

## 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



**CLEAN WATERWAYS**  
SPILL PREVENTION & RESPONSE FOR  
INLAND REGIONS AND WATERWAYS  
Use VIP code **ISCO** to save \$100 on your registration  
APRIL 7-9, 2020  
JW Marriott Indianapolis  
INDIANAPOLIS, IN



International Oil Spill Conference

API • BSEE • IMO • IPIECA • NOAA • PHMSA • USCG • USEPA

## IOSC 2020

May 11-14 | New Orleans, LA



**CLEAN PACIFIC**  
JUNE 9-11, 2020  
HYATT REGENCY LAKE WASHINGTON  
AT SEATTLE'S SOUTHPORT  
Real Strategies & Solutions for Spill Prevention, Response and  
Remediation in the Western United States and Canada  
Use VIP code **ISCO** to save \$100 on your registration!

## MOIG+CEDRE+REMPEC CO-OPERATION: MEDITERRANEAN REGIONAL WORKSHOP ON OIL SPILL WASTE MANAGEMENT



ISCO Industry Partner, the Mediterranean Oil Industry Group (MOIG) has announced a Regional Oil Spill Waste Management Workshop to be held in April 2020.

## MEMBERSHIP OF ISCO

[Benefits of Membership](#)

[Online Membership Application Form](#)

### ADVANCE YOUR CAREER BY GAINING PROFESSIONAL RECOGNITION.

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

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

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

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

[About Professional Membership](#)

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

### TO RECEIVE THE FREE ISCO NEWSLETTER

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

## INTERNATIONAL NEWS (CONTINUED)

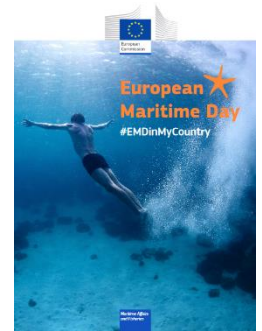
The Mediterranean Oil Industry Group (MOIG), the Center of Documentation, Research and Experimentation on Accidental Water Pollution (Cedre) and the Regional Marine Pollution Emergency Response Centre for the Mediterranean Sea (REMPEC) are very pleased to invite you to the Regional Workshop on "Oil Spill Waste Management"; which will be held on 01 and 02 April 2020 at Paris Concorde Hotel, Rue du Lac Turkana, les Berges du Lac, Tunis-Tunisia.

The event will be open on Wednesday, 01 April 2020 at 08: 30 am and expected to close on Thursday, 02 April 2020 at 17: 00 pm. The workshop will be animated by M. Arnaud Guéna, Deputy Director and Head of POSOW project from Cedre and M. Malek Smaoui, Programmer Officer (OPRC 90) from REMPEC.

[Read more about the workshop objectives and programme](#)

## EUROPEAN MARITIME DAY

In parallel with the European Maritime Day (EMD) Conference in Cork (14 & 15 May 2020), a series of local EMD events, the EMD In My Country events will take place all over Europe for the public at large. During 2019, 145 events were organised in 23 different countries, attracting 25.000 participants, making a record in EMD history!: beach-cleaning activities, guided tours of ports, workshops, conferences, seminars and exhibitions on maritime themes, eco-tours and walks in areas with significant maritime heritage (cultural, environmental), excursions by boat, visits to maritime museums or former ships, shipyards and port facilities etc.



'EMD in my Country' 2020 will take place from April to June 2020. [Read our call](#), [submit your event](#) to be part of European Maritime Day (EMD) in My Country 2020 and receive nice promotional material for your participants (organic cotton bags, notepads, posters)! **Deadline for applications: [31 January 2020](#).** Read more at [EMD website](#).

## COMPANIES PLEDGE TO PROTECT ARCTIC OCEAN



Fashion brands Ralph Lauren, Puma, Allbirds and Aritzia are among eight new companies who have signed the Arctic Corporate Shipping Pledge not to ship their goods through the Arctic Ocean.

The Arctic Corporate Shipping Pledge was launched by the Ocean Conservancy non-profit and sportswear brand Nike in October 2019 to protect the Arctic which is warming two to three times faster than other parts of the planet.

The brands were joined by logistics giant Kuehne + Nagel, International Direct Packaging, Hudson Shipping Lines and Bureo in signing the pledge. Previous signatories include Nike, Asos, Bestseller, Columbia Sportswear, Gap Inc, H&M, Kering and PVH Corp. [Ecotextile News / 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 follow multiple social media platforms. 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](mailto:john.mcmurtrie@spillcontrol.org)

## AUSTRALIA: LEGAL ACTION LAUNCHED TO STOP GREAT AUSTRALIAN BIGHT OIL DRILLING

January 22 - On Wednesday, the Wilderness Society announced it had commenced legal proceedings in the Federal Court of Australia to challenge the environmental approval granted to Norwegian energy company Equinor.

The National Offshore Petroleum Safety and Environmental Management Authority (NOPSEMA) last year gave the green light to Equinor's plan to drill one exploration well about 400 kilometres off the South Australian coast.

But the Wilderness Society claimed the approval is "invalid" because Equinor failed to properly consult with the community and other groups.

In a statement, the Norwegian company said it was not appropriate for it to comment on a matter now before the court. But it previously said it had held more than 400 meetings with more than 200 organisations across southern Australia during the consultation process and would continue to engage with stakeholders. SBS News / [Read more](#) Related article in [Pipeliner](#)

### CANADA: SHIP-SOURCE OIL POLLUTION FUND CELEBRATES 30 YEARS



January 20 - We wanted to thank all our stakeholders who helped us to celebrate with us 30 years of compensating victims of oil pollution. Never before has the Fund been so active in terms of engagement. The 30th anniversary reached out an unprecedented number of stakeholders through the organization of historic events, the publication of a record number of articles and educational products.

Jan. 24-25 – Fish Canada – Workboat Canada Trade Show: We invite you to visit our booth #533 at the trade show on January 24 and 25, 2020 at the Moncton Coliseum. We invite you to also participate during our presentation at 10:30 p.m. on Friday, January 24 called: Ship-source oil pollution: Compensation & liability in the fishing and marine industries. If you are interested in setting up a meeting please contact: Jannie Bédard Guillemette at [jannie.guillemette@sopf-cidphn.gc.ca](mailto:jannie.guillemette@sopf-cidphn.gc.ca) <http://sopf.gc.ca/>

### CANADA: UNBC ENGINEER RECEIVES \$1.9M TO ADVANCE OIL SPILL RESPONSE RESEARCH



January 22 - Dr. Jianbing Li is an engineer seeking to discover a groundbreaking solution to an important global question regarding how best to tackle oil spills.

The Environmental Engineering Professor at the University of Northern British Columbia (UNBC) is leading part of a national project to investigate improved methods to separate oil from water to make it more efficient and less costly to clean up marine oil spills.

He will also conduct experiments to treat oily waste and convert it into useful energy.

Fisheries and Oceans Canada pledged \$1.9 million to fund the next stage of Li's research through the multi-partner oil spill research initiative (MPRI). Prince George Matters / [Read more](#)

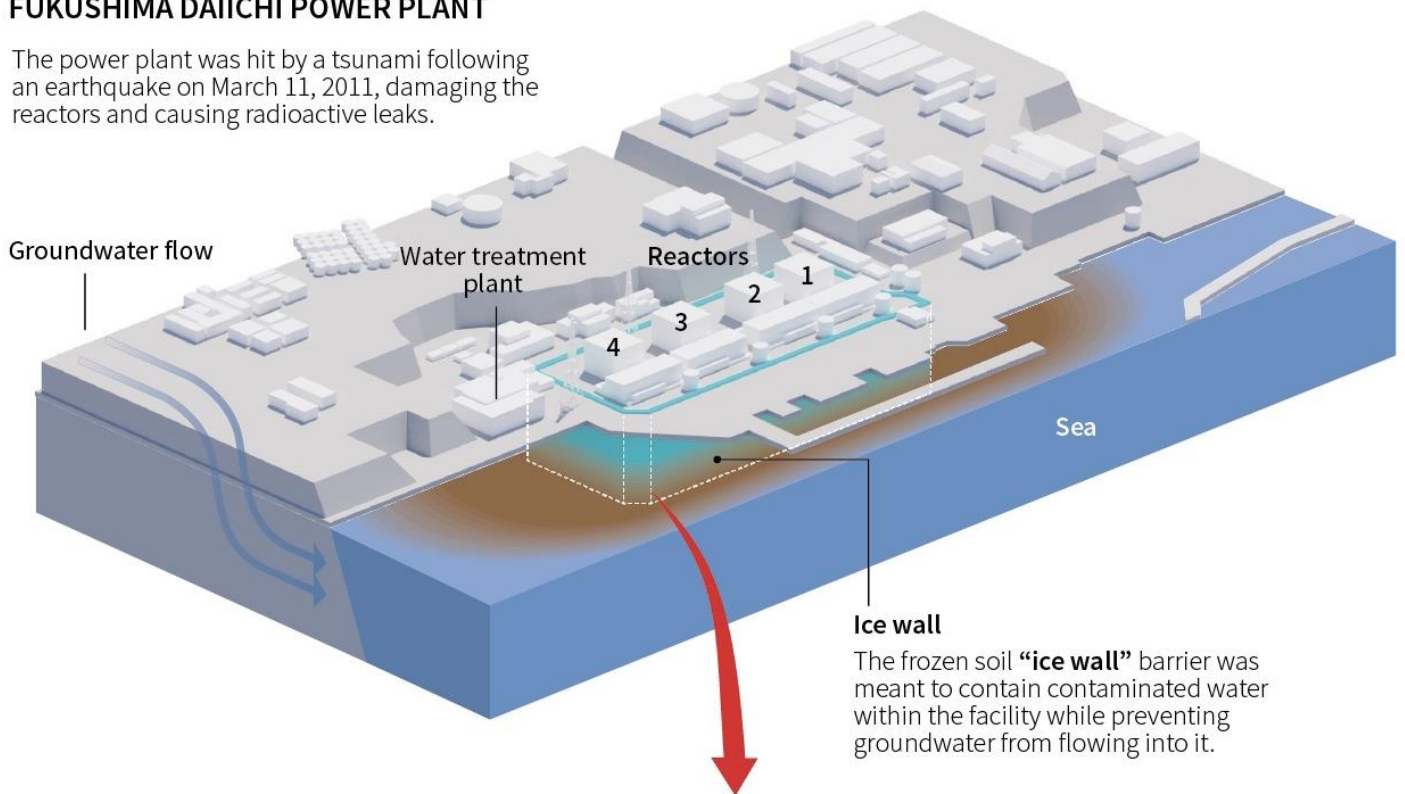
### INDIA: LOG 9 SPILL CONTAINMENT INAUGURATES MUMBAI PRODUCTION CENTRE FOR GRAPHENE-BASED PRODUCTS

January 18 - Log 9 Spill Containment Pvt Ltd., a Graphene nanotechnology-driven product development company working in the oil and chemical spill clean-up domain, has launched its maiden production facility in Raigad, Navi Mumbai. These Graphene-based products absorb oil, petrochemicals and other hydrocarbon-based liquids up to five times more effectively as compared to traditional polypropylene-based products in the market, the company said. Energy World / [Read more](#)

## JAPAN: WILL FUKUSHIMA WASTE BE DILUTED AND DUMPED IN THE PACIFIC?

### FUKUSHIMA DAIICHI POWER PLANT

The power plant was hit by a tsunami following an earthquake on March 11, 2011, damaging the reactors and causing radioactive leaks.



January 24 – Officials overseeing a panel of experts looking into the contaminated water issue said in December choices of disposal should be narrowed to two: either dilute the waste and dump it in the Pacific Ocean, or allow it to evaporate. [gCaptain / Read more](#)

## NETHERLANDS: SOLIS MARINE LAUNCHES GLOBAL FIRE AND CHEMICALS EMERGENCY RESPONSE CONSULTANCY

January 18 - Solis Marine has introduced a global Fire and Chemicals emergency response operation. The new division will be led by global expert Sander Loef who will be based out of a new strategically located office opening in the Netherlands.

Sander Loef joins Solis Marine as Marine Consultant, Fire and Chemicals Specialist, and becomes General Manager of the Rotterdam based operation. His appointment meets client demand for specialist advice in relation to fire, chemical and oil spill response and risk assessment.

Going forward, Solis Marine will now offer on-site attendance or remote advice round the clock to clients for the investigation of fire and chemical incidents involving all vessel types, cargo fire or spills in port, offshore or at sea. [Sea Wanderer / Read more](#)

## NIGERIA: NOSDRA WANTS OIL COMMUNITIES TO RESIST ILLEGAL BUNKERERS

January 18 - The Zonal Director, Port Harcourt Office, National Oil Spills Detection and Response Agency (NOSDRA), Mr Cyrus Nkangwung has alerted members of oil bearing communities on the need to resist the entry of illegal oil bunkerers into their communities.

Nkangwung gave the warning in an interview with newsmen to enlighten the public on the functions of NOSDRA.

He raised the alarm that operators of illegal refineries were now moving into the communities and warned that there were dangers to the lives of the people of those communities if they were not resisted and asked to leave their communities. [The Tide / Read more](#)

## NORWAY: THE STRUGGLE OVER THE ICE EDGE DECIDES THE FUTURE OF NORWAY'S OIL

January 22 - Where does one draw the boundaries for the Arctic? Who gets to define it? That is one of the major and challenging issues that Norwegian politicians need to answer before voting over a new Barents Sea management plan in April.

The ice edge is the definition of an area where open seas meet ice of any kind – or the border of the Arctic, if you will.

This area is biologically important as there is extensive production of plant plankton in this zone, plankton that is feed to animal plankton, fish, sea mammals and sea birds.

This is the main reason why the Norwegian government parties in their founding document, the Granavolden platform, committed to not permitting petroleum activities at the ice edge. High North News / [Read more](#)

### **SOUTH SUDAN: BLACK GOLD BURNING: IN SEARCH OF SOUTH SUDAN'S OIL POLLUTION**

January 23 - Since the discovery of oil in what is now known as South Sudan, bloody conflicts have been waged over control of areas rich with this "black gold." During Sudan's second civil war (1983-2005), the oil concession areas in the south became epicentres of conflict and massive human rights abuses. During the war, petrol companies from all over the world invested billions into the exploration and extraction of the oil. Yet absence of enforcement of environmental regulations, corruption, and lack of proper maintenance in oil infrastructure have been haunting the production since.

Academics, local communities, and civil society organisations have been flagging concerns over local oil spills for years, fearing health risks from pollution of drinking water vital for nearby villages. Preliminary research indicates heavy metal pollution from oil production, which warrants more investigation into the potential health risk from polluted ground water.

In 2018, UN Environment published the First State of the Environment and Outlook report on South Sudan, noting its wider concern about the impacts on the environment. Belling Cat / [Read comprehensive report, photos and video](#)

### **USA: ARKANSAS – TESTS DONE ON OIL PIPELINE THAT RUPTURED**

January 18 – A company tested the integrity of a segment of a pipeline that has been idle since it ruptured in 2013, spilling 5,000 barrels of crude oil in an Arkansas neighbourhood and causing more than \$57 million in damage.

The tests that were conducted on the Permian Express pipeline from Wednesday through Friday suggest that pipeline operator Energy Transfer Partners LLC is considering reopening it for the first time since the spill in the Mayflower. El Dorado News / [Read more](#)

### **USA: FEDERAL GRANT LEANS ON LEADING UND RESEARCH PROGRAMS TO SOLVE DEEPWATER SAFETY CONCERNS IN GULF OF MEXICO**

January 20 - "Better safe than sorry" is an overused credo in life. But in the world of aviation and oil-and-gas exploration, as much as anywhere, it can be the fine line between life and death.

The National Academies of Sciences, Engineering and Medicine recognizes this sobering reality and is betting that proven successes in one of those industries – aviation—can be applied to the other, specifically on offshore drilling rigs in the Gulf of Mexico.

And the Academies has turned to the University of North Dakota, which has expertise in both disciplines, for what could be a first-of-a-kind such study.

The Academies announced late last week that Daniel "Kwasi" Adjekum, an assistant professor of aviation in the UND John D. Odegard School of Aerospace Sciences, has been awarded \$755,000 to support research as part of a larger \$7.25-million Gulf research program. <https://www.ehn.org/ohio-river-shipment-hazards-2644881128.html?rebelltitem=9#rebelltitem9>The initiative aims to develop an improved culture of safety in the oil and gas industry. The Dickinson Press / [Read more](#)

### **USA: TRUMP ADMINISTRATION APPROVES KEYSTONE PIPELINE ON US LAND**

January 22 - The Trump administration on Wednesday approved a right-of-way allowing the Keystone XL oil sands pipeline to be built across U.S. land, pushing the controversial \$8 billion project closer to construction though court challenges still loom.

The approval signed by Interior Secretary David Bernhardt and obtained by The Associated Press covers 46 miles (74 kilometers) of the pipeline's route across land in Montana that's controlled by the Bureau of Land Management and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, said Casey Hammond, assistant secretary of the Interior Department.

Those segments of federal land are a small fraction of the pipeline's 1,200-mile (1,930-kilometer) route, but the right-of-way was crucial for a project that's obtained all the needed permits at the state and local levels. The pipeline would transport up to 830,000 barrels (35 million gallons) of crude oil daily from western Canada to terminals on the U.S. Gulf Coast. NBC News / [Read more](#)

### **USA: HIGH WATERS, MORE HAZARDOUS CARGO IN THE OHIO WATERSHED COMPLICATE THE JOB OF KEEPING THE WATERWAYS SAFE**

January 24 - Over the past decade in the Ohio watershed, which encompasses 15 states from southwestern New York to the northeast corner of Mississippi, extreme weather has been cited more and more frequently as a contributing cause in serious marine accidents. At the same time, a Kentucky Center for Investigative Reporting analysis found that shipping of hazardous materials like crude oil and kerosene are rising. Environmental Health News / [Read more](#)

### USA: LATEST ACTIVITY REPORTS FROM NOAA OR&R

January 24 – Please click on the links below to read the latest News Reports from NOAA OR&R

#### [OR&R Hosts Response Oil Assay Workshop](#)

The week of January 13, OR&R's Emergency Response Division (ERD) hosted the Response Oil Assay Workshop: a two-day meeting held in Seattle to help identify the ideal set of physical and chemical properties of oil to include in a new public database under active development by ERD to support the oil spill response community.

#### [Hurricane Maria Sea Grass Bed Damage](#)

Last week a small team of scientists travelled to St. Croix in the U.S. Virgin Islands to evaluate the effectiveness of repair and stabilization actions conducted in seagrass beds damaged by Hurricane Maria response activities.

#### [OR&R Meets with Spill Control Association of America and Association of Petroleum Industry Co-Op Managers](#)

On January 24, OR&R Director Scott Lundgren participated in an information sharing meeting in Herndon, Virginia, with leadership of two associations that represent the private sector spill response capability that clean up oil spills in the U.S.

#### [Marine Debris Program Director Meets with Congressional Offices](#)

On January 13, Nancy Wallace, Director of the Marine Debris Program (MDP), met with staff from the offices of Senator Dan Sullivan (AK), Rep. Don Young (AK-AL), and Rep. Suzanne Bonamici (OR-01).

#### [Marine Debris Program Releases the 2020-2025 Great Lakes Marine Debris Action Plan](#)

On January 22, the Marine Debris Program released the [2020-2025 Great Lakes Marine Debris Action Plan](#).

#### [Marine Debris Program and Surfrider Team Up to Prevent Cigarette Butt Litter in San Francisco](#)

On January 18, the Marine Debris Program California Regional Coordinator, Sherry Lippiatt, joined the San Francisco chapter of the Surfrider Foundation for a cigarette butt canister installation event in the Haight-Ashbury neighborhood of San Francisco.

#### [OR&R Scientist Emeritus Participates in Puget Sound Mussel Watch](#)

On the evening of January 22, 2020, retired OR&R biologist Alan Mearns joined members of the Snohomish County Marine Resources Committee (MRC) in recovering mussel cages at three intertidal sites in Edmonds.

#### [New Story Map Highlights How NOAA Scientists are Preparing to Assess Marine Mammals During Oil Spills](#)

Sea lions, seals, dolphins, and whales are some of the marine mammals at risk of oil spills and marine pollution. To prepare for future disasters, NOAA's marine mammal and oil spill experts worked together to publish "[Guidelines for Assessing Exposure and Impacts of Oil Spills on Marine Mammals](#)."

#### [NOAA-Specific Incident Command System Training in Silver Spring](#)

This week in Silver Spring, Maryland OR&R's Disaster Preparedness Program (DPP) held a 3-day NOAA-specific Incident Command System 300 (ICS 300) Level Training.

#### [OR&R Testing Methods for Remote Detection of Marsh Vegetation Health in Support of Oil Spill Assessments](#)

Last week NOAA OR&R scientists were invited by scientists from Watermapping LLC, to participate in field experiments to help determine the potential for using remote sensing to characterize marsh vegetation health following an oil spill event.

### VIETNAM: NATIONAL PLAN TO RESPOND TO OIL SPILLS APPROVED



January 22 - Deputy Prime Minister Trinh Dinh Dung has approved a national plan to respond to oil spills.

The move aims to help promptly deal with oil spills, minimise the number of oil spills and reduce the damage by oil spills on the environment, economy and society.

The plan tackles several oil spill possibilities, such as spills from oil tankers, spills due to broken pipelines and spills at oil refinery factory, among others.

To handle oil spills, the plan pointed out major solutions, such as strengthening human resources, perfecting policies and mechanisms, enhancing international co-operation and ensuring enough facilities to deal with oil spills, he added. Vietnam Plus / [Read more](#) related report in [Vietnam News](#)

## PEOPLE IN THE NEWS

### WITT O'BRIEN'S ANNOUNCES STRATEGIC NEW HIRES TO PUBLIC SECTOR MANAGEMENT TEAM

[Witt O'Brien's, LLC](#) (Witt O'Brien's or the "Company"), a subsidiary of [SEACOR Holdings Inc. \(CKH\)](#) ("SEACOR"), announced today that William "Bill" Roche and Richard "Steve" Pierce have joined the Company's public sector team.

Roche joins Witt O'Brien's as Senior Project Manager with deep experience in disaster planning, response, and recovery. Most recently, Roche served as the Deputy Regional Administrator for the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) and the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), Region IX (Arizona, California, Hawaii, Nevada, and the Pacific Islands). He has held multiple positions at DHS and FEMA, including FEMA Region IX Director, Recovery Directorate of the Public Assistance Division, Region IX Infrastructure Branch Chief, and Deputy Public Assistance Officer following the Northridge earthquake in Southern California.

Pierce joins the Company as a Subject Matter Expert in Public Assistance with more than 30-years' experience in disaster management. He has managed disaster recovery for numerous government agencies, including the City of New Orleans, FEMA, Louisiana's Department of Environmental Quality, the Louisiana Governor's Office of the Oil Spill Coordinator, the U.S. Navy, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, and U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. Most recently, Pierce served as recovery advisor for four Catholic dioceses in Puerto Rico. [Yahoo Finance / Read more](#)

## NEWS FROM ISCO MEMBERS

### OSRL SIGNS NEW STRATEGIC COOPERATION AGREEMENT WITH WOOD TO SUPPORT SWIS MEMBERS



Thursday 23rd January 2020: Oil Spill Response Ltd (OSRL) has announced the signing of a new "Strategic Cooperation Agreement" with Wood to support its Subsea Well Intervention Service (SWIS) members.

The agreement provides OSRL's SWIS members with access to Wood's extensive knowledge and expertise in subsea systems engineering, installation, operation (process/flow assurance) and computational fluid dynamics – all to promote best-practice subsea well incident planning, preparedness and response.

OSRL and its members are focused on advancing and promoting industry response capabilities for subsea containment scenarios, especially where capping of an incident well may present known

or unknown challenges. Wood's expertise in subsea production systems along with its global experience in capping and containment principals, practices and equipment will help strengthen the industry's capabilities, especially for this type of subsea response scenario.

The new agreement will also further enhance the policies and procedures previously established through the International Association of Oil and Gas Producers Global Industry Response Group and adopted by the Subsea Well Response Project consortium. It establishes a best-practice approach to managing subsea well control incidents globally and reinforces OSRL as a critical partner for its members in subsea response assurance. <https://www.oilspillresponse.com/> <https://www.woodplc.com/>

### MEKE MARINE AWARDED BAKU–TBILISI–CEYHAN PIPELINE RESPONSE CONTRACT

Meke Marine, based in Istanbul, Turkey, is pleased to announce that BTC has awarded MEKE for the Provision of Tier 2 Oil Spill Response in Turkey.

The Baku–Tbilisi–Ceyhan (BTC) pipeline is a 1,768 kilometres (1,099 mi) long crude oil pipeline from the Azeri–Chirag–Gunashli oil field in the Caspian Sea to the Mediterranean Sea. It connects Baku, the capital of Azerbaijan and Ceyhan, a port on the south-eastern Mediterranean coast of Turkey, via Tbilisi, the capital of Georgia. It is the second-longest oil pipeline in the former Soviet Union, after the Druzhba pipeline.

For further information please contact M. Kerem Kemerli at [kerem.kemerli@mekemarine.com](mailto:kerem.kemerli@mekemarine.com) [www.mekemarine.com](http://www.mekemarine.com)

### SPILL RESPONSE OIL RECOVERY RATE DETERMINES OVERALL SUCCESS

March 24, 1989, marks the date when the EXXON VALDEZ ran against a reef in Alaska and spilled 41,000 m3 of crude oil in Prince William Sound, affecting 2,100 kilometres of pristine coastline. An adequate response was hampered by a lack of suitable and available spill response equipment and contributed to the extent of the environmental disaster.

## NEWS FROM ISCO MEMBERS (CONTINUED)

This event in history was the defining moment for Dutch engineer and inventor Wim Schuur to conceive a device that would be able to quickly and efficiently remove oil from the sea surface. In 2000, Wim made his first prototype and over a decade later, thanks to a new-generation engineering team, his invention came to life in the form of a simple yet effective Floating Oil Recovery Unit (FORU). Oil spill events still happen today.

Recent oil spills such as the Westwood Annette bunker C fuel spill in Squamish in 2006, affecting the Squamish Estuary, the Marathassa bunker fuel oil spill into English Bay in 2015, affecting the Vancouver harbour and more recently, the sinking of the tug NATHAN E.STEWART near Bella Bella, B.C. which spilled diesel fuel and lubricants into the pristine West coast marine environment in 2016, all showcase the continued need for effective spill response equipment. Based in Harlingen, The Netherlands, in the middle of the UNESCO World Heritage Site, the Wadden Sea, the Dutch company Foru-Solution develops preventive measures against the pollution of oceans, seas, harbours, lakes and rivers worldwide. Their mission is to prevent subsequent damage from oil spills to our maritime flora and fauna, thus enabling us to pass on our world in good condition to future generations. Foru-Solution provides innovative technical solutions to adequately treat any oil calamity anywhere in the world. Their patented and unique down-draft system functions as a highly effective “oil vacuum cleaner” and is designed for use in harsh offshore environments, including the Arctic, but is just as effective in near-shore environments such as along sensitive coast lines or in harbours, rivers and lakes. The robust FORU down-draft systems are designed to be easy to use, maintain and clean, and function in rough waters. The smart designed buoy shape makes the FORU stick to the waves and therefore makes it possible to operate the FORU in severe offshore weather conditions while maintaining a high recovery rate.

The FORU system can be deployed and stored without the need for assembly and can be used statically in an oil patch or easily placed in the pocket of dynamic sweeping systems like the Current Buster or the Oil Trawl. The FORU systems are thoroughly tested in several oil types by the Norwegian Coastal Administration test center in Horten and are certified by DNV GL. The highly efficient FORU systems F-70 and F-340 with their 360 degrees adjustable inlet opening can recover up to 340 m<sup>3</sup>/h (90,000 US gph) and can operate with high efficiency (oil recovery rate of 75 per cent up to 100 per cent) in waves up to 2.5 metres (8,2 feet). In waves of over 2.5 metres (8,2 feet), the FORU will still operate but with reduced efficiency. The design of the FORU systems allows it to handle all kinds and sizes of floating debris on and spill response. Oil recovery rate determines overall success below surface. Debris-blocking shields, an adjustable inlet opening and a pump that can handle debris up to 60mm ensure that the unit will continue to operate when faced with floating debris and solids during an oil spill response. In the uncommon event of debris getting stuck in the FORU, the system can be disassembled and assembled in little time. While the best scenario is no spill at all on the pristine coast of British Columbia or anywhere else in the world, when a spill does happen, the FORU systems stand guard, ready to provide effective and rapid oil recovery even in harsh offshore or Arctic conditions. For more information on the FORU solution, visit: [www.foru-solution.nl](http://www.foru-solution.nl)

## RECENTLY ANNOUNCED NEW PRODUCTS & SERVICES

### TESTDROP, THE TINY DEVICE THAT DETECTS IF YOUR WATER IS SAFE TO DRINK



Water is a fundamental human need. A person requires at least 20 to 50 liters of clean, safe water a day for drinking and several other important purposes. The importance of clean drinking water cannot be overstated. Therefore, the fact that billions of people worldwide do not have access to safe drinking water is startling.

Part of the issue is the inability to check if water is clean or not. One startup is attempting to solve the issue with a tiny device. Lishtot's Testdrop, a handheld keychain consumer device that instantly determines if water is safe to drink just by analyzing the electric field around it, could be the answer.

The device provides a “drink or do not drink” indication in only 2 seconds. [More info](#) [Thanks to Marc K. Shaye Hon.FISCO]

## TECHNICAL SUPPORT

### BEST PRACTICE IN LEVEL ONE EMERGENCY RESPONSE

Join Cefic's Director of Transport & Logistics, Joost Naessens, BASF Vice President and ICE Network Chairman, Gert Van Bortel, and NCEC Director, Jon Gibbard, for an in-depth exploration of the Level One Emergency Response Guidelines. During the webinar you will learn:

- How and why the guidelines came into being.
- Key points from the guidelines.
- What the guidelines mean for chemical manufacturers, distributors, transporters and emergency responders.
- Implementing proactive emergency response to protect people, the environment, assets and reputation.

The webinar will also feature several illustrative case studies to show how the guidelines apply in real world scenarios and the value they add when dealing with an incident. By the end of the webinar, you will have clear take away actions to review and implement.

[More info and registration](#)



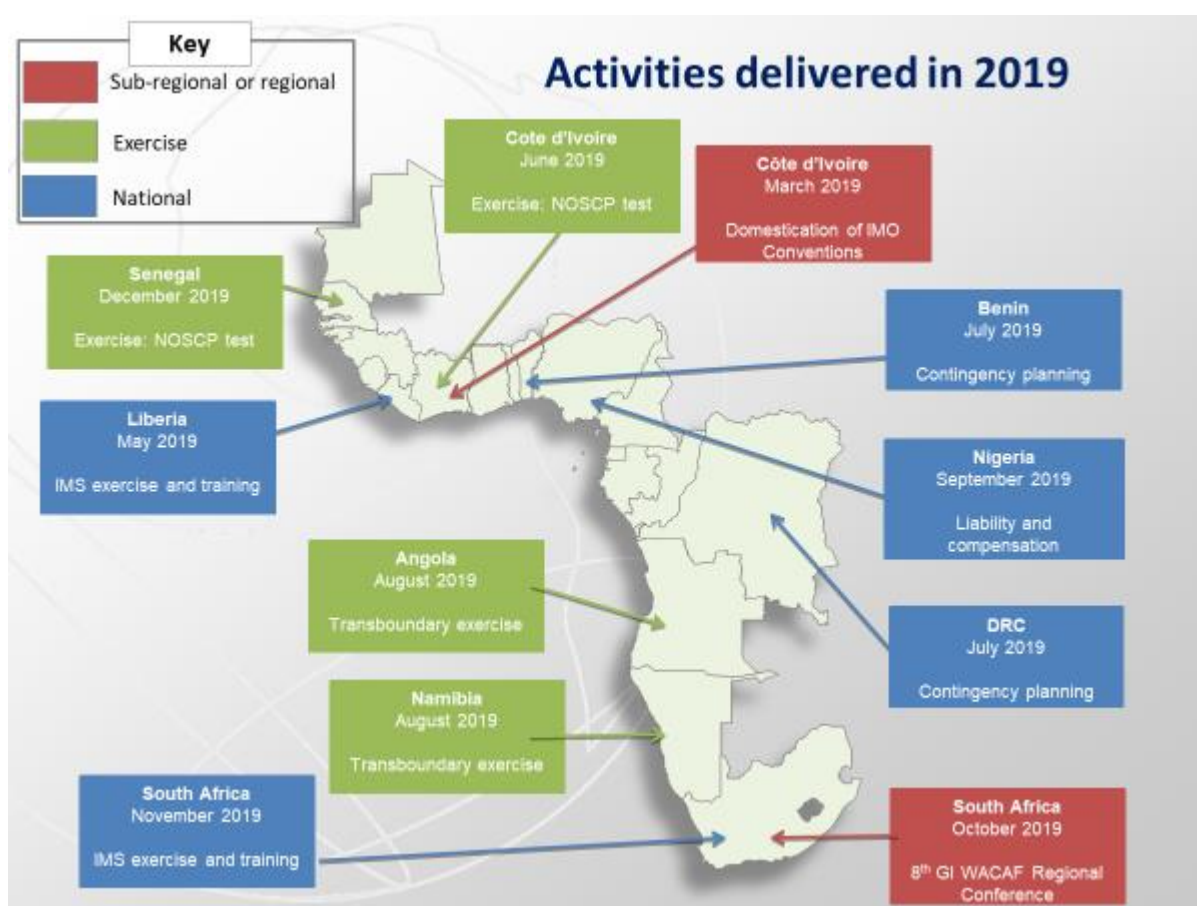
## 2019 HAS BEEN A VERY PRODUCTIVE YEAR FOR GI WACAF

GI WACAF is a cooperation project between the International Maritime Organization (IMO) and IPIECA, the global oil and gas industry association for advancing environmental and social performance<sup>[1]</sup>. It was launched in a shared desire to improve the level of preparedness and response to oil spills in the west, central and southern Africa region. GI WACAF works in close cooperation with relevant national authorities in 22 African countries. By doing so, GI WACAF is contributing to a better protection of the marine and shoreline environment in the region.

As the 2020-2021 biennium is now starting, it is a good time to reflect on what has been achieved during the last 2 years and especially during 2019 as it has been a very rich and productive year.

### The end of 2019 marks the completion of the 2018-2019 biennium

In total, 11 activities have been organised in 2019 in 9 countries: 1 regional conference in South Africa, 1 sub-regional workshop in Côte d'Ivoire; 1 transboundary exercise in Angola and Namibia; 2 national exercises in Côte d'Ivoire and Senegal and 5 national workshops in Liberia, Benin, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Nigeria and South Africa. Not only does it represent a significant increase in the number of activities implemented, but also new kind of activities have been implemented. The Project is constantly adapting to reflect the various needs of the participating countries and of the industry members of the project.

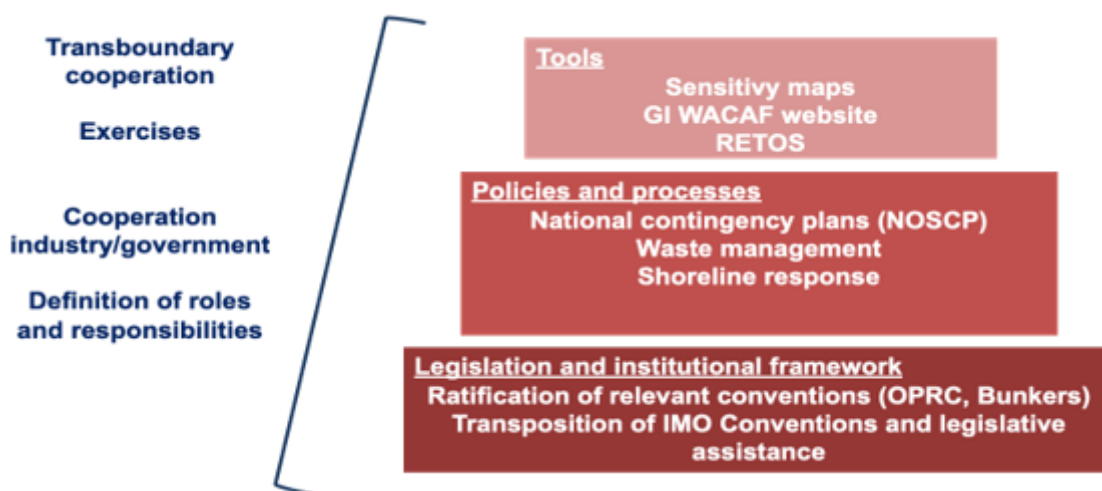


The sub-regional workshop held in Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire, in March 2019, was one of the highlights of the year as a successful new type of activity for GI WACAF. 6 francophone Western and Central African countries discussed the domestication of IMO conventions in national law. Domestication is a key step that is vital for ensuring that the relevant IMO conventions are fully implemented and enforced at a national level. While national preparedness and response to oil spill systems are enhanced, industry also benefits from the improvement of the legal and institutional framework that reduces regulatory uncertainty and ensures the effective handling of incidents.

Another hallmark of the 2018-2019 biennium was the engagement and collaboration with other entities, projects and programmes involved in oil spill preparedness and response. This culminated with GI WACAF collaborating for the first time with [GoGIN](#) (the Gulf of Guinea Interregional Network, an EU funded Project) to implement a joint national training followed by an exercise in Benin in June 2019. It was deemed as key to ensure a coordinated and consistent approach to capacity building in the region. That is why it will remain a priority for 2020-2021.

### Conclusions of the 8<sup>th</sup> Regional Conference and beginning of a new biennium

In October 2019, the 8<sup>th</sup> Regional Conference of the Project took place in Cape Town, South Africa. Organized every two years at the end of the biennial cycle, the GI WACAF Regional Conference forms an integral part of the management of the GI WACAF Project. The event gathered industry and government focal points from 21 countries across the region with the objective to exchange experiences, review progress achieved, and prioritize project goals for the next biennium. At the end of the 8<sup>th</sup> Regional Conference high-level recommendations for the biennium 2020-2021 were drafted, based on discussions and conclusions of the working groups. Proposed and agreed by the delegates, these recommendations are promoting a systemic approach to oil spill response and preparedness and will serve as basis for developing the Project's strategic action plan for the 2020-2021 biennium. The comprehensive recommendations are captured in the full report of the conference available [here](#).



During the Conference delegates stressed the need to push forward with the effective implementation, in all countries of the region, of relevant IMO conventions relating to oil spill preparedness and response, such as the OPRC Convention, as well as those relating to liability and compensation from pollution damage, including the treaty covering liability and compensation from fuel oil (Bunkers 2001 Convention).

Among the recommendations made during the Regional Conference was the organisation of more spill response exercises with neighbouring countries to try to better understand and address the challenges likely to arise during an actual incident. This was highlighted in 2019 by a transboundary table-top exercise between Angola and Namibia organised by GI WACAF in cooperation with national authorities in charge of oil spill preparedness and response in both countries. It was held simultaneously in Luanda and Walvis Bay to test the communication links between Angola and Namibia, test each NOSCP in case of a transboundary oil spill incident and the cooperation mechanisms in the sub-region. Thanks to the participation of the BCC (Benguela Current Commission), 3 South African delegates were invited as Observers.

Data and information collected during the Regional Conference are currently being digested by the GI WACAF team and are being used to draft the strategic action plan for 2020-2021. Once validated, the team will start implementing the selected activities and is looking forward to being back in the region!

[1] IMO and seven member companies contribute to this project. GI WACAF is currently welcoming joining application from potential industry members operating in West, Central and Southern Africa. If interested, please contact Julien Favier, GI WACAF Project Manager ([Julien.favier@ipieca.org](mailto:Julien.favier@ipieca.org)).

## CONTRACTS, TENDERS & BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

### INTERNATIONAL OPEN TENDER NOTIFICATION SERVICE

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

### OTHER OPPORTUNITIES: USA & EUROPE

USA - Government solicitations are frequently posted in Technology Innovation News Survey and US EPA Tech Direct. EUROPE – European Maritime Safety Agency invitations to tender are often posted in The EMSA Newsletter. See “Links for other publications” for links to download current issues. ISCO Members are welcome to post tender opportunities in this section.

### SECURE YOUR SPOT AT IOSC 2020!

Registration has officially opened for the **International Oil Spill Conference** (IOSC), May 11-14, 2020 at the New Orleans Convention Center in New Orleans, LA, USA. This conference provides a vital forum for the oil spill response community to gather and discuss how to handle the greatest challenges and opportunities on the horizon with sound science, practical innovation, global research, and imagination.

Secure your spot now and start planning your trip to join more than 2,000 attendees from over 50 countries. IOSC attendees represent government agencies, contractors, researchers, industry, and other key stakeholders.

- Over 160 papers presented across almost 50 breakout sessions, covering the latest research in oil spill response
- Over 50 companies and organizations in the exhibit hall showcasing their latest products and solutions
- 13 Short Courses designed to provide a greater understanding of the imperatives behind the response actions and the decision-making process [Registration](#)

### PRELIMINARY AGENDA FOR CLEAN PACIFIC NOW AVAILABLE ONLINE

The preliminary conference agenda, including session descriptions, is now available online for the 2020 [CLEAN PACIFIC Conference](#).

The 18 conference sessions programmed by our planning committee cover region-specific issues that face the Western United States and Canada and are focused on real strategies and solutions for spill prevention, response and remediation.

[Click here](#) to view the preliminary conference agenda

#### TRACK 1: PLANNING AND PREPAREDNESS

- Abandoned and Derelict Vessels – Jurisdictional Challenges
- Emerging Issues
- Public Health Considerations During Oil Spills
- Emerging Technologies
- Evolving Regulations and their Effect on Responders and State Requirements
- Preparing Your Incident Management Team (IMT)

#### TRACK 2: RESPONSE AND RECOVERY

- Crisis Leadership Challenges and Advancements
- The New Enemy – Plastics Debris in the Marine Environment
- Emerging Non-Floating Oils Issues
- Oiled Wildlife Response – Regional Risks, Priorities, and Solutions in the Eastern Pacific
- Response Case Studies
- Salvage Case Studies and Lessons Learned

#### TRACK 3: COMMUNICATION AND ENGAGEMENT

- A Type 1 Incident Case Study – 2019 Houston Ship Channel Tank Farm Fire
- Capacity Building in Tribal and First Nation Communities
- Emerging Issues in Communications
- Including Indigenous/Tribal Communities in Emergency Response Planning
- Successful Communications and Response Case Studies
- The Island's Oil Spill Association: A Unique Community-Wide Approach to Spill Response

See any sessions that grab your attention? Register for CLEAN PACIFIC to access these conference sessions + the exhibit hall, featuring 40+ vendors, networking receptions, breakfast and lunch!

More info at [www.cleanpacific.org](http://www.cleanpacific.org)

## UPCOMING EVENTS

COUNTRY	2019	TITLE OF EVENT	LOCATION
For more information click on Title of Event			
COUNTRY	2020	TITLE OF EVENT	LOCATION
INTERNATIONAL	January 29	<a href="#">National Chemical Emergency Centre - Free Webinar Best practice in level 1 emergency response</a>	Internet
JAPAN	February 14	<a href="#">PAJ Oil Spill Workshop</a>	Tokyo
UK	February 17-21	<a href="#">IMO MEPC Sub-Committee on Pollution Prevention and Response (PPR 7)</a>	London
DENMARK	February 26-28	<a href="#">HELCOM Response Working Group Meeting</a>	Vejle
UK	March 11-13	<a href="#">Meeting of IOPC Funds' governing bodies</a>	London
USA	March 24-25	<a href="#">SCAA Annual Meeting &amp; Conference</a>	Arlington, VA
UK	Mar. 30 – Apr.3	<a href="#">IMO Marine Environment Protection Committee</a>	London
TUNISIA	April 1-2	<a href="#">Regional Workshop on Oil Spill Waste Management</a>	Tunis
USA	April 7-9	<a href="#">Clean Waterways Conference</a>	Indianapolis, IN
USA	April 28 – May 1	<a href="#">Oil Spill Response Strategies &amp; Tactics Training</a>	Leonardo, NJ
USA	May 10	<a href="#">APICOM GM Meeting</a>	New Orleans, LA
USA	May 11-14	<a href="#">International Oil Spill Conference &amp; Exhibition</a>	New Orleans, LA
IRELAND	Nay 14-15	<a href="#">European Maritime Day Forum Event</a>	Cork
CANADA	June 2-4	<a href="#">43rd AMOP Technical Seminar on Environmental Contamination and Response.</a>	Edmonton, Alberta
USA	June 2-4	<a href="#">Elastec's Spring 2020 River Workshop</a>	Carni, IL
UK	June 8-12	<a href="#">2020 IOPC Funds' Short Course</a>	London
USA	June 9-11	<a href="#">Clean Pacific Conference &amp; Exhibition</a>	Seattle, WA
NETHERLANDS	June 24-25	<a href="#">European Environmental Ports Conference 2020</a>	Rotterdam
USA	Sept. 8-11	<a href="#">HazMat Emergency Response Workshop</a>	Scaramento, CA
INDIA	Sept. 22-24	<a href="#">Oil Spill India Conference &amp; Exhibition</a>	Mumbai
UK	October 19-23	<a href="#">IMO Marine Environment Protection Committee</a>	London
USA	October 20-22	<a href="#">Clean Gulf Conference &amp; Exhibition</a>	San Antonio, TX
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

<a href="#">Alga Chronicle</a>	News from Australia on Contaminated Land Remediation	October 2019
<a href="#">AMSA Update</a>	Latest news from the Australian Maritime Safety Authority	Current issue
<a href="#">ATRAC Newsletter</a>	News from the Adriatic Training and Research Centre	June 2019
<a href="#">AUSMEPA Bulletin</a>	News from the Australian Marine Environment Protection Assoc'n	Summer 2020
<a href="#">BIMCO Bulletin</a>	Marine and shipping-related news from BIMCO	December 2019
<a href="#">Newsletter from George Holliday</a>	News and commentary on HSE issues from George Holliday	On request email
<a href="#">Cedre Newsletter</a>	News from Cedre in Brittany, France	November 2019
<a href="#">Clean Nigeria Associates Newsletter</a>	News from CNA about Oil Spill Response in Nigeria	December 2018
<a href="#">EMSA Newsletter</a>	News from the European Maritime Safety Agency	Current issue
<a href="#">GEF Newsletter</a>	Monthly Newsletter from the Global Environment Facility	December 2019
<a href="#">GESAMP</a>	Group of Experts on the Scientific Aspects of Marine Environmental Protection	Latest news
<a href="#">GISEA Quarterly Newsletter</a>	News from Global Initiative for South-East Asia	Q4 2019
<a href="#">IMO News Magazine</a>	News from the International Maritime Organization	Winter 2019
<a href="#">IMO Publishing Newsletter</a>	New and forthcoming IMO publications	December 2019
<a href="#">ITOPF Ocean Orbit</a>	News from the International Tanker Owners Pollution Federation	October 2019
<a href="#">JOIFF "The Catalyst"</a>	Int'l Organisation for Industrial Hazard Management	Q4 2019 issue
<a href="#">Maritime Executive Magazine</a>	Often contains articles of interest to the spill response community	Jan.-Feb. 2019
<a href="#">MOIG Newsletter</a>	News from the Mediterranean Oil Industry Group	January 2020
<a href="#">Nautical Institute News</a>	News from the Nautical Institute	October, 2019
<a href="#">Navigate Response</a>	Global crisis communications network for shipping & marine	October 2019
<a href="#">NOAA OR&amp;R</a>	Weekly round-up of news from NOAA's Office of Response & Restoration	Latest issue
<a href="#">Oceanbuzz</a>	Newsletter giving news on the Ocean Technology Industry	Current issue
<a href="#">OCIMF Newsletter</a>	News from the Oil Companies International Marine Forum	December 2019
<a href="#">OHMSETT Gazette</a>	Oil Spill Response Research & Renewable Energy Test Facility Quarterly	Summer 2019

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

<a href="#">OSPAR Newsletter</a>	Protecting & Conserving the N.E. Atlantic and its resources	End of year 2019
<a href="#">PEMSEA Newsletter</a>	Healthy oceans, people and economies in the East Asian Seas	September, 2019
<a href="#">Pollution Online Newsletter</a>	News for pollution prevention & control professionals	Current issue
<a href="#">Safe Seas, Clean Seas</a>	Quarterly Newsletter from Maritime New Zealand	July 2018 issue
<a href="#">Salvage World</a>	Quarterly Newsletter of the International Salvage Union	Current issue
<a href="#">Sea Alarm Foundation Newsletter</a>	Oiled wildlife Preparedness and Response news from Sea Alarm	Current issue
<a href="#">Technology Innovation News Survey</a>	News from US EPA – Contaminated Site Decontamination	Dec. 1-15, 2019
<a href="#">USA EPA Tech Direct</a>	Remediation of contaminated soil and groundwater	January 1, 2020
<a href="#">WestMOPoCo</a>	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)

### PETROPERU'S NORPERUANA PIPELINE DAMAGED AFTER EXPLOSIVE ATTACK

January 19 – An explosive attack at Km 323 of the Norperuano Oil Pipeline (ONP) constitutes a turning point in terms of the safety of this critical asset of the nation since it brings to mind the fear of terrorism. The fiscal act determined burns in the vegetation two metres from the ONP; they found the dent of the pipe and possible burns on the polyethylene coating of the pipeline. Energy Facts / [Read more](#)

### NIGERIA: PETROLEUM PIPELINE EXPLODES AFTER VANDALS' ATTACK IN ABULE EGBA, LAGOS

January 19 - Barely 12 months after the December 2018 pipeline explosion in Abule Egba area of Lagos State that destroyed properties worth millions of Naira, another pipeline explosion has occurred Sunday night destroying properties at the same Abule Egba area. Eye witnesses confirmed that the Sunday evening fire like the 2018 incidence was caused by petroleum pipeline vandals. National Wire / [Read more](#)

### LATVIA: SALVAGE OPERATION TO REFLOAT BARGE TRIAS SUCCEEDED

January 20 - Alfons Håkans has successfully refloated the barge Trias on late Sunday evening January 19, 2020. The barge was aground on a protected Natura 2000 area on the Latvian shore. The Estonian Raduga Shipping's barge Trias (overall length 101m and breadth 19m) was under tow when the towline parted during poor weather on December 31, 2019. Consequently, the barge drifted aground near Ventspils, Latvia. The Maritime Executive / [Read more](#)

### FRANCE: TRAWLER BRINGS UP WWII-ERA GERMAN MINE OFF NORMANDY

January 20 - On Sunday afternoon, French Navy EOD specialists flew out to meet a trawler that had snagged an unwanted catch - a WWII-era naval mine. At about 1340 hours Sunday, the Regional Operational Center for Surveillance and Rescue (CROSS) Jobourg received word that the fishing boat Stenaca II had accidentally caught a 1940s-era explosive device and hauled it on board. The Stenaca II was located about six nautical miles east of Saint-Vaast, Normandy, a small port near Cherbourg. CROSS Jobourg informed the French Navy's maritime prefecture for the English Channel, Premar Manche, which immediately called for a team of mine-clearing divers. The Maritime Executive / [Read more](#)

### UAE: TANKER ABANDONED, DRIFTING IN ARABIAN SEA

January 23 - Bitumen tanker REEM 5 reported abandoned, adrift in Arabian sea 185 nm SW of Karachi, Pakistan, since morning Jan 23. Latest AIS dated 0020 UTC Jan 23, speed 4 knots, moving due S. AIS track is interrupting, actually no continuous AIS track since Jan 2019. No other details available at the moment. Maritime Bulletin / [Read more](#) [Thanks to Voytenko Mikhail, [ynd@odin.tc](mailto:ynd@odin.tc)]

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