

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

ISCO COMMITTEE & COUNCIL

ISCO is managed by an EXECUTIVE Directors

- Mr David Usher, President (USA)
- Mr Matthew Sommerville, Secretary (UK)
- Mr John McMurtrie, VP and Editor (UK)
- Ms Mary Ann Dalgleish, VP M'ship (USA)

Members

- Mr Li Guobin (China)
- M. Jean Claude Sainlos (France)
- Mr Kerem Kemerli (Turkey)
- Mr Marc Shaye (USA)
- Mr Dan Sheehan (USA)
- Captain Bill Boyle (UK)
- Lord Peter Simon Rickaby (UK)

Assisted by COUNCIL

(National Representatives)

- Mr John Wardrop (Australia)
- Mr Osman Tarzumanov (Azerbaijan)
- TBA (Brazil)
- Dr Merv Fingas (Canada)
- Captain Davy T. S. Lau (China)
- Mr Darko Domovic (Croatia)
- Eng. Ashraf Sabet (Egypt)
- Mr Torbjorn Hedrenius (Estonia)
- Mr Pauli Einarsson (Faroe Islands)
- TBA (Greece)
- Captain D. C. Sekhar (India)
- Major Ben Benny (Israel)
- Mr Sanjay Gandhi (Kenya)
- Mr Dennis van der Veen (Netherlands)
- Chief Kola Agboke (Nigeria)
- Mr Carlos Sagrera (Panama)
- TBA (Singapore)
- Mrs Fatima B. Shaik (South Africa)
- Dr Ali Saeed Al Ameri (UAE)
- Mr Kevin Miller (UK)
- Dr Manik Sardessai (USA)

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

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



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!

WHO DIRECTOR-GENERAL'S OPENING REMARKS AT THE MEDIA BRIEFING ON COVID-19

March 20 – “WHO is working actively to support all countries, and especially those that need our support the most”

[Read the complete text of the director-general's address and watch the video](#)

COVID-19 UPDATES FROM THE UNITED NATIONS ENVIRONMENT PROGRAMME

March 19 - As a member of the United Nations family, the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) is taking action in light of the Novel Coronavirus COVID-19 outbreak. Managers and staff, the bulk of whom are telecommuting, are working with all necessary partners to ensure the continuity of UNEP work. In line with public health advice and travel restrictions, some events have been cancelled or postponed. Discussions are also underway to move some events online. When possible, the [events section of the UNEP website](#) is being updated.

EUROPE: ANNOUNCEMENT FROM EMSA

March 18 - As we watch together the rapid escalation of COVID-19, we are conscious of our responsibility to act both individually and collectively to reduce transmission. This is all the more important given that we as an EU Agency play a unique role in bringing together stakeholders from across the world to share best practices.

While we remain fully committed to maritime safety, we are applying the social distancing measures shown to work in other parts of the world and recommended by our host country. Throughout the days, weeks and months ahead, we would like to assure stakeholders that our staff will continue to work to guarantee our services, albeit in an adapted context with adapted means.

In this global health crisis, we will be called to show our determination and courage. Although we may not meet physically, we will certainly be acting and working together in ways we never have before. www.emsa.europa.eu

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 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)

ICS RELEASES CORONAVIRUS GUIDELINES FOR SHIP OPERATORS

March 6 - In light of the outbreak of coronavirus (Covid-19), the International Chamber of Shipping (ICS) has produced a set of guidelines 'Guidance for Ship Operators for the Protection of the Health of Seafarers' to help shipping companies follow advice provided by United Nations agencies. These include the World Health Organization (WHO), the International Maritime Organization (IMO) and the International Labour Organization (ILO), as well as the European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control (ECDC). The guidance supports all types of ship operating in international waters. [You can download the ICS document here.](#)

GI WACAF ACTIVITIES POSTPONED DUE TO CORONAVIRUS

March 16 - Following the decision taken by the World Health Organization (WHO) on Wednesday 11 March to recognize COVID-19 as a pandemic and in view of the increasing number of cases worldwide, IMO has decided to postpone future meetings due to the global outbreak of the coronavirus.

In this context, as a precautionary measure, it was also decided to postpone missions and technical cooperation activities abroad. In the best interest of the participants, experts and host countries, GI WACAF follows IMO's guidelines and is postponing the upcoming activities until further notice.

The GI WACAF Secretariat will continue to closely monitor developments related to COVID-19 and will keep you informed of the latest developments. <https://www.giwacaf.net/en/our/news/postponement-of-gi-wacaf-activities-due-to-coronavirus>

Note from Editor – Sadly, the above event postponement announcements are unlikely to be the last. If any further cancellation announcements are received before this issue goes to press, they will be announced under "Stop Press" on the last page of the newsletter. See also "Messages from Event Organisers" and "Upcoming Events" on Pages 10-11.

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

AUSTRALIA: AMSA OFFICES TEMPORARILY CLOSED TO THE PUBLIC FROM CLOSE OF BUSINESS 20 MARCH 2020

March 18 - This is part of our precautionary approach in responding to COVID-19. Our priority is to protect the health of our employees and reduce the impact on AMSA's ability to keep delivering essential services to the maritime community. We are all operating in uncertain times and understand that people may be dealing with some disruption which we are doing our best to manage. If you need to speak to a member of the AMSA team, please call AMSA Connect on 1800 627 484 or email amsaconnect@amsa.gov.au AMSA's emergency and critical operations for search and rescue are NOT affected.

AUSTRALIA: ALGA WEBINAR: INVITATION TO THE SUSTAINABLE REMEDIATION

March 19 - Sustainable remediation has been defined as 'the practice of demonstrating, in terms of environmental, economic and social indicators, that the benefit of undertaking remediation is greater than its impact and that the optimum remediation solution is selected through the use of a balanced decision-making process. Sustainable remediation should be part of our decision-making process on all remediation projects, no matter the size, and is an important concept in relation to climate change. For more info email elearning@landandgroundwater.com

CANADA: ADVICE FROM SHIP-SOURCE OIL POLLUTION FUND

March 19 - As we try to navigate through the uncertainty of coronavirus disease (COVID-19), we want you to know that we are still available to compensate victims of ship-source oil pollution. Following Public Health's recommendations, the Fund is taking the following measures.

OFFICE: Effective March 17 the Fund's staff will be operating remotely until further notice. Please note that we will still receive and evaluate claims. We encourage submissions via email at: claims@sopf-cidphn.gc.ca. Paper claims are still accepted, but it could

potentially delay the process. Stakeholders are also encouraged to continue engaging with us and send questions via email at: info@sopf-cidphn.gc.ca.

STAFF: Staff will remain available via email during this time.

EVENTS: We will be suspending our participation to all external events until further notice. All events organized by the Fund, including webinars are postponed. This includes the Introduction to compensation for Fishers, Aquaculturists, and All Involved in Related Activities. The webinar was planned to take place on March 24, 2020, but this has changed due to unavoidable circumstances.

CANADA: OIL SPILL RESPONSE BASE ON TRACK FOR UCLUELET, PORT ALBERNI

March 19 - Western Canada Marine Response Corporation (WCMRC) held a community open house on Thursday, March 12 at the Ucluelet Aquarium to share plans for its Port Alberni-Ucluelet spill response base. The Port Alberni-Ucluelet spill response base is part of an enhanced spill response regime being implemented in Vancouver Harbour and along the Southern Shipping Line. The enhancements are being funded by the Trans Mountain pipeline expansion project at an estimated cost of \$150 million.

Westerly News / [Read more](#)

FINLAND: COVID-19 INFORMATION

March 16 - In light of the recent developments on COVID-19, HELCOM will no longer hold or attend physical meetings through 30 April 2020. Furthermore, all HELCOM Secretariat staff is currently working remotely from home until further notice.

We will continue to monitor the situation with a view to updating our position accordingly. Please check this page for updates. For HELCOM meetings, further information on the practical details of the online meetings will be posted on this page as it becomes available and/or will be directly communicated to the meeting participants.

All HELCOM meetings scheduled as of Monday, 16 March through Thursday, 30 April 2020 will take place online. In the event that, for practical reasons, this is deemed to be impossible, the meeting will be cancelled altogether. <https://helcom.fi/helcom-at-work/meetings/covid-19-information/>

GREECE: ADVICE FROM HELMEPA

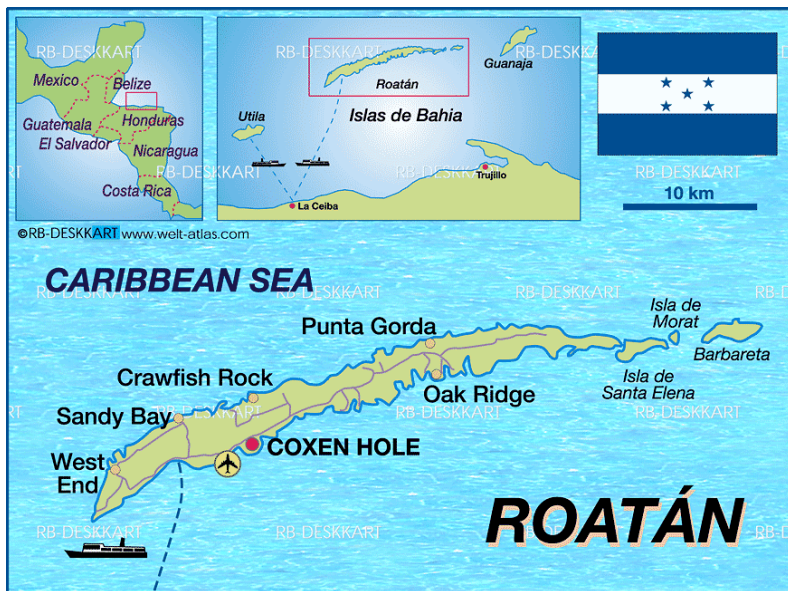
March 17 - The Hellenic Marine Environment Protection Association-HELMEPA, in the midst of the situation Covid-19 is creating, has stopped the implementation of its training seminars for 2020 but continues to offer its Member-shipping companies Refresher Training for their Greek and foreign officers. The Association converted in electronic format timely topics of its seminars “Compliance with Air Emissions Regulations” and “Marine Environmental Awareness” and, with the consent of the lecturers presenting them, made them available yesterday to Member-companies so they can forward them to their officers, as they wish.

As a reminder, HELMEPA’s e-learning online program is also available with topics on Pollution Prevention and Safety, in English, constituting a useful tool for Greek and foreign officers working on Greek-owned vessels.

Through the application of distance working and the social media, HELMEPA’s staff are already making efforts to continue the electronic flow of information to the Members as well as the educational community through the “HELMEPA Junior” program. Closing, due to the suspension of school visits to HELMEPA’s Exhibitions, a virtual educational tour of the latter is being prepared and will be made available on the internet. <https://helvepa.gr/en/news-2020-immediate-adaptation-to-developments-with-the-assistance-of-technology/>

HONDURAS: NEWS FROM ROATAN - HONDURAN CARIBBEAN - IMO OPRC LEVEL I COURSE AND HISTORICAL DRILL – REPORT FROM CARLOS SAGRERA15





March 15 - We just finish last week this Course in Roatan and an Historical Drill with all the actors of the island and also the participation of the Certificated OSRO of Honduras OPCH. Really I can say just in time... !!! It has been one of the best exercises in which I have participated in my 20 years of experience in the region and I think it is good that it be properly disseminated as an example for Latin America.

"In times of the COVID-19 and the price of a barrel of oil close to 30 USD life continues in the island of Roatan (Honduran Caribbean) and last week there was an IMO OPRC Level I Course and a drill of deployment response equipment in Mahogany Bay (Instructor and Drill Director Mr. Carlos Sagrera (MISCO Member). The objectives of the course were: 1) Train personnel at operator level to respond quickly and efficiently to oil spills at sea and a specific risk scenario like Roatan – 2) Provide operational personnel involved in clean-up operations in the field, as

well as other selected actors from public and private organizations and institutions of Roatan, an overview of the various tasks to recover the spilled oil and clean the contaminated coastline so that they can participate effectively in a coordinated work team. Indeed, under the leadership of the Honduran maritime authority (Mr. Juan Carlos Rivera - General Directorate of the Merchant Marine of Honduras) and within the framework of the NCP, had participated the main institutions and organizations of the government of Honduras, NGOs and the maritime companies, port terminals and oil companies that handle fuel for the cruises and thousands of smaller boats on the island: Bay Island Petroleum (BIP), Roatan Electric Company, PETROA, PETROSUN, Inversiones del Caribe, Roatan Marine Park, Healthy Reefs Initiative, the Coral Reef Alliance, Galaxy Wave, Airport Juan Manuel Galvez, Fuerza Naval de Honduras, Cuerpo de Bomberos, Municipalidades de Roatan y de la isla de Guanaja, COPECO, MiAmbiente Roatan, CESCO, ICF Roatan, Zolitur, Policía Nacional de Honduras, Fiscalía de Honduras and Oficina Administradora de Bienes Incautados. An Unified Command was formed and, under the direction of the Incident Commander (Sara Zelaya – Head of the Marine Environment Protection Department of the DGMM), a Tier II scenario was simulated, which implied the presence of local resources and the activation of the certified OSRO in Honduras Ocean Pollution Control Honduras (OPCH) with base in Puerto Cortes. Containment booms, recovery skimmers were deployed and sweeping and booming actions were carried out for the cruise ships that dock at the port of Mahogany Bay. Local vessels were used for the operation and served as platforms and the mobilization of the OPCH technical personnel and equipment.

For more information contact: Mrs. Sara Zelaya – tel. +504 9827-3483. Web page: <http://marinamercante.gob.hn/?lang=en>
 [Thanks to Carlos Sagrera, MSc., MISCO, HSE & Oil Spill Control Advisor, ISCO Council Member]

INDIA: BUSINESS CONTINUITY IN THE FACE OF CORONAVIRUS

March 17 - The current global emergency due to coronavirus is tearing businesses apart and causing many of them to go bankrupt. I interviewed on March 15, 2020, Prof. Anil Kumar Gupta, Head of Environment & Disaster Risk Management Division, National Institute of Disaster Management, India on “Business Continuity in the face of coronavirus”. Watch the interview and offer your comments on www.paryavaran.com.

This interview is brought to you by Indian Environment Network www.paryavaran.com with members from 2000+ environmental organizations. Join the platform and connect with our members and professionals from National Institute of Disaster Management, India to ask more questions on Environmental Disaster Management.

IRELAND: ADVICE FROM EPA

March 16 - Following advice issued by the Government to deal with the current Covid-19 outbreak, the Environmental Protection Agency has requested that staff, if possible, work from home until 29th March. The EPA will continue to deliver on our business and statutory functions as best we can and will make every effort to respond to any queries as soon as possible. Given the circumstances, there may be delays in replying to queries. <http://www.epa.ie/about/qcs/#d.en.68594>

JAPAN: FUKUSHIMA CLEANUP STRUGGLE FOCUSES ON CONTAMINATED WATER

March 17 - Nine years after the Fukushima disaster shook the world, one of the biggest impediments to cleaning up the site in Northeastern Japan is coming from an unexpected source: the water.

That water, specifically 1.2 million tons of it, is still radioactive. Stored in 1,000 special tanks on the site of the nuclear power plant’s ruins, it’s taking up needed space – which the Japanese government plans to free up by dumping it into the sea. But local residents, especially fishermen, are opposed to that plan. The Maritime Executive / [Read more](#)

NEW ZEALAND: HAZARDOUS MATERIALS INCIDENT AND DECONTAMINATION EXERCISE HELD

March 19 - Firefighters were put through their paces yesterday in a hazardous materials incident and decontamination exercise held on the forecourt of the Gisborne fire station. Senior Station Officer Bernie Bull said the personnel involved were tested on their handling of a chemical spill. They were fully kitted out in hazardous substance gear and washed off afterwards in a portable decontamination shower. "We test the gear and practice with it every six months or so," SSO Bull said. "The exercise went very well."

The Gisborne Herald / [Read more](#)



UK: SHIPPING AND SEA PORTS GUIDANCE

Pictorial guidance publication from the UK Government.

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/873783/COVID19_Guidance_Shipping_and_sea_ports.pdf

USA: COAST GUARD - ADMIRAL SCHULTZ'S STATEMENT TO THE WORKFORCE ON COVID-19

March 13 - During times of uncertainty throughout history, the Coast Guard has consistently risen to the challenge of protecting the American people and our way of life. As our Nation and the global community confront the Coronavirus Disease 19 (COVID-19), our Coast Guard continues to perform critical missions that protect our national interests, promote economic prosperity, and ensure public safety.

I realize, however, that while you selflessly serve as a member of our Mission Ready Total Workforce, you are also spouses, parents, sons and daughters, and members of your local communities. We all have people we care about, and a responsibility to maintain both our individual and family readiness. Amidst this backdrop of uncertainty, an important word that is foremost in my mind is "resiliency." While the word has various definitions, I think of the following: the capacity to recover quickly from difficulty/challenge; toughness; elasticity, or the ability to bounce back. Through this challenging period, we must be resilient.

Your senior leadership team is committed to the operational readiness of the Service, and our ability to balance the health and safety concerns of our extraordinary workforce. While COVID-19 has global impact, it demands local actions. I am empowering commanders to tailor their approach to best meet mission needs while taking care of our members and their families/loved ones. This approach rightfully places great trust in the judgment of our leaders, and in their ability to govern with common sense. If you find that your ability to conform to normal work patterns is significantly impacted, communicate up your chain of command.

While this virus may be new, the Coast Guard's skilled and practiced response to all threats is not. THIS IS WHAT WE DO. We surge our resources, we focus our efforts, we take care of each other, we adjust as conditions require, and above all we remain calm. Emergency management expertise and a disciplined approach to contingencies are part of our organizational DNA and will successfully navigate us through the uncertain days ahead.

Coast Guard leadership is working closely with CDC, DHS, and DOD leadership, and we have established a Coronavirus Coordination Team (CCT) at Coast Guard headquarters to think ahead of COVID-19 challenges, and address issues as they arise. Informed by the expertise of our Chief Medical Officer, the Deputy Commandants for Operations (DCO) and Mission Support (DCMS) will strive to keep you informed so that you can remain confident and calm while performing our critical work and tending to your personal circumstances. Rest assured, our policy and human resources experts are working hard to develop guidance on issues important to you such as leave, telework, TDY and PCS policies.

It is your responsibility to stay alert and aware, and to be ready to adapt your work routine should the need arise. I recommend you visit the following website frequently for guidance and general information related to coronavirus response efforts:

<https://www.uscg.mil/Coronavirus/>

While we don't know how long the effects of COVID-19 will endure, I assure you that we will continue to maintain situational awareness and plan for potential impacts. The American public counts on us to remain "Always Ready" to defend our nation, safeguard our citizens, and facilitate our economy – just as we've done for nearly 230 years. This is why we serve!

Admiral Karl L. Schultz, Commandant, U.S. Coast Guard [View statement here](#)

USA: LATEST ACTIVITY REPORTS FROM NOAA OR&R

March 20 – Please click on the links below to read the latest News Reports from NOAA OR&R

[Greetings to OR&R and the Wider Response and Restoration Community](#)

NEWS REPORTS FROM AROUND THE WORLD (CONTINUED)



I hope you are well during this trying time. The Office of Response and Restoration is following public health and agency guidance in the performance of our work and in our response to COVID-19. We remain open for business, delivering our mission of protecting and restoring ocean and coastal resources from the impacts of oil, chemicals, marine debris, and other hazards.

Given the importance of increasing social distance, we are operating almost entirely remotely in our provision of expert leadership, training, and time-critical services that benefit the environment, public, and economy. While our approach to delivery has adapted to the difficult external context, the mission remains the same.

While the number of our in-person connections to customers, partners, and stakeholders has dropped with the postponement of many events, we are actively involved in the coordinated National Ocean Service response to COVID-19 through the Disaster Preparedness Program, and all of the OR&R programs are delivering services remotely and exploring different ways of leveraging technology in support of our work and community connections in the context of the current public health emergency.

If you need to reach anyone from our office, please don't hesitate to e-mail or call your usual contacts, or reach through the various means listed on our contact page.

Take care, Scott Lundgren, Director, Office of Response and Restoration, NOAA National Ocean Service

[Marine Debris Program Announces 2019 Hurricane Response Marine Debris Removal Fund Awards](#)

Following a competitive review process, the NOAA Marine Debris Program and [National Fish and Wildlife Foundation](#) are pleased to announce the six recipients of the [2019 Hurricane Response Marine Debris Removal Fund](#).

[Marine Debris Program Meets with District Congressional Staff from Maine and New Hampshire](#)

On March 12, Demi Fox, Northeast Regional Coordinator for the Marine Debris Program, met with Congressional staff from the district offices of Senator Collins (ME) and Senator Shaheen (NH).

[Disaster Preparedness Program Attends South Carolina Disaster Intelligence Workshop](#)

On February 20, 2020, Charles Grisafi, Southeast Regional Preparedness Coordinator, and Genwest contractor, represented the NOAA Disaster Preparedness Program (DPP) at the 2020 South Carolina Disaster Intelligence Workshop hosted by the South Carolina Emergency Management Division (SCEMD), in Columbia, South Carolina.

ISCO NEWS

CORONAVIRUS PANDEMIC

The problems caused by the pandemic are going to be with us for a long time and ISCO Members are asked to share information on the practical measures they are taking to cope with the ongoing situation. It will be of benefit to all of us to do this and the ISCO Newsletter will support this sharing process by publishing helpful contributions received from members and other sources.

ISCO EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE FACILITY

This service will continue to be available during the Coronavirus emergency. See <http://www.spillcontrol.org/emergency-assistance>

NEWS FROM ISCO MEMBERS

CORONAVIRUS: STATEMENT FROM OSRL

March 17 - Despite the ongoing COVID-19 Coronavirus outbreak, OSRL remains ready to respond. Our global footprint and deep knowledge of logistics puts us in a strong position to maintain our capability to support Member incidents. The complete text of OSRL's statement was published in the March 19th issue of the ISCO Newsletter.

NOTE FROM INTERTANKO

March 20 - INTERTANKO is committed to providing the safest environment possible for employees, while maintaining the continuity and excellence of services to Members and other stakeholders. Our operations are therefore ongoing, but with the aim of minimising the risk of community transfer in our various office locations and observing the travel restrictions in place around the world. Currently, all staff are working from home until further notice but you can reach us by email and phone as normal as all desk phone extensions are redirected. While we tried very hard to offer Members the option of attending INTERTANKO meetings locally, UN and government advice currently makes that impossible. We have therefore postponed all physical Committee and Panel meetings until local restrictions are lifted. INTERTANKO / [Read more](#)

NEWS FROM ISCO MEMBERS (CONTINUED)

LAMOR – A LETTER FROM OUR CEO

March 20 - During these days of uncertainty, I would like to reach out to you to make sure that you are staying safe and well. Despite the complex and serious nature of this outbreak, we at Lamor continue business as usual by quickly adapting to the situation and making needed changes to our working process.

Our first priority is the health and safety of our employees. We have taken actions to adapt to the new situation and to minimise risks to our employees of catching the virus, while maintaining our commitment to our customers. We have distributed our production network to 7 countries and have local representation in 104 countries, so we are able to help you even with global travel severely disrupted.

For more than 35 years we at Lamor have believed that a successful response to a crisis depends on preparation and teamwork. This applies to a pandemic as well as an oil spill. We are proud of the professionalism of our suppliers and agents who have all shown that safety is a priority while keeping everything running. Our business model in Lamor is based on creating both domestic and international networks and we are more than happy to share our way of managing a crisis situation with other companies and industries.

All of us here at Lamor wish you and your families health and security during these difficult times.

Sincerely, Mika Pirneskoski, Lamor CEO <https://www.lamor.com/>

TECHNICAL SUPPORT

CORONAVIRUS: USEFUL WEBSITES

USA - Centers for Disease Control and Prevention - <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-nCoV/index.html>

UK <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/guidance-to-employers-and-businesses-about-covid-19/guidance-for-employers-and-businesses-on-coronavirus-covid-19>

CORONAVIRUS CLEANING TIPS FOR YOUR IPHONE, ANDROID

All products, according to Apple, can be gently cleaned with the a 70% isopropyl alcohol wipe or Clorox disinfecting wipe. Wipe the hard, nonporous surfaces, like the display, keyboard or other exterior surfaces. The Seattle Times / [More info about prevention](#)

HOW LONG WILL CORONAVIRUS LIVE ON SURFACES OR IN THE AIR AROUND YOU?

The coronavirus can live for three days on some surfaces, like plastic and steel, new research suggests. Experts say the risk of consumers getting infected from touching those materials is still low, although they offered additional warnings about how long the virus survives in air, which may have important implications for medical workers. New York Times / [Read more](#)

RECENTLY ANNOUNCED NEW PRODUCTS & SERVICES

NRC - CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19) DECONTAMINATION & DISPOSAL SERVICES

Following strict protocols and methodologies developed from managing responses to Ebola, H1N1 and other health crises, NRC and US Ecology's highly trained and experienced personnel are on standby to safely and effectively implement decontamination measures necessary to combat the spread of COVID-19. [More info](#)

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 invitations in this section.

CONTRIBUTED ARTICLE

Note from your Editor – For some time I have been conscious that the content of the ISCO Newsletter tends to be very marine orientated despite the fact that many of our Members are more involved in provision of services, materials and equipment for Inland

Spill Response. In preparing your newsletter, I find that marine-related content is much easier to source than inland / onshore matter and I would like to redress the balance. Contributions of news, articles, case histories, etc. from our inland spill response members would be very much appreciated.

In the meantime ... IPIECA and IOGP have kindly given me permission to re-publish their article on Inland Spill Response.

INLAND RESPONSE - GOOD PRACTICE GUIDELINES FOR INCIDENT MANAGEMENT AND EMERGENCY RESPONSE PERSONNEL

Part 4 of a serialised article contributed by IPIECA and IOGP



Preface

This publication is part of the IPIECA-IOGP Good Practice Guide Series which summarizes current views on good practice for a range of oil spill preparedness and response topics. The series aims to help align industry practices and activities, inform stakeholders, and serve as a communication tool to promote awareness and education.

The series updates and replaces the well-established IPIECA 'Oil Spill Report Series' published between 1990 and 2008. It covers topics that are broadly applicable both to exploration and production, as well as shipping and transportation activities. The revisions are being undertaken by the IOGP-IPIECA Oil Spill Response Joint

Industry Project (JIP). The JIP was established in 2011 to implement learning opportunities in respect of oil spill preparedness and response following the April 2010 well control incident in the Gulf of Mexico.

Response management

The basic principles of incident management are the same for all spills:

- current and future actions are proposed based on an incident assessment within the framework of oil spill contingency plans;
- response objectives and actions are set and approved by those in command;
- field crews are directed by operations personnel; and logistical and financial activities are performed to support the operations.

These response activities take place regardless of incident complexity, whether a large formal organization is created or a small group of responders handles a spill. In many countries, government agencies lead and coordinate the response to an oil spill, and the government expects the spiller to compensate them for their efforts and to provide support. Management of an incident is often carried out by a government official from a regulatory, law enforcement or military organization. In some countries, the spiller is required to respond at their own expense and under the direction of government officials. Ideally, everyone involved works together in a coordinated and unified effort to limit the ecological and socio-economic effects.

Since the majority of inland oil spills are relatively small, the scale of most inland response operations is also proportionately small, and such operations are usually handled by small teams on site. One notable difference between managing inland spills versus marine spills is that the initial responders are often from local municipalities, i.e. from fire and law enforcement agencies. For oil spills resulting from vehicle rollovers, these local agencies often conduct the whole response without any assistance from external resources (such as regional, provincial, state or national response organizations). However, a larger incident will often quickly overwhelm local capabilities and expertise, and local officials may be supplemented or even replaced by external responders. Regional and national agencies responsible for inland oil spill response may differ from those responsible for marine spills.

Inland spills can occur at varied locations—along a highway, railroad, river or pipeline—virtually everywhere oil is produced, used or transported.

Response organizations need to be prepared to cover large geographic areas with a greater variety of habitats than offshore.

- Many inland spills occur at fixed facilities, so oil spill contingency planning will be specific to a location. Scenarios can be developed, detailed contingency plans written, suitable response capability can be procured or identified, communities can be engaged and exercises can be performed that specifically address potential incidents for that facility.
- Transportation-related spills are more difficult to predict and plan for. Pipelines, railways and roadways represent a route over which spills can occur. Oil spill contingency planning will need to encompass greater geographic areas in a manner suitable to provide response resources.
- Response resources tend to be concentrated at or near to major facilities or ports and responders may be a considerable distance from a potential spill site.

The probability of inland oil spills occurring near populated areas is relatively high, and impacts on the public can occur immediately. Public demands for a quick, robust response can be intense and can outstrip local governments' resources.

- For smaller oil spills, simple containment (keeping the oil from spreading or from reaching flowing water) is the overriding initial goal, and simple construction equipment (bulldozers, front-end loaders, etc.) are often more than adequate to contain the spill. Vacuum trucks can be used to suck up the oil, and these are usually available because they are used for other purposes.
- Specialized oil spill response equipment, such as containment booms and skimmers, may be located hours away from the spill site, resulting in a potential for considerable delays in initiating a comprehensive response.

Care should be taken when considering the use of oil spill trajectory models as part of an inland response. Most oil spill trajectory models were developed for forecasting the fate and transport of spills on open waters (ocean or inland seas) and are not appropriate for spills on rivers, streams and lakes, or on land. Simple calculations tracking the progress of a slick downriver as a function of the water current do not account for loss by sinking or stranding as oil encounters the river banks, especially at bends. Models can be applied to rivers to predict the timing and extent of the oiling downstream, but their resolution may not yield reliable results.

The process of setting response priorities using shoreline clean-up and assessment techniques applies to both marine and inland habitats. Assessment methodologies may have to be expanded because of the greater number of shore types encountered during an inland spill, and as tidal influences are replaced by possible fluctuations due to varied water flows.



Above: An oil spill response operation is conducted around a private residence.

To be continued next week

MESSAGES RECEIVED FROM EVENT ORGANISERS

USA: OHMSETT OIL SPILL STRATEGIES AND TACTICS TRAINING COURSE

March 19 - The April 28-May 1, 2020 Oil Spill Strategies and Tactics Training course at Ohmsett has been cancelled due to the impact of COVID-19. We apologize for the inconvenience that the cancellation may have caused. The situation has been aggravated in recent days with increased cases of COVID-19 and the fact that travel bans have been put in place by most organizations. We fully understand and appreciate the level of planning that is required to participate in this training; however the health and safety of our visitors and staff is our number one priority. www.ohmsett.com

AUSTRALIA: ALGA FORTHCOMING EVENTS POSTPONED

March 16 - As the situation surrounding COVID-19 evolves, ALGA is aware of community concerns around the virus, and is conscious of the health and safety of its members, staff, event attendees, presenters and hosts. ALGA values your attendance at our events to share ideas and network with industry. However, in the interests of health and safety, ALGA is implementing risk management strategies that are consistent with advice received from national and local authorities, as well as the World Health Organisation. As a result, ALGA will be postponing ten events that were scheduled to take place during March and April 2020. For more info contact - events@landandgroundwater.com

USA: ELASTEC'S SPRING WORKSHOP 2020 HAS BEEN CANCELLED

March 19 - In light of recent developments due to the spread of Coronavirus (COVID-19), Elastec has decided to cancel its Spring Workshop 2020. We are still accepting registrations for our Fall Workshop scheduled for October 6-8, 2020. [More info](#)

UPCOMING EVENTS

Event organisers are requested to notify ISCO immediately if a listed event is cancelled or postponed

Your Editor is doing his best to keep this listing up-to-date but it should not be assumed that listed events have not been cancelled or postponed. It is recommended that you check with event organisers before finalising your attendance plans.

COUNTRY	2019	TITLE OF EVENT	LOCATION
For more information click on Title of Event			
COUNTRY	2020	TITLE OF EVENT	LOCATION
USA	CANCELLED	SCAA Annual Meeting & Conference	Arlington, VA
TOGO	POSTPONED	Workshop on oil spill liability and compensation	Lome
UK	POSTPONED	IMO Marine Environment Protection Committee	London
TUNISIA	April 1-2	Regional Workshop on Oil Spill Waste Management	Tunis
USA	POSTPONED	Clean Waterways Conference	Indianapolis, IN
GHANA	POSTPONED	Workshop on the ratification and effective implementation of IMO conventions relating to oil pollution and liability and compensation	Accra
CROATIA	April 28	National workshop on liability and compensation	Rjeka
USA	CANCELLED	Oil Spill Response Strategies & Tactics Training	Leonardo, NJ
USA	May 10	APICOM GM Meeting	New Orleans, LA
USA	POSTPONED	International Oil Spill Conference & Exhibition	New Orleans, LA
UK	May 13-14	HAZMAT 2020 Conference	Stratford on Avon
IRELAND	POSTPONED	European Maritime Day Forum Event	Cork
CANADA	June 2-4	43rd AMOP Technical Seminar on Environmental Contamination and Response.	Edmonton, Alberta
USA	CANCELLED	Elastec's Spring 2020 River Workshop	Carni, IL
USA	June 8 -	Science of Oil Spills Class	New London, CT
UK	June 8-12	2020 IOPC Funds' Short Course	London
NORWAY	POSTPONED	INTERTANKO Annual Tanker Event	Oslo
USA	June 9-11	Clean Pacific Conference & Exhibition	Seattle, WA
USA	June 22 -	Science of Oil Spills Class	Seattle, WA
NETHERLANDS	June 24-25	European Environmental Ports Conference 2020	Rotterdam
SAO TOME & PRINCIPE	August 3-7	National workshop on the National Oil Spill Contingency Plan	Sao Tomé

ESTONIA	August 25-27	BALEX DELTA 2020 pollution response exercise	Talinn
USA	Sept. 8-11	HazMat Emergency Response Workshop	Sacramento, CA
AUSTRALIA	Sept. 15-17	Ecoforum Conference & Exhibition	Darwin
UK	October 19-23	IMO Marine Environment Protection Committee	London
USA	October 20-22	Clean Gulf Conference & Exhibition	San Antonio, TX
GREECE	POSTPONED	Posidonia 2020	Athens
COUNTRY	2021	TITLE OF EVENT	LOCATION
NETHERLANDS	March 22-26	Interspill Conference & Exhibition	Amsterdam

LINKS FOR DOWNLOADING & READING OTHER PUBLICATIONS

Alga Cronicle	News from Australia on Contaminated Land Remediation	December 2019
AMSA Update	Latest news from the Australian Maritime Safety Authority	February 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	February 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	March 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
NCEC Newsletter	News from the National Chemical Emergency Centre	March 2020
Nautical Institute News	News from the Nautical Institute	Jan.-Feb. 2020
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	February 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
Safe Seas, Clean Seas	Quarterly Newsletter from Maritime New Zealand	July 2018 issue
Salvage World	Quarterly Newsletter of the International Salvage Union	Current issue
Sea Alarm Foundation Newsletter	Oiled wildlife Preparedness and Response news from Sea Alarm	Current issue
Technology Innovation News Survey	News from US EPA – Contaminated Site Decontamination	Feb. 1-15, 2020
USA EPA Tech Direct	Remediation of contaminated soil and groundwater	March 1, 2020
WestMOPoCo	Western Mediterranean Region Marine Oil & HNS Pollution Cooperation	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.

Stop Press – Breaking News

USA: Clean Pacific – “We are still moving forward with the event, but monitoring the situation closely. If the status of the event changes and we have to cancel, we will let all of our partners and participants know”.

USA: SCAA Annual Meeting & Conference – This event has been cancelled.

As at 1800 hrs GMT on Sunday 22nd March no further event cancellation notices have been received.

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.