

ISCO & THE ISCO NEWSLETTER

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

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

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INTERNATIONAL NEWS

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



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THEME: COMMITMENT, SYNERGY, EXCELLENCE



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UNEP STEPS UP WORK ON ZONOTICS, PROTECTING ENVIRONMENT TO REDUCE PANDEMIC RISKS

May 12 - The United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) is stepping up its work on mapping zoonotic threat and protecting the environment to reduce the risk of future pandemics, such as the COVID-19 crisis currently sweeping the globe.

In *Working With the Environment to Protect People*, released today, UNEP lays out how it is adjusting its work in response to COVID-19 through supporting nations and partners to “build back better” – through stronger science, policies that back a healthier planet and more green investments.

“The idea that a thriving natural world is essential to human health, societies and economies has always been central to UNEP’s work,” said UNEP Executive Director Inger Andersen. “But now UNEP must provide even more support to countries as they reduce the risks of future pandemics by restoring lost ecosystems and biodiversity, fighting climate change and reducing pollution.”

The United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) stands with the billions of people suffering from the COVID-19 pandemic. The immediate priority is to protect them. But UNEP also has a duty to help nations build back better after the pandemic to increase resilience to future crises.

While there is a clear need to focus on an immediate humanitarian response, governments cannot lose sight of environmental sustainability

UNEP / [Read more](#)

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

INTERNATIONAL NEWS (CONTINUED)

INTERNATIONAL TANKER OWNERS POLLUTION FEDERATION ANNOUNCE RESEARCH & DEVELOPMENT AWARD 2021

May 15 - The not-for-profit organisation the International Tanker Owners Pollution Federation (ITOPF) is as a source of objective technical expertise in the area of accidental spills of oil, chemicals, and other cargoes and substances in the [marine environment](#).

As the federation is a not-for-profit basis is it supported and maintained by the world's [shipowners](#) and their insurers and the ITOPF cite it is their mission to promote effective spill response.

Each year, up to £75,000 is made available by ITOPF to fund R&D projects to improve our knowledge and understanding of issues related to accidental marine pollution from ships. The award is intended to support a combination of PhD projects and/or short-term projects which have the potential to lead to improvements in all spill related matters. This funding typically supports research costs, plus a student stipend and university fees in the case of a PhD project.

The purpose of this initiative is to facilitate and encourage organisations worldwide to develop ideas that can potentially provide solutions to some of the challenges faced by the spill response community.

For more information on the 2021 ITOPF R&D Award, please visit the [ITOPF website](#).

The closing date is 30th November 2020.

SEA ALARM'S FIRST 20 YEARS: ENCOURAGING AND INFORMING NATIONAL PROCESSES

May 15 - Throughout its 20 years of existence, Sea Alarm has assisted many European countries by motivating, initiating, informing and facilitating national processes, with the aim of raising awareness and improving response planning and capacity building.

As part of our efforts over the years, Sea Alarm has been working to improve the capability, efficiency and coordination of wildlife responders intending to deal with animals impacted by oil pollution from marine emergencies. Many past oil spill events have demonstrated that the success of a response depends, not only on the knowledge and experience of responders who can successfully treat animals, but also on concerted action based on the scale of the incident, the resources available, the quality of facilities, the decision making process and the authorities leading the efforts, all as part of the larger emergency response.

Sea Alarm has always been keen to learn from actions that seem to work well, e.g. by attending and evaluating oil spill events, talking with responders and response groups, organising and attending discussions, workshops, trainings and table top exercises. We have always aimed to share our most recent insights with individuals and organisations who wanted to learn and get better, and who wanted to make a difference in their own country to take steps towards a nationally recognised, professional approach based on science, planning and preparedness.

Sea Alarm worked to enhance these intentions by assisting parties in a number of ways, for example, through exploring solutions and discussing bottlenecks and road blocks in a multi-stakeholder environment. We acted, and continue to act, as an impartial facilitator to help people with different backgrounds understand circumstances and each other better, creating pathways toward solutions and cooperation. Throughout its history, Sea Alarm has worked in many countries, collaborated with many organisations and supported many key individuals who wanted to make progress.

[Read more and make use of an amazing interactive map to view details of Sea Alarm's activities throughout Europe](#)

ENERGY INSTITUTE'S ENVIRONMENT AWARD

It is increasingly important for the energy industry to reduce its impact on the environment and give back to the planet. For this award the judges are looking for schemes and projects that enhance and protect the environment. Entrants should demonstrate a responsible and ethical commitment to managing the risks of energy to the environment.

The judging panel will be looking for - Demonstrable benefit to the environment + Management commitment + Good prospects for wider application. You must be able to validate the success of your project with proven results.

Enter for free! You have until 19 June 2020 to apply. The Awards ceremony will take place on 26 November 2020 at Sheraton Grand, Park Lane, London. [More info](#)

ARDENT TO CEASE SIGNING FUTURE SALVAGE CONTRACTS

May 20 - Ardent, one of the largest players in the global salvage business, has announced that it will no longer be entering into new contracts after May 2020. Its current projects will be completed, but it does not plan to take on any further salvage cases.

In a statement, Ardent said that over its five years in operation it has completed 300 contracts with no lost time injuries. Many of them were challenging projects, like shipboard fires, groundings, unexploded ordnance abatement and wreck removal.

Last year, Ardent relocated its main office from Houston to the Netherlands and said that it would focus its business strategy on its core marine salvage services. In April, it sold off its U.S. OPA 90 business to Boskalis (SMIT Salvage / Donjon-Smit). The transaction included all of Ardent's existing OPA 90 contracts. The Maritime Executive / [Read more](#)

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

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

AUSTRALIA: UPDATE FROM AMSA ON YM EFFICIENCY CONTAINER RECOVERY

May 22 - Our onshore waste processing of dozens of shipping containers recovered from waters off the Hunter Coast is now complete. Following discharge of the final six containers at Port of Newcastle on 8 May, 63 shipping containers had been processed and the clean-up completed by 10 May.

Waste crew sent 440 tonnes of rubbish to landfill, while 195 tonnes, including the shipping containers, were sent to scrap metal processors. In addition, 67 tonnes of tyres were recycled and 18 tonnes of liquid waste collected for safe disposal.

The final clean-up follows 34 days of offshore operations, including 7.5 days of weather delays, to safely remove the identified containers lost overboard YM Efficiency on 1 June 2018. Offshore operator, Ardent Oceania, led the \$17 million project in collaboration with offshore construction vessel, MV Pride, Helix Energy Solutions and AVCON Projects. AMSA / [Read more](#)

IRELAND: IRISH TERMINAL DRAWS U.S. OIL WITH GLOBAL STORAGE FILLING



May 14 - A cluster of ships with American oil has been heading to a small terminal in southern Ireland as buyers search for places to store crude in the wake of a global demand slowdown.

Since April, four vessels carrying a total 2.4 million barrels of American oil have set sail for the Bantry Bay terminal operated by Zenith Energy Management LLC, according to ship tracking data compiled by Bloomberg. Two of those tankers, which loaded oil on the U.S. Gulf Coast, were originally set for the Netherlands and the U.K., but were rerouted to Bantry Bay. The U.S. oil deliveries last month were the first ever for the facility. gCaptain / [Read more](#)

NIGERIA: MASSIVE DIE-OFF OF FISH ON COASTLINE LINKED TO TOXIC DISCHARGE

May 17 - An immense blanket of dead fish stretching across three states has sparked anger and frustration among communities along the Atlantic Ocean coastline in Nigeria. The area is known for oil spills that have polluted the waters and left fish and other wildlife inedible.

The massive die-off was first reported in February when community people from Ogbulagha Kingdom of Delta State raised an alarm on the schools of dead fish floating and littering their shores. The silvery fish graveyard stretched from Delta State through Bayelsa State to Rivers State.

In response, officials of the National Oil Spill Detection and Response Agency (NOSDRA) took samples of the fish, sediment and water for analysis.

Idris Musa, head of NOSDRA, declared the die-off had nothing to do with the continual oil leakages from offshore platforms as claimed over the years by Amnesty International, the UN Environmental Programme (UNEP), and dozens of environmental organizations including those in Nigeria itself. Musa admitted that the values of cadmium and iron were higher than the regulatory limit, according to a post that appeared on the NOSDRA website.

But environmentalists including Ako Amadi and Nnimmo Bassey of the Health of the Mother Earth Foundation (HOMEF), failed to find satisfaction in the NOSDRA report, finding it too superficial to be taken seriously. In Depth News/ [Read more](#)

USA: LATEST ACTIVITY REPORTS FROM NOAA OR&R

May 17 – Please click on the links below to read the latest News Reports from NOAA OR&R

The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's (NOAA) Marine Debris Program is pleased to release the [“U.S. Virgin Islands Marine Debris Emergency Response Guide: Comprehensive Guidance Document” \(Guide\)](#). [Arctic Domain Awareness Center \(ADAC\) Program Year Sixth Annual Meeting](#)

The week of May 11, OR&R scientists participated in the Arctic Domain Awareness Center (ADAC) Program Year Sixth Annual Meeting. The ADAC works with international, federal, state, local, tribal, industry, and academic partners to advance domain awareness of the Arctic region.

[OR&R Participates in Modeling for Synthesis Workshop](#)

On May 4, OR&R Director Scott Lundgren and Senior Scientist Lisa DiPinto participated in a virtual stakeholder panel for an oil spill “Modeling for Synthesis” workshop.

[Trained Dogs Can Find Buried Oil](#)

Dogs comfort us, keep us safe, and occasionally bring us our slippers. Now they are a new and promising tool in oil spill assessment and clean up. In the weekly OR&R lecture series, “[You Don’ t Know What You Don’ t Know\(link is external\)](#)” (Thursdays at 3:00 PM ET) Dr. Ed Owens, a world recognized oil spill response expert, discussed the amazing accuracy of trained dogs in finding buried oil

[Virtual Public Meeting Held for Refugio Beach Oil Spill Draft Assessment and Restoration Plan](#)

The Refugio NRDA case team held a virtual public meeting on May 13, 2019 to provide the public with a summary/overview, answer questions, and receive comments on the recently-released draft Damage Assessment and Restoration Plan (DARP).

[Marine Debris Program Releases U.S. Virgin Islands Marine Debris Emergency Response Guide](#)

The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's (NOAA) Marine Debris Program is pleased to release the [“U.S. Virgin Islands Marine Debris Emergency Response Guide: Comprehensive Guidance Document” \(Guide\)](#).

[Marine Debris Program Pacific Northwest Regional Coordinator Supports Local Education through Virtual Lectures](#)

Marine Debris Program Pacific Northwest Regional Coordinator, Andrew Mason, recently participated in two educational outreach opportunities with local students and volunteers.

[Disaster Preparedness Program Hosts Virtual NOS Hurricane Preparedness Summit](#)

On April 23, the National Ocean Service (NOS) held a virtual Hurricane Preparedness Summit in preparation for the 2020 hurricane season. The summit focused on hurricane readiness in the midst of a pandemic.

USA: NEW YORK CITY IS USING UV LIGHT TO KILL COVID-19 ON BUSES AND TRAINS



May 21 - The Metropolitan Transportation Authority said Tuesday night that it will use "150 dual-headed mobile devices" from Denver-based start-up PURO Lighting to determine the efficiency and cost-effectiveness of the UVC light technology, the agency said in a press release.

UVC, which is one of three types of light on the UV spectrum, is proven to eliminate Covid-19 and is most potent against viruses and bacteria, PURO Lighting said. PURO noted that their lamps also have UVA and UVB as well for full spectrum disinfection.

The first phase is set to launch on subways and buses and at transit facilities by early next week, the MTA said, and if successful will expand to Long Island Rail Road and Metro-North Railroad trains in a second phase. The two railroads serve New York City's suburbs. MSN.com / [Read more](#)

PEOPLE IN THE NEWS

USA: COAST GUARD WELCOMES NEW NORTHEAST COMMANDER



May 19 - Rear Admiral Allan assumed the duties of Commander, First Coast Guard District in May 2020. He oversees all Coast Guard missions across eight states in the Northeast including over 2,000 miles of coastline from the U.S.-Canadian border to northern New Jersey and 1300 miles offshore. Rear Admiral Allan's previous flag assignment was as the Assistant Commandant for Resources and Chief Financial Officer for the U.S. Coast Guard, where he was responsible for all budgetary, financial and resource management activities relating to the programs and operations of the Coast Guard. US Coast Guard / [Read more](#)

A NEW “DECENTRALIZED SCAT COMMON SUPPORT CENTER” TO REMOTELY SUPPORT SHORELINE OIL SPILL RESPONSE OPERATIONS, TRAINING AND EXERCISES



The Owens Response Group (ORG) network has established a “Decentralized SCAT Common Support Center” network to Remotely Support Shoreline Spill Response Operations, Training and Exercises. The key features of the support provided by the Center include:

SCAT ACTIVATION – SHORELINE RESPONSE PROGRAM

- ORG has developed a standard template plan for a remote support Center during the initial stages of a spill response operation to activate and mobilize a Shoreline Response Program and a SCAT Reconnaissance Program.

COORDINATION

- Activation and mobilization CHECKLISTS to ensure “getting it right from the start” so that all Shoreline Response and SCAT-related tasks are coordinated and carried out in the appropriate sequence, particularly when multiple individuals are operating independently at multiple off-site and on-site locations.

REMOTE SUPPORT FOR SCAT DATA GATHERING

- Immediate networked response support capability for the design of UAS (“drone”) SCAT tactical deployment flight programs for missions to collect appropriate data for SCAT Reconnaissance information and data interpretation.

OIL DETECTION CANINES

- COVID-19 compatible field support using Chiron K9’s certified oil detection dogs for large area coverage, rapid SCAT missions for surface and subsurface oil detection and delineation.

SCAT DATA INTERPRETATION AND ANALYSIS

- Decentralized remote rapid interpretation and analysis of surface oiling data by experienced SCAT professionals.

KEY INFORMATION

- The use of “Short” SOS (Shoreline/Riverbank Oiling Summary) forms to quickly obtain and transmit the critical data required for operational decisions based on the SOAR (“Shoreline Oiling Aerial Reconnaissance”) SCAT concept developed during several Chevron-led field trials and published in the 2018 AMOP Proceedings.

DOCUMENTATION

- A work flow procedure that follows the ICS/IMT shoreline response review and approval process to initiate and implement cleanup operations based on the use of “Rapid Response Treatment Recommendation” (RRTR) forms: an adaptation of the accepted Shoreline Treatment Recommendation (STR) form procedure.

SCALABLE, DECENTRALIZED, REMOTE - YET CONNECTED AND COORDINATED

- Based on the size and scope of the response, typically would involve at a minimum a Decentralized SCAT Support/Shoreline Response Program Coordinator and a SCAT Data Manager reporting to the On-Site SCAT Coordinator, the Environmental Unit Leader, or the Shoreline Response Program (SRP) Manager.

EXPANDED SUPPORT

- An expanded remote team can be created on an as-needed basis to potentially include an STR Manager and a SCAT-OPS Liaison Coordinator.

IMPLEMENTATION CHECKLISTS

- These checklists ensure appropriate agency and Operations involvement in the interpretation, recommendation, review and approval processes.

NEWS FROM ISCO CORPORATE MEMBERS (CONTINUED)

They also facilitate delegation and can describe exactly what actions need to be taken and what needs to be accomplished within a certain time frame.

GLOBAL

- 24-hour networked support for shoreline, river and inland shoreline response operations.

The concept of a remote SOAR/RRTR process using an UAS as part of a SCAT/Shoreline Response program was successfully field tested on the southern California coast in 2017 and during a major drill on the North Slope of Alaska in 2019. This adaptation to a fully operational networked Decentralized Remote SCAT Common Support Center was triggered by the current challenges associated with the travel and deployment of personnel to a spill area or to support exercises and training. In this regard, all remote participants and the K9 field teams are COVID-19 compliant with local and regional regulations and requirements.

This concept has a long-term application in the reduction of the number of personnel that might be required on site during an incident, a drill or a training exercise. When activated, the Decentralized Support Centre would be staffed by a network of highly experienced SCAT/Shoreline Response managerial and data processing veterans who have been involved in spill response field programs worldwide and in progressive improvements, adaptations and enhancements to the SCAT process and marine and inland shoreline response over many past years, and who continue to innovate.

A brochure that briefly describes the concept and services is available. For more information please contact ed@owenscoastal.com

A MESSAGE FROM AQUA-GUARD SPILL RESPONSE – “BE CALM, BE KIND, BE SAFE”

May 21 - The past several months have been extremely difficult for many due to the Covid-19 outbreak.

Aqua-Guard Spill Response has diligently ensured measures are in place to protect the life safety and security of our team, clients and suppliers. We continue to follow the recommendations of credible sources such as our Provincial Health Officer, Health Canada and US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

Even though Aqua-Guard, deemed an essential service, is currently operating as per "normal", our thoughts and actions are directed towards the welfare of our loved ones and fellow human beings.

We are extremely grateful for our dedicated staff's ability to maintain all aspects of our business while strictly adhering to physical distancing and cleanliness protocols.

Aqua-Guard would like to specifically recognize and thank our frontline health-care workers in North Vancouver and Coquitlam for their sacrifices and for keeping our communities safe.

We are all in this together. In the words of Dr. Bonnie Henry, "be calm, be kind, be safe". Cameron Janz, Chief Executive Officer. <http://www.aquaguard.com/>

USA: SOUTH CAROLINA - CLEAN HARBORS IS HELPING TO RE-OPEN RACEWAY

May 15 - Clean Harbors is currently disinfecting and decontaminating Darlington Raceway to ensure the safety of all drivers, crew and personnel for upcoming races.

Decontamination work began this week at the Darlington Raceway in South Carolina in preparation for the first race back on Sunday, May 17. Local crews from a Clean Harbors South Carolina branch will continue to deep clean all key sections of the Darlington Raceway, as well as all inbound trailers and equipment involved in Sunday's race, as well as the NASCAR Xfinity Series race on Tuesday, May 19 and the second NASCAR Cup Series event at the facility on Wednesday, May 20. Business Wire / [Read more](#)

CORRESPONDENCE

PENSTOCK SOLUTIONS – LEASE OPTION IS AVAILABLE

May 19 – David Cole writes – “Something that we had never considered before about the [compact, easily installable water pollution prevention devices](#) that we supply is how easy it is to remove them, transport them elsewhere and reuse them.

We had an enquiry from a capital project who were looking to secure their temporary works site against water pollution whilst managing their long term costs. They suggested that they lease the devices which is something that had never occurred to us, but we are entirely open to. If you are involved with enabling works and looking to mitigate the risk of water pollution but are facing particular challenges in these challenging times don't hesitate to call us, we are perfectly willing to work with you to overcome any obstacle. <https://penstocksolutions.co.uk/>

WEBINARS

This is a new section in your newsletter. We have often given you news about webinars before but, with many members in “lockdown” and continuing restrictions on travel, webinars are becoming increasingly popular as an alternative to attending traditional training courses and workshops.

LOCKED DOWN BUT STILL RESPONDING: MANAGING A MARINE OIL SPILL DURING A PANDEMIC

Join experts from London P&I Club, ITOPF, OSRL and Navigate Response for a practical look at how an oil spill response could be mobilised in our current world of social distancing, quarantines and travel restrictions.

Based around imagined major vessel source pollution incidents in Asia and Europe, the webinar will explore the challenges and solutions associated with mobilising a response including:

- Strategies for hitting the ground running: operational challenges presented by COVID-19
- P&I Clubs and how they can minimise the impacts of lockdown on effective incident management
- Remote solutions: How evaluations and sharing of expertise can be completed remotely
- Managing the media: When your incident gives everyone a break from COVID-19 coverage
- Practical preparedness: Steps that "risk owners" can, and should, be taking now
- Engaging with local stakeholders: "Showing up" when you can't actually show up

Thursday, 28 May 2020, 9:00 AM & Thursday, 28 May 2020, 4:00 PM (UK times) [More info and registration](#) This is a free event.

WEBINARS AND OTHER SUPPORT FROM OSRL

We have released various webinar recordings which can be found on our technical library here:

- Bridging Research to Response
- Developments in Shoreline Cleanup and Assessment Techniques (SCAT)
- Integrated Spill Response Strategies - Unseen Consequences of Inland Spills
- Are You Ready to Respond?

Our free webinar series to support our Members continues next week. Upcoming webinars include:

- Responding to an oil spill in Nigeria - 28th May
- Awareness of Media Management - 28th May

Please [click here](#) to register for these and other upcoming webinars.

Link to our latest Coronavirus statement [here](#).

Link to our Readiness dashboard [here](#), this also includes specific country plans, exercise reports and key documents to provide our Members with further support.

MARITIME WEBINAR - MANAGEMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL REGULATION AND COMPLIANCE

A briefing on the IMO and MCA's views on maritime regulation, compliance and enforcement

Spring's MEPC 75 meeting was due to make a number of important decisions – how will these be managed now?

Join us on Tuesday, 26 May at 11:00am (BST), for an essential briefing into latest thinking at IMO and the MCA on management of environmental regulation and compliance.

Register for the session [here](#). [More info and details of speakers](#)

Hear the latest on:

- Regulatory update: IMO developments during the COVID 19 crisis
- The consequences for technical and operational measures
- Experience of enforcing IMO 2020 since 1 January 2020
- What shipowners need to know

Unable to tune into the live webinar? If you register today, we'll send you a recording as an added bonus for free!

EXPLORING PFAS TREATMENT SOLUTIONS AND THEIR EFFICACY: COMPARING FLUORO-SORB® ADSORBENT, GAC, AND ION EXCHANGE RESIN

Join Dr Chris Bellona, Professor at Colorado School of Mines, and Dr Michael Donovan, Global R&D Director for CETCO, in this webinar to learn about various PFAS treatment solutions and their efficacy when treating drinking water, groundwater, or soil. The webinar will share results from university-led research and field pilot studies on the various treatment solutions, including FLUORO-SORB adsorbent – a proprietary media that has been proven to be 3-4 times more effective than Granular Activated Carbon.

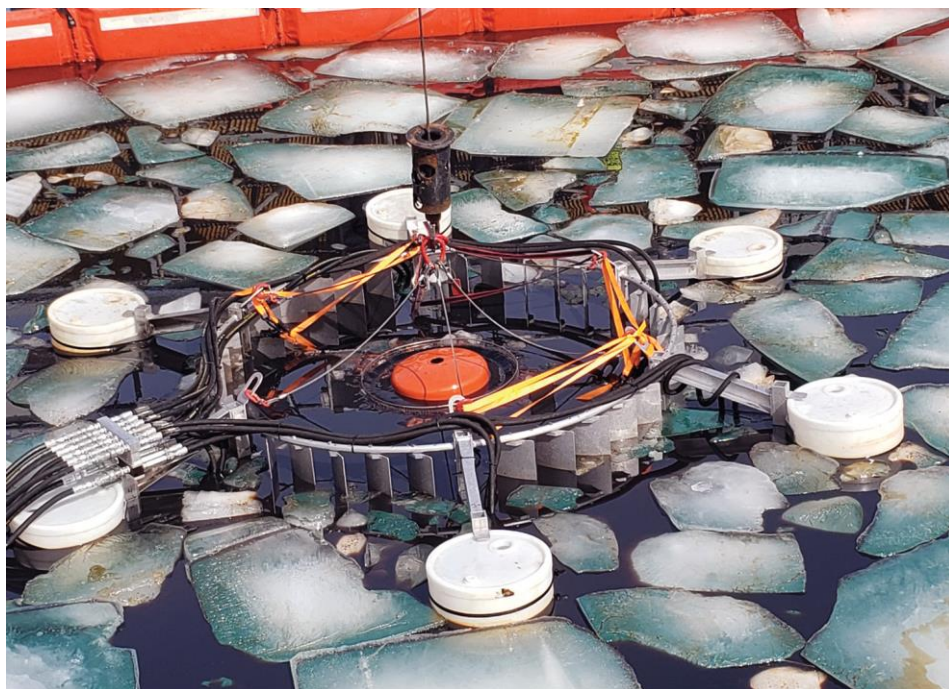
The webinar will cover:

- PFAS and Current Treatment Options: Ion Exchange Resins, Granular Activated Carbon, etc.
- FLUORO-SORB® Adsorbent: Overview
- Drinking Water Treatment: Research conducted by Colorado School of Mines and results from a field study conducted by the Orange County, California Water District
- Soil and Groundwater Treatment: Research conducted by McGill University
- Source Zone Treatment and Stabilization: Research conducted by the University of Texas – Austin and results from a field study conducted by Arcadis

June 18 [More info and registration](#)

CONTRIBUTED ARTICLE

AIMING TO IMPROVE OIL RECOVERY IN THE ARCTIC



Mechanical recovery of oil can be a challenge even in the best conditions; add ice, slush and debris to the mix and it can hamper a skimmer's ability to efficiently pick up oil. Since 2017 the Bureau of Safety and Environmental Enforcement (BSEE) has collaborated with the Army Corps of Engineers Engineering Research and Development Center's Cold Regions Research and Engineering Laboratory (CRREL) to develop an Active Ice Management System (AIMS). The system is designed to improve oil recovery in drift ice conditions while deployed with a skimmer. By redirecting the floating ice away from the system, oil is more easily drawn to the skimmer for recovery. During the week of March 9, 2020, the AIMS was put through seven tests to evaluate its ability to improve the recovery rate and recovery efficiency of a weir skimmer.

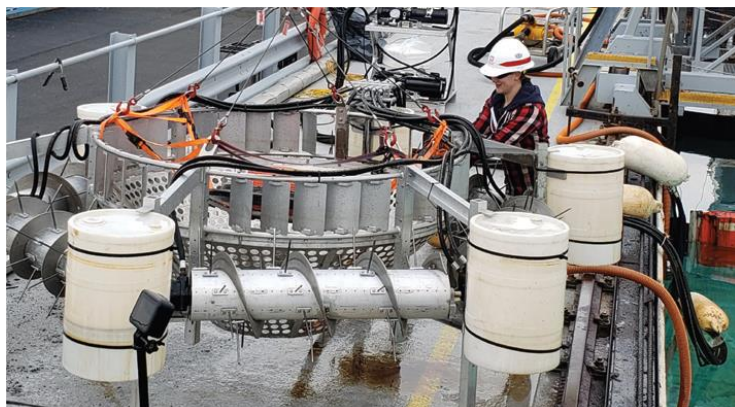
Above: The Active Ice Management System (AIMS) is designed to improve oil recovery in drift ice conditions.

According to BSEE engineer Kristi McKinney, the US Coast Guard (USCG) led the initial collaborative research project to develop an ice cage in 2015. CRREL engineers then designed the AIMS, a new system informed by the USCG Ice Cage project. "The AIMS incorporates some of the positive USCG Ice Cage features to protect the skimmer from damage due to ice. In addition, it includes an active ice management component to prevent ice from accumulating directly around its perimeter which would prevent oil from reaching the skimmer."

Prior to testing a half-scale model of the AIMS, the Ohmsett staff had to grow blocks of ice that could be placed in the test area of the tank. In January, the engineers and technicians started building the trays and racks in which they grew ice over the next two months. The trays were placed in refrigerated containers to be kept frozen until the test.

Photo on right: The Active Ice Management System (AIMS) is designed to redirect the floating ice away from the system so oil can be easily drawn to the skimmer for recovery.

The evaluation took place in a boomed area of the Ohmsett tank which provided simulated arctic conditions that included ice and oil. The blocks of ice were cut into various sizes and placed in the boomed area to create an ice field. A one-inch oil slick was then distributed within the ice field. The weir skimmer was placed inside of the AIMS to recover oil, with the AIMS system operational and non-operational. This allowed the team to assess the recovery benefit provided by the active management of the ice.



CONTRIBUTED ARTICLE (CONTINUED)

“The tests were based on the new ASTM standard F3350-18 Standard Guide for Collecting Skimmer Performance Data in Ice Conditions; however this was a series of tests to evaluate the AIMS rather than the skimmer itself. Therefore, several aspects of the test were changed in order to collect comparative data with the limited number of tests that could be conducted,” McKinney said.

“The system performance looks promising from visual inspection and I look forward to further analyzing the recovery efficiency data.” said CRREL Principal Investigator, Nathan Lamie. “We’re excited about the continued success and progression of the AIMS. The USCG and Ohmsett team have added valuable input and excitement towards this prototype system.”

Acknowledgement: The above article was first published in the Spring 2020 issue of the Ohmsett Gazette and is reprinted here with the kind permission of the Bureau of Safety and Environmental Enforcement (BSEE). Ohmsett, The National Oil Spill Response Research & Renewable Energy Test Facility will be exhibiting at Clean Waterways 2020, August 3-5, 2020 in Indianapolis, IN (Booth #314) and at Clean Gulf 2020, October 20-22, 2020 in San Antonio, TX (Booth #415). You are invited to call in by for more information on Ohmsett’s the testing, training and research facilities. The Spring 2020 issue of the Ohmsett Gazette can be downloaded at <https://www.ohmsett.com/Gazette/Ohmsett%20Gazette%20Spring%202020.pdf>

TECHNICAL SUPPORT

CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19) BUSINESS PREPAREDNESS AND RECOVERY TOOLKIT

COVID-19 is causing widespread disruption globally. Many organisations are not fully equipped to understand the potential impact of this (or any pandemic) on their business and are not fully able to implement strategies to mitigate the upheaval being caused – even organisations that have high levels of organisational resilience.

To provide support to organisations of all sizes, Ricardo’s business continuity specialists have developed an easy-to-use toolkit that can be used to create a business continuity and recovery plan. [More information](#)

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.

JOB VACANCIES

CLEAN EVENTS CAREER CENTER

Looking for a new job? Our [career center](#) gives you the resources you need to save time and increase your exposure to leading employers eager to hire. The CLEAN Events Career Center allows employers to search for potential candidates and view their resumes while protecting the job seeker’s privacy. Your contact information will only be provided to those you allow – eliminating the chances of receiving unsolicited emails and phone calls.

Ready to take the next step? [Login](#) to the CLEAN Events Career Center to browse open jobs and upload your resume.

EQUIPMENT FOR SALE

OIL EQUIPMENT “EBAY” GIVES FREE ACCESS TO OIL INDUSTRY

To support a global oil industry heavily impacted by the drop in oil prices and the Covid-19 outbreak, Norwegian SurplusHub has decided to offer industry players the opportunity to market their surplus oil and gas equipment free-of-charge at its global online equipment portal.

“Selling surplus equipment helps oil industry players free up cash that is otherwise tied up in its balance sheets, while buyers can reduce their capex requirements. If we through this initiative can make a small contribution towards improving the situation for an oil industry under financial pressure, then it is worth it,” says Per Kåre Liland, founder and CEO of SurplusHub. [More info](#)

USA: CONTINUING CHALLENGE WORKSHOP 2020 HAS BEEN CANCELLED

The Continuing Challenge Hazardous Materials Committee regrets to announce that we are cancelling the 2020 HazMat Workshop in September. The COVID-19 pandemic has resulted in new Federal, State and Municipal constraints on travel and training budgets making a successful Workshop impossible.

Though we will be unable to “get the family together” this September, we are currently investigating the possibility of providing you training in a virtual format in the coming months as the shelter in place orders and slashed budgets continue.

The Workshop will be back in September of 2021. We look forward to seeing you then, and hope that you and your families stay safe and healthy as you serve the public. [More info](#) [Thanks to Vance Bennett]

USA: CLEAN PACIFIC - NEW DATE ANNOUNCEMENT

We have been monitoring the everchanging coronavirus situation and the overall impact on the ability of individuals to safely travel to Washington for CLEAN PACIFIC. Washington’s current Stay Home, Stay Healthy order is through May 31 and the state is in Phase 1 of a four-phase reopening plan.

We have made the decision that it is in the best interest of our community to postpone CLEAN PACIFIC until June 28-30, 2021. The event will still take place at the Hyatt Regency Lake Washington.

USA: CLEAN EVENTS – UPDATES

2020 Digital Marketing Opportunities

As a trusted partner, the CLEAN brand is expanding its presence to offer the emergency and spill response industry new ways to connect and share insights. We’re tapping into our community of experts to offer more content through webinars, virtual events, e-letters and more. This is your opportunity to reach new prospects across more channels than ever before.

Upcoming Events

We know in these uncertain times that you might be looking at budget cuts, travel restrictions, and are concerned about your health and safety when considering attending an event in 2020. With that in mind, we want to do everything we can to help deliver cost savings and take the extra steps to make your experience at our upcoming events healthier and safer.

[CLEAN WATERWAYS – August 3-5, JW Marriott Indianapolis](#)

- In order to provide some relief, our team has decided to leave the current early bird pricing in effect through the start of the event. That’s right, no increase in registration prices will happen.
- If your company secures any group plan package, we’ll let your entire team access any on-demand content we procure from CLEAN WATERWAYS 2020.
- We’re working with the JW Marriott Indianapolis on an enhanced event hygiene protocol—going beyond health and safety “recommendations” to create an environment where you are safe to learn and connect with one another.

[CLEAN GULF - October 20-22, Henry B. Gonzalez Convention Center, San Antonio, TX](#)

- We’ve added a smaller group registration discount package for those sending as few as 3 from their company. The new trio group package offers to send 3 for the price of 2.
- We’re working with the Henry B. Gonzalez Convention Center and our host hotels on an enhanced event hygiene protocol—going beyond health and safety “recommendations” to create an environment where you are safe to learn and connect with one another.
- If your company secures any group plan package, we’ll let your entire team access any on-demand content we procure from CLEAN GULF 2020

Share Your Stories

We continue to provide [important coronavirus coverage](#) and industry updates as the situation evolves. Please continue to share your stories and use #cleaneventsproud in social media so that we can continue to share some good news during these trying times.

If you use #cleaneventsproud for your Twitter posts, they will show up on our [COVID-19 coverage page](#). If you want to see your story shared in a future email, please email cbuchholtz@accessintel.com.

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 may be because the website is not yet available or because the link for the website has not yet been sent to the Editor.

COUNTRY	2020	TITLE OF EVENT	LOCATION
For more information click on Title of Event			
USA	June 3-4	SCAA 2020 Annual Meeting Teleconference	Internet
NETHERLANDS	June 24-25	European Environmental Ports Conference 2020	Rotterdam
USA	August 3-5	Clean Waterways Conference & Exhibition	Indianapolis, IN.
ESTONIA	August 25-27	BALEX DELTA 2020 pollution response exercise	Talinn
USA	CANCELLED	HazMat Emergency Response Workshop	Sacramento, CA
USA	Sept. 8-11	Oil Spill Response Strategies & Tactics Training	Leonardo, NJ
AUSTRALIA	Sept. 15-17	Ecoforum Conference & Exhibition	Darwin
ICELAND	Sept. 28-30	International Symposium on Plastics in the Arctic and Sub-Arctic Region	Reykjavik
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	El 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	El Middle East HSE Forum	Bahrein
COUNTRY	2021	TITLE OF EVENT	LOCATION
USA	May 10-13	International Oil Spill Conference (IOSC 2021)	New Orleans, LA
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
USA	June 28-30	Clean Pacific Conference & Exhibition	Seattle, WA
COUNTRY	2022	TITLE OF EVENT	LOCATION
NETHERLANDS	Details TBA	Interspill Conference & Exhibition	Amsterdam

LINKS FOR DOWNLOADING & READING OTHER PUBLICATIONS

[ALGA Cronicle](#)

[AMSA Update](#)

[ATRAC Newsletter](#)

[AUSMEPA Bulletin](#)

[BIMCO Bulletin](#)

[Newsletter from George Holliday](#)

[Cedre Newsletter](#)

[Clean Nigeria Associates Newsletter](#)

[EMSA Newsletter](#)

[GEF Newsletter](#)

[GESAMP](#)

[GISEA Quarterly Newsletter](#)

[IMO News Magazine](#)

[IMO Publishing Newsletter](#)

[ITOPF Ocean Orbit](#)

[JOIFF "The Catalyst"](#)

News from Australasia on Contaminated Land Remediation

Latest News from the Australian Maritime Safety Authority

News from the Adriatic Training and Research Centre

News from the Australian Marine Environment Protection Assoc'n

Marine and shipping-related news from BIMCO

News and commentary on HSE issues from George Holliday

News from Cedre in Brittany, France

News from CNA about Oil Spill Response in Nigeria

News from the European Maritime Safety Agency

Monthly Newsletter from the Global Environment Facility

Group of Experts on the Scientific Aspects of Marine Environmental Protection

News from Global Initiative for South-East Asia

News from the International Maritime Organization

New and forthcoming IMO publications

News from the International Tanker Owners Pollution Federation

Int'l Organisation for Industrial Hazard Management

April 2020

Current issue

December 2019

Summer 2020

December 2019

On request email

April 2020

December 2018

Current issue

December 2019

Latest news

Q1 2020

Winter 2019

April-May 2020

October 2019

Q2 2020 issue

LINKS FOR DOWNLOADING & READING OTHER PUBLICATIONS (CONTINUED)

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	Spring 2020
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	April 1-15, 2020
USA EPA Tech Direct	Remediation of contaminated soil and groundwater	May 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: UTAH - 85TH CIVIL SUPPORT TEAM RESPONDS IN TIMES OF NEED

May 20 - On March 18, members of the Utah National Guard's 85th Weapons of Mass Destruction-Civil Support Team were called to an industrial facility near Magna, Utah, the epicenter of a 5.7m earthquake that took place earlier that morning, to assist with a chemical spill.

"We got the call from Unified Fire," said Major Todd Christensen, commander of the 85th CST.

"The earthquake caused a hydrochloric acid spill at an industrial facility [near Magna, Utah]. Because of everything that was happening, Unified Fire was overtasked and there was concern about the immediate public safety threat with those chemicals." DVIDS / [Read more](#)

USA: MICHIGAN – FLOODING FORCES DOW CHEMICAL PLANT TO ACTIVATE EMERGENCY PLAN



Photo: This May 28, 2008 file photo shows the Dow Chemical Co. industrial site in Midland, Mich. SS, AP

May 20 - Flood waters from the ongoing deluge in Midland County have mixed with containment ponds at the vast Dow chemical plant in Midland, the company announced Wednesday.

The potential hazards were not immediately clear. The situation continued to unfold Wednesday afternoon and authorities said that flood waters were not expected to peak until about 9 p.m.

The announcement raised concerns among residents and environmentalists about potential widespread toxic contamination of the already hard-hit area, which is coping with the evacuation of thousands of residents at the same time as the coronavirus pandemic.

Dow announced on its Twitter page that flood waters began "commingling with on-site containment ponds" at the Midland plant at about 10 a.m. The company immediately partnered with the U.S. Coast Guard to activate emergency flood preparedness plans. Detroit Free Press / [Read more](#)

TEN GOOD REASONS WHY YOU SHOULD BE A MEMBER OF ISCO

Even when budgets are tight, you can fully justify the cost of ISCO membership

- Be recognised as a member of a worldwide community of professionals who share a common interest.
- Corporate Members enjoy Free Listing in ISCO's International Directory of Spill Response Contractors, Equipment Suppliers, Training Providers, and Consultancy Services – your advertising banners displayed with one click access to your website. It's a great search facility for potential customers.
- Corporate Members receive requests for emergency provision of resources for spill response support. The Emergency Assistance facility is there for government agencies, oil companies and response organizations - not only for rapid sourcing of additional resources in very large spill events, it can be used to help find specialised equipment not often available in response inventories, people with specialised experience and know-how, etc. Contractors can use the facility to supplement their own internally available resources.
- Benefit from ISCO initiatives that are of practical value to Members – for example, the free and widely used RESPONSECON contracts that you can use - speeding up contractual arrangements for mobilisation of spill response resources, with positive implications for protecting your cash flow.
- Free publicity – Announce your new products and services developments in the weekly ISCO Newsletter – reaching out to a highly targeted customer audience in over 60 countries.
- Benefit from negotiated discounts in attending conferences and exhibitions – the savings can significantly offset the cost of maintaining your membership.
- To enhance response knowledge of your staff - Freely downloadable technical articles, response guidelines and loads of other useful reference information available in the Members' Area of the ISCO website.
- Your membership helps ensure continued publication of the ISCO Newsletter, keeping you up-to-date on events, developing technologies, new legislation and other matters of mutual interest. This will save many hours a week of scanning, browsing and searching for all the news that matters and puts it in your inbox every week.
- Through ISCO, Members have a voice in the drafting of new legislation that will affect their areas of interest. We introduce new initiatives at IMO and give our support to other delegates advancing developments that will be of benefit for improvement of response effectiveness. ISCO provides an interface with National and International Government Agencies, Industry, the Scientific Community, R&D Establishments and Academia, actively supporting new developments that will be of benefit to our Members.
- Members have the right to display the ISCO logo on their headed notepaper, brochures, business cards, etc. to denote that they are part of an international organisation dedicated to improving worldwide co-operation and preparedness.

For more information visit www.spillcontrol.org

Apply for Membership of ISCO at <http://www.spillcontrol.org/2013-02-05-10-50-47/membership-application>

REMINDER: ISCO MEMBERSHIP FEES WILL INCREASE ON 1st JUNE 2020

If your membership has lapsed, time to renew your membership is coming up or you have not yet joined ISCO you can save money if you act now before the increases come into effect

AND NOW FOR A DASH OF HUMOUR ...

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

Tommy Cooperisms –

- Phone answering machine message - "...If you want to buy marijuana, press the hash key..."
- I went to the butchers the other day and I bet him 50 quid that he couldn't reach the meat off the top shelf. He said, "No, the steaks are too high."
- Police arrested two kids yesterday, one was drinking battery acid, the other was eating fireworks. They charged one and let the other one off.

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.
