



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 INFO ON THE EVENTS FEATURED



ISCO CELEBRATES ITS 35th ANNIVERSARY



In the picture: David Usher, President of ISCO

For 35 years, the International Spill Control Organisation (ISCO) has been dedicated to improving world-wide preparedness in response to oil and chemical spills.

It was back in 1983 that representatives of the US, British, French and Swedish spill control associations (SCAA, BOSCA, SYCOPOL and SWEMARPOL respectively) came together at the International Oil

Spill Conference (IOPC) in Texas to discuss the formation of ISCO. The organisation was incorporated in London the following year on 9th October 1984 as a not-for-profit international entity with clear objectives that included the promotion of international co-operation and practical support for implementing Oil Pollution Preparedness, Response and Co-operation (OPRC) and other relevant IMO conventions.

Today ISCO has members in over 50 countries worldwide, including major response organisations, equipment manufacturers, and individual professionals such as training providers, consultants, and government agencies. In terms of the benefits this membership brings, one of the main purposes of the organisation is to provide a focus for all of the people involved in the industry.

THE INTERNATIONAL OIL SPILL ORGANIZATION'S MISSION IS TO RAISE WORLDWIDE PREPAREDNESS AND CO-OPERATION IN RESPONSE TO OIL AND CHEMICAL SPILLS, TO PROMOTE TECHNICAL DEVELOPMENT AND PROFESSIONAL COMPETENCY, AND TO PROVIDE A FOCUS FOR MAKING THE KNOWLEDGE AND EXPERIENCE OF SPILL CONTROL PROFESSIONALS AVAILABLE TO IMO, UNEP AND OTHER ORGANIZATIONS

MEMBERSHIP OF ISCO

[Benefits of Membership](#)

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ADVANCE YOUR CAREER BY GAINING PROFESSIONAL RECOGNITION.

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

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

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

You can apply for Student Membership, Associate Membership (AMISCO), MEMBERSHIP (MISCO) or FELLOWSHIP (FISCO)

[About Professional Membership](#)

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

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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 EMERGING POLLUTANTS POISONING OUR ENVIRONMENT



Many slum areas across the world have rubbish-strewn waterways like this one in Kibera, Nairobi, Kenya. Photo by Clara Prip/UNEP

"Municipal, industrial, and increasingly domestic, wastewater are primary sources of emerging pollutants in the aquatic environment," says UN Environment Programme (UNEP) wastewater expert Birguy Lamizana.

Chemicals and compounds that have only recently been identified as potential threats to the environment and are not yet widely regulated by national or international law are known as "emerging pollutants". They are classified as "emerging", not because the contaminants themselves are new, but rather because of the rising level of concern.

"The list of compounds that qualify as emerging pollutants is long and getting longer," says a UNEP study. UNEP / [Read more](#)

PLASTIC CLEANUP SYSTEM BEGINS TRIAL IN PACIFIC GARBAGE PATCH



Photo: The first collected trash in the new variant of Ocean Cleanup's prototype (all images courtesy The Ocean Cleanup)

Rotterdam-based startup The Ocean Cleanup announced Wednesday that its plastic-catching system has been deployed and has successfully retrieved its first debris from the Great Pacific Garbage Patch.

The company's System 001/B is a semicircular containment device designed to catch drifting plastic on ocean currents. With deployment assistance from the offshore tug Maersk Transporter, Ocean Cleanup tested the first version of the system last year. It deployed a revised version in June, and initial testing confirms that it performs as designed.

Based on the results of the test, The Ocean Cleanup says that it will design a full-scale system capable of enduring the Pacific Ocean environment and retain the collected plastic for long periods of time.

The Ocean Cleanup's ultimate goal is a large-scale deployment of multiple units to remove ocean plastic on an industrial scale, then return it to shore for recycling. It also conducts primary research on the origins and mass balance of ocean plastic with the intention of informing policy; its work suggests that deep sea plastic contamination may [differ](#) fundamentally in age and composition from the plastic found in coastal waters. The Maritime Executive / [Read more](#)

INTERNATIONAL COASTAL CLEAN-UP 2019



Photo: On World Wetland Day in 2018, staff members of the Secretariat participated in a beach cleanup on the Palisadoes strip in Kingston, Jamaica.

Over the past few decades, people around the world have been mobilized every year to participate in cleanup activities along beaches, river banks, and even, underwater. Since the first international beach cleanup organized by members of the Ocean Conservancy in the United States in the late 1980s, cleanup efforts have grown exponentially, with over 100 countries participating each year. Considered as the largest one-day volunteer event, International Coastal Cleanup Day attracts the participation of young people, students, regional and international organizations, government agencies, members of the private sector, non-governmental organizations, and the general public.

Since its inception, the International Coastal Cleanup movement has successfully drawn people together under one common environmental concern- taking care of our oceans. It seeks to inspire action among individuals- the type of action that will not only be habitual but will also positively influence friends, families, and local communities. Beach cleanups are also organized on other commemorative environmental days throughout the year such as World Wetlands Day, World Environment Day and World Oceans Day, and collectively, they help to build networks of environmentally-conscious individuals who seek to bring about positive changes in their communities, cities and countries. UN Environment / [Read more](#)

IOPC FUNDS: SUBMISSION OF OIL REPORTS

One hundred and one States have submitted reports for 2018 to the 1992 Fund, representing 97.31% of the expected total contributing oil. Oil reports for the year 2018 and/or previous years are outstanding for 18 States with respect to the 1992 Fund.

Thirty States have submitted reports for 2018 to the Supplementary Fund, representing 99.39% of the expected total contributing oil. Oil reports for the year 2018 and/or previous years are outstanding for two States with respect to the Supplementary Fund.

Ongoing work is required to ensure that all Member States continue to fulfil this important obligation under the 1992 Fund Convention and the Supplementary Fund Protocol. The Director strongly encourages all 1992 Fund and Supplementary Fund Member States to support the Secretariat in this matter. IOPC Funds / [Read more](#)

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

Your editor monitors a limited number of websites for news (in English language) of interest to the international spill response community but does not have the resources to visit multiple social media platforms. The message is "If you have news you would like to share with readers of the ISCO Newsletter in over 60 countries (probably including your own country), you should send it by email to the editor john.mcmurtrie@spillcontrol.org

GHANA BECOMES FIRST AFRICAN NATION TO JOIN AMBITIOUS PARTNERSHIP TO END PLASTIC POLLUTION

October 1 - The Government of Ghana formally joined the Global Plastic Action Partnership (GPAP) today, becoming the first African nation to combine forces with this ambitious new initiative dedicated to eradicating plastic waste and pollution worldwide.

Ghana is the second country to partner with GPAP, a public-private platform dedicated to fostering action to combat the plastic pollution crisis. In Ghana, it will work closely with the Ministry of Environment, Science, Technology and Innovation (MESTI) to develop a national roadmap for sustainably managing and reducing the country's plastic waste challenge, while continuing to boost its economic growth. The GEF / [Read more](#)

RUSSIA: CHERNOBYL CONTROL ROOM NOW OPEN TO VISITORS -- BUT ONLY WEARING A HAZMAT SUIT

October 3 - The Chernobyl nuclear power plant has seen a huge increase in visitor numbers in recent years as part of a growing global interest in dark tourism.

And now, intrepid travelers be able to get inside the control room where the world's worst nuclear accident unfolded, Chernobyl tour companies confirmed to CNN. Those who venture inside the highly radioactive area at the infamous Reactor 4 will be provided with white protective suits, helmets and masks for the brief visits. After leaving, they will be subject to two radiology tests to measure exposure. CNN / [Read more & watch video](#)



THAILAND: UPDATING THE NATIONAL OIL SPILL PREPAREDNESS PLAN



September 27 - Supporting countries to prepare for contingencies is an important part of IMO's capacity building work. Thailand is the latest country to benefit from IMO assistance to update its oil spill contingency plan at a National Workshop on National Contingency in Bangkok (24-27 September).

Thirty-five participants from 15 government entities and oil and gas companies learned about the latest international best practices, and developments, in the field of oil spill preparedness and response and identified areas of improvement in their existing national plan.

The workshop was organized under the framework of the Global Initiative project for South East Asia (GI SEA), a joint project with the oil and gas industry (IPIECA). This supports implementation of IMO's Convention on Oil Pollution Preparedness, Response and Co-operation (the OPRC 90 Convention). IMO / [Read more](#)

TUNISIA: REGIONAL WORKSHOP ON INCIDENT MANAGEMENT SYSTEM 200

October 3 - The Mediterranean Oil Industry Group (MOIG) and Oil Spill Response Limited (OSRL) are very pleased to invite you to the Regional Workshop on "Incident Management System 200" which will be held on 13 and 14 November 2019 at Paris Concorde Hotel, Rue du Lac Turkana, les Berges du Lac, Tunis-Tunisia.

The event will open on Wednesday, 13th November 2019 at 08: 30 am and close on Thursday, 14th November 2019 at 17: 15 pm. The workshop will be animated by MM. Mohamed Samy Elmahy and Mohamed Ahmed Moustafa, oil spill response specialists and trainers

Download attachments: [Workshop Agenda](#) + [Registration Form Day 1-13 November 2019](#) + [Registration Form Day 2-14 November 2019](#)



UK & IRELAND: ISAS TRAINING DAYS AT CASTLE ARCHDALE, ENNISKILLEN



The practical training included deployment of both Booms and Shoreline Barrier to ensure continuity of containment irrespective of tidal rise and fall

September 26 -This year's spill training event at Castle Archdale, Northern Ireland was the first practical training carried out by ISAS since the combination of ISAA with UK Spill. The venue which was made available by Northern Ireland Environment Agency is ideal for both lecturing and practical work on site. The event was well attended by over 40 delegates from spill accredited organisations and majored on surface water inland spills and shoreline clean-up. Equipment was provided by NIEA who also assisted delegates with beach seal boom deployment and provided the exercise safety boat. This is the 10th year that ISAA have used Castle Archdale as a training venue and it is hoped that this will be repeated next year supplemented by a seminar on contaminated land and domestic heating oil spills planned for Dublin next Spring. [Thanks to John A. Dawes and Captain Bill Boyle] <https://www.isaa.org.uk/>

UK: FORTH PORTS TAKES PART IN EMERGENCY TRAINING EXERCISE

September 30 - The exercise, Clearwater Forth, was an emergency pollution control safety plan which is designed to handle incidents on the river which could involve the risk of oil pollution. Organised by Forth Ports, the exercise is run every year by the port authority to test its safety response. Edinburgh Evening News / [Read more](#)

USA: NEW YORK - GENCO AND NAMEPA TEAM UP FOR BEACH CLEANUP

October 1 - As part of Ocean Conservancy's International Coastal Clean-Up annual program, New York based drybulk shipping company GENCO Shipping and Trading Ltd (GNK) and NAMEPA (North American Marine Environment Protection Association) partnered to clean a beach on Coney Island, Brooklyn last week. CEO John Wobensmith and COO Rob Hughes were joined by 40 other members of the "GENCO Environment Stewardship Team" to collect over 300 pounds of trash. The Maritime Executive / [Read more](#)

USA: EPA AWARDS \$6 MILLION TO RESEARCH POTENTIAL ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS OF PFAS SUBSTANCES IN WASTE STREAMS

October 1 - The US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) announced approximately \$6 million to fund research by eight organizations to expand the understanding of the environmental risks posed by per- and poly-fluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) in waste streams and identify practical approaches to manage the potential impacts as PFAS enters the environment. Research projects funded under this work will examine the chemical process for the destruction of PFAS in leachate and groundwater, investigate the feasibility of electron beam technology for the destruction of PFAS compounds during the remediation of groundwater, wastewater, sewage sludges, and soils, as well as investigate the fate of PFAS passing through typical landfill liner systems, and test the ability to break down PFAS in landfill leachate using soundwaves. For more information, visit <https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-awards-6-million-research-potential-environmental-impacts-pfas-substances-waste> EPA Tech Direct / [Read more](#)

USA: WASHINGTON - AGENCIES CONDUCT OIL SPILL DRILL AT FRENCHMAN'S BAR

October 2 - Union Pacific Railroad, in partnership with the Washington State Department of Ecology and Clean Rivers Cooperative, practiced responding to a major oil spill Wednesday morning along the shores of the Columbia River at Frenchman's Bar Regional Park. Project Manager Dale Raymond, left, and Technician Peter Siegel assemble a containment boom during the drill, which simulated the first hours of an oil spill response. The Colombian / [Read more](#)



USA: THE CALIFORNIA MIGRATORY BIRD PROTECTION ACT TO PROTECT BIRDS FROM OIL SPILLS JUST PASSED!

October 2 - The California Migratory Bird Protection Act (AB 454) was introduced by Assemblymember Ash Kalra in February. The law aims to protect migratory birds and it "authorizes states and territories of the United States to make and enforce laws or regulations that give further protection to migratory birds, their nests, and eggs." One Green Planet / [Read more](#)

USA: LATEST ACTIVITY REPORTS FROM NOAA OR&R

October 4 – Please click on the links below to read the latest News Reports from NOAA OR&R

[History of Oil and Oil Spills at Louisiana State University](#)

Gary Shigenaka, an OR&R biologist, was invited to present to the College of the Coast and Environment (CC&E) at Louisiana State University on the history of oil and oil spills.

[University of Rhode Island's "Plastics: Land to Sea Summit"](#)

On September 30, NOAA Marine Debris Program's (MDP) Northeast regional coordinator, Demi Fox, along with Kara Lavender Law, research professor of oceanography at Sea Education Association, and Stewart Harris, director of marine and environmental stewardship for the Plastics Division at American Chemistry Council, joined a panel at the University of Rhode Island's first ever Plastics: Land to Sea Summit.

[Marine Debris Program Joins National Fish and Wildlife Foundation to Announce 2019 Fishing for Energy Awardees](#)

On September 25, Caitlin Wessel, NOAA Marine Debris Program's Gulf of Mexico Regional Coordinator, joined the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF) in an event to announce the 2019 Fishing for Energy awardees and celebrate the 10-year anniversary of the Fishing for Energy program.

[Great Lakes Cross-border Oil Spill Training Exercise](#)

On September 25-26, OR&R's LT Michael Doig participated in a multi-day CANUSLAK cross-border oil spill training exercise in Port Huron, Michigan and Corunna, Ontario.

[Microplastic Monitoring Workshop at the Seattle Aquarium](#)

On October 1-2, the NOAA Marine Debris Program Pacific Regional Coordinator, Nir Barnea, participated in the Microplastic Monitoring Workshop, conducted at the Seattle Aquarium.

PEOPLE IN THE NEWS

BP SAYS CEO BOB DUDLEY TO STEP DOWN NEXT YEAR



October 4 - BP said Friday that Chief Executive Bob Dudley, who oversaw the energy giant's response to and recovery from the devastating Gulf of Mexico 2010 oil spill disaster, will leave next year. Dudley, 64, will step down on February 4, 2020 and retire at the end of March. During his tenure he has led the recovery from the Deepwater Horizon accident, re-built BP as a stronger, safer company and helped it re-earn its position as one of the leaders of the energy sector.

Economic Times / [Read more](#)

BP REPLACES DUDLEY WITH LOONEY

October 4 – Bernard Looney, who will replace Bob Dudley as chief executive of BP when he retires next year, faces the tricky task of navigating the energy major through a rising tide of environmentalism and the move to a low-carbon economy. As CEO, Looney will be charged with continuing to adapt BP to the transition to lower-carbon energy as pressure from investors grows to meet targets under the 2015 Paris Climate Agreement. Looney, 49, took charge of BP's oil and gas production, or upstream operations, in 2016 as the sector grappled with the aftermath of the 2014 collapse in oil prices. Investing / [Read more](#)



AUSTRALIA: NEW APPOINTMENTS ANNOUNCED AT AMOSC



Margie Best joined AMOSC as a Technical Advisor in September 2019. Margie comes from a strong background in learning and development, working with a variety of organisations including Oil and Gas, Information Technology and Education. She has facilitated organisational change with the adoption of both conventional and unconventional approaches to employee learning, and has looked at the transformation of learning and development with a strong emphasis on improving and enhancing learner engagement with the use of technology to support.

Ash Miller joined AMOSC as a Technical Officer in September 2019. Ash completed her Masters of Biological Sciences and a Bachelor of Science in Marine Biology and Zoology at the University of Western Australia, after comprehensively studying crayfish off Dongara, Western Australia. Ash has undertaken a range of environmental volunteer roles, working with flatback turtles in Barrow Island, Western Australia; Colobus monkeys in Rwanda, Africa; Asian elephants in Thailand and green turtles in Tioman Islands, Malaysia. She has also worked in the hospitality industry and is an active football player. AMOSC / [Read more](#)



ISCO NEWS

AGM AGENDA, SECRETARY'S REPORT, NEW DRAFT CONSTITUTION AND PROXY VOTING FORM

By now all members should have received all of the above by email. If you have not received these papers, please let me know immediately. John.mcmurtrie@spillcontrol.org

Reminder: The ISCO 2019 AGM will take place at 1815 hrs. on Monday 28th October at the Clean Gulf Conference in New Orleans, Louisiana, USA. There will be signposting to help you find the meeting room, which is Room No. 263. If you are planning to be there, please let me know. If you can't come, please use the proxy voting form to cast your votes.

NEWS FROM ISCO MEMBERS

News from ISCO Members – Your editor welcomes news from members. Please ensure that ISCO is on your mailing list for your press releases and company newsletters. Send your news to john.mcmurtrie@spillcontrol.org

AQUA-GUARD HAS BEEN AWARDED A SECOND CONTRACT UNDER CANADA'S ENVIRONMENTAL RESPONSE EQUIPMENT MODERNIZATION INITIATIVE

October 4 - Aqua-Guard Spill Response Inc., of Vancouver, British Columbia, was awarded a contract of \$2,575,720 for 37 compact, portable, oleophilic skimmers. Aqua-Guard's CEO Cameron Janz writes - "We are very excited to continue working with the Canadian Coast Guard and Public Services and Procurement Canada. The supply of these thirty-seven (37) compact oil skimming systems further increases Canada's capacity to respond to marine oil spills in both calm waters and the interior spaces of small vessels. The RBS TRITON 20 oil skimming systems will be delivered to locations across Canada and provide compatibility with the fifty-seven (57) larger RBS TRITON 60 oil skimming systems we have supplied to Canada in the last 16 months." Aqua-Guard / [Read more](#)

ISCO'S HISTORY – AN ARTICLE CONTRIBUTED BY MATTHEW SOMMERVILLE

While we would expect ISCO members to be aware of ISCO's history, mission and objectives. Those people who simply sign up to enjoy the benefits of the free newsletter we find often have not taken the time to obtain any knowledge of the organization or to understand why it needs contributing members.

This article therefore hopes to address this situation and encourage readers to reflect on.

How they expect that the organization and free newsletter will be sustained ?

How as a member they could contribute, promote and share knowledge of activities or products ?

The 1967 grounding and spill from the tanker Torrey Canyon off the coast of the UK is often conveniently used in the absence of knowledge as the reported start point for spill environmental impact awareness and the needs for a response industry. The reality however is that there had been many previous oil spills from ships and there existed in several countries national legislation, contingency plans, equipment stockpiles and a small but growing spill equipment manufacturing and response industry. The incidents prior to that date had involved smaller quantities of oil, have been localised in impact but probably most importantly had in the main only been locally reported and knowledge stayed only with those directly involved. The late 1960s however had seen a boom in communications with expanded radio channels, wider distribution and choice of newspapers and the wider access to TV. As a result Torrey Canyon was the first incident to be presented to a global audience who heard about, read about and importantly saw images of the incident and its impacts. As a result, and in conjunction with already growing demand for oil and larger ships, the individual governments, ports or company efforts accelerated, and national and international cooperation flourished as did the need and desire to share knowledge on all aspects of prevention and response.

In 1983 representatives of the national spill control / trade associations in the United States, United Kingdom, France ,and Sweden (SCAA, BOSCA, SYCOPOL and SWEMARPOL) met at the International Oil Spill Conference in San Antonio, Texas to discuss the formation of an organization to represent its members in international forums and with the following wider mission.

International Spill Control Organization

(incorporated as a not-for-profit organisation in London on the 9th October 1984)

“To raise worldwide preparedness and co-operation in response to oil and chemical spills; to promote technical development and professional competency; and to provide a focus for making the knowledge and experience of spill control professionals available to IMO, UNEP, and other organisations”

As it turned out the number of trade associations only grew slowly and even in the founding associations the bulk of their membership were focused on meeting internal spill response issues and markets while, on the knowledge-sharing and research side, national and international exchanges were covered by an expanding series of regional, national and international conferences and exhibitions which generated sufficient opportunities and business to support the physical presence of a wide range of stakeholders from the larger organisations and companies at least.

For the less well funded, attendance at conferences was less appealing and as a result, in 2005 the membership restriction was changed allowing companies and individuals with an interest in sharing knowledge to join and support and be supported in their activities. Further as co-operation and co-ordination of both public and private sector working together was seen crucial, membership was also opened to all entities, public and private.

While as initially envisaged ISCO was to have only a limited number of members and resulting need for governance structures would be limited to co-ordination by an unpaid executive committee. The widening of membership required an ISCO Council to be established as a non-executive body composed of national representatives in various countries. The ISCO Council Members, as well as providing input on policy matters, represent members in their countries, provide an interface between ISCO and national governments and other in-country organisations.

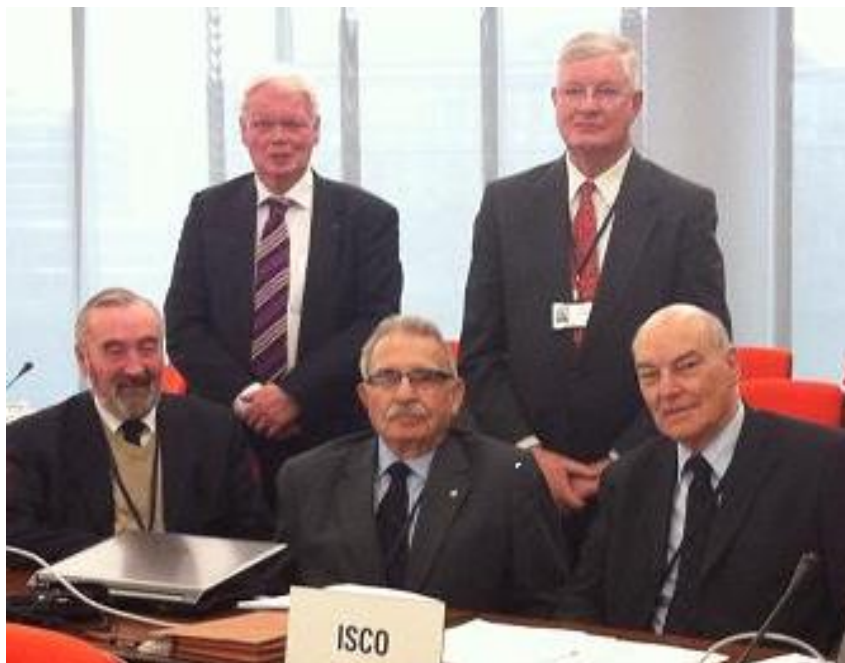
Since 2005 ISCO has grown considerably with more members and now includes trade associations, equipment manufacturers, response companies, training providers and research bodies as well as government agencies, salvors, ports and environmental NGO's in some 52 countries

For the convenience of members ISCO's Annual General Meetings are arranged to coincide with major international conferences and members unable to attend AGMs are able call to discuss or submit their ideas, views, inputs and proxy votes via email on matters covered in advance.

A key focus of ISCO has always been to represent the spill control industry in international forums and intergovernmental bodies where trade bodies, companies and individuals cannot be active but whose deliberations and outputs drive legislation that impacts on ISCO members.

In 2007 ISCO was granted Consultative Status at the International Maritime Organization (IMO) and is the only such organisation representing the spill response industry. Members since having a voice in the drafting of legislation, rules and guidelines that impact on their interests.

Since 2007 ISCO has been an active contributor to IMO's Marine Environment Protection Committee (MEPC) and its OPRC-HNS Technical Group. Presentations made have included recommendations regarding IMO Model Training, Sub-Sea Oil recovery, Discharge of Settled-out Water during Oil Recovery, Places of Refuge, HNS Response and Knowledge-based Response Planning for Marine Incidents.



*The ISCO 2013 IMO OPRC-HNS Technical Group Delegation;
From left to right, – John McMurtrie (UK), Dr Wierd Koops (Netherlands), David Usher, ISCO President (USA)
Dr Merv Fingas (Canada), Dr Douglas Cormack, (UK). Photo: Courtesy of Josée Lamoureux.*

ISCO was a significant contributor to the IMO working group working on the development of the International Offers of Assistance (IOA) Guidelines which have since been approved by IMO's Marine Environmental Protection Committee (MEPC).

Early in 2016, following on ISCO's participation in a major exercise conducted by the North Pacific Coast Guard Forum (NPCGF) involving a simulated major pollution incident in Korean waters, ISCO's Emergency Assistance facility was activated to ascertain response resources available from ISCO members. Several ISCO members responded, offering availability of equipment, personnel and specialist know-how.

<http://www.spillcontrol.org/emergency-assistance>

In 2009 ISCO launched its own weekly newsletter produced by John McMurtrie. Now with a mailing list of over 3,000 it is distributed as free email publication. At time of writing the newsletter has recently passed its 700th issue and John McMurtrie continues as the unpaid and volunteer Editor.

In 2014 ISCO was awarded Observer Status with the International Oil Pollution Compensation Funds. The organization provides financial compensation for oil pollution damage that occurs in Member States, resulting from spills of persistent oil from tankers. ISCO regularly attends IOPC Funds meetings in London and provides technical advisory input.

In September 2014 ISCO held its first International Forum with the theme on response to spills involving sinking oils. The timing of the event, held in Detroit, USA, was particularly apposite with the current concern about spills of diluted bitumen. The forum was very successful thanks to a formidable array of first class speakers from government agencies, R&D organizations and industry. The quality of lively debate was first class. A policy of holding forums with focus on matters of special concern is something that should be in the interests of ISCO members and it is hoped to hold more events of this kind. That said ISCO does not seek to compete with existing conferences and exhibitions rather it seeks to work with such events to both promote and secure access for its members. ISCO actively supports the Clean Gulf, Clean Pacific and Clean Waterways annual events in the USA, the international tri-annual IOSC, Interspill and

CONTRIBUTED ARTICLE (CONTINUED)

Spillcon as well as numerous regional and national events such as AMOP which support knowledge sharing and or/provide an opportunity for technology or equipment to be introduced and demonstrated.

Following on from work with the Korean Coastguard in 2016 the lack of an internationally accepted and available standard contract for mobilisation of spill response resources was identified as a cause of delay in spill response. ISCO initiated discussions with BIMCO with their long-standing expertise in formulation and providing such contracts for the shipping trade and this in turn led to the formation of a joint ISCO-BIMCO Working Group. Following on this ISCO initiative a series of meetings were convened by ISCO and BIMCO, together with invited representatives from the International Group of P&I Clubs (IGP&I) and the International Salvage Union (ISU), and SCAA. After several months of work and an extensive consultation process the end results were two new contracts – RESPONSECON (International) and RESPONSECON (USA).

See <http://spillcontrol.org/2017-06-16-17-05-04>

The new contracts were subsequently introduced at IMO and International Oil Pollution Compensation Funds (IOPC Funds). Good progress is being made with the adoption of the contracts by the spill control industry, ship owners, P+I clubs and government bodies.

At the 2017 AGM, held during the International Oil Spill Conference (IOSC) in Long Beach, California, the Secretary, John McMurtrie, retired from this position and Matthew Sommerville was formally appointed as his successor.

[Thanks to Matthew Sommerville, Secretary of ISCO]

SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

RAPID RESPONSE AT SEA - LONG-ENDURANCE ROBOTS TESTED FOR OIL DETECTION IN THE EVENT OF A SPILL IN THE ARCTIC



Above: An autonomous underwater vehicle (AUV) is launched from the U.S. Coast Guard Cutter (USCGC) George Cobb in Santa Barbara to test the vehicle's oil spill detection capabilities for rapid response during a real-world maritime oil spill. (Photo by Amy Kukulya, Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution)

September 28 - The original LRAUV was initially developed at MBARI under the leadership of James Bellingham, now WHOI's director of the Center for Marine Robotics (CMR). The latest model, which is still being developed in conjunction with MBARI engineers, is designed specifically to detect oil spills under ice. "Our goal is to provide the Coast Guard with greater awareness in the event of a real-world spill, and the ability to understand an incident while there is still time to react," said Bellingham.

The vehicle can be launched into open water from shore, sea ice, ship or helicopter and is an ultramarathoner in the AUV world: it can operate continuously for more than two weeks over a distance of 620 miles (1,000 kilometers).

SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY (CONTINUED)

Dana Tulis, director of emergency management for the Coast Guard, says the new vehicle delivers on a critical and unmet need: fast and efficient data collection that can inform response management in remote and difficult-to-access areas.

"If you're in a remote Arctic environment, rather than deploying a huge vessel, it would be ideal to have these easy-to-deploy robotic vehicles collect information from below the surface," she said. "It's a perfect complement to aerial drones, which we use to fly over remote areas instead of large planes. Embracing the latest technologies like this will allow us to save big on resources when it comes to oil spill response in the open ocean and in the Arctic. And, they can also help with with more common spill response in non-remote areas."

Kukulya says a dozen LRAUV's have already been built by MBARI, and a thirteenth is underway with WHOI as part of the oil response collaboration.

"This has become the most heavily-invested-in DHS Center of Excellence project in history due to the uniqueness of the technology and the urgency of the problem. It's hard to believe what we've been able to accomplish in just the past five years."

Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution / [Watch video and continue reading this article](#)

CONTRACTS & TENDERS

OPEN TENDER NOTIFICATION SERVICE

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UPCOMING EVENTS

COUNTRY	2019	TITLE OF EVENT	LOCATION
For more information click on Title of Event			
USA	October 7-10	Elastec's Fall 2019 River Spill Workshop	Carmi, IL
NORWAY	October 14-18	NOSCA Seminar 2019	Frøya
UAE	October 15-17	RECSO Envirospill Conference & Exhibition	Abu Dhabi
BAHREIN	October 20-21	Int'l Oil Spill Response & Environmental Protection Congress & Exhibition	Manama
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
USA	October 28	ISCO AGM	New Orleans, LA
SOUTH AFRICA	October 28-31	8th GI WACAF Regional Conference	Cape Town
CANADA	October 29-31	Arctic Shipping Forum North America	Montreal
SOUTH AFRICA	November 4-7	IMS 300 Training and 3rd Joint industry – government exercise	Cape Town
TUNISIA	Nov. 13-14	Incident Management System Training Workshop	Tunis
FRANCE	November 21	Cedre Technical Day	Brest
UK	December 4-5	Salvage & Wreck Removal Conference	London
UK	December 4-6	Global Marine Casualties Week	London
UK	December 5	Maritime Accidents & Emergencies Summit	London
UAE	Dec. 8-10	Middle East HSE and Sustainability Week	Dubai
COUNTRY	2020	TITLE OF EVENT	LOCATION
USA	March 24-25	SCAA Annual Meeting & Conference	Arlington, VA
USA	April 7-9	Clean Waterways Conference	Indianapolis, IN
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
USA	June 2-4	Elastec's Spring 2020 River Workshop	Carmi, IL
COUNTRY	2021	TITLE OF EVENT	LOCATION
NETHERLANDS	March 22-26	Interspill Conference & Exhibition	Amsterdam

To request posting of an event of interest to the Spill Response Community please send details to the Editor

LINKS FOR DOWNLOADING & READING OTHER PUBLICATIONS

Alga Chronicle	News from Australia on Contaminated Land Remediation	September 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	Winter 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	July / Aug 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	October 2019
GEF Newsletter	Monthly Newsletter from the Global Environment Facility	October 2019
GESAMP	Group of Experts on the Scientific Aspects of Marine Environmental Protection	Latest news
GISEA Quarterly Newsletter	News from Global Initiative for South-East Asia	Q 2 2019
IMO News Magazine	News from the International Maritime Organization	Summer 2019
IMO Publishing Newsletter	New and forthcoming IMO publications	October 2019
JOIFF "The Catalyst"	Int'l Organisation for Industrial Hazard Management	July 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	August 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	June, 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	August 1-15, 2019
USA EPA Tech Direct	Remediation of contaminated soil and groundwater	October 1, 2019
WestMOPoCo	Western Mediterranean Region Marine Oil & HNS Pollution Cooperation	August 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)

USA: GEORGIA – GOLDEN RAY OIL SPILL UPDATES



September 29 - Oil Spill from Golden Ray Stopped - The Unified Command conducted on-water skimming operations using assets staged in the vicinity of the Golden Ray. The release has stopped and shoreline cleanup teams and equipment remain staged and ready. Fuel from the vessel's tanks continues to be pumped into a barge to prevent further discharges and prepare for the safe removal of the vessel. More than 350 responders are working within the Unified Command and more than 70 vessels are engaged in the response. Specialists continue monitoring air and water quality around the vessel, Jekyll Island, and St. Simons Island. "While substantial progress has been made this week, we are only in the beginning of what will likely be a long and complex salvage

operation," said Chris Graff of Gallagher Marine Systems. "Our top priorities are to protect responders, public health, safety, and limit environmental impacts." The Maritime Executive / [Read more](#)

October 1 - Divers Working to Secure Spill from Golden Ray - Currently, salvage workers continue to lighter the vessel and have removed over 106,101 gallons of fuel as of Tuesday. Skimming vessels are continuing to recover oil from the water while survey teams continue to monitor shoreline impacts. 14,700 feet of containment boom has been deployed to protect sensitive areas.

The Maritime Executive / [Read more](#)

October 2 - Source of Golden Ray Oil Spill Plugged - The St. Simons Sound Incident Unified Command continues its response to the capsized car carrier *Golden Ray*. Salvage workers continue to lighter the vessel, and they have removed over 136,000 gallons of fuel as of Wednesday. The source of the [oil discharge that occurred on Monday afternoon](#) has been located and secured. Skimming vessels

are continuing to recover oil from the water while response teams continue to canvass the shoreline to mitigate impacted areas. There are currently 315 response personnel out in the field helping to mitigate and report on environmental impacts. "The Unified Command continues to prioritize environmental protection and pollutant recovery. Yesterday, cleanup crews were deployed to Jekyll Island where they cleaned 1.5 miles of shoreline. Currently, we are also assessing impacted marsh in the sound and associated tributaries, and developing cleanup methods for those affected areas," said Jed Hewitt, Georgia Environmental Protection Division, State On Scene Coordinator. The Maritime Executive / [Read more](#)

October 2 - Amid long salvage operation, capsized cargo ship's fuel spills worsen - This week, divers have worked to locate and patch a tank on the vessel that was leaking pollutants. The oil had traveled from the boat to within 2.5 miles of the shore, and the leak had not been completely stopped, said a response team spokesperson on Tuesday. Locals who have seen black globs of oil washing up on the marshes and beaches in the area have said the environmental impacts are growing. Response teams' efforts have been two-pronged: trying to contain spills in the water and working on a plan to remove the ship. Skimmers and absorbent materials have been used to soak up oil in the water, while booms have been placed around sensitive areas to protect them. Once the fuel has been removed, crews will check to see if the thousands of cars on board have shifted. The cars will likely be removed one by one before righting the ship, as has been done in similar maritime disasters, said Ben Morgan, owner of Morgan Marine Salvage. AJC News / [Read more](#) [Thanks to Don Johnston of ISCO Industry Partner, DG & Hazmat Group]

IRAN: OIL SPILL NEAR KHARG ISLAND CONTAINED

September 30 - The Iranian Offshore Oil Company said the leak in the 24-inch oil pipeline from Abouzar Oilfield to Kharg Island, in the Persian Gulf, has been fixed and the spilled oil in the region has been cleaned up. According to reports, the leakage occurred on September 13, about 4 kilometers off the coast of Kharg Island, the Oil Ministry news agency Shana reported. Members from the HSE department of IOOC were dispatched to find the leak location and took measures to fix it. Financial Tribune / [Read more](#)

NORWAY: PHOTOS: RUSSIAN TRAWLER BURNS AND SINKS IN TROMSØ, SPILLING FUEL

September 30 - The Norwegian Coastal Administration and commercial salvors have successfully managed a spill from a trawler that burnt and partially sank at the pier at Tromsø last week. The Russian trawler Bukhta Naezdnik caught fire Wednesday afternoon at a pier in Tromsø. An NCA multifunction response vessel, the Bøkfjord, was already nearby in port for a crew change. She arrived in position at about 1350 hours and began the firefighting effort. The trawler listed heavily to port overnight Wednesday, then sank partially at the pier. An unknown quantity of fuel escaped from her tanks, and containment booms have been deployed around her to limit the spread of the petroleum. Two spill control vessels were deployed to clean up the oil within the containment booms. A Norwegian Coast Guard surveillance aircraft conducted an overflight on Sunday and found only limited signs of marine pollution, suggesting that the containment effort was largely successful. The Maritime Executive / [Read more](#)



KENYA: KPC RECOVERS 551,000 LITRES OF OIL SPILT IN KIBOKO

October 1 - Kenya Pipeline Company says they have recovered 551,000 litres of oil from the Kiboko oil spill that occurred on March 30. KPC Acting Managing Director Hudson Andambi says the company developed a strategy that helped the organization recover some of this oil. "The products went into the ground and we dug pits, excavated trenches and pumped to lift those products from the ground and transported through the terminal from Kiboko," said Adambi. Adambi added that the company is still on the recovery process for the oil that spills during the puncture. The fuel in Kiboko spilled into a wetland following a puncture on Line 5 at around KM304 of the new Nairobi- Mombasa pipeline that has since been sealed by KPC. All Africa / [Read more](#)

TAIWAN, CHINA: VIDEO: BRIDGE COLLAPSE TRAPS FISHERMEN AT SU'AO PORT

October 1 - Early Tuesday morning, a bridge over the entrance to the harbor at the port of Su'ao, Taiwan collapsed, causing a fuel



tanker truck and a section of the bridge deck to fall onto several fishing boats moored below. An estimated 10 people sustained injuries in the bridge collapse, including six Philippine nationals and three individuals from the Philippines. At least 10 more have been rescued. According to local mayor Lee Ming-che, six fishermen are still trapped under the bridge; these individuals are all believed to be foreign fishing boat crewmembers. Search and rescue operations are under way, with over 200 first responders and 11 response boats on scene. Taiwan's navy has contributed military divers for the search effort. Sergeant Li Junxian, a member of the team, told Taiwan's official military news agency that fishing nets, debris and oil in the water have made the operation challenging and potentially hazardous for divers. The Maritime Executive / [Read more](#)

USA: COAST GUARD RESPONDS TO VESSEL AGROUND NEAR SITKA, ALASKA

October 1 - The Coast Guard is responding to a vessel aground near Sitka, Alaska, Tuesday. The 30-foot fishing vessel, Miss Kaycie, broke free from its mooring in Sitka Harbor and drifted onto the rocks near the University of Alaska Southeast campus with an estimated 50 gallons of fuel aboard. The vessel owner has been identified and is working with Hansen Maritime on a salvage and recovery plan. US Coast Guard / [Read more](#)

SOUTH SUDAN: OIL SPILL CAUSES SERIOUS ENVIRONMENTAL POLLUTION IN NORTHERN LIECH STATE

Photo: An image showing crude oil seeping into water sources in one of the three areas of South Sudan's Northern Liech state (File/Supplied/Nyamilepedia)

October 3 - Local authorities and members of parliament representing South Sudan's Northern Liech states have raised grave concerns about the spill of crude oil, which is said to have caused catastrophic environmental pollution, and killed aquatic animals and birds in three oil-producing areas. "There are no bad intentions against anybody because these are our people, and we cannot drill oil while it kills our people," said Mayen Wol in a statement. He stressed that the government and oil companies are ready to address the matter and will be repairing the leaked pipeline soon so that the affected communities do not face such an incident in the near future. "So, we will make sure that the mess we have created is cleaned, and the pipe is going to be renovated so that nothing of this kind happens again." Nyamile / [Read more](#)



USA: TEXAS: HOPKINS COUNTY AGENCIES MOBILIZE FOR HUGE DIESEL SPILL IN MILLER GROVE

October 5 - At approximately 1844 hours on October 3, 2019, the Hopkins County Fire Department was dispatched in the area of County Road 1130 in Miller Grove for a six inch rupture in a pipeline that occurred after diesel was pushed through the pipeline after a two month maintenance program. While the diesel was being pushed the pipeline burst causing the diesel to run into the nearby waterway. The pipeline was shut down and mitigation was started to contain the diesel. The creek bed was dry and contained before getting into any other water way.

The State of Texas State Operations Center (SOC) was notified of the initial report of a petroleum pipeline incident. An estimated 8,000 barrels of petroleum was released into Turkey Creek before the leak could be stopped. A remediation company was contracted to place a boom to prevent the spill from traveling downstream. Local community volunteers under the direction of the Hopkins County Office of Emergency Management (OEM) built a temporary earthen barrier in the event the boom is insufficient. Cleanup of

INCIDENT REPORTS (CONTINUED)

approximately 1.25 miles of Turkey Creek is underway along with active air monitoring, however the terrain, vegetation and darkness is impacting the speed of remediation operations. The Office of Emergency Management will remain on scene till all the product is removed and the cleanup of the area is completed. KSS Radio / [Read more and see map of affected areas](#) [Thanks to Don Johnston of ISCO Industry Partner, DG & Hazmat Group]

USA: TEXAS - COAST GUARD RESPONDS TO OIL SPILL NEAR DEER PARK

October 6 - The Coast Guard is responding to an oil spill near Deer Park, Texas, Saturday.

At approximately 1:30 p.m., Coast Guard Sector Houston-Galveston watchstanders received a report of a diesel spill at the Intercontinental Terminals Company Deer Park facility.

At 1:45, Vessel Traffic Service Houston-Galveston closed the Houston Ship Channel from Tucker's Bayou to Lt. 133.

Personnel from Sector Houston-Galveston Incident Management Division and Waterways Facilities Inspection Division were launched to the scene and confirmed a locomotive fuel tank at the facility had been punctured. A max potential estimate of 300 gallons of diesel was released into the waterway around ITC Dock #1.

Vacuum trucks, skimmers and containment boom were deployed. At this time there is no impact to the Houston Ship Channel.

At 4:35 p.m., Vessel Traffic Service Houston-Galveston reopened the Houston Ship Channel to all vessel traffic. KFDM / [Read more](#) [Thanks to Don Johnston of ISCO Industry Partner, DG & Hazmat Group]

INFORMATION FOR ISCO MEMBERS

ANNOUNCING NEW PRODUCTS & SERVICES

Disseminating news about new technical developments is of value to our community. Corporate Members are invited to contribute articles.

Corporate Members of ISCO can benefit from submitting news about new products and services in the "News from ISCO Members" section of the ISCO Newsletter. This is a free facility for Members. Given that the ISCO Newsletter has a large and highly targeted readership in over 60 countries, it's a cost-effective way to promote your company.

Because the ISCO Newsletter is initially prepared as a Word document it's essential that text and photographs submitted can be easily copied and pasted into the preliminary draft of the newsletter. Please note that submissions must also comply with ISCO's editorial policy.

1. The Editor has sole discretion over what is accepted for publication
2. The Editor reserves the right to edit press releases
3. Information in press releases must be factual and free from sales hype and exaggerated claims
4. Subject matter of press releases must be relevant to the interests of the spill response community
5. Space availability for printing press releases is limited and they should be kept short
6. If a press release is too long only part of it will be printed but a link can be included for downloading its entirety
7. Links for downloading additional information or viewing video material can be included
8. Depending on space availability press releases may be included in the next newsletter or held over for inclusion in a later issue.

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