMME



June 15 - Danish economist and environmentalist Inger Andersen today took up her new role as Executive Director of the UN Environment Programme, promising to prioritize greater action on climate change, biodiversity loss and pollution during her four-year tenure.

Ms. Andersen was nominated for the post by United Nations Secretary-General António Guterres and approved by the General Assembly in February 2019.

UN Environment / [Read more](#)

ISCO NEWS

ISCO SECRETARY MATTHEW SOMMERVILLE REPORTS FROM CLEAN PACIFIC 2019

The Clean Pacific conference for 2019 landed in Vancouver this year and as usual this was a compact but active conference with over 500 delegates focussed on the Pacific but still interesting for the international attendees and exhibitors which included manufacturers from China.

The conference kicked off on Tuesday with a demonstration of the spill response capability of the local coast guard and response service provider Western Canada Marine Response Corporation WCMRC. This was not the standard distant sail by with activity reported to distant observers but a full on display located at a prime tourist site, close to shore, observers and the public and at a key point in time being the day when the Canadian government was to make its announcement on a major export pipeline expansion. Topical hardly then describes the timing as the decision will lead to a significant expansion and investment in spill response capability, reduction in response times right across the region.

The demonstration was not hidden away but placed in a prime tourist view spot visible to tourists, local and the conference delegates alike. The demonstrations included the deployment of multiple single ship and multiple ships configurations and each was requiring manoeuvring close to shore, around other vessels and to cycle from recovery to transit speeds and cycle round to give observers opportunity to observe each system more than once. Mixed in with the recovery fleet were the control boats and even a drone which had many of the public asking if this was a real spill. Recovery was likewise done in full view and demonstrated clear proficiency from all involved.

Tuesday for the conference proper started with a workshop “Back to Basics – Safety During Oil Spill Response” which was scheduled for 4 hrs but could easily have been a day.

Finally on Tuesday there was the Spill Control Association of America SCAA roundtable. This was a well-attended event with over a 100 delegates and a panel of six leaders from across government and industry giving us some insight on key issues.

- Recruitment and Retention particularly of the next generation in a future with less incidents
- Maintaining capability and managing reduced spill income with increased training costs
- Requirements, legislation - are they supporting improved capability or simply increasing costs of compliance and limiting investment.

There was a lively discussion which clearly identified some difficulties and hurdles for the future, and which may see more consolidation of providers or diversification in services to meet future needs.

Our own president Dave Usher was recognised at the beginning of the meeting for his long involvement with SCAA being one of the founding members and drivers behind the association. For more information visit www.scaa-spill.org



While the issues raised were raised by the SCAA membership they clearly reflected issues we are seeing elsewhere in the world with the success of prevention for the commercial shipping, pipeline and rail industries limiting spill related income generation opportunities. As a result, response companies have had to increase training to supplement and fill gaps in on the job experience for newer staff and to look at how to trim, cut or offset costs of maintaining the capability. One clear message in this was that the customer or their insurers have not yet understood or showed willing to recognise that in a world with less real incidents retainer costs and response rates which companies have been absorbing significantly parts of to date will eventually need to rise.

As for the conference and exhibition itself well as we have commented before the organisers of the Clean Pacific, Gulf and Waterways conferences and exhibitions seem to have a good understanding of the need to draw conference delegates with a range of good and topical presentations but also the need to ensure the programme allows time to catch up, network and browse the exhibit hall. As a result we saw a programme that ensured delegates had ample time and the draw of refreshments and areas to meet and huddle inside the exhibition space. There was certainly a buzz in the exhibition hall and plenty of foot fall traffic for exhibitors to show off, attract or just remind delegates of their services and products. ISCO members including those we share with SCAA were well represented and reported on a useful event.

On our ISCO stand in addition to the draw of our president Dave Usher we had a couple of conference giveaways. The first latest hot of the press copies of the little black book from cleanupoil.com which although not expensive is an essential listing reference for most of us these days we were delighted when Stewart he

offered to send up a box for free distribution to conference delegates and they clearly appreciated by many delegates. Our second giveaway was the now traditional draw for a bottle of fine Scottish Malt Whisky (Glenmorangie 10yr old) which was coincidentally won by a local response company team member Barb Woodley of Western Canada Marine Response Corporation (WCMRC). In the photo, ISCO President Dave Usher makes the presentation to Jocelyn Gardner of WCMRC who accepted the prize on behalf of Barb Woodley.

Overall a great conference, exhibition and location.

RESOLVE MARINE GROUP RECEIVES AMVER AWARD FOR 2018



June 20 - Resolve Marine Group has received the AMVER Award for 2018 for the salvage tug Resolve Pioneer's participation in the voluntary reporting system. AMVER, founded by the Coast Guard in the 1950s to facilitate marine emergency response on the high seas, helps to coordinate good samaritan assistance for vessels in distress.

The Pioneer (pictured on left), which is stationed at Dutch Harbor, Alaska, is the only fully manned, privately-funded salvage tug in North America. Prior to moving to Alaska, the Pioneer performed rescue tows, marine firefighting and salvage support missions across the Eastern seaboard and throughout the Gulf of Mexico. She also spent six months skimming oil during the Deepwater Horizon incident.

Today, the Pioneer serves as core asset for a Resolve Marine oil spill response contracting service, 1-Call Alaska. 1-Call is a Coast Guard-vetted Oil Spill Response Organization (OSRO), and it provides emergency response services for non-tank vessels passing Alaska on the great circle route from Asia to the west coast of North America. The Maritime Executive / [Read more](#)

CONTRIBUTED ARTICLE

VESSELS AND CORALS: A TALE IN AMERICAN SAMOA

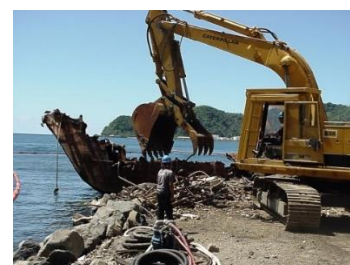
An article by Robin Garcia, Coral Reef Conservation Program, and Doug Helton, US NOAA, Office of Response & Restoration (Originally published on 20th May 2019)



Pago Pago Harbor in American Samoa. Image credit: American Samoa Department of Port Administration.



Pumping oil from a derelict vessel in American Samoa. Image credit: Doug Helton/NOAA.



Cutting vessels apart in American Samoa. Image credit: Doug Helton/NOAA.

In December 1991, Tropical Cyclone Val struck American Samoa. It was the worst cyclone to impact the Samoan Islands since the Apia cyclone of 1889. Among the devastation caused, [nine fishing vessels](#) were grounded on the coral reef in Pago Pago Harbor on Tutuila Island, the largest and most populated island in American Samoa. About 1,500 gallons of oil was released into the harbor during the grounding incident.

The U.S. Coast Guard in Hawaii responded to the incident and performed an initial cleanup of the vessels. The responsible parties were never identified, and in the meantime the vessels continued to deteriorate and leak oil, further degrading the reef. The U.S. Coast Guard consulted with NOAA, the Department of the Interior, and the government of American Samoa and determined that the wrecks had to be removed.

Removing the wrecks would cause more damage to the coral reef, so NOAA proposed an innovative solution — use the Natural Resource Damage Assessment authorities under the Oil Pollution Act to restore the reef damaged both by the vessel groundings and the vessel removal process using the Oil Spill Liability Trust Fund. It was the first time the fund was used for emergency restoration. In 2000, after a nearly nine year response effort, 36,000 gallons of oil and 600 pounds of pure ammonia were removed from Pago Pago Harbor along with the wrecks. The restoration of several aspects of the biological environment, including the coral reef ecosystem, totaled \$3 million.



Transplanting corals from a grounded derelict vessel in American Samoa.
Image credit: Doug Helton/NOAA.



Surveying corals in Pago Pago Harbor, American Samoa.
Image credit: Doug Helton/NOAA.

During one restoration project, over 300 coral colonies were transplanted from a planned causeway into the space left by one of the removed vessels. The survival rate of the transplanted coral was 91 to 92 percent in 2001 and 60 to 78 percent by 2005. This work may be the first documented coral restoration effort in American Samoa.

The response in Pago Pago Harbor occurred not only during an important period for the development of NOAA's oil spill response capacity through the Office of Response and Restoration, but also during an important period for the expansion of NOAA's coral reef conservation capacity. In 1998, an executive order established the [U.S. Coral Reef Task Force](#) and identified the Commerce secretary, through the NOAA administrator, as a co-chair of the task force. Two years later, the Coral Reef Conservation Act of 2000 instituted [NOAA's Coral Reef Conservation Program](#).



In 2005 NOAA's National Geodetic Survey dedicated a commemorative mark in Aua Village overlooking Pago Pago Harbor highlighting the restoration of the coral reef ecosystem damaged by the vessel groundings. Image credit: NOAA National Geodetic Survey.

Coral reefs are vital for the protection of coastal lives, livelihoods, and property. The total economic value of coral reef services for the U.S. — including fisheries, tourism, and coastal protection — is more than [\\$3.4 billion per year](#). According to a recent [U.S. Geological Survey study](#), coral reefs in American Samoa protect nearly 600 people, \$26 million in infrastructure, and \$7 million in economic activity annually from tsunami hazard exposure. They also protect over 1,050 people, \$46.5 million in infrastructure, and \$13.1 million in economic activity from 10-year storms, or large storms that occur every 10 years on average. These services make it essential to protect coral reefs from hazards and respond efficiently when incidents do occur.

NOAA's ability to respond to oil spills and conserve coral reefs continues to improve with time, research, and advances in technology. Yet everyone can take steps to protect and improve the condition of coral reefs in American Samoa and throughout the nation by utilizing safe boating practices such as anchoring away from corals, performing regular maintenance and refueling onshore to avoid spills and leaks, and properly securing vessels in preparation for storms. Everyone has a role to play in conserving coral reef ecosystems for current and future generations

For more information:

- [The Coral Reef Economy](#) (Video)
- [10 Ways to Protect Coral Reefs](#) (Infographic)

This blog was a collaborative effort between NOAA's Office of Response and Restoration and NOAA's Coral Reef Conservation Program. For more information about NOAA's coral conservation work, [visit the program website here](#).

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CONTRACTS & TENDERS

OPEN TENDER NOTIFICATION SERVICE

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

MESSAGES FROM EVENT ORGANISERS

Ecoforum Conference & Exhibition, Auckland, New Zealand, 3-6 September 2019 - The 2019 EcoForum Conference committee is excited to announce the release of the preliminary program. [Click here to view](#)

Elastec Spring Workshop 2019 – This event has been postponed until July 30 – August 1 due to flooding in New Harmony, Indiana. Due to the date change, 6 places are currently available. [More info](#)

NOSCA Seminar 2019, October 15-18, Frøya, Norway – The Preliminary Programme has been released. [View the programme](#)

Clean Gulf 2019, October 28-31, New Orleans, LA. – New additions have been added to the programme. <http://2019.cleangulf.org/>

UK Spill 2019 Conference – This is being rescheduled to take place in the Autumn. New date will be announced ASAP.

RESPONSE EVENTS DURING JUNE AND JULY 2019 (UPDATED)

TOGO: WORKSHOP ON OIL SPILL LIABILITY AND COMPENSATION

Lomé, June 24-27. The objective is to present and provide training to relevant national authorities on the scope and implementation of IMO Conventions related to liability and compensation in case of an oil spill through case studies and table-top exercises (cost evaluation and compensation procedures). [More info](#)

UK: UK SPILL ANNUAL CONFERENCE

This event is being rescheduled for Autumn 2019. More info will be released later.

CAMBODIA: NATIONAL TRAIN-IMPLEMENT COURSE

Phnom Penh, July 15-19. Attended by nominated officials, this national delivery will assist in the implementation phase of Annexes I, II & V of MARPOL. [More info](#)

CONGO: WORKSHOP ON CONTINGENCY PLANNING AND ON THE UPDATE OF THE NOSCP

Kinshasa, July 22-26. Objectives - Provide training to relevant national authorities on contingency planning; Test the National Oil Spill Contingency Plan (NOSCP) of DRC through a table top exercise; Initiate amendments to the NOSCP on the basis of lessons learnt from the exercise; Develop recommendations to improve the NOSCP. [More info](#)

UPCOMING EVENTS – AUGUST 2019 ONWARDS (UPDATED)

COUNTRY	2019	TITLE OF EVENT	LOCATION
For more information click on Title of Event			
NAMIBIA	August 5-8	Transboundary oil spill response exercise between Angola and Namibia	Jamestown
NEW ZEALAND	Sept. 3-5	Ecoforum Conference 2019	Auckland
UK	Sept. 3-6	SPE Offshore Europe Conference & Exhibition	Aberdeen
NIGERIA	Sept. 9-11	National workshop on liability and compensation in case of oil spill	Lagos
UK	Sept. 11-12	Maritime Salvage & Casualty Response Conference	London
UK	Sept. 11-12	The Spill Response Expo	Birmingham
UK & IRELAND	Sept. 25-26	ISAA Training Days at Castle Archdale	Enniskillen
UK	October 2-4	ITAC Oil Spill Response Forum	Southampton
CROATIA	October 2-5	Pollution Response Challenges in the Mediterranean Conference	Split
USA	October 7-10	Elastec's Fall 2019 River Spill Workshop	Carmi, IL

UPCOMING EVENTS – AUGUST 2019 ONWARDS (CONTINUED)

NORWAY	October 14-18	NOSCA Seminar 2019	Frøya
SINGAPORE	October 21-24	International Chemical and Oil Pollution Conference and Exhibition	Singapore
UK	Oct. 28 – Nov. 1	Meetings of the IOPC Funds Governing Bodies	London
USA	October 28-31	Clean Gulf Conference and Exhibition	New Orleans, LA
SOUTH AFRICA	October 28-31	8th GI WACAF Regional Conference	Cape Town
TUNISIA	Nov. 13-14	Incident Management System Training Workshop	Tunis
UAE	Dec. 8-10	Middle East HSE and Sustainability Week	Dubai
COUNTRY	2020	TITLE OF EVENT	LOCATION
USA	May 11-14	International Oil Spill Conference & Exhibition	New Orleans, LA
CANADA	June 2-4	43rd AMOP Technical Seminar on Environmental Contamination and Response.	Edmonton, Alberta
To request posting of an event of interest to the Spill Response Community please send details to the Editor			

Note: Where a dedicated event URL is not available an email address for requesting more info is given

PUBLICATIONS

PERFORMANCE OF EUROPEAN CROSS-COUNTRY OIL PIPELINES

June 3 - Statistical summary of reported spillages in 2017 and since 1971 - Concaawe has collected 47 years of spillage data on European cross-country oil pipelines. At nearly 37,500 km the current inventory includes the majority of such pipelines in Europe, transporting some 720 million m3 per year of crude oil and oil products.

This report covers the performance of these pipelines in 2017 and a full historical perspective since 1971. The performance over the whole 47 years is analysed in various ways, including gross and net spillage volumes, and spillage causes grouped into five main categories: mechanical failure, operational, corrosion, natural hazard and third party interference.

The rate of inspections by in-line tools (inspection pigs) is also reported. Product theft attempts continued to be the major cause of spills in 2017 although the total number (11) showed a sharp decline from previous years (60 in 2017, 87 in 2015).

[Download the CONCAWE report](#)

POLLUTION RESPONSE SERVICES - SUPPORTING POLLUTION RESPONSE FOR CLEANER EUROPEAN SEAS

June 11 - The European Maritime Safety Agency offers a range of services to help coastal States around Europe respond quickly, effectively and efficiently to marine pollution from ships and oil and gas installations. This brochure describes those services.

[Download the EMSA brochure](#)

BIOTECHNOLOGICAL STRATEGIES FOR EFFECTIVE REMEDIATION OF POLLUTED SOILS

Koul, B. and P. Taak. Springer Nature, Singapore. ISBN: 978-981-13-2419-2, 240 pp, 2018

The nine chapters in this book primarily focus on the utilization of algae, plants, plant-associated bacteria, fungi (endophytic or rhizospheric), and certain lower animals for sustainable bioremediation of organic and inorganic contaminants. Recent techniques are also covered, such as biochar and biofilms for carbon sequestration, soil conditioning, and soil and water remediation, in addition to recent advances in nanobioremediation based on biosynthetic nanoparticles. Case studies highlight successful treatment of contaminated soils by implementation of these strategies. View the table of contents and chapter abstracts at <https://www.springer.com/gp/book/9789811324192> Technology Innovation News Survey / [Read more](#)

NATURAL AND ENHANCED ATTENUATION OF CONTAMINANTS IN SOILS, SECOND EDITION

Yong, R.N. and C.N. Mulligan. CRC Press, Boca Raton, FL. ISBN: 978-1-1380-6637-3, 308 pp, 2019

This new edition updates the principles and fundamentals of natural attenuation of contaminants with a broader view of the field gained since its original publication in 2003. It covers new methods for evaluating natural attenuation mechanisms and microbial activity at lab and field scales. Case studies are provided along with actual treatments and protocols, theoretical processes, numerical models, and legal aspects of the natural attenuation of organic and inorganic contaminants. Future directions for implementation of natural attenuation and enhanced remediation techniques are also considered. View the table of contents and chapter abstracts at <https://www.taylorfrancis.com/books/9781315159195> Technology Innovation News Survey / [Read more](#)

PUBLICATIONS (CONTINUED)

REMOVAL OF TOTAL PETROLEUM HYDROCARBONS FROM CONTAMINATED SOILS BY ELECTROCHEMICAL METHOD

Cocarta, D.M., I.A. Istrate, C. Streche, and D.M. Dumitru. International Journal of Environmental and Ecological Engineering 11(5):479-483(2017) This paper presents results to assess electrochemical treatment as an option for the remediation of total petroleum hydrocarbons (TPHs) from contaminated soils. The electrochemical method was applied in an experimental setup with the next dimensions: 450 mm x 150 mm x 150 mm. The setup length was devised in three electrochemical cells that were connected at two power supplies. The power supplies configuration was provided in such a manner that each cell has a cathode and an anode without overlapping. The initial value of TPH concentration in soil was of 1420.28 mg/kg dry weight. Twenty-one days of application resulted in removal efficiency of 31%, with better results in the anode area respect to the cathode one (33% respect to 27%). The energy consumption registered after the development of the experiment was 10.6 kWh for exterior power supply and 16.1 kWh for the interior one. <https://waset.org/publications/10007754/removal-of-total-petroleum-hydrocarbons-from-contaminated-soils-by-electrochemical-method> Technology Innovation News Survey / [Read more](#)

LINKS FOR DOWNLOADING & READING OTHER PUBLICATIONS

Alga Chronicle	News from Australia on Contaminated Land Remediation	June 2019
AMSA Update	Latest news from the Australian Maritime Safety Authority	Current issue
ATRAC Newsletter	News from the Adriatic Training and Research Centre	June 2019
AUSMEPA Bulletin	News from the Australian Marine Environment Protection Assoc'n	Summer 2019
BIMCO Bulletin	Marine and shipping-related news from BIMCO	June 2019
Newsletter from George Holliday	News and commentary on HSE issues from George Holliday	On request email
Bow Wave	Sam Ignarski's Ezine on Marine & Transport Matters	Current issue
Cedre Newsletter	News from Cedre in Brittany, France	May 2019
Clean Nigeria Associates Newsletter	News from CNA about Oil Spill Response in Nigeria	December 2018
EMSA Newsletter	News from the European Maritime Safety Agency	June 2019
GISEA Quarterly Newsletter	News from Global Initiative for South-East Asia	April 2019
IMO News Magazine	News from the International Maritime Organization	Summer 2019
IMO Publishing News	New and forthcoming IMO publications	April-May 2019
JOIFF "The Catalyst"	Int'l Organisation for Industrial Hazard Management	April 2019 issue
Maritime Executive Magazine	Often contains articles of interest to the spill response community	Jan.-Feb. 2019
MOIG Newsletter	News from the Mediterranean Oil Industry Group	April 2019 issue
Nautical Institute News	News from the Nautical Institute	March, 2019
Navigate Response	Global crisis communications network for shipping & marine	June 2019
NOAA OR&R	Weekly round-up of news from NOAA's Office of Response & Restoration	Latest issue
Oceanbuzz	Newsletter giving news on the Ocean Technology Industry	Current issue
OCIMF Newsletter	News from the Oil Companies International Marine Forum	May 2019
OHMSETT Gazette	Oil Spill Response Research & Renewable Energy Test Facility Quarterly	Fall 2018
OSPAR Newsletter	Protecting & Conserving the N.E. Atlantic and its resources	Spring 2019
PEMSEA Newsletter	Healthy oceans, people and economies in the East Asian Seas	January, 2019
Pollution Online Newsletter	News for pollution prevention & control professionals	April 3, 2019
Safe Seas, Clean Seas	Quarterly Newsletter from Maritime New Zealand	July 2018 issue
Salvage World	Quarterly Newsletter of the International Salvage Union	Current issue
Sea Alarm Foundation Newsletter	Oiled wildlife Preparedness and Response news from Sea Alarm	Current issue
Technology Innovation News Survey	News from US EPA – Contaminated Site Decontamination	May 1-15, 2019
USA EPA Tech Direct	Remediation of contaminated soil and groundwater	June 1, 2019

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

INCIDENT REPORTS (IN CHRONOLOGICAL ORDER)

UKRAINE: HAZARDOUS CHEMICALS POLLUTE ROS RIVER IN VINNYTSIA REGION AFTER ROAD ACCIDENT

June 10 - The authorities have issued alerts as the river flow appears to be pulling insecticide-contaminated water toward Kyiv region's Bila Tserkva where household water supplies have already been shut down. UNIAN / [Read more](#) [Thanks to Don Johnston of ISCO Industry Partner, DG & Hazmat Group]

CANADA: MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT INVESTIGATES FUEL SPILL ON TRENT-SEVERN WATERWAY IN LAKEFIELD

June 11 - The Ministry of Environment (MOE) is investigating after a boat dumped fuel from a damaged engine at Lock 26 of the Trent-Severn Waterway in Lakefield on Monday night. Global News / [Read more](#) [Thanks to Don Johnston of ISCO Industry Partner, DG & Hazmat Group]

INCIDENT REPORTS (CONTINUED)

Note from Editor - At time of writing it appears that last week was a quiet one in regard to marine and other on-water spills affecting estuaries, rivers, lakes, etc. I haven't yet seen the latest issue of Don Johnston's "Newsy Stuff" but no doubt it will contain around 20-30 reports of inland spills resulting from road tanker accidents, fuel stations, static tank incidents, etc. As you will be aware, there are just too many of these to cover in the ISCO Newsletter and there is no point in duplicating the excellent work being done by Don in tracking these events.

In the Maritime Bulletin, Mikhail Voytenko regularly advises on vessel abandonments, groundings and sinkings – several every week – but, unless there is an immediate and significant release of oil or chemicals, spillages are not reported.

Where possible, the ISCO Newsletter does report on "near misses" and other situations with potential to result in major pollution – See derelict tanker off the coast of India (Page 5), a new pollution threat in the Solomon Islands (Page 6) and a "decaying" tanker off the coast of Yemen (Page 7).

SOMETHING TO MAKE YOU SMILE

To lighten the tone of this newsletter your editor has sometimes in the past included some amusing content – but printing jokes can be a minefield and he has been chastised in the past for including some that were not PC. In response to requests received he's agreed to give it an occasional go - but very carefully ...

Submissions should be sent to the Editor – info@spillcontrol.org

ANIMAL SPIRITS

Mrs. Davidson's dishwasher quit working so she calls a repairman. Since she has to go to work the next day, she tells him, "I'll leave the key under the mat. Fix the dish-washer, leave the bill on the counter, and I'll mail you the check. Oh, by the way, don't worry about my Bull Dog; he won't bother you. But, whatever you do, do NOT, under ANY circumstances, talk to my parrot!"

When the repairman arrives at Mrs. Davidson's apartment the next day, he discovers the biggest and meanest Bull Dog he has ever seen. But just as she said, the dog just lay there on the carpet watching the repairman go about his business.

The Parrot, however, drove him nuts the whole time with his incessant yelling, cursing, and name-calling.

Finally the repairman couldn't contain himself any longer and yelled, "Shut up, you stupid ugly bird!"

To which the parrot replied, "Get him, Spike!"

[Thanks to Paul Dixon and Sam Ignarski of the Maritime Advocate Online]

INFORMATION FOR NON-MEMBERS

JOIN ISCO ONLINE – IT'S QUICK AND EASY

There are lots of positive advantages in joining this organisation which has a worldwide membership in more than 50 countries

Being part of a worldwide community of professionals who share a common interest + Receive rapid advice of emergency spill response supply requirements from governments, responsible parties and others arising from major spills and have the opportunity to offer support services, equipment and materials + Receiving ISCO's weekly newsletter keeping you up-to-date on events, developing technologies, new legislation and other matters of mutual interest + Access to a comprehensive online Technical and Reference facility for oil and HNS - spill response tools, guidelines, manuals and other information + Identifying opportunities for providing new products and services needed in domestic and overseas markets + Practical help in building incident response capacity and competence enhancement + Through ISCO, having a voice in the drafting of new legislation that will affect your area of interest + Opportunities to participate in ISCO work groups developing new ideas and projects + Through the International Offers of Assistance initiative opportunities to have a role in the response to major oil spill events + Networking with other members, sharing experiences, discussing problems and helping find good solutions + Free listing in ISCO's International Directory of Supplies and Services with your entry hyperlinked to your own website.

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