

ISCO & THE ISCO NEWSLETTER

The International Spill Control Organization, a not-for profit organization dedicated to raising worldwide preparedness and co-operation in response to oil and chemical spills, promoting technical development and professional competency, and to providing a focus for making the knowledge and experience of spill control professionals available to Intergovernmental, Governmental, NGO's and interested groups and individuals

ISCO holds consultative status at the International Maritime Organisation and observer Status at International Oil Pollution Compensation Funds

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INTERNATIONAL NEWS

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



CLEAN WATERWAYS
SPILL PREVENTION, RESPONSE & HAZARDOUS MATERIALS
MANAGEMENT FOR INLAND REGIONS & WATERWAYS
Use VIP code **ISCO** to save \$100 on your registration
AUGUST 3-5, 2020
JW Marriott Indianapolis
INDIANAPOLIS, IN



OIL SPILL INDIA 2020
6TH INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE & EXHIBITION
23RD & 24TH SEPTEMBER 2020, JW Marriott, Mumbai Sahar, India
THEME: COMMITMENT, SYNERGY, EXCELLENCE

CLEAN PACIFIC CONFERENCE & EXHIBITION HAS BEEN POSTPONED

FOR MORE DETAILS SEE ANNOUNCEMENT ON PAGE 11

BIMCO SUPPORTS MANDATORY REPORTING PROCEDURE ON LOST CONTAINERS

April 21 - In a commenting paper drafted by the EU Commission, BIMCO expresses its support for mandatory reporting procedure following detection of containers lost at sea. The paper is a response from World Shipping Council, BIMCO and the EU Member States to a submission from Vanuatu.

"We propose that it should be mandatory for ships to report when they have lost containers. This will have to be done manually but we should of course consider new and emerging technologies that can assist in the reporting of lost containers. We also recommend to use systems that are already developed by coastal states eg by the EU countries to help track and recover containers that have been lost overboard," says Aron Sorensen, BIMCO Head of Environment Protection.

The original paper submitted to the IMO Safety Committee commented on document MSC 102/21/13 regarding containers lost at sea. Such incidents represent a potential danger to maritime safety and a threat to the environment, particularly if they contain plastic or hazardous materials. This document expresses general support for a new output, and draws attention to the operational system at European Union level for the detection and reporting of containers lost at sea enhancing the positioning, tracking and recovery of such containers which could serve as an inspiration for a system at the international level. BIMCO / <https://www.bimco.org/>

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INTERNATIONAL NEWS (CONTINUED)

THE STATE OF INTERNATIONAL OFFSHORE REGULATION A DECADE AFTER THE DEEPWATER HORIZON

This week the oil and gas industry commemorates a decade since the tragic events of the Deepwater Horizon rig accident. The industry also honors the memory of the 11 deceased platform workers, and recalls the 17 platform workers who were injured and the population along the Gulf coast that was affected by what has been defined as the largest environmental disaster in U.S. history.

The accident, also known as the "Macondo Disaster," has been the focus of a decade of studies. The lessons learned from the accident would help the international oil industry avoid, as much as possible, this type of major accident, caused by the failure of effective industry and regulatory checks and balances to counteract a cascade of operational failures, revealing, among other issues, the lack of industry contingency plans for deep-water oil spills at the time. *Forbes* / [Read more](#)

EUROPE: EMSA NEWSLETTER APRIL 2020

April 21 - In this issue: Covid-19 contingency measures published on the EMSA website; EMSA information systems are monitoring cruises during covid-19 outbreak; New cycle of visits places focus firmly on passenger ship safety in the EU; Regular exercises and drills at sea ensured a high level of pollution preparedness in 2019; EMSA holds IMSAS training session for Bulgaria and Romania; Getting an overview of marine accidents in

2014-2019; Adapting to a new reality - agency continues working towards 2020 goals; Continued support to EFCA for IMS - virtual meetings keep business running smoothly. EMSA / [Download the April Newsletter](#)

IOPC FUNDS: CLAIMS ASSESSMENT, OIL REPORT PROCESSING AND PROTECTION OF THE FUNDS' ASSETS CONTINUE DESPITE TEMPORARY REMOTE WORKING ARRANGEMENTS

April 22 - In light of the ongoing global COVID-19 pandemic, the IOPC Funds' Secretariat continues to work remotely. Despite these temporary working arrangements, it continues to carry out its core tasks to the extent possible.

In particular, claims for compensation continue to be assessed, the Secretariat is in regular communication with experts and lawyers involved in the various open incidents and payments are being made as usual as agreements are reached. The Director recognises, however, that should a new major incident occur during these unusual circumstances, the IOPC Funds would face new challenges, specifically with regard to the presence of experts on site. However, the IOPC Funds remains committed to providing its full support to its Member States and to anticipating solutions to the problems that could occur during this unprecedented time.

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In general, the work of the IOPC Funds continues. The Secretariat remains in close contact with the IMO Secretariat in relation to the status of the IMO building and the IOPC Funds' offices, the planning of future meetings and other activities which have been affected. The Director will continue to follow the advice of the World Health Organization and the UK Government with regard to the reopening of the IOPC Funds' offices and in the meantime, staff remain available to assist with enquiries and are contactable via their usual email addresses.

If you do not know the details of the person you wish to contact, or for general enquiries, please email info@iopcfunds.org. Please rest assured that all messages will be received and responded to at the earliest opportunity.

Should you need to report an oil pollution incident to the IOPC Funds, please contact the Head of Claims, Liliana Monsalve, at liliana_monsalve@iopcfunds.org. IOPC Funds / [Read more](#)

Note from your Editor: World news is currently dominated by reports on the advance of the Coronavirus pandemic. One consequence is that the usual sources of news that is specifically relevant to the interests of the spill response community have temporarily gone very quiet. Under this circumstance I would be particularly grateful to Members and other readers who send me news reports that will be of interest to Members and readers in their own countries and the wider world.
john.mcmurtrie@spillcontrol.org

CANADA: 11 THINGS YOU NEED TO KNOW AS TRUDEAU ANNOUNCES \$1.7 BILLION TO CLEAN UP ‘FESTERING’ ORPHAN AND INACTIVE WELLS



April 17 - Calling **orphan and inactive wells** an issue that has been “festering for years,” Prime Minister Justin Trudeau announced a federal investment of \$1.7 billion into the cleanup of old oil and gas wells in Alberta, Saskatchewan and B.C. on Friday.

He estimated the cash infusion would create 5,200 jobs in Alberta alone, getting Albertans back to work “cleaning up their province.”

The program was developed in partnership with the Alberta government and municipalities, Trudeau said, adding the funding would help companies avoid bankruptcy.

Orphan and inactive wells, he said, can be “detrimental not only to our environment, but to people’s health.” The Narwhal / [Read more](#)

GREECE: HELMEPA - WE REMAIN OPEN WORKING FOR OUR MEMBERS

April 15 - HELMEPA, respecting the instructions given by the State and in accordance with the prevention requirements for Covid-19, immediately suspended several of the activities of both its Maritime and Environmental Awareness Sectors. HELMEPA staff, however are trying to continue the regular electronic flow of information to our Members, by working from home and in shifts at the office respectively.

To HELMEPA Member Companies we sent regular shipping updates on COVID-19, which include the measures and restrictions taken by competent authorities in various parts of the world due to the pandemic.

Following the suspension of the 2020 Refresher Training Program, HELMEPA sent presentations on current issues from the Seminars on “Compliance with Air Emissions Regulations”, “Marine Environmental Awareness”, “Safety First” and “Emergency Preparedness and Response” seminars to Member Companies and adapted themes from the course “Ship’s Handling”, which are presented as theory at the corresponding course of the Bridge Simulator and we sent them as videos, in English. HELMEPA / [Read more](#)

SWEDEN: THE SWEDISH EPA FOLLOWS THE SITUATION WITH CORONAVIRUS

March 15 - Our offices in Stockholm and Östersund are open but our employees are encouraged to work from home when possible, in accordance with recommendations from The Public Health Agency of Sweden.

At the moment we are not accepting any group visits at our offices and many meetings are moved online. If you are registered to a conference you will be noticed through e-mail concerning if it is cancelled or takes place online. If you have not been noticed so far it might be because we have not come to a decision yet, we will however make a decision at least three weeks before the conference or the meeting is supposed to take place. Swedish EPA / [Read more](#)

UK: ADVICE ON CORONAVIRUS MISINFORMATION AND EMAIL SCAMS

March 30 - In normal times technology is seen as being our friend. Business rely upon it for information gathering and dissemination and it is hard to remember times before the internet, email and social media. However, at times of crisis, while technology can be a positive force in enhancing our ability to manage the situation, it can also present some significant challenges. The current Coronavirus/Covid 19 situation is a case in point.

The website factcheck.org has made a number of recommendations to help people double check sources of information, outlined below;

CONSIDER THE SOURCE - Click away from the story to investigate the site, its mission and its contact info

READ BEYOND - Headlines can be outrageous in an effort to get clicks. What’s the whole story?

CHECK THE AUTHOR - Do a quick search on the author. Are they credible? Are they real?

SUPPORTING SOURCES? - Click on those links. Determine if the info given actually supports the story

CHECK THE DATE - Reposting old news stories doesn’t mean they’re relevant to current events

IS IT A JOKE? - If it is too outlandish, it might be satire. Research the site and author to be sure

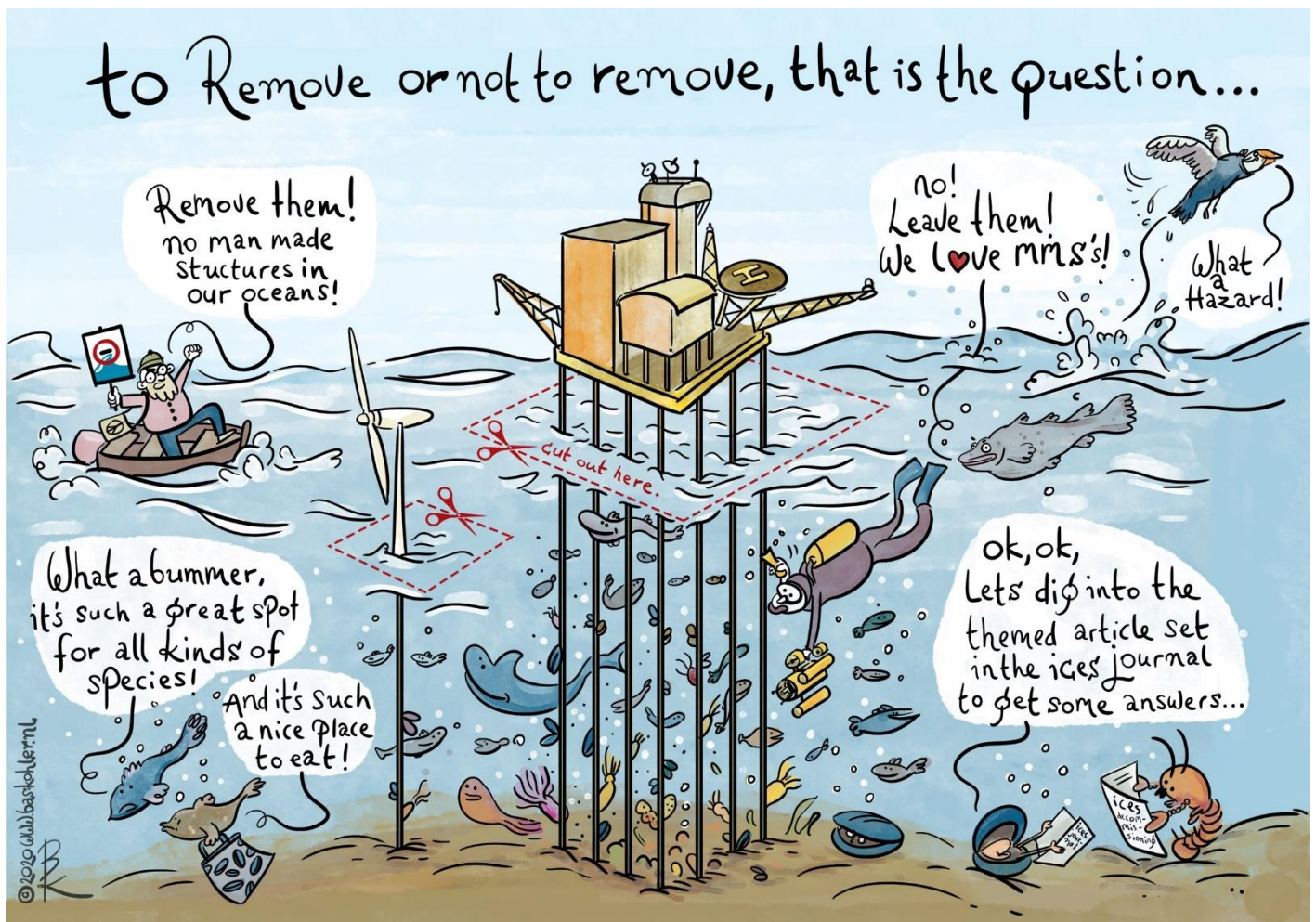
And it's not only fake news challenges that technology brings. When people start to panic, it is an ideal time for unscrupulous and indiscriminate criminal organisations to try and take advantage of their vulnerability. The UK police National Fraud Intelligence Bureau recently reported that, since February they had identified 21 reports of fraud where Coronavirus was mentioned, with victim losses totalling over £800k.

The National Cyber Security Centre provides the following advice in relation to suspicious emails;

- Many phishing emails have poor grammar, punctuation and spelling.
- Is the design and overall quality what you'd expect from the organisation the email is supposed to come from?
- Is it addressed to you by name, or does it refer to 'valued customer', or 'friend', or 'colleague'? This can be a sign that the sender does not actually know you, and that it is part of a phishing scam.
- Does the email contain a veiled threat that asks you to act urgently? Be suspicious of words like 'send these details within 24 hours' or 'you have been a victim of crime, click here immediately'.
- Look at the sender's name. Does it sound legitimate, or is it trying to mimic someone you know?
- If it sounds too good to be true, it probably is. It's most unlikely that someone will want to give you money, or give you access to a secret part of the Internet.
- Your bank, or any other official source, should never ask you to supply personal information from an email.
- Try to check any claims made in the email through some other channel. For example, by calling your bank to see if they actually sent you an email or doing a quick Google search on some of the wording used in the email.

More comprehensive advice relating to malware can be found on the NCSC website A full version of this article will be published in the Spring issue of Resilience Magazine which is free for Members of the EPS. The Emergency Planning Society / [Source Document](#)

UK: OFFSHORE MAN-MADE STRUCTURES: TO REMOVE OR NOT TO REMOVE?



April 21 - Man-made structures have been built into our coastal and marine environments as we respond to the need to generate even more energy. Installed across several soft sediment environments, these structures range from oil and gas installations to harbour walls, wrecks, pipelines, and offshore wind farms.

Inevitably, these structures host fouling communities that are often new to the offshore regions - potentially serving as stepping-stones for non-indigenous species as well as providing habitat and shelter for a variety of marine species.

The altered local biodiversity affects biological and biogeochemical processes from the water column to the seafloor, either directly (e.g. scouring, organic matter export from piles) or indirectly (e.g. closure or displacement of fisheries) and, hence, ecosystem functioning is also affected at various spatial and temporal scales.

But what should happen to these structures when they have been decommissioned? This debate provides the focus of the latest themed article set in ICES Journal of Marine Science, which presents a compilation of new evidence. Decommissioned offshore man-made installations has been spearheaded by Silvana Birchenough, Cefas, and Steven Degraer, Royal Belgian Institute of Natural Sciences. "There are 14 peer-reviewed papers helping to shape the science-based evidence", says Birchenough, "This new research will support ongoing discussions to inform marine spatial planning and future policy decisions on the use and protection of marine resources". The ecological best practice in decommissioning, rigs/renewables-to-reefs, the influence of man-made infrastructures on fish population dynamics, and commercial fisheries losses arising from offshore pipelines are a few of the research topics included. CEFAS / [Continue reading this article](#)

USA: LATEST ACTIVITY REPORTS FROM NOAA OR&R

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

[Leveraging Science and Academic Engagement during Incidents](#)

April 15, 2020 - OR&R is pleased to announce the release of the [Final Workshop Report\(link is external\)](#) from the "Leveraging Science and Academic Engagement during Incidents" workshop held in Tiburon, California, in June 2019.

[Unmanned Systems Technology in Emergency Response and Damage Assessment](#)

OR&R presented The Ups and Downs of UxS Technology in Emergency Response and Damage Assessment in the Marine Environment: NOAA OR&R Case Studies and Standards Development, to the EPA Emergency Management Information Technology spring meeting on UxS (Unmanned Aerial Systems) deployment.

[Marine Debris Program Chief Scientist Celebrates Twenty Years with NOAA](#)

On April 10, Dr. Amy V. Uhrin, Chief Scientist for the NOAA Marine Debris Program, celebrated her 20th anniversary of working for NOAA.

[Marine Debris Program Presents Virtual Guest Lecture on Microplastics](#)

On April 9, the Marine Debris Program's Gulf of Mexico Regional Coordinator, Caitlin Wessel, gave a virtual guest lecture for the University of South Alabama.

[Staff Spotlight: OR&R Emergency Response Division Welcomes New NOAA Corps Officer](#)

LTJG Hayley Betker recently came on board at OR&R's Emergency Response Division (ERD) as the new Regional Response Officer (RRO) for the West Coast.

USA: LIBERIAN REGISTRY, NAMEPA, PROSEA LAUNCH ONLINE ENVIRONMENTAL TRAINING

April 21 - The Liberian Registry, NAMEPA (North American Marine Environment Protection Association) and ProSea have updated their ground-breaking marine environmental awareness computer-based training program for seafarers and shoreside staff. This training program is designed to engage the user and increase participation in protecting the marine environment, and is now readily accessible via their new online version.

The course is based on the IMO model course 1.38 and meets the requirements of STCW Chapter VI. For more information or to purchase, please visit <https://namepa.net/marine-environmental-awareness-training/> The Maritime Executive / [Read more](#)

USA: MONTANA - JUDGE HALTS KEYSTONE PIPELINE BY REVOKING KEY PERMIT

April 22 - Just three weeks after the Canadian company decided to proceed with the controversial Keystone XL tar sands pipeline, a Montana federal judge revoked a permit because it had been granted without weighing environmental impacts. Apple News / [Read more](#) [Thanks to Marc K. Shaye, Hon.FISCO]

USA DELAYS OIL PIPELINE APPROVALS AFTER ENVIRONMENTAL RULING

April 23 - The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers has suspended a nationwide program used to approve oil and gas pipelines, power lines and other utility work, spurred by a court ruling that industry representatives warn could slow or halt numerous infrastructure projects over environmental concerns

The directive from Army Corps headquarters, detailed in emails obtained by The Associated Press, comes [after a federal court last week threw out a blanket permit](#) that companies and public utilities have used for decades to build projects across streams and wetlands. AP News / [Read more](#)

PEOPLE IN THE NEWS

DR. KATHERINE LEMOS – CHAIRPERSON AND CEO OF THE U.S. CHEMICAL SAFETY

Today I begin my term as Chairperson and CEO of the U.S. Chemical Safety Board. I am grateful to President Trump and the U.S. Senate for the confidence they have placed in me to lead this important agency. Over the next five years, I look forward to working with a diverse, skilled and motivated team of investigators, legal experts, public and government affairs specialists, and business staff to advance safety across the chemical industry.



Now, as Chairperson of the US Chemical Safety Board, I will lead the agency by example and hold myself and each employee accountable to the American public in delivering objective, thorough, and timely investigative reports and recommendations that will improve the operation of the chemical industry.

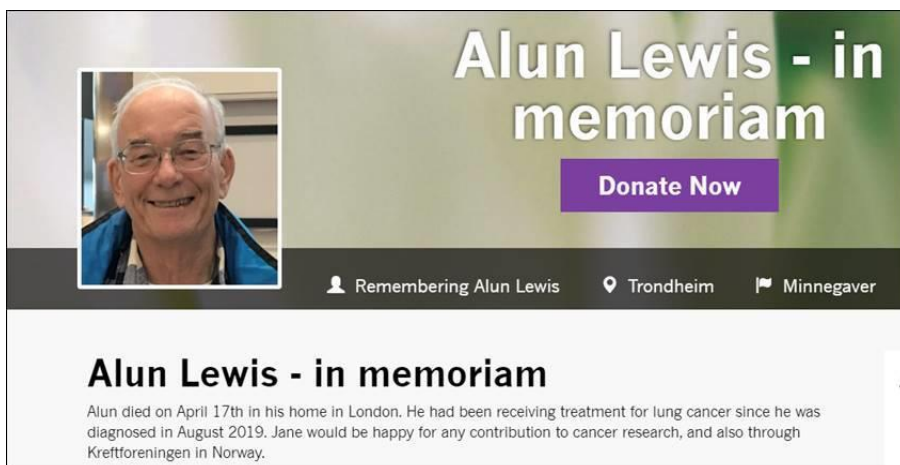
CSB / [Read the full text of Dr Lemos' statement](#)

ISCO NEWS

YOUR EDITOR NEEDS SOME HELP

I am really struggling to find to find news that will be of interest to our readers. World news is currently dominated by depressing reports on the advance of the Coronavirus pandemic and its consequence. Virtually nothing about spill response techniques, incidents, legislation, new developments, appointments, etc. etc. **I will be particularly grateful to Members and other readers who send me news reports that will be of interest to Members and readers in their own countries and the wider world. Thanks in anticipation for your kind assistance.** john.mcmurtrie@spillcontrol.org

IN MEMORIAM



Alun Lewis - in memoriam

Donate Now

Remembering Alun Lewis Trondheim Minnegaver

Alun Lewis - in memoriam

Alun died on April 17th in his home in London. He had been receiving treatment for lung cancer since he was diagnosed in August 2019. Jane would be happy for any contribution to cancer research, and also through Kreftforeningen in Norway.

Per Daling of SINTEF writes "We have created an online fundraiser for cancer research through "Kreftforeningen" and we hope you will please consider supporting and give a tribute to Alun. For donating, you don't need to use your phone number, but use the "card" option".

Some info in English about Kreftforeningen: <https://kreftforeningen.no/en/about-us/>

An obituary for Alun Lewis was published in last week's ISCO Newsletter.

You find the page for Alun here: <https://innsamling.kreftforeningen.no/minnegaver/5-14240>

NEWS FROM ISCO MEMBERS

IMBIBER BEADS® EFFECTIVENESS & INNOVATION DEMONSTRATION

A report received from John Brinkman of Imbiber Beads.

Port of Abu Dhabi, UAE – following an introductory meeting of Imbiber Beads® products to Abu Dhabi Ports in July 2019, by UAE representative Al Ghaith Oil Field Services Company & Trilog Environmental Services, Imbibitive Technologies (IMBTEC) was invited to provide a demonstration of Imbiber Beads® effectiveness during a spill exercise to be designed by the Port Authority.



The dockside exercise was scheduled to take place the morning of Thursday October 10th, 2019 and was preceded by a 30-minute Product Briefing to Managers and Response Staff, numbering about twenty-five personnel.

NEWS FROM ISCO MEMBERS (CONTINUED)

Timeliness during any response operation is critical to its success and of keen interest was how quickly the products being demonstrated could be deployed, how effective they were in recovering significant volumes of oils, fuels and solvents spilled into the harbour, and their ease of recovery.



Demonstration liquids consisting of engine oil, diesel fuel, crude oil, hydraulic fluid, lubricating oil were poured into six half-barrels filled with seawater.

Imbiber Beads® “blankets and booms” were placed into the barrels and allowed to stand for about twenty minutes. Response personnel pulled the Imbiber Beads® products from the barrels and observed their effectiveness at

Boom & Blanket completely absorbing test liquids

absorbing the various oils. Note: Common sorbent materials rely upon “liquids coating surfaces or filling void spaces” and will release an amount of their contents upon retrieval due to gravitational pull,

compression or stream current. Conversely, as an “oil-sensitive” super-absorbent liquids “diffuse” into Imbiber Beads® solid polymer structure (in a manner similar to the “water-sensitive” super-absorbents found in disposable baby diapers/nappies) and become an integral part of the structure and cannot be re-released. <http://www.imbiberbeads.com/site/home>

CORRESPONDENCE

RECEIVED FROM MARC K SHAYE, Hon.FISCO

“We still don’t know the full impacts of the BP oil spill, 10 years later. The spill drove a push in science and some changes in regulations, but the dangers of offshore drilling remain”.

Marc recommends that you read this short article in the latest issue of “National Geographic”

Editor: An excellent article – It puts the event in perspective and is a timely reminder ... “Since Deepwater Horizon, we’ve taken two steps forward and one step back, and that one step back is worrying because we could very much end up in a similar situation” ... “the next disaster is unlikely to look exactly like Deepwater”.

Here is the link to the article - <https://www.nationalgeographic.com/science/2020/04/bp-oil-spill-still-dont-know-effects-decade-later/>

RECEIVED FROM ISCO MEMBER, JOHN ZIMMER

EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS & RESPONSE -- CONTINUING EDUCATION WHILE SOCIAL DISTANCING

“With a significant number of us working from home, use of the internet has proven to be a most valued asset as we continue to accomplish our normal work activities.

In addition to focusing on work activities, I have found time in my daily routine to address continuing emergency preparedness and response continuing education.

The U.S. Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Emergency Management Institute Independent Study internet site makes available a wide range of self-study courses. To access the FEMA internet training site, obtaining a Student Identification (“SID”) Number is necessary. Applying for an “SID” number can be accomplished from the FEMA Emergency Management Institute internet site (see below for the FEMA internet site address).

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Independent Study training internet site can be accessed at: <https://training.fema.gov/is/crslist.aspx> Study time for completion of the courses listed below ranges from 2-3 hours.

I have found the following self-study courses applicable to my emergency preparedness and response continuing education:

IS-522; Exercising Continuity Planning for Pandemics

IS-523; Exercising Continuity Plans for Cyber Incidents

IS-906; Workplace Security Awareness

IS-393; Introduction to Hazard Mitigation

IS-64; Common Operating Picture

IS-42; Social Media in Emergency Management

IS-35; Safety Orientation Training

A wide range of emergency preparedness and response-oriented self-study courses are also available, but require additional time commitment”. jvzresponse@gmail.com

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

Part 9 of a serialised article contributed by IPIECA and IOGP



Response techniques (continued)

Shoreline Clean-up / Treatment

Shoreline Assessment

Oiled shoreline assessment surveys - also known as Shoreline Clean-up Assessment Technique (SCAT) surveys - are a critical component of a response operation. The information gathered by the survey teams is used by the response managers to set objectives, priorities, constraints and end points, all of which are essential in supporting the planning, decision making and implementation of an effective shoreline response programme.

Oiled shoreline assessment surveys of inland aquatic environments are carried out to:

- define and document the scale and character of shoreline oiling;
- identify and document the shoreline type and riverine or lacustrine character within the affected area;
- develop recommendations for treatment end points and treatment techniques which provide a net environmental benefit based on sound science;
- provide support throughout the treatment programme so that shore clean-up operations personnel understand the expectations and concerns of the response managers;
- provide a process for closure once treatment has been completed; and
- involve appropriate representatives to ensure consensus throughout the shoreline response programme.

Further details on how SCAT surveys are developed and implemented are provided in the IPIECA-IOGP Good Practice Guide on oiled shoreline assessment (SCAT) surveys (IPIECA-IOGP, 2014). The principles of SCAT can be applied equally to coastal or freshwater incidents. To facilitate standardization or a systematic approach to assessment and capturing field data, a series of forms for recording data on inland habitats have been produced (ORG, 2014)

For successful implementation of SCAT, a team of dedicated personnel is needed who are familiar with its aims and terminology. This team should be fully integrated within an incident management team to ensure that their data are utilized to support the decision making process.

Response Options

Techniques for cleaning oiled river banks and inland shorelines share similarities with marine shorelines (for more information on the latter see the IPIECA-IOGP Good Practice Guide on oiled shoreline clean-up techniques (IPIECA-IOGP, 2015a)). The term 'cleaning', in this context, is applied broadly and includes various water flushing options, manual and mechanical oil removal, and the removal of oiled vegetation and oiled debris; it may or may not remove all of the oil from the shoreline. The scale of response operations may be different for smaller inland spills, with the techniques requiring adjustment according to the specific circumstances of a spill.

While tides and waves typically dominate marine shoreline-oil interaction, it is waves in lakes, and water flow in streams and rivers that dominate freshwater shoreline-oil interactions. The tendency for freshwater systems to be more confined than marine environments leads to less dilution of oil in water, and less spreading. As a result, oil concentrations can be greater in freshwater habitats.

Many inland habitats have been transformed by human activity, including urban and suburban construction, the development of commercial and industrial facilities, and agricultural terraforming. As a result, the original landscape may have disappeared or been substantially altered.



Above: Removing oil from a wetland contaminated with heavy fuel oil — planking is used to reduce trampling.

These factors can result in less concern being shown for the ecological sensitivity of such habitats to oil exposure, and more aggressive clean-up techniques may be considered acceptable.

While marine shorelines are classified based on tidal zone, inland habitats are classified as follows:

- Lake shores are classified based on swash zone from wave action. The swash zones are analogous to marine tidal zones, and include the supra-wash, upper swash, lower swash and submerged zone (down to where rooted plants stop growing).
- River bank zones are classified based on water levels, and include the over-bank (flood plain), upper bank, lower bank, and mid-stream (exposed bars or shoals in the channel).

Marine tidal effects typically create wider shorelines than the swash zones do on freshwater shores. In a freshwater setting, a one-metre wide shoreline would be considered wide, whereas in a marine setting it would be considered narrow. Freshwater shores include various mud, clay, and other sediment banks and vegetated shorelines.

Water level variations in the marine environment are often predictable (e.g. those caused by tides) while variations in freshwater levels can be unpredictable (e.g. those caused by storm events and runoff from precipitation). These unpredictable changes in water levels can dramatically affect clean-up operations as well as the natural oil removal.

Small streams and shallow water may become oiled across the whole channel, resulting in the need to clean the entire bottom of the water course from bank to bank.

The ecological effects from this spreading of oil must be balanced against potential damage from manual and mechanical removal and the option of leaving some oil behind to degrade naturally.

All cleaning techniques can be intrusive and can damage habitats, even in the absence of oil. It is best to identify preferred techniques in advance when preparing oil spill contingency plans, and guidance is available to help make these judgments for freshwater habitats and associated shorelines.

During a response, an informal and rapid NEBA (see Issue 595 page 7) can be used to confirm that appropriate decisions are made regarding the choice of response techniques, thereby ensuring that such actions are operationally feasible, effective and least intrusive to the environment. A summary of the relative effects of physical response techniques for use in freshwater habitats and shorelines in the absence of spilled oil is provided in Table 3 on the next page.

Table 3 A summary of the relative effects of physical response techniques for use in freshwater habitats and shorelines in the absence of spilled oil

Physical response method	Water environment				Shoreline habitat							
	Open water	Small lakes/ponds	Large rivers	Small rivers/streams	Bedrock	Man-made	Sand	Vegetated shores	Sand and gravel	Gravel	Mud	Wetlands
Natural Recovery	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Booming	L	L	L	L	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Skimming	L	L	L	L	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Barriers/berms	-	-	-	H	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Physical herding	L	L	L	L	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Manual oil removal/cleaning	L	H	L	M	L	L	L	H	M	M	H	H
Mechanical removal	L	H	H	H	-	M	M	H	M	M	H	H
Sorbents	L	L	L	L	L	L	L	L	L	L	M	M
Vacuum	L	L	L	L	L	L	L	M	L	L	H	M
Debris removal	-	L	L	L	L	L	L	L	L	L	M	M
Sediment reworking	-	H	-	H	-	-	M	H	M	M	H	H
Vegetation removal	L	H	M	H	-	-	-	H	-	-	-	H
In-situ burning	L	M	L	M	L	L	M	M	M	M	H	M
Flooding	-	-	-	-	L	L	L	L	M	L	L	L
Low-pressure, cold-water flushing	-	-	-	-	L	L	M	L	L	M	H	L
High-pressure, cold-water flushing	-	-	-	-	L	L	H	H	H	H	H	H
Low-pressure, hot-water flushing	-	-	-	-	M	L	H	H	M	M	H	H
High-pressure, hot-water flushing	-	-	-	-	M	L	H	H	H	H	H	H
Steam cleaning	-	-	-	-	M	L	H	H	M	M	H	H
Sand blasting	-	-	-	-	H	M	-	-	-	-	-	-

L = Low M = Moderate H = High

From API-NOAA, 1994

To be continued next week

JOB VACANCIES



Call for the provision of consultancy services to prepare a study on trends and outlook of marine pollution from ships and activities and of maritime traffic and offshore activities in the Mediterranean – Apr 22, 2020

The Regional Marine Pollution Emergency Response Centre for the Mediterranean Sea (REMPEC), in collaboration with the Plan Bleu Regional Activity Centre (PB/RAC) and the Mediterranean Pollution Assessment and Control Programme (MED POL), and the Specially Protected Areas Regional Activity Centre (SPA/RAC), issued an **open call for the provision of consultancy services to prepare a study on trends and outlook of marine pollution from ships and activities and of maritime traffic and offshore activities in the Mediterranean.**

To support REMPEC in carrying out this activity, interested consultants/experts are kindly invited to send their application following the procedure described in the call.

The Call for the provision of consultancy services is available [here](#) and is posted on the following platforms: [Facebook](#) | [LinkedIn](#).

Deadline for submission: three (3) p.m. (Malta local time or UTC/GMT +2 hours) on **Wednesday, 13 May 2020**

Procedure: Submit the technical and financial proposals to procurement@rempec.org

CONTRACTS, TENDERS & BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

INTERNATIONAL OPEN TENDER NOTIFICATION SERVICE

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

OTHER OPPORTUNITIES: USA & EUROPE

USA - Government solicitations are frequently posted in Technology Innovation News Survey and US EPA Tech Direct.

EUROPE – European Maritime Safety Agency invitations to tender are often posted in The EMSA Newsletter. See “Links for other publications” for links to download current issues.

ISCO Members are welcome to post tender invitations in this section.

TECHNICAL SUPPORT

SUCCESS STORIES - ENSURING GLOBAL EQUIPMENT READINESS

Leading marine services organization, [Resolve Marine Group](#), needed an equipment management software solution that would allow them to easily determine the location of specific resources and mobilize it across numerous global locations. They use [D4H Equipment Management](#) to ensure a constant state of equipment readiness for any number of salvage and emergency response scenarios.

[Western Wayne County Hazardous Materials Response Team](#) were in search for a solution that would reduce the administrative burden of tracking equipment values and expiration dates.

You can get more information at <https://d4htechnologies.com/about/contact-us>

NEWS FROM EVENT ORGANISERS

USA: CLEAN PACIFIC 2020 UPDATE

With the continuation of this global health situation, it is still unclear of when it will be safe to resume business as normal in June. As a result, CLEAN PACIFIC will NOT take place from June 9-11, but instead be POSTPONED until a later date.

We hold the safety and health of our attendees, speakers, exhibitors, and sponsors as our top priority, and we are dedicated to delivering the high-quality event this community deserves. We share your disappointment over the postponement, but remain committed to rescheduling to a time where we can all join safely together once again.

We are working with the Hyatt Regency Lake Washington to secure new dates, and will be giving a complete update and announcing the new dates for CLEAN PACIFIC as soon as we can. In the meantime, all hotel room bookings made for the June dates will be cancelled by the hotel, and a new hotel link will be sent out as soon as operations for the rescheduled event go live.

We appreciate your support and your patience during this time. Carey Buchholtz, CEM, Marketing Director - CLEAN Events
cbuchholtz@accessintel.com www.cleanevents.org

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.

If an event title is not printed in blue ink it is not hyperlinked to the event website, this because the website is not yet available.

COUNTRY	2019	TITLE OF EVENT	LOCATION
For more information click on Title of Event			
COUNTRY	2020	TITLE OF EVENT	LOCATION
GHANA	POSTPONED	Workshop on the ratification and effective implementation of IMO conventions relating to oil pollution and liability and compensation	Accra
CROATIA	POSTPONED	National workshop on liability and compensation	Rjeka
USA	CANCELLED	Oil Spill Response Strategies & Tactics Training	Leonardo, NJ
USA	POSTPONED	APICOM GM Meeting	New Orleans, LA
USA	POSTPONED	International Oil Spill Conference & Exhibition	New Orleans, LA
UK	POSTPONED	HAZMAT 2020 Conference	Stratford on Avon
IRELAND	POSTPONED	European Maritime Day Forum Event	Cork
CANADA	POSTPONED	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	POSTPONED	2020 IOPC Funds' Short Course	London
NORWAY	POSTPONED	INTERTANKO Annual Tanker Event	Oslo
USA	POSTPONED	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
USA	August 3-5	Clean Waterways Conference & Exhibition	Indianapolis, IN.
SAO TOME & PRINCIPE	POSTPONED	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
MALTA	October 6-7	Regional Meeting of National Experts on the Post-2021 Mediterranean Strategy for Prevention of and Response to Marine Pollution from Ships	Valetta
UK	October 12-13	EI Hazardous Area Classification	London
UK	October 19-23	IMO Marine Environment Protection Committee	London
USA	October 20-22	Clean Gulf Conference & Exhibition	San Antonio, TX
CANADA	October 27-29	Arctic Shipping Forum North America	Montreal
MONACO	October 27-29	Regional Workshop to enhance Marine Oil and HNS regional cooperation in the Mediterranean (MEDEXPOL 2020)	Monaco
GREECE	POSTPONED	Posidonia 2020	Athens
BAHREIN	December 7-8	EI Middle East HSE Forum	Bahrein
COUNTRY	2021	TITLE OF EVENT	LOCATION
NETHERLANDS	POSTPONED	Interspill Conference & Exhibition	Amsterdam
USA	May 10-13	International Oil Spill Conference (IOSC 2021)	New Orleans
MALTA	May 25-27	Fourteenth Meeting of the Focal Points of the Regional Marine Pollution Emergency Response Centre for the Mediterranean Sea (REMPEC)	Valetta
CANADA	June 8-10	43rd AMOP Technical Seminar on Environmental Contamination and Response	Edmonton, Alberta
COUNTRY	2022	TITLE OF EVENT	LOCATION
	Details TBA	Interspill Conference & Exhibition	

LINKS FOR DOWNLOADING & READING OTHER PUBLICATIONS

Alga Cronicle	News from Australia on Contaminated Land Remediation	February 2020
AMSA Update	Latest news from the Australian Maritime Safety Authority	April 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	March 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	April 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
MEDNEWS	News from UNEP Mediterranean Action Programme	01 / 2020
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	March 1-15, 2020
USA EPA Tech Direct	Remediation of contaminated soil and groundwater	April 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.

INCIDENT REPORTS

Editor – Very few spill reports in the press recently – probably not because there's only a few spills – but because the news media is focused on the Coronavirus Pandemic. Currently I depend on readers who send me reports and on Mikhail Voytenko of the Maritime Bulletin. He regularly advises on vessel abandonments, groundings and sinkings – several every week – but, unless there is an immediate release of oil or chemicals, spillages are not reported in the Maritime Bulletin. However, some of his reports cover incidents that are likely to result in significant pollution by oil or chemicals.

USA: GOLDEN RAY SALVAGE UPDATES

April 18 - More Lifting lugs Installed on Golden Ray. The Maritime Executive / [Read more](#)

April 20 - Pile Driving Complete at Golden Ray Wreck Site. The Maritime Executive / [Read more](#)

MOROCCO: TANKER REFLOATED AFTER 11 DAYS AGROUND

April 22 - Product tanker AZIZ TORLAK was refloated on Apr 21 at high tide, with the help of a tug, and brought to Dakhla Anchorage for inspection. Tanker is in load, no damages reported, no cargo loss. Maritime Bulletin / [Read more](#)

USA: SPILL CLEANUP UNDER WAY AT VALDEZ MARINE TERMINAL

April 23 - Cleanup crews are making good progress in responding to a small crude oil leak at Port Valdez, Alaska, according to state officials.

On April 12, an oily sheen was reported near the Valdez Marine Terminal's Berth 4, prompting a pollution control response. Officials have determined that the source of the pollution was a mixture of oil and water flowing downhill from an overflowing drain sump at the Valdez Marine Terminal. Testing indicates that the sump was the only source and that all oil piping in the area is intact.

Responders used a vacuum truck to remove the oily mixture from the sump, and engineers and surveyors are focused on finding the flow path, which runs under a layer of snow from the sump to the terminal's small boat harbor. The outflow location at the water's edge has been found, leaving the task of finding the stream.

INCIDENT REPORTS (CONTINUED)

Crews deployed booms near Berth 4 to contain the oil, and they have been gradually reducing the contaminated area. Oily water is being skimmed from a corralled 30-by-30 foot area inside the boom. Two NOFI Current Buster boom systems are deployed outside of the boomed area, with trained fishing vessels to catch any escapement, and monitoring overflights are ongoing. About 15 fishing vessels have been hired to assist the containment and recovery effort, and more than 240 personnel are involved in the work. As of Tuesday, 35,000 gallons of oil-water mixture had been collected, including about 500 gallons of oil recovered. Four seabirds have been killed by oiling to date, according to Alaska state officials. The Maritime Executive / [Read more](#)

RUSSIA: LADEN TANKER AGROUND, VOLGA-KAMA

April 25 - Product tanker VOLGONEFT 249 ran aground at around 2000 UTC Apr 24 in Kama river estuary downstream from Kazan city, Volga, Russia. Vessel with 3736 tons of gasoil on board is en route from Bashkortostan to Rostov-on-Don. As of 1500 UTC Apr 25, tanker was still aground. Hull wasn't breached, no cargo leak reported. Maritime Bulletin / [Read more](#)

HISTORY

RECALLING THE 2010 DEEPWATER HORIZON SPILL (CONTINUED)

NOAA OR&R has published a series of articles about the Macondo Oil Well Spill, its environmental effects, remedial action undertaken and lessons learned. The links below will allow you to download and read these interesting articles written by members of the staff at OR&R and others.

[The Early Days and Hours of Deepwater Horizon](#) – Reports from Members of the NOAA OR&R duty team

[8 Advances in Oil Spill Science in the Decade Since Deepwater Horizon](#) - By Megan Ewald, Office of Response and Restoration

MACONDO: 10 YEARS ON – BY IPIECA EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR BRIAN SULLIVAN

On the 10th anniversary of the Deepwater Horizon accident, IPIECA Executive Director Brian Sullivan reflects on the importance of remembering this tragedy and the lasting legacy of industry collaboration and commitment to continuous improvement in oil spill preparedness and response to come out of the disaster.

Even while the response to the accident was ongoing, the industry came together to review the learnings from the accident. The International Association of Oil and Gas Producers (IOGP) formed the Global Industry Response Group involving 20 oil and gas companies, producing recommendations related to prevention, intervention and response.

This response work was complemented by the [IPIECA-IOGP Oil Spill Response Joint Industry Project](#), which updated existing IPIECA good practice materials to accommodate the learnings from Deepwater Horizon. The outcome was 24 good practice guidance documents covering incident management, dispersants and responder health and safety. These provide the global framework for marine oil spill response and enable a collaborative approach to spill incidents wherever they occur.

In the 10 years following the Macondo disaster, the industry has come together to develop and share its knowledge, training and technology to prevent spills happening in the first place and ensure the highest levels of preparedness and response capability are in place. IPIECA / [Read the complete text of Brian Sullivan's article](#)

AND NOW SOMETHING TO MAKE YOU SMILE ...

[Fight the Virus - based on Simon & Garfunkel's Sound of Silence \(Alvin Oon\)](#)

With thanks to Ian Ashworth. Members and readers are invited to send contributions to the Editor. We could all be doing with something to cheer us up.

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