



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



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May 11-14 | New Orleans, LA



CLEAN PACIFIC
JUNE 9-11, 2020
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PROPOSAL TO BAN HFO IN THE ARCTIC HAS LANDED – RUSSIA SECURES LOOPHOLE



February 21 -The PPR working group has now submitted a proposal to prohibit vessels from sailing on HFO from 2024. The proposal includes one exemption, however, as Russia and other Arctic nations are able to exempt their own vessels until 2029. Shipping Watch / [Read more](#) A fuller report on the IMO PPR Meeting will be published in next week's ISCO Newsletter

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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)

EXPERTS DISCUSS ELIMINATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL DAMAGE IN THE ARCTIC

February 20 - Experts attending the fifth international conference, The Arctic: Shelf Projects and Sustainable Development of the Regions, Arctic 2020, met for a roundtable discussion on environmental safety and waste management in the Arctic. The event focused on the implementation of the Environment National Project, the creation of a comprehensive waste management system plus logistics, a waste management technology adjusted to Arctic conditions, the thermal treatment of waste, oil spill prevention and response, as well as legislative incentives for eco-friendly business practices.

"The regional authorities need to draft standard solid waste recycling programs and offer them in the form of recommendations to companies working in the regions," said Alexander Bagin, a member of the Committee for Environment and Sustainable Use of Natural Resources at the Russian Chamber of Commerce and Industry. He added that the regions should develop partner relations with local companies, which could turn preowned equipment over to municipal governments. "Incentives are the most important part, though. People should be incentivized to keep their land clean," the official noted.

Ilya Kulikov, Director of the State Regional Centre of Standardization, Metrology and Testing in the Murmansk Region (Murmansk CSM), reported on the development of a new biotechnology for petrochemical spill cleanup based on three components: oil oxidizing microorganisms, sorbents and phytoameliorants. This technology stimulates the development of bacteria and fungi living in a given water body which can induce microbial degradation of petrochemical waste.

"We are testing the technology in our labs under conditions that are similar to those in the Arctic. Tests have shown that oil oxidizing microorganisms can reduce the level of pollution by 36%-43% in coastal sand in a matter of two months, and by 47% in the case of coastal alluvium. We plan to complete the tests this year," the committee official said. The Arctic / [Read more](#)

CANADA-U.S. DIXON ENTRANCE ANNEX TO THE JOINT MARINE CONTINGENCY PLAN FOR POLLUTION PREPAREDNESS AND RESPONSE



Photo: U.S. Coast Guard 17th District Commander Rear Adm. Matthew T. Bell, Jr., and the Canadian Coast Guard Western Region Assistant Commissioner Roger Girouard sit together while signing the newly revised Dixon Entrance Annex to the national Canada-United States Joint Marine Pollution Contingency Plan, Feb. 19, 2020 in Juneau, Alaska. (U.S. Coast Guard photo by Chief Petty Officer Matthew Schofield)

February 19 - U.S. Coast Guard 17th District Commander Rear Adm. Matthew T. Bell, Jr., and the Canadian Coast Guard Western Region Assistant Commissioner Roger Girouard signed the newly revised Dixon Entrance Annex to the national Canada-United States Joint Marine Pollution Contingency Plan today in Juneau.

The updated annex includes basic content and format changes in accordance with new national guidelines, clearer pollution notification and response protocols, and refreshed references to U.S. Customs Service procedures for transboundary movement of personnel and resources. The new annex also incorporates organizational changes within the two Coast Guards.

Canada and the United States are parties to a long-standing bilateral agreement regarding cooperation in protection of natural resources in Canada-U.S. (CAN-US) trans-boundary areas. Homeland Security Today / [Read more](#)

RATIFICATION OF HNS CONVENTION IS A MATTER OF URGENCY

February 21 - During the European Shipping Week 2020, shipowners organised an event as part of their ratification campaign of the 2010 International Convention on Liability and Compensation for Damage in connection with the Carriage of Hazardous and Noxious Substances by Sea (HNS Convention).

Wednesday's event gathered representatives from the IMO, the IOPC fund, the European Commission, Member States as well as industry representatives to speak about the purpose and benefit of the Convention, how the convention will strengthen the international liability framework and the main reasons why states are being encouraged to ratify or accede to the Convention as soon as possible. Hellenic Shipping News / [Read more](#)

IAEA HOSTS FIRST PREPAREDNESS AND RESPONSE COURSE

January 27 - The IAEA (The International Atomic Energy Agency) has hosted its first course on preparedness and response to a nuclear or radiological emergency combined with other emergencies.

Participants — mainly nuclear power plant operators, regulators and first responders — learned about the specific requirements different response professionals need to meet to effectively respond to combined emergencies and their associated challenges.

Combined emergencies increase the challenges emergency responders must manage and during the week-long course, they analysed real case studies including the accident at Fukushima Daiichi nuclear power plant which was a nuclear emergency combined with a natural emergency caused by a severe earthquake and tsunami. Combined emergencies became especially relevant and was prioritized by the international community after the Fukushima Daiichi nuclear power plant accident.

Following this pilot course, the IAEA plans to publish an Emergency Preparedness and Response series publication on nuclear or radiological emergencies combined with other incidents or emergencies. The topic of combined emergencies became especially relevant and was prioritized by the international community after the Fukushima Daiichi nuclear power plant accident. The IAEA then developed specific guidance that reflects the lessons learned from the accident. The Emergency Planning Society / [Read more](#)

LLOYD'S CONCLUDES REVIEW OF LOF, STEAMSHIP COMMENTS

February 14 - Steamship Mutual's Ian Freeman, Syndicate Manager Claims, Americas Syndicate has reported that, continuing from the publication of the revised SCOPIC 2018 form, Lloyd's of London had now concluded its review of the Lloyd's Standard Form of Salvage Agreement, more commonly known as the Lloyd's Open Form (LOF).

He noted that LOF 2020, and its associated Lloyd's Salvage Arbitration Clauses named LSAC 2020, contained significant changes. The first was the consolidation into one document of the previously separate arbitration clauses and procedural rules of LOF 2011. Lloyd's has included in the same document the Fixed Cost Arbitration Procedure (FCAP), with the aim of encouraging its use.

There are two amendments to the main LOF 2020 form. Insurance Marine News / [Continue reading](#)

IOPC FUNDS – REMOTE AVAILABILITY OF INFORMATION & TRAINING

February 17 - As part of its commitment to increasing awareness of the international liability and compensation regime and improving engagement with all Member States, the Secretariat has been exploring ways in which the organisation can widen its audience by creating information and training opportunities which are accessible remotely.

IOPC Funds / [Read more about the options being considered by the IOPC Funds Secretariat](#)

AUSTRALIA: ATSB RELEASES FINAL REPORT INTO YM EFFICIENCY CONTAINER LOSSES

February 15 - The Australian Transport Safety Bureau (ATSB) has released its final report from its investigation into the loss of containers from the container ship YM Efficiency, saying the loss of 81 containers overboard in very rough seas on July 1, 2018 highlights the importance of safe and effective container stowage planning.

Substantial debris from the lost containers subsequently washed ashore on the New South Wales coast. Search efforts have located only 66 containers of the containers, with a few having washed ashore or close to shore. Five containers have been removed, and 15 containers have yet to be found. The Maritime Executive / [Read more](#)

AUSTRALIA: DEAL TO COMMERCIALISE OIL SPILL TECHNOLOGY

February 17 - A material made from waste cooking oil and sulphur that can soak up oil spills and other pollution will be commercialised following a deal between its South Australian inventors and a Singaporean company.

The collaboration between Flinders University and Clean Earth Technologies will result in a manufacturing facility in South Australia to produce commercial quantities of the absorbent polysulfide. The Lead / [Read more](#)

BRAZIL: FULL IMPACT OF MYSTERIOUS BRAZIL OIL SPILL REMAINS UNKNOWN

February 20 - Last summer, an oil spill of unknown origin hit Brazil's northeast coast – just as migrating shorebirds arrived in the area. Our Partner SAVE Brasil has been campaigning for action and striving to measure the impact on birds - but more support is urgently needed.

We do not yet know the full impact of the disaster on bird populations. Our Partner [SAVE Brasil](#) is currently collaborating with other organisations to discover more. To encourage action, they sent out a letter to several levels of the Brazilian government on behalf of the National Shorebird Conservation Plan, outlining the impact of oil on shorebirds and the measures required to protect them. Bird Life International / [Read more](#)

CANADA: MINISTER OF TRANSPORT UPDATES MINISTERIAL ORDER TO REDUCE THE RISKS OF DERAILMENT OF TRAINS TRANSPORTING DANGEROUS GOODS

February 16 - Today, the Minister of Transport, the Honourable Marc Garneau, announced specific measures through an amended Ministerial Order, to help prevent further derailment of trains carrying large quantities of dangerous goods, like petroleum crude oil, liquefied petroleum gas, gasoline and ethanol.

Following the derailment of a key train on February 6th, 2020, in Guernsey Saskatchewan, a Ministerial Order was issued for the immediate slowdown of key trains. A key train is one carrying 20 or more cars containing dangerous goods; or a train carrying one or more cars of toxic inhalation gas. Transport Canada / [Read more](#)

CANADA: THE GOVERNMENT OF CANADA SUPPORTS A GLOBAL BAN ON HEAVY FUEL OIL IN THE ARCTIC

February 18 - Today, the Minister of Transport, the Honourable Marc Garneau, and the Minister of Foreign Affairs, the Honourable François-Philippe Champagne, announced the Government of Canada's support for a ban on heavy fuel oil in Arctic waters. Ministers also announced they will be seeking a phased-in approach to the ban as Canada discusses with IMO countries ways to help balance the environmental benefits with the economic realities of northern, Indigenous and Inuit communities.

Transport Canada / [Read more](#)

CANADA: INTERGOVERNMENTAL FORUM CONCLUDES THAT CANADA IS WELL PREPARED TO RESPOND TO A NUCLEAR OR RADIOLOGICAL EMERGENCY

February 19 - The International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) today published its final report following an 11-day mission to review Canada's emergency preparedness and response framework for nuclear and radiological emergencies. The Emergency Preparedness Review (EPREV) was carried out at the request of the Canadian government, making Canada the first G7 country to request an EPREV mission and highlighting its commitment to protecting the health and safety of Canadians.

The mission, which took place June 3-13, 2019, focused on preparedness for emergencies that could stem from events at nuclear power plants. The IAEA commended Canada for the well-developed and mature preparedness system in place across all levels of government, and for its robust implementation of the IAEA safety standards in nuclear and radiological emergency preparedness response. Health Canada / [Read more](#)

DENMARK: EFFECTIVE OIL SPILL RESPONSE WITH NEW SHALLOW WATER VESSELS



Photo: Shallow water vessels in action at the fjord of Aabenraa, January 2020. Photographed by Danish Emergency Agency Great Copenhagen's drone. Photo: DEMA

February 21 - From time to time an oil spill occurs in Danish waters, and to limit the damages the Danish Emergency Management Agency (DEMA) has invested in new boats – so-called shallow water vessels. Monday and Tuesday, they were deployed for the first time.

During the weekend, an oil spill occurred at the fjord of Aabenraa. The fire and rescue service of Southern Jutland, the Danish Defence, the Danish Home Guard, and DEMA

managed to contain the oil using floating booms. Monday and Tuesday three shallow water vessels succeeded relatively quickly in collecting the oil on open water.

The concept of the new shallow water vessels has been tested and used in several foreign emergency management services. The vessels use a crane and a grab as well as a brush skimmer to collect the oil on shallow water before it drifts ashore.

Danish Environmental Management Agency / [Read more](#)

FINLAND: INTRODUCING THE OIL SPILL PROJECT OFFICE AT THE UNIVERSITY OF TURKU

February 18 - This week starts the introductory series of OIL SPILL Project Partners. During the spring of 2020, we will move around the Baltic Sea Region and visit each Partner for a week. The first stop is in Turku, Finland.

University of Turku (UTU) is the Lead Partner of the OIL SPILL project. The location on the southwest coast of Finland has had a significant influence on the development of both the city and the University. Turku region has become the most significant production cluster of the Finnish maritime industry, and Sea and maritime studies forms one of the major research areas of the University. Here, the focus is firmly on the Baltic Sea. University of Turku / [Read more](#)

INDIA: COAST GUARD BEGINS POLLUTION RESPONSE EXERCISE

February 20 - A two-day State-level pollution response exercise under the auspices of the Coast Guard Karnataka began here on Thursday.

The exercise, the first such this year, was conducted to validate and reinforce the response mechanism for oil pollution incidents and enable the Indian Coast Guard to fine tune the actions required in such eventualities.

Other stakeholders such as New Mangalore Port Trust, Mangalore Refinery and Petrochemicals Ltd, Indian Oil Corporation Ltd also took part in the exercise, according to Deputy Inspector General S.B. Venkatesh, Commander, Coast Guard Karnataka.

The Hindu / [Read more](#)

JAPAN: PETROLEUM ASSOCIATION OF JAPAN OIL SPILL WORKSHOP

February 18 - On 14 February 2020, the Director, José Maura, participated in an oil spill workshop organised by the Petroleum Association of Japan (PAJ) and funded by the Japanese Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry. As part of the workshop, entitled 'Developments in the oil spill response structure in South-eastern Asia', the Director delivered a presentation on recent developments in incidents involving the IOPC Funds as well as on future challenges facing the organisation. IOPC Funds / [Read more](#)

NIGERIA: 'WHY BUHARI REFUSED ASSENT TO NOSDRA AMENDMENT BILL'

February 17 - Following concerns by stakeholders on the refusal of the President Muhammadu Buhari to assent to National Oil Spill Detection and Response Agency (NOSDRA) Amendment Bill, the Minister of State Environment, Sharon Ikeazor has explained that the reason was due to observations in the proposed legislation. The Guardian / [Read more](#)

NIGERIA: BMI ASSESSES PLANTED MANGROVE SITES



February 18 - The Bodo Mediation Initiative (BMI) Project carried out an evaluation of mangrove seedlings planted at two sites two years ago, to assess the viability of replanting the nearly 1000 hectares of mangroves that were killed from oil spillage in the Bodo area. Seven sites showing varying levels of oil contamination were replanted as a test in 2017 and then repetitively monitored over two years.

The purpose of the monitoring program is to assess the survival and growth rates of mangrove planted within areas showing different levels of oil contamination. The mangrove plant shown in the photograph was planted in an area of low oiling and showed growth of seventy-three percent, from 60 cm to 104 cm, over the past two years. All monitored plants at this site survived. Several new seedlings were also present showing that the site is beginning to regenerate naturally. ND Link / [Read more](#)

NIGERIA: INSECURITY GRIPS THE BODO CLEANUP AREA

February 13 - Clean-up activities for the Phase 2 Bodo remediation Project restarted on Monday 20 January 2020, with community workers very enthusiastic and ready to work. However, a few incidences of rival cult clashes and fear of possible reprisals have left the workers in fear as anyone could be a victim of stray bullets.

A survey showed a high level of security concern in the Community and tensions from probable cult reprisals and counter reprisals. This could impact negatively on the Project, despite the resolve of key stakeholders to remediate and restore the mangrove ecosystem within the Bodo creek. ND Link / [Read more](#)

USA: POISONED FISH AND BIRDS? FEDS TO STUDY HOW POLLUTION IN N.J. RIVER HAS AFFECTED WILDLIFE

February 14 - Two federal agencies are set to conduct a sweeping set of studies aimed at fully understanding how widespread pollution in the Passaic River has affected the water and the wildlife that rely on it. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration will soon begin studying the Diamond Alkali Superfund site, which includes historic contamination in a roughly 17-mile stretch of the river between Newark Bay and the Dundee Dam in Garfield. NJ News / [Read more](#)

USA: SCAA – STRATEGIC VISION FOR 2025

The Spill Control Association of America’s 2025 Vision is focused on three themes: recognition by industry, energy and transportation clients, and all governmental entities as the single, united voice of the response industry; continued value to members through networking events, best management practices sharing, code of ethics for professional response, and a conduit for government agency interaction; and consistent advocacy for the response service industry through a full time Executive Director position and concentrated engagement with federal and state agencies. <http://www.scaa-spill.org/downloads/2019-Business-Plan.pdf>

USA: CHEMICAL COMPANIES STABLE ENOUGH TO PAY FOR SPILLS, FIRES: EPA

February 20 - The EPA won’t ask for assurance that chemical companies are capable of paying for cleanup after a fire, spill, explosion, or leak, the agency said in a proposal Thursday.

The Environmental Protection Agency found the chemical manufacturing industry is “financially stable,” and individual companies don’t need to submit proof of their ability to pay for environmental disasters at chemical facilities. The agency is proposing not requiring financial assurance for that industry under Superfund law, and will accept comments once the proposal (RIN:2050-AH05) is published in the Federal Register Friday. Bloomberg Environment / [Read more](#)

USA: LATEST ACTIVITY REPORTS FROM NOAA OR&R

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

[OECD Workshop on Microfibers from Synthetic Textiles in the Environment](#)

Did you know that on average, garments are worn only 7 times before being disposed? Or that only 1% of textiles are recycled (garment to garment)?

[Oil Spill Response Training in the Florida Keys](#)

During the week of February 10, NOAA’s Office of Response and Restoration (OR&R) held the first Science of Oil Spill (SOS) class of 2020, training 38 students from five federal agencies, one state agency and two industrial companies at the Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary (FKNMS) Eco-Discovery Center in Key West, Florida.

[Final Natural Resource Damage Assessment Plan for Diamond Alkali Site in New Jersey Released](#)

NOAA and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service have released a final [Natural Resource Damage Assessment Plan](#) for the [Diamond Alkali Superfund Site](#).

[Marine Debris Program Presents at 2020 Stormwater and Litter Workshop in Virginia](#)

On February 10, NOAA’s Marine Debris Program participated in the 2020 Stormwater and Litter Workshop hosted at Randolph–Macon College in Ashland, Virginia.

[Disaster Preparedness Program Participates in Region IV Regional Response Team Meeting](#)

On February 4-6, 2020, members of NOAA’s Disaster Preparedness Program (DPP) and Emergency Response Division (ERD) attended the Regional Response Team IV Winter Meeting in Franklin, Tennessee.

[2020 Oregon Marine Debris Action Plan Educator Workshop](#)

On January 30-31, Marine Debris Program representatives Andrew Mason (Pacific Northwest Regional Coordinator) and Shanelle Naone (Pacific Islands Regional Communications and Outreach Coordinator) attended a workshop comprised of partners from across Oregon.

[Alaska Forum on the Environment 2020](#)

The Alaska Forum on the Environment (AFE) was held this week in Anchorage, Alaska, offering six keynote events, over 100 presentations, panel discussions, special events and workshops.

[Marine Debris Program Participates in 2020 Maui Whale Day](#)

On Saturday, February 8, the NOAA Marine Debris Program participated in Whale Day 2020 at Kalama Park in Kihei, Maui.

NEWS REPORTS FROM AROUND THE WORLD (CONTINUED)

[Science of Oil Spills \(SOS\) Training Coming to Seattle](#)

NOAA's Office of Response and Restoration (OR&R), a leader in providing scientific information in response to marine pollution, has scheduled a [Science of Oil Spills \(SOS\) class](#) for the week of June 22, in Seattle, Washington.

[OR&R Prepares for IOSC Short Courses](#)

In a few months, over 1,500 professionals from the international spill response community will gather at the International Oil Spill Conference and Exhibition ([IOSC 2020](#)) in New Orleans, Louisiana.

[NOAA Experts Facilitate an Urban Environmental Education Workshop in Wilmington, Delaware](#)

There's no better place to learn about environmental resilience than the South Wilmington Wetlands project in urban Wilmington, Delaware.

ISCO NEWS

NEW READERS SUBSCRIBING TO THE ISCO NEWSLETTER

ISCO's newspaper distribution contractor (Campaign Monitor) has just launched a new feature – reporting on new readers joining the mailing list. For your interest 12 new subscribers were added last week.

The locations of our new readers included Ecuador, Argentina, Pakistan, Czech Republic, Kazakhstan, UK, USA, India, and Ukraine.

This just shows how international the readership is. Currently, the complete list of recipients includes readers in 64 countries.

NEWS FROM ISCO MEMBERS

INTERTANKO ANNUAL TANKER EVENT 50TH ANNIVERSARY, OSLO – JUNE 2020

INTERTANKO will be celebrating a special 50th Anniversary edition of its Annual Tanker Event between **9-11 June 2020** in Oslo, where the Association was founded in 1970.

Now into its 24th edition, the Annual Tanker Event is recognised as THE event for tanker-related matters. Join us in Oslo as we celebrate 50 years of championing a tanker industry dedicated to delivering safe, efficient and environmentally sound transport services.

The 2020 Annual Tanker Event will be held in downtown Oslo at the *Oslo Congress Centre* ([view map](#)).

Address: Oslo Congress Centre, Youngs gate 21, 0181, Oslo **Website:** <https://www.oslokongressenter.no>

INTERTANKO / [Read more](#)

ALPHAMERS – ISCO MEMBER OF COUNCIL FOR INDIA INTERVIEWED BY INDIAN ENVIRONMENTAL NETWORK

Captain D. C. Sekhar, founder director of AlphaMERS Ltd., was recently interviewed by Paryavarana, the Indian Environmental Network. The live broadcast can be viewed at <https://www.paryavarana.com/>

SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

NEW MULTI OPERATIONAL DISSOLVED INORGANIC CARBON ANALYZER

February 4 - Introducing new Multi Operational Dissolved Inorganic Carbon Analyzer (MODICA), jointly developed by UIC Inc. and AlphaZeta Sciences LLC

A multi-sample and multi-detector capable instrument for dissolved inorganic carbon (DIC), with pH, and salinity probes, for measurements in aqueous solutions (seawater, fresh water, etc.). MODICA (CM5260) can automatically process up to ten samples using predefined routines according to sample types. Multiple readings can be obtained from the same sample.

Oceanbuzz / For more information, visit: www.uicinc.com

NEW TECHNIQUE FOR OIL SPILL RECOVERY FROM UNIVERSITY OF BONN

February 3 - Researchers at the Universities of Bonn and Aachen and the Heimbach-GmbH have developed a new technology for the removal of such contaminations: Textiles with special surface properties passively skim off the oil and move it into a floating container. The scientists used surfaces from the plant kingdom as a model. The study has now been published in the journal *Philosophical Transactions A*. The video clip is as short as it is impressive: The 18-second sequence shows a pipette from which dark-colored crude oil drips into a glass of water. Then a researcher holds a green leaf against the spot. Within a matter of seconds the leaf sucks the oil from the surface of the water, leaving not even a trace behind.

SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

The star of the movie, the small green leaf, comes from the floating fern *Salvinia*. The special abilities of its leaves make it highly interesting for scientists, because they are extremely hydrophobic: When submerged, they wrap themselves in an air jacket and remain completely dry. Researchers call this behavior "superhydrophobic," which can be translated as "extremely water repellent."

However, the *Salvinia* surface loves oil which is, in a way, a flip side of superhydrophobia. "This allows the leaves to transport an oil film on their surface," explains Prof. Dr. Wilhelm Barthlott, emeritus of the University of Bonn and former director of its botanic gardens. "And we have also been able to transfer this property to technically producible surfaces, such as textiles."

Such superhydrophobic substances can then for instance be used to remove oil films from water surfaces efficiently and without the use of chemicals. However, unlike other materials that have been used for this purpose so far, they do not absorb the oil. "Instead, it travels along the surface of the fabric, moved forward solely by its adhesive forces," explains Barthlott. "For example, in the laboratory we hung such fabric tapes over the edge of a container floating on the water. Within a short time they had almost completely removed the oil from the water surface and transported it into the container." Science Daily / [Read more](#)

WASTE COOKING OIL CONVERTED INTO SPONGE-LIKE OIL SPILL CLEAN-UP

February 19 - Scientists at Flinders University in Adelaide have developed a new material that could revolutionise oil spill clean-up operations with a company from Singapore agreeing to help commercialise the product.

The material – absorbent polysulfide made from waste cooking oil and sulphur – acts like a sponge and can absorb up to three times its mass in oil or diesel and is reusable.

The product is hydrophobic, whereby it separates from water and binds well to oil. The polymer absorbs oil much like a sponge, forming a gel that can be scooped out of the water.

The newly agreed collaboration between Flinders University and Singapore's Clean Earth Technologies will see a manufacturing facility launched in South Australia to produce commercial quantities of the absorbent polysulfide.

Associate professor Justin Chalker who has led the development of the new material told local media yesterday, "Just making a product from waste, regardless of what the end use, is a viable thing to think about. In this case, we're converting waste into something that can help clean up the environment." Splash 247 / [Read more](#) Related article in [Oil & Gas Product News](#) [Thanks to Dan Sheehan Hon.FISCO, Member of ISCO Executive Committee]

TECHNICAL SUPPORT

E-LEARNING - CHLORINATED HYDROCARBONS – MYTHS AND REALITIES

Australia has general guidance on vapour intrusion and more specific guidance on assessing vapour intrusion into buildings for petroleum hydrocarbons. However Australian does not have specific guidance for chlorinated hydrocarbons. Most of the guidance for petroleum hydrocarbons also applies to chlorinated, but it is becoming increasingly clear that there are a range of myths doing the rounds in the industry. This session will help you to understand what the NEPM says about chlorinated hydrocarbons, what the standard approach to assessing risks from vapour intrusion for these chemicals actually involves and what practices need to be avoided.

We will conclude the session with audience driven questions and answers. Please email me at elarning@landandgroundwater.com with any detailed aspects of the subject you would like addressed.



Therese Manning is a principal at Environmental Risk Sciences and a Fellow of ACTRA. She has a long history of undertaking human health and environmental risk assessments as part of the NSW EPA and as a consultant. She provides risk assessment support to a range of government departments and she has been involved in the development of guidance and guidelines for contaminated land assessment.



Dr Jackie Wright is Director of enRiskS, a Fellow of ACTRA and an adjunct lecturer with Flinders University. She has been assessing risks from chlorinated hydrocarbons since the early 1990s. She has prepared national guidance for the NEPM (Schedule B4 and B7) and the CRC CARE Petroleum Vapour Intrusion Guidance and CRC CARE Weathered Petroleum guidance. Her work analysing vapour intrusion data has been included in the USEPA databases. She has been conducting research on characterising exposures and health effects that occur within methamphetamine contaminated properties.

DATE & TIME: Thursday, February 27, 2020 1:30pm - 2:30pm

FEES (incl. GST): ALGA Member \$22 ALGA Student Member \$11 Everyone else \$55

CPD POINTS: Earn up to 1 CPD Point

CONTACT: Michal Grigor +61 490 082 260 elarning@landandgroundwater.com

TECHNICAL SUPPORT (CONTINUED)

WATER POLLUTION PREVENTION CASE STUDY WEBINAR

This is a reminder that our [fourth tales from the field webinar](#) is happening on Wednesday 11th March at 1pm GMT, you can secure your place [here](#).

Following on from the success of the [Tools for Effective Water Pollution Prevention Webinar](#) and our first three Tales From the Field Webinars, [Practical Water Pollution in Practice](#), [Automated Water Pollution Prevention](#) and [Making the most of your Existing Assets](#) which contained a total of 11 case studies, people are still asking for more case study based content.

So we are going yet again, this time we will be delving into much greater detail on one case study, you can secure your place [here](#).

In this webinar we will be going all the way through a single water pollution prevention project, from the very first meeting, through challenge identification, solution proposal and selection, implementation, environmental permit application and approval through to ongoing automated maintenance and reporting. If you are thinking that effective water pollution prevention is beyond your means or capability this webinar will walk you through the entire process and demonstrate that failsafe water pollution prevention and compliance with CIRIA c736 is much more affordable and achievable than you might imagine, you can register [here](#).

This webinar is an interactive presentation designed to provide you with the latest information around water pollution prevention. It is entirely normal to think that your challenges are unique, and whilst there is certainly some variation we will be demonstrating in this presentation that a consistent approach will yield effective water pollution prevention in your business that is typically more achievable, affordable and less disruptive than you might imagine if you have been proposed more traditional solutions.

You will have the opportunity to submit any specific questions that you may have in advance of the event, and during, if time allows.

This presentation is for Environmental Managers, Facilities Managers, HSE's, Spill Control Managers, Drainage Engineers, Drainage Design Engineers, and anyone else looking to ensure that spill containment and water pollution prevention systems and processes will be effective in the event of a spill, fire or flood.

You can register [here](#), I hope you will find it interesting and useful.

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.

MESSAGES RECEIVED FROM EVENT ORGANISERS

OIL SPILL INDIA – ABSTRACT SUBMISSION

As an internationally recognized technical and policy forum, Oil Spill India is seeking thematically related papers/abstracts for the 6th edition of the conference. Focusing on stakeholders "Commitment" for environmental sustainability, oil spill preparedness & prevention, the need for "Synergy" in oil spill response & "Excellence" in restoration efforts, these paper presentations will be the backbone of the OSI's technical program and contribute to the vast canon of oil pollution knowledge shared between the government, industry, and academia.

The Advisory Board has developed a list of focus topics that are considered timely and appealing for presentations in the conference on which authors are requested to submit related papers. Invited authors would present their respective papers during the technical or interactive sessions scheduled during the conference.

Before a paper is invited for presentation at OSI 2020, an author must first submit a comprehensive abstract for consideration. Starting December, 15th, 2019, interested authors should visit <http://www.oilspillindia.org> and click the "Abstract Submission" tab to find instructions for submitting abstracts electronically using OSI's online abstract submission system. Abstracts must be in English & should not exceed 400 words. They will be evaluated based on relevance, uniqueness/originality, technical content, and clarity. Key areas for deliberations to be addressed during the conference include the following:

MESSAGES RECEIVED FROM EVENT ORGANISERS (CONTINUED)

- A) Outlook & Developments - Global, Regional & National
- B) Advances in Prevention, Planning & Preparedness
- C) Transboundary Collaboration - Integration & Response
- D) Next Generation Technologies - Surveillance, Mapping, Modelling & Remote Sensing
- E) Innovations in Response Management & Mitigation
- F) Emerging & Future Risks - Assessment & Perspectives
- G) Marine Response - Shipping, Salvage & Wreck Removal
- H) Conventions, Claims & Compensation - Regulatory & Industry Perspectives
- I) Recent Incident Case Studies & Lessons Learned
- J) Offshore & Sub-Sea Response
- K) Inland Spills, Wildlife Response & Remediation

More info: <http://www.oilspillindia.org/>

4TH ANNUAL CLEAN WATERWAYS CONFERENCE

At the [4th Annual CLEAN WATERWAYS Conference](#), April 7-9 in Indianapolis, IN, you'll have the opportunity to connect with attendees and exhibitors during dedicated networking activities, conference sessions and on the exhibit floor. Conference sessions cover hazardous materials management, spill prevention and response, waste management and environmental considerations. Sessions are complemented by exhibiting companies on the show floor that provide solutions and technologies to prevent, prepare or respond to hazardous spills and environmental emergencies.

Fresh Conference Content: New session topics covering data management & information sharing, including Indigenous/Tribal Communities in emergency response planning, and storage tank emergency response are included in this year's program. In addition, a new track on emerging trends and technologies has been added and sessions covering waste disposal are in the works!

Exhibit Hall: Over 60 vendors will be in the exhibit hall showcasing their solutions and technologies to prevent, prepare or respond to a hazardous spill or environmental emergency. Breakfast, lunch, scheduled networking breaks, and a reception will also be held in the exhibit hall.

Demonstration: Indiana's Response Capabilities for Inland Water Incidents: This extensive demonstration will showcase multiple disciplines used during a water response including Incident Command, drone deployment with video feed, outfall containment and recovery, deflection boom strategy, sweep and snare techniques, and swift water rescue standby.

Indianapolis Motor Speedway Museum and Tour: Take a lap around the Indianapolis Motor Speedway oval and stop to "Kiss the Bricks," from the original 1909 track surface at the start/finish line. The Indianapolis Motor Speedway offers 37,500 square feet of exhibit space featuring cars, trophies, photographs, racing records, memorabilia, and fine art to interpret the national and international significance of motorsports.

Networking Receptions: A reception hosted by CTEH, LLC and E3 Environmental will take place on Tuesday, April 7th at the JW Marriott Indianapolis. On Wednesday, Heritage Environmental Services will host a 50th Anniversary celebration at their facility immediately following the reception held in the exhibit hall.

UPCOMING EVENTS

COUNTRY	2019	TITLE OF EVENT	LOCATION
For more information click on Title of Event			
COUNTRY	2020	TITLE OF EVENT	LOCATION
DENMARK	February 26-28	HELCOM Response Working Group Meeting	Vejle
USA	March 4	Demonstration of Oil Spill Response Equipment	Des Allemands, LA
UK	March 11-13	Meeting of IOPC Funds' governing bodies	London
FRANCE	March 17	25th Cedre Information Day	Paris
COLOMBIA	March 17-19	SPE HSE & Sustainability Conference	Bogotá
USA	March 19	2020 MI-AHMP Annual Conference	Howell, MI

UPCOMING EVENTS

UK	March 20	Marine Insurance London Conference	London
USA	March 24-25	SCAA Annual Meeting & Conference	Arlington, VA
TOGO	March 25-27	Workshop on oil spill liability and compensation	Lome
UK	Mar. 30 – Apr.3	IMO Marine Environment Protection Committee	London
TUNISIA	April 1-2	Regional Workshop on Oil Spill Waste Management	Tunis
USA	April 7-9	Clean Waterways Conference	Indianapolis, IN
USA	April 20-24	Interstate Technology & Regulatory Council	Minneapolis, MN
USA	April 28 – May 1	Oil Spill Response Strategies & Tactics Training	Leonardo, NJ
USA	May 10	APICOM GM Meeting	New Orleans, LA
USA	May 11-14	International Oil Spill Conference & Exhibition	New Orleans, LA
UK	May 13-14	HAZMAT 2020 Conference	Stratford on Avon
IRELAND	May 14-15	European Maritime Day Forum Event	Cork
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	Carni, IL
UK	June 8-12	2020 IOPC Funds' Short Course	London
NORWAY	June 9-11	INTERTANKO Annual Tanker Event	Oslo
USA	June 9-11	Clean Pacific Conference & Exhibition	Seattle, WA
NETHERLANDS	June 24-25	European Environmental Ports Conference 2020	Rotterdam
ESTONIA	August 25-27	BALEX DELTA 2020 pollution response exercise	Talinn
USA	Sept. 8-11	HazMat Emergency Response Workshop	Scaramento, CA
AUSTRALIA	Sept. 15-17	Ecoforum Conference & Exhibition	Darwin
INDIA	Sept. 22-24	Oil Spill India Conference & Exhibition	Mumbai
UK	October 19-23	IMO Marine Environment Protection Committee	London
USA	October 20-22	Clean Gulf Conference & Exhibition	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

Alga Chronicle	News from Australia on Contaminated Land Remediation	December 2019
AMSA Update	Latest news from the Australian Maritime Safety Authority	January 2020
ATRAC Newsletter	News from the Adriatic Training and Research Centre	December 2019
AUSMEPA Bulletin	News from the Australian Marine Environment Protection Assoc'n	Summer 2020
BIMCO Bulletin	Marine and shipping-related news from BIMCO	December 2019
Newsletter from George Holliday	News and commentary on HSE issues from George Holliday	On request email
Cedre Newsletter	News from Cedre in Brittany, France	January 2020
Clean Nigeria Associates Newsletter	News from CNA about Oil Spill Response in Nigeria	December 2018
EMSA Newsletter	News from the European Maritime Safety Agency	Current issue
GEF Newsletter	Monthly Newsletter from the Global Environment Facility	December 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	Q4 2019
IMO News Magazine	News from the International Maritime Organization	Winter 2019
IMO Publishing Newsletter	New and forthcoming IMO publications	January 2020
ITOPF Ocean Orbit	News from the International Tanker Owners Pollution Federation	October 2019
JOIFF "The Catalyst"	Int'l Organisation for Industrial Hazard Management	Q1 2020 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	January 2020
Nautical Institute News	News from the Nautical Institute	October, 2019
Navigate Response	Global crisis communications network for shipping & marine	October 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	January 2020
OHMSETT Gazette	Oil Spill Response Research & Renewable Energy Test Facility Quarterly	Summer 2019
OSPAR Newsletter	Protecting & Conserving the N.E. Atlantic and its resources	End of year 2019
PEMSEA Newsletter	Healthy oceans, people and economies in the East Asian Seas	September, 2019
Pollution Online Newsletter	News for pollution prevention & control professionals	Current issue

LINKS FOR DOWNLOADING & READING OTHER PUBLICATIONS

[Safe Seas, Clean Seas](#)

[Salvage World](#)

[Sea Alarm Foundation Newsletter](#)

[Technology Innovation News Survey](#)

[USA EPA Tech Direct](#)

[WestMOPoCo](#)

Quarterly Newsletter from Maritime New Zealand

Quarterly Newsletter of the International Salvage Union

Oiled wildlife Preparedness and Response news from Sea Alarm

News from US EPA – Contaminated Site Decontamination

Remediation of contaminated soil and groundwater

Western Mediterranean Region Marine Oil & HNS Pollution Cooperation

July 2018 issue

Current issue

Current issue

Jan. 1-15, 2020

February 1, 2020

January 2020

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)

IRELAND: MAY SHE REST IN PEACE ON THE ROCKS? GHOST SHIP BEACHED BY STORM



February 16 - Abandoned and unmanned general cargo ship ALTA (ELIAS), anchored off Cork coast, Ireland, was pushed aground on Feb 16 by storm Dennis, and remains beached on the rocks. The ship is hard aground in a legal sense also, for quite some time. There's dispute over her ownership and a mystery story of hijacking behind it. Understood Coast Guard is trying to find out owner, to task him with refloating or wreck removal. The ship made quite a story last year, being distressed in the Atlantic and drifting for about a year:

The mystery of cargo ship found in the Atlantic a year after she was abandoned Maritime Bulletin / [Read more](#)

February 17 - No impact on protected nature area from Cork shipwreck, says Council - Cork County Council has said that there are no signs of contamination to the protected Ballycotton Bay as a result of yesterday evening's wreck of an abandoned cargo ship off East Cork.

[Ballycotton Bay is a special protected area](#) and home to endangered bird species including Ringland Plovers, Teals and Lapwings. The Bay's wetland habitats have also been identified of conservation significance for non-breeding waterbirds. Green News / [Read more](#)

Related article in [CorkBeo](#)

February 19 - Waste materials to be airlifted from MV Alta wreck - Oil and other waste materials are due to be airlifted from the wreck of the MV Alta in Cork next week. "Cork County Council's marine contractor is progressing well with preparations for the removal of the oil and other materials identified which could pose a pollution risk in the event of their spillage," the local authority said in an update on Friday. Irish Times / [Read more](#)

CANADA: CN TRAIN CARRYING CRUDE OIL DERAILS NEAR FORT FRANCES, ONT.

February 19 - Multiple rail cars are leaking crude oil after a CN Rail train derailment west of Fort Frances, Ont. A statement from the railway said the incident occurred Tuesday night near Emo, and local emergency responders and provincial authorities were at the scene Wednesday morning.

Ontario Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks spokesperson Gary Wheeler said five of the approximately 30 cars that derailed have developed leaks. Wheeler said the leaking oil appears to have remained close to the area of the derailment, likely helped by overnight temperatures of around -25 C. CBC News / [Read more](#) Related report and video in [Global News](#)

USA: OREGON - LOW LEVELS OF FUEL IN NORTH SANTIAM RIVER AFTER SPILL



February 20 - Gas that spilled into the North Santiam River after a tanker crash last weekend continues to be detected in the river but not at levels high enough to impact drinking water supply, state officials said Thursday.

A double-tanker truck crashed on Highway 22 east of Idanha on Sunday, releasing 7,800 gallons of oil and gas into the soil and river and closing a 30-mile stretch of the highway all week.

All week, cleanup crews have dug up and hauled away petroleum-contaminated soil. As of Wednesday, the crews had dug up and hauled away about 2,300 cubic yards of contaminated soil. Dump trucks are taking the contaminated soil to Coffin Butte Landfill near Corvallis. Statesman Journal / [Read more](#)

HISTORY

HELPING SAVE 20,000 OILED PENGUINS IN CAPE TOWN, SOUTH AFRICA



On June 23, 2000 the damaged bulk ore carrier [MV Treasure](#) sank off the coast of South Africa between Dassen and Robben islands, which support the largest and third largest colonies of African Penguins (*Spheniscus demersus*), worldwide. The worldwide population of African penguins is numbered at less than 180,000 and dwindling. The ship spilled over 1,300 tons of bunker oil, which immediately oiled thousands of penguins on and around the islands.

The International Bird Rescue's response team was immediately mobilized by the [International Fund for Animal Welfare \(IFAW\)](#) who helped organize the rehabilitation effort of over 20,000 oiled penguins.

Legal disclaimer: Whilst ISCO takes every care to ensure that information published in this newsletter is accurate unintentional mistakes can occur. No liability for consequences of errors is accepted but, if an error is brought to our attention, a correction will be printed in a following issue of this newsletter. Products and services featured in the ISCO Newsletter and/or the ISCO website, including the International Directory of Spill Response Supplies and Services, have not been tested, approved or endorsed by ISCO. Any claims made by suppliers of products or services are solely those of the suppliers and ISCO does not accept any liability for their accuracy. It should not be assumed that views and opinions expressed in linked reports, articles and other content reflect the views of the organization. Subscription is subject to acceptance of ISCO's Terms and Conditions as published on the website www.spillcontrol.org and your acceptance of ISCO's Data Protection and Privacy Policy.