

## 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

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PLEASE SEE ANNOUNCEMENT ON PAGE 12

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## UNSC DISCUSSES DANGERS OF YEMEN'S SAFER OIL TANKER

July 16 - The UN Security Council held the its first session focused on discussing the derelict Safer oil tanker, docked off Ras Issa port in Yemen, amid fears that the tanker may explode leading to a major oil spill which threatens the marine environment and the economy of Yemen and its neighbors.

UN Spokesman Stephane noted that progress has been made on Houthis giving a written approval to allow a UN team of experts to inspect Safer. UN Humanitarian Affairs Chief Mark Lowcock said that the Houthi authorities confirmed last week that they would accept a long-planned UN mission to the tanker, which will hopefully take place in the next few weeks. Ashjarq Al-Awstat / [Read more](#)

## BRIEFING TO THE SECURITY COUNCIL ON THE SITUATION IN YEMEN

Inger Andersen, Under-Secretary-General of the United Nations and Executive Director of the UN Environment Programme briefed the UN Security Council.

[READ THE TEXT OF THE BRIEFING GIVEN TO THE SECURITY COUNCIL](#)

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## INTERNATIONAL NEWS (CONTINUED)

### EMSA'S RPAS TO SUPPORT FINNISH, ESTONIAN AND SWEDISH COAST GUARD



The Remotely Piloted Aircraft System (RPAS) services for maritime surveillance will as of the 4th of July, under the command of Finland, support Coast Guard functions of Finland, Estonia and Sweden. Building upon existing cooperation agreements, information collected from on-board RPAS system will be shared in parallel with multiple member states, allowing for a common maritime picture and a more comprehensive coordination. This operation is an example of the gradual phasing-in of the new "regional approach" to RPAS operations for which preparations have started in 2020. In addition, participation in the HELCOM Balex Delta exercise, organised by Estonia is also planned for August with the deployment of the RPAS on board the

Finnish Offshore Patrol Vessel Turva. This exercise includes the participation of the member states in the region. The selected RPAS for this operation is a CAMCOPTER S-100 model from Schiebel Aircraft GmbH under contract of EMSA. Click [here](#) to find out more information about EMSA's RPAS services.

EMSA / [Read more in the July 2020 Issue of the EMSA Newsletter](#)

## THE GREAT GLOBAL NURDLE HUNT— THE SEARCH FOR NURDLES SPANS ALL 7 CONTINENTS

July 2020 - More than 1000 people took part in this year's global hunt for nurdles between 13th and 22<sup>nd</sup> March. Across the world, 'nurdlers' headed to beaches, rivers, and estuaries to hunt for these tiny plastic pellets. Nurdles (or plastic pellets) are the raw material of the plastics industry and are used to make nearly all our plastic products. Easily spilled, and not always cleaned up, they are leaking out of the global plastics supply chain, and our volunteers have found that nurdles are polluting our seas and waterways worldwide. In those 10 days, just over 200 nurdle hunts were completed across all 7 continents and in 28 countries. A huge achievement! From the Americas to Australia, and even in Antarctica, nurdle hunters were out in force to uncover this plastic pollution menace. Nurdle Hunt / [Read more](#)

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

### ECUADOR: AN OIL SPILL IN THE TIME OF CORONAVIRUS

July 14 - A preventable oil spill in Ecuador's Amazon region in the middle of the COVID-19 pandemic puts Indigenous lives at risk - As the country is struggling with a COVID-19 pandemic spiralling out of control, the Amazon region has been hit by one of the worst oil spills in decades. The overlap of two crises in one of the world's most biodiverse hotspots has made a bad situation even worse. Amazonian peoples, whose "social-distancing" skills have been cruelly honed by centuries of Old World epidemics, have suddenly found that the water, fish, game and crops that would allow them to self-isolate in the forest, are contaminated by oil. Aljazeera / [Read more](#)

### EGYPT: EGYPS 2021 GLOBAL HSE EXCELLENCE IN ENERGY AWARDS WORKSHOP

Register for this complimentary online workshop to: Learn what's new for EGYPS 2021 Global HSE Excellence in Energy Awards + Understand the qualifying criteria for the awards entries + Get suggestions from the Awards Jury and past winners on submitting a captivating entry + Ask your questions during the Live Q&A Wednesday 22 July 2020 12:30 - 14:00 Cairo Time [More info](#)

**FRANCE: CEDRE EMERGENCY RESPONSE ACTIVITY REPORT FOR JUNE 2020**

Most of the calls we received this month were from MRCCs in France. We also received six requests for advice or recommendations following incidences of pollution observed from aircraft or onshore witnesses. Advice was provided after examining photos and holding discussions with the MRCCs. Cedre was also called upon by the Office Français de la Biodiversité after supposed “pollution” was observed close to a lock in Dieppe. Based on the photos provided, it was not possible to determine the substance in question (which turned out to be microalgae). Cedre was contacted by DDT Corrèze to provide advice following a diesel spill from a lorry which involved in an accident on a highway, then in a rainwater retention basin. In terms of exercises, Cedre was mobilised by NCEC to model a chemical spill. We called upon chemical industry players in Germany and the UK as part of a MAR-ICE exercise organised by Cedre based on a scenario inspired by the Lykes Liberator incident. [Read more in the CEDRE Newsletter of June 2020](#)

**KUWAIT: FOURTH PHASE OF THE PROJECT OF THE CULTIVATION OF MANGROVE PLANTS AND THE REHABILITATION OF COASTAL AREAS IN KUWAIT**

July 15 - In order to complete the project of the cultivation of mangrove plants and the rehabilitation of coastal areas in The State of Kuwait, the cultivation of mangrove seedlings achieved the desired results that were cultivated in 2018, where it was observed through field visits in the past days the growth of the seedlings and reached the length of about one meter. Work is now under way to complete the project for the cultivation of more than 1,000 new mangrove seedlings that have been cultivated in the Laboratories of the General Environment Authority in the department of biodiversity conservation. [EPA Kuwait](#)

**NIGERIA: FG, GROUPS TANGO OVER Ogoniland CLEANUP ASSESSMENT**

July 13 - Spiritedly picking holes in the cleanup of Ogoniland in River State, four international organisations have expressed displeasure over the exercise in a report released recently. Consequently, the groups namely Environmental Rights Action/Friends of the Earth (ERA/FoEN), Amnesty International, Friends of the Earth Europe and MilieuDefensie (Friends of the Earth Netherlands) in the document “No Clean Up, No Justice,” said the project is failing and lagging behind. The report investigates to what extent Nigeria’s government has implemented UNEP’s recommendations to support the people and communities in Ogoniland with ‘emergency measures’, cleanup the pollution, prevent re-pollution and ensure alternative livelihoods. The Guardian / [Read more](#)

**NIGERIA: NIGER DELTA: YOUNG MEN FACE EXCLUSION AND VIOLENCE IN ONE OF THE MOST POLLUTED PLACES ON EARTH**

July 13 - Faced with increasingly desperate prospects, many young men in the Niger Delta have turned to militant violence. When I’ve discussed my research on the experiences of young people in this region with friends and strangers, many have been quick to question my decision to focus on the grievances of violent young men.

I have never felt that criminality is the only explanation for militancy. Instead, I wanted to shine a light on the experience of local young men to help tell the story of this exploited part of the world. Phys Org / [An interesting article gives a different perspective](#)

**NIGERIA: ACHIEVEMENT IN OGONI CLEAN-UP**

July 13 - The Ogoni clean-up project is described as the biggest clean-up project in the world, it is a project that continues to attract both national and global attention. Envoys from countries like the Netherlands, Norway, United Kingdom, and the US pay fact finding visits to remediation sites. Local and international non-governmental organisations and other interest groups are not left out. The federal government has also ensured that the Ogoni clean-up is carried out in line with International best practice and every recommendation in the UNEP Report strictly followed by re-engaging the UNEP team to provide technical support both in the field and in the PCO. The Nigerian oil industry and the United Nations as a member of the team that carried out the environmental assessment on Ogoniland. The Minister of Environment, Dr. Mahmood Mohammad Abubakar is to oversee the management of the project and to carry out some administrative and technical energization as well as reinvigoration of the processes for better performance and project delivery. At present, about 70% of the contractors are expected to complete work by the end of August 2020. While 30% are expected to finalize by the end of November 2020. Blueprint / [Read more](#)

**NIGERIA: OIL THEFT, ILLEGAL REFINING: NIGERIA’S ECONOMY BLEEDS AS ILLEGAL ACTIVITIES BOOM IN NIGER DELTA – INVESTIGATION**

July 14 - There are indications that oil theft and illegal refining have attain new heights in Nigeria as Shell Petroleum Development Company Limited (SPDC), with over 600,000 barrels daily output, recorded 39 oil spill cases in the second quarter (April – June) of 2020, according to data obtained from SPDC. Although this indicated a drop of 61.5 per cent when compared to 63 cases recorded in the corresponding period of 2019, the frequency in which they occurred appeared very worrisome. However, the data also showed that 15 cases were recorded in March 2020, all of which were attributed to mainly pipeline vandalism and oil theft. On monthly basis, the data further showed that 19, 11 and nine cases were recorded in April, May and June 2020 respectively. Vanguard / [Read more](#)



## PHILIPPINES: POWER BARGE OWNER PROBED FOR SAFETY VIOLATIONS IN ILOILO OIL SPILL, CLEANUP OPERATIONS



*Photo: Men ride a boat to conduct cleanup operations of the oil spill caused by a power barge (upper left) in Iloilo City. (Tara Yap/Manila Bulletin)*

July 12 - The Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE-6) started its own probe on probable safety violations when a damaged power barge triggered an oil spill that affected mostly coastal communities in Iloilo City. An initial probe conducted by the Bureau of Fire Protection (BFP) found that acetylene torch was used inside one of the power barge's tanks where repair work was being done, and this allegedly ignited flammable fumes. Ticao also said DOLE inspectors were also looking into complaints of alleged lack of personal protective equipment (PPEs) among newly-hired workers for the cleanup operations in retrieving bunker fuel. While Ticao cautioned it was still

early to reach a conclusion, he urged AC Energy to reassess its own occupational and safety policies. Manila Bulletin / [Read more](#)

## PHILIPPINES: OIL SPILL THREATENS RECOVERING MANGROVE FORESTS

July 13 - An oil spill on July 3 threatens a mangrove forest on the Philippine island of Guimaras, an area only just recovering from the country's largest spill in 2006. To keep the oil from spreading to the mangroves and to protect its 23 coastal villages, Guimaras Governor Samuel T. Gumarin called an emergency meeting. He later ordered spill booms deployed and clearing operations carried out. Ecowatch / [Read more](#)

## PHILIPPINES: DENR-EMB REVIEWS REHAB PLAN FOR ILOILO OIL SPILL

July 14 - the Department of Environment and Natural Resources – Environmental Management Bureau (DENR-EMB) is reviewing the rehabilitation plan of the energy firm that owned the damaged power barge that triggered an oil spill in Iloilo City last July 3. The rehabilitation plan will focus on completing the oil spill cleanup, correct removal and disposal of oil-contaminated wastes, ensuring safe level of water and air quality prior to allowing local residents to go back to their homes, and restoring damaged mangrove and fishery areas. Gabby Mejia, head for plant operations of AC Energy, said the company was going to implement the recommendations that are going to be set by DENR-EMB. Manila Bulletin / [Read more](#)

## RUSSIA: THE RUSSIAN WHISTLEBLOWER RISKING IT ALL TO EXPOSE THE SCALE OF AN ARCTIC OIL SPILL CATASTROPHE

July 10 - Vasily Ryabinin stands on the banks of the River Daldykan and pushes a long stick into the blood-orange sludge. Raising the stick, he puts a lighter to it and it ignites it like a torch.

"Still burns really well," Ryabinin says. "It's very likely that these puddles are stretching all over the river and will be polluting it for a very long time."

We were a few kilometers from the Siberian city of Norilsk, where six weeks ago a huge fuel tank at a power plant ruptured, spilling thousands of tons of diesel into the river.

The owner of the plant, the Nor Nickel metals giant, says the spill was quickly contained, and the damage limited. Ryabinin has sacrificed his job and his family's future in Norilsk in an attempt to lift the lid on what environmentalists have called the worst ecological catastrophe in the polar Arctic.

It was 2 a.m. in the Arctic summer. A half-light illuminated the fast-moving river as it flowed through the endless tundra towards the Arctic ocean. A rainbow film of oil covered the surface; a pool of diesel squelched beneath our feet. Ryabinin brought us there by foot along railroad tracks. Ever since the spill, the areas surrounding the site have been guarded by security personnel, making them difficult to access. CNN / [Continue reading this story](#) [Thanks to Marc K. Shaye, Hon.FISCO]

## RUSSIA: NORNICKEL DENIES ALLEGATIONS OF COVER-UP OVER ARCTIC OIL SPILL

July 13 - Nor Nickel, as it is better known, denies the cover-up allegations by green campaigners, a regional governor and a former official at Russia's environmental watchdog, who have spoken out publicly and, in some cases, published tests, photographs and witness accounts to support their allegations. Environmental groups and some Russian officials are worried by what they regard as a lack of information about how far the pollution has spread towards the Arctic Ocean. "It's obvious that a cover-up is under way," said Vasily Ryabinin, who quit as an official at state environmental regulator Rosprirodnadzor in Norilsk after the spill.

Insurance Journal / [Read more](#)

## RUSSIA: INDIGENOUS GROUPS PAYING THE PRICE FOR MASSIVE ARCTIC SPILL



*Photo: A Nenets woman walks on a snow-covered field in northern Russia. Indigenous people of the region, including the Nenets, Dolgans, Nganasans, Evenki and Enets all hunt, fish, and herd reindeer among the lakes and rivers north of Norilsk. (Sergei Gapon/AFP/Getty Images)*

July 13 - For the Indigenous people of the region, this spill can be seen as another indication of the "gap between declarations and reality," Sulyandziga, the Indigenous advocate, said. "On the one hand, the Russian constitution guarantees Indigenous people's rights but in terms of implementation ... it's poor. It's nothing," he said. The Dolgans, Nenets, Nganasans, Evenki and Enets all hunt, fish, and herd reindeer among

the lakes and rivers north of Norilsk. But the land has long been poisoned by industrial waste. In 2016, local Indigenous groups noted with alarm that the waters of the nearby river Daldykan had turned blood red, which Norilsk Nickel suggested was natural. They later acknowledged a spill of industrial wastewater was responsible.

The waters of that river eventually flow into Lake Pyasino — now so toxic it is almost entirely devoid of fish. The waterways downstream are crossed by the world's largest wild reindeer herd, which has shrunk by more than 40 per cent since 2000. "The legacy of the past, it's very destructive," said Sulyandziga. "It is still very dangerous to hunt, to eat." Sulyandziga said once the scale of the environmental damage is clear, work should start on a "working plan for Indigenous people ... [to address] access to traditional food, access to traditional activity." CBC News / [Read more](#)

## RUSSIA: VLADIMIR PUTIN SIGNS LAW REQUIRING FIRMS TO HAVE RESOURCES, CONTINGENCY PLAN FOR OIL SPILLS

July 14 President Vladimir Putin on Monday signed legislation requiring companies involved in oil production or handling other hydrocarbons to have adequate resources for a contingency plan in the case of a spill. The law makes it mandatory for companies to have sufficient financial reserves to prevent potential spills or clean them up if they occur. The financial reserves can take various forms, including an insurance contract or a letter of guarantee to pay the damage from a given accident.

The law also requires companies handling hydrocarbons to draw up plans to prevent and clean up spills by January 1, 2024.

The Kremlin has said the new legislation is aimed at preventing similar spills.

Deccan Herald / [Read more](#)



## UAE: ACTION NEEDED TO PREVENT OIL SPILLS OFF UAE COAST, SAYS GOVERNMENT OFFICIAL

July 10 - UAE government officials have called for increased surveillance of tankers so swift punishment can be delivered to vessels that illegally dump oil off the country's coast. Adnan Al Hammadi, a member of the Federal National Council, called for harsher penalties to be placed on those found breaking the rules.

## NEWS REPORTS FROM AROUND THE WORLD (CONTINUED)

Adnan Al Hammadi, a member of the Federal National Council, called for harsher penalties to be placed on those found breaking the rules. He suggested additional investment could help upgrade the current technology used to monitor the movement of tankers in gulf waters too.

Speaking to The National, the council member, who represents Sharjah, said the UAE's strict laws must be upheld to protect the marine environment and tourism. "Illegal oil discharge and tank cleaning should be monitored better using more advanced satellites and a tank disposal or discharging reporting system that helps identify the violators," he said. "Oil spills can also damage coral reefs and pollute our drinking water that is generated from the desalination plants in the area."

His call for action came about a week after oil washed up along the coast of Khor Fakkan in Sharjah. Black sludge was seen along a three-kilometre stretch between Luluyah and Zubara public beaches. Though it is illegal, vessels often clean their tanks by flushing any residue into international waters that inevitably washes ashore. The National / [Read more](#)

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

July 13 – Please click on the links below to read the latest News Reports from NOAA OR&R

### [OR&R's Emergency Response Division at Dispersant Monitoring Exercise in Hawaii](#)

On July 1, OR&R's Emergency Response Division participated in a State of Hawaii sponsored dispersant monitoring exercise held in Oahu.

### [Marine Debris Program Signs Five-Year Agreement with the National Park Service](#)

In June, the NOAA Marine Debris Program and the National Park Service (NPS) finalized a five-year agreement to support the development and installation of outreach and educational displays or exhibits in coastal National Parks.

### [Virtual Education about Marine Debris and Turtles](#)

This summer, the University of North Carolina Wilmington (UNCW) [MarineQuest\(link is external\)](#), with the support of a [NOAA Marine Debris Prevention Grant](#), is providing fun, virtual lessons about the impacts of marine debris on turtles for the young or young at heart through their program, [Turtle Trash Collectors\(link is external\)](#).

### [Disaster Preparedness Program Holds First Incident Management Team 101 Training for National Ocean Service](#)

After months of preparation, NOAA's Disaster Preparedness Program (DPP) held their first-ever National Ocean Service (NOS) Incident Management Team (IMT) 101 Training on Wednesday, July 8.

### [OR&R Lecture Series: Dr. Paul Panetta, Chief Scientist for OHMSETT](#)

One of the most efficient methods for removing an oil slick from the surface of the water (and one of the most exciting) is by burning it in place or "in-situ burning". It is a technique that is difficult to master and still holds many challenges for researchers.

### [Second Virtual Hurricane Preparedness Summit](#)

On June 29, the [Disaster Preparedness Program \(DPP\)](#) and the University of New Hampshire's [Coastal Response Research Center \(CRRC\) \(link is external\)](#) hosted their second virtual Hurricane Preparedness Summit for the [National Ocean Service, \(NOS\)](#) in preparation for the 2020 hurricane season.

### [Disaster Preparedness Program Develops New Situational Reporting Form](#)

In preparation for peak hurricane season, the [Disaster Preparedness Program \(DPP\)](#) has launched a new Situational Report ("SitRep") tool to support the National Ocean Service's (NOS) incident management activities.

### [Multilingual Educational Videos on Marine Debris in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands Now Available Online](#)

In June, the NOAA Marine Debris Program (MDP) added multilingual educational videos on marine debris in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI) to the MDP's multimedia resources online.

### [Marine Debris Program Co-Hosts California Ocean Litter Strategy Webinar](#)

On June 24- 25, the Marine Debris Program along with the California Ocean Protection Council, hosted the bi-annual California Ocean Litter Strategy (OLS) Workshop.

## USA: STUDY: GAS HYDRATE PLUG MAY HAVE LED TO DEEPWATER HORIZON BLOWOUT

July 5 - Years of investigations and legal proceedings found many reasons for the accident, including that the crew itself had missed critical information which, had they noticed in time, would have allowed them to address the problem before it exploded.

But a new analysis of data from the drilling platform paints a very different picture of what has previously been found, said Dag Vavik, a Norwegian engineer with 30 years in the industry. Vavik recently defended his PhD on the accident at the Norwegian University of Science and Technology.



## NEWS REPORTS FROM AROUND THE WORLD (CONTINUED)

"In previous investigation reports... we have been told how the drilling crew failed to observe that the well was flowing during the last 20 minutes before the explosion," Vavik said. "However, real time data and witnesses from the Deepwater Horizon tell a different story."

His experience made him question an industry practice recommended in 2001 for separating natural gas from drilling mud. Vavik felt the recommendation could result in an uncontrolled release of mud and gas onto the rig.

The Deepwater Horizon's mud gas separator system was based on this recommendation. The problem was that the system was designed to allow gas and mud to return from the well by being routed directly to the mud gas separator without any restrictions, Vavik said. The Maritime Executive / [Continue reading this article](#) [Thanks to Dan Sheehan Hon.FISCO]

### USA: MICHIGAN WANTS ENBRIDGE TO PLEDGE FUNDS IN CASE OF OIL SPILL

July 18 - Michigan sought a pledge Friday from Enbridge Inc. to cover costs that would arise if oil were to leak from its dual pipelines that extend across a channel linking two of the Great Lakes. Department of Natural Resources Director Dan Eichinger asked the Canadian pipeline company to carry \$900 million of liability insurance and set aside about \$1.88 billion in additional assets for use as needed in the event of a catastrophic spill. News Watch / [Read more](#)

### VIỆT NAM URGES HOUTHİ REBELS TO COOPERATE WITH UN IN OIL TANKER ISSUE

July 17 - Ambassador Đặng Đình Quý, head of the Vietnamese Permanent Mission to the United Nations (UN), has called on relevant parties, especially Houthi rebels, to create favourable conditions for UN experts to address the issue related to an oil tanker off Yemen waters to avert an environmental catastrophe. Eleven Myanmar / [Read more](#)

### YEMEN: HOUTHİS ALLOW UN MISSION TO ACCESS TANKER SAFER TO AVOID OIL SPILL – SPOKESMAN

July 13 - The rebel Houthi movement has given the United Nations access to the decaying tanker Safer, moored off Yemen's coast, to take measures to avoid a catastrophic oil spill in the Red Sea, UN spokesperson Stephane Dujarric said in a press briefing on Monday. "I can confirm that the local de-facto authorities in Yemen have officially communicated to the United Nations their approval for a UN-led technical assessment and repair mission onboard the Safer oil tanker on the coast of Ras Issa," Dujarric told reporters.

The United Nations is now working to ensure that the mission can be deployed to the site as soon as possible and undertake initial repairs of the ship, followed by providing advice about further actions needed to mitigate risks to environment and international maritime traffic in the region, Dujarric said. Urdu Point / [Read more](#) Related Report in [Xinhuanet News](#)

## PEOPLE IN THE NEWS

### LINDSAY MALEN-HABİB TAKES THE HELM AT AMERICAN SALVAGE ASSOCIATION



July 13 - The executive committee of the American Salvage Association (ASA) announced Monday that Ms. Lindsay Malen-Habib is taking on the role of ASA president, effective immediately. Lindsay has been an active ASA member for over 10 years, most recently serving as its secretary-treasurer and vice president.

Lindsay Malen-Habib comes from a family maritime background with a focus on the salvage sector. She is the manager of client services for Fort Lauderdale-based Resolve Marine Group, and she has more than 15 years' experience in maritime emergency response, salvage, business development, compliance and corporate communications. She represented the former TITAN Salvage as director of business development for five years, including the period of the Costa Concordia project - the largest salvage contract to date. The Maritime Executive / [Read more](#)

## NEWS FROM ISCO MEMBERS

### INTERTANKO US OFFICE - CHANGE OF ADDRESS

July 10 - INTERTANKO's US Office has moved from Suite 200 to Suite 500 in the same building, situated at 801 North Quincy Street in Arlington, Virginia.

The new address is: INTERTANKO, 801 North Quincy Street, Suite 500, Arlington, VA 22203

### OSRL REMAINS READY TO RESPOND

July 17 - This week OSRL carried out a field deployment to test our Shoreline Response COVID-19 protocols. This included working on site, transport to site, site set up, deployment of equipment and equipment rehabilitation. The exercise was delivered with no safety incidents and some good learnings that will be fed-back into our plans. Early lessons identified include:

- Proximity sensors, whilst useful in some circumstances, became a distraction at times during deployment
- Safety and practical considerations meant that wearing a well-fitted face mask and working within 2m of colleagues was preferable to maintaining a 2m distance at all times
- Where a face covering rather than a face mask was required, a snood-type alternative, as used in many UKCS passenger helicopters, was a better option and reduced, but did not eliminate, fogging of glasses
- OSRL's COVID procedures require the use of Nitrile gloves to reduce the spread of infection, however typical activities also require the use of impact and abrasion resistant gloves to protect against hand and finger injury during deployments. Guidance should be updated on the best combination of hand protection to mitigate both risks

Although there were no new Country Response Plans published this week, OSRL has updated information for 13 of our existing plans; Egypt, Singapore, Japan, Sakhalin, Senegal, Gabon, Suriname, Guyana, Colombia, Panama, Argentina, Brunei, The Philippines. There are a total of 55 plans live, with 5 translated into their native language. All of our country plans are available [here](#)

This week we have published the latest in our updated Field Guide series; adding a COVID-19 Appendix to our Waste Management Field Guide, which can be found [here](#).

### UPDATE FROM PENSTOCK SOLUTIONS

We took the opportunity during our brief downtime to update the content on our website, to bring it inline with our evolving water pollution containment products and services. We have updated our water pollution risk assessment service - [Spill Modelling](#), our automated pollution containment device, the [ToggleBlok](#) and created new pages that talk about the [Drainage Assessment and Maintenance](#), [Penstock Servicing](#) and [CIRIA c736 consultancy](#) services that we provide.

We are also back to posting weekly on our [water pollution prevention blog](#). If you haven't checked it out recently you have missed [several news pieces](#) and explainer videos on the [control panel](#), [float switch](#) and [flood alarm activation](#).

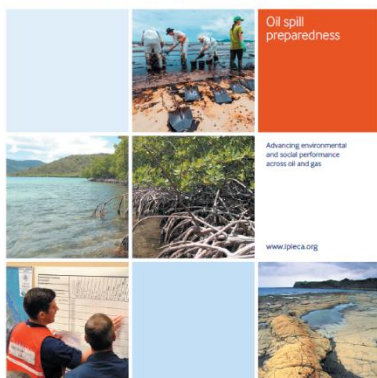
## TECHNICAL SUPPORT

### NEW OIL SPILL PREPAREDNESS AND RESPONSE PUBLICATION FROM IOGP AND IPIECA



#### Shoreline response programme guidance

A technical support document to accompany the IPIECA-IOGP guidance on oiled shoreline assessment and shoreline clean-up techniques



July 20 - IOGP and IPIECA are today releasing a new oil spill preparedness and response publication on Monday 20th July.

IPIECA and IOGP are proud to launch the Shoreline Response Programme Guide. This Technical Support Document builds on the existing Good Practice Guides to Oiled Shoreline Assessment (SCAT) surveys and Shoreline Clean-up (IOGP-IPIECA 2014, 2015). This technical support document describes how to manage all the required onshore activities when dealing with an oil spill, such as carrying out oiled shoreline assessment surveys, technical-decision making related to spill treatment options, incident monitoring, post treatment inspection and stakeholder engagement.

Drawing on a wealth of experience responding to incidents worldwide, the guide helps all parties potentially involved to plan, prepare and be ready to implement a shoreline response programme scalable to any incident and to suitably manage the complex issues involved.

This publication builds on the Oiled shoreline assessment (SCAT) surveys and Shoreline clean-up techniques good practice guides which set out the broad principles and processes of conducting surveys of and responses to oiled or potentially oiled shorelines.

The guidance is for the oil and gas industry and the wider stakeholder community involved in multi-agency oil spill preparedness and response. Planners and responders can implement this methodology into established Incident Command System or Incident Management System models of oil spill management. [Download the new Shoreline Response Programme Guide](#)



## CASE HISTORY

Editor: It's been quite a while since any of our readers has sent me a case history and, in the hope that it may inspire others to put pen to paper, I am reprinting an old – but interesting – record of a real response to a spill that happened many years ago.

# ANATOMY OF AN OIL SPILL – A CASE HISTORY OF AN ONSHORE HEAVY FUEL OIL SPILL IN THE HIGHLANDS OF SCOTLAND

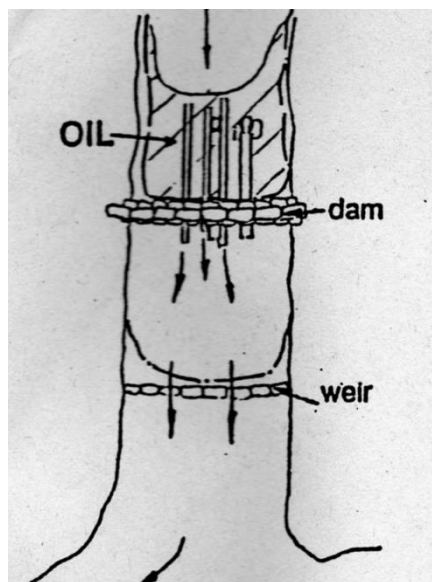
Based on an actual spill event, this case history was originally published in the Oil Spill Bulletin and Environmental Review (OSBER), a monthly journal published by Alba International Ltd., based in Aberdeen, Scotland. It was reprinted in the ISCO Newsletter during June 2012. One ISCO member, Brian O'Connor, of the Canberra and Regions Oil Industry Response Group in Australia found the article so useful that he had it reprinted as a booklet for training purposes.

The response action was a complete success, preventing the pollution of one of Scotland's greatest fishing rivers. A key feature of the response was the construction of a large interceptor dam which provided a 100% effective failsafe barrier for an extended time during which heavily overgrown watercourses were cleaned, removing all traces of fuel and oiled vegetation.

Another interesting point was a successful co-operation between the experienced Alba team and several employees of the affected industrial premises during an extended and labour intensive clean-up operation. When the clean-up operations were completed, a splendid Ceilidh (celebration) was held at the local inn. With fiddle and accordion music everyone had a great time and many drinks were consumed. This was a spill response looked back on with good memories for everyone involved.

## THE STORY AS IT HAPPENED - PART 2

The story so far - A leak of heavy oil from an industrial plant in the Scottish Highlands has resulted in pollution of a local burn, a larger stream / minor river and the main river into which it runs. A pollution response company has been called out and the spill has been contained both at source and where the stream flows into the river. The next phases, RECOVERY and CLEAN-UP are about to begin.



*In this sketch, the underpass dam illustrated is a pipeline underpass rather than a bridge type underpass dam, but the principle of operation is the same.*

### Monday – 0630

Patches of thick black oil are now piling up steadily behind the underpass dam near the point where the stream flows into the river. Personnel from the pollution control company are setting up oil recovery equipment<sup>4</sup> on the bank of the stream, ready to recover oil into the vacuum tanker. Senior members of the team are carrying out an inspection of the small burn, the larger watercourse and the river. It is no longer raining.

<sup>4</sup> *In the initial phase of recovery when there is a lot of oil to pick up it would be practical to suck off the oil directly into the vacuum tanker using a floating suction head on the hose. One disadvantage is that quite a lot of water will be collected with the oil.*

### 10.00

The preliminary inspection has discovered extensive oiling along the burn and minor river, although vagaries in the current have also left many sections of the banks uncontaminated. Fortunately, the rise in water levels due to the rainfall have not resulted either in a heavy "tide mark" or much spreading out of the oil where the banks are low. Along the main river, there is some oiling of the banks on the village side, but due to the currents no pollution at all has

been found on the opposite shore. However, as the river is relatively low at this time of year, there are areas exposed of boulders and stones and some oil has fetched up where the water runs through these. A narrower section of river at the end of the village seems to mark the limits of oiling, with only isolated patches noted in waterside vegetation, and one accumulation discovered in an eddy under a small cliff further downstream.

### 10.30

The vacuum tanker is now full and leaves to deliver its load to a waste oil reprocessing company. Because a considerable volume of water was recovered with the oil, the contents of the tanker have been "cut" several times, by simply releasing the water layer beneath the oil inside the tanker back into the stream – above the dam. This allows the maximum amount of oil to be taken away.

While the tanker is away, recovery continues using the air compressor to operate a skimmer, with the recovered oil being passed into a portable tank on the bank<sup>5</sup>. This too is "cut" from time to time.

<sup>5</sup> *The skimmer must be of a type that can recover heavy oil. A small weir skimmer ("Dragonfly" or similar) can be used with a section of floating hose. A suitable pump would be an air-operated double-diaphragm type (Wilden or similar). By regulating the air supply to the pump, the height of the weir of the skimmer can be "tuned" to minimise the amount of water recovered with the oil. A suitable portable tank would be a 10 ton capacity Fastank or equivalent.*

## CASE HISTORY (CONTINUED)

Oil has also been collecting in the “mini” interceptor dam where the factory drain exits into the small burn. Here, the amount of oil is not large and can be manually scooped into open top drums.

The clean-up operation has also started by now, with the primary objective of tackling the banks of the main river. Booms are set out extending from the bank to approximately mid-stream to catch some of any oil dislodged during bank cleaning, and help to channel it back towards the shore. However, because of the heavy nature of the oil and the speed of the current, these measures can only be partially successful. Therefore booms will be set out at several locations in the smoothest sections of water found. Cleaning up is carried out manually – No dispersants or other chemicals are used. Oiled vegetation on the bank is slashed down and bagged; oily gravel and small stones are dug out and bagged – oil on larger rocks is cleaned off as much as possible with sorbent sheets. Patches of oil or emulsion are similarly mopped up. Progress is slow, but painstaking.

### 11.30

The oil pollution in the stream above the dam, and its tributary, the small burn that runs past the factory, has not been neglected. Although no more pollution can escape past the underpass dam, there is always the danger that heavy rain will raise the level in the watercourses and spread the oil further up and down the banks, or even cause a spate that could threaten the dam and weir. Accordingly, the sooner the clean-up is completed the better. Since any oil released will be contained downstream, the cleaning process is commenced at the uppermost point of the polluted part of the watercourse and progress downstream to the dam location.

Two cleaning teams work in tandem – one removing oiled vegetation<sup>6</sup>, the other equipped with a portable low pressure washing pump<sup>7</sup> in order to flush as much oil as possible from the banks and from between rocks and tree roots.

<sup>6</sup> For clearing oiled vegetation from heavily overgrown watercourses a variety of hand tools are needed – small bushman saws, machetes, sickles, pruning shears – plus a plentiful supply of large heavy-duty plastic bags for bagging up oiled materials.

<sup>7</sup> A lightweight petrol (gasoline) engined centrifugal pump can be used and can be carried on a lightweight frame (like a hospital stretcher). A four-person washing team is recommended – two carrying the pump, one looking after the suction hose (fitted with a bottom strainer) and the fourth directing the delivery hose (fitted with a fire nozzle).

### 2030

The team working on the main river have reached a point slightly past a foot bridge. There are oil stains still on many of the stones, and it is likely that a few pockets of oil are lying out of sight here and there, but generally the banks now appear clean.

The teams working on the small burn below the factory have reached the larger watercourse and covered a couple of hundred yards downstream

The oil skimming team at the dam site are doing well but small twigs and leaves need to be constantly cleared away from the skimmer's weir in order to maintain a good rate of oil recovery.

### 2130

It is now getting dark and, as the pollution is well contained, a decision is taken to stop work until the next day.

In case there is rain during the night and a rise in water level, it is decided to maintain a night watch at the dam site. This decision meets with the full approval of the local midge population who have turned out in force during the evening. (Midges are small biting insects and will be familiar to anyone who has visited the Scottish Highlands).

TO BE CONCLUDED NEXT WEEK

## WEBINARS & ONLINE TRAINING

### OSRL: OIL SPILL RESPONSE TRAINING FROM ANYWHERE

[Remote IMS300 for Expanding Incidents](#)

10-13 August

This remote course will develop your preparedness in dealing with a large-scale incident as well as your tangible skills to manage an incident effectively and efficiently.

[Remote OPRC \(IMO Level 3 Equivalent\) Oil Spill Management Course](#)

4-6 August

This remote course provides insights on the complexities that can be encountered in an oil spill incident and the relevant tools to overcome these.

[Remote On Scene Commander Level 2](#)

24-27 August

Designed for remote delivery, this popular course is based on the MCA level 4 (IMO2) On-Scene Commander's Course/ It covers both the strategic and tactical elements of oil spill response.

## WEBINARS & ONLINE TRAINING (CONTINUED)

### [Remote OPRC \(IMO Equivalent\) Refresher](#)

**20-21 August**

Refresh and develop your operational, tactical and strategic skills in spill response management, allowing you to make effective and efficient decisions.

### [Remote UKCS Responder Refresher \(OPEP 3/4\)](#)

**26-27 August**

If you are a Duty Onshore Responder responsible for along with a response to offshore oil spills, this course will refresh your knowledge of oil spill response requirements within UKCS.

We now have more Spanish-language remote training available to Members:

- [Remote IMS300 for Expanding Incidents \(Spanish\)](#)
- [Remote OPRC \(IMO Equivalent\) Refresher \(Spanish\)](#)

Visit [our website](#) for more remote training course offerings.

We would also draw your attention to another in popular webinar series:

- Are You Ready? A Best Practice Guide to Organising, Storing and Maintaining Your Tier 1 Oil Spill Response Equipment (in both [Spanish](#) and [English](#)) - 28 | 30 July. Visit our [events page](#) for these webinars.

## SAFETY BRIEFING

### SAFE TRANSFER OF DANGEROUS LIQUIDS



Without the correct training and equipment, the transfer of hazardous chemicals is potentially dangerous. Here we examine these hazards when it comes to flammable and combustible liquids and what practices can make this operation safe.

Every day industrial workers transfer potentially hazardous chemicals, such as solvents, acetones, lubricants, cleansers, and acids, from large drums into smaller containers, or into machinery. Traditionally, such potentially flammable or combustible liquids have been tipped and poured. Today, such spill-prone, VOC emitting methods are no longer considered acceptable, safe, or compliant as a fire or explosion can result.

Younger workers, having seen the resulting physical injuries, chronic respiratory ailments, and even deaths endured by parents, grandparents and friends want much safer working conditions. Consequently, there is now a call for greater safety and regulatory oversight to protect vulnerable workers and their families as simply and efficiently as possible.

Recommended reading – This article highlights many of the risks involved in transfer of hazardous chemicals and how they can be avoided. [Read more](#)

## 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.



## 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			
ONLINE	July 27-31	<a href="#">SPE International Conference and Exhibition on HSE &amp; Sustainability</a>	Internet
USA	August 3-5	<a href="#">Clean Waterways Conference &amp; Exhibition</a>	Indianapolis, IN.
USA	August 17-20	<a href="#">Science of Chemical Releases (SOCR)</a>	Seattle/Online TBA
ESTONIA	August 25-27	<a href="#">BALEX DELTA 2020 pollution response exercise</a>	Talinn
USA	Sept. 8-11	<a href="#">Oil Spill Response Strategies &amp; Tactics Training</a>	Leonardo, NJ
ONLINE	Sept. 15-17	<a href="#">Ecoforum Conference &amp; Exhibition (Virtual)</a>	Internet
INDIA	<b>POSTPONED</b>	<a href="#">Oil Spill Conference &amp; Exhibition</a>	Mumbai
ICELAND	Sept. 28-30	<a href="#">International Symposium on Plastics in the Arctic and Sub-Arctic Region</a>	Reykjavik
MALTA	October 6-7	<a href="#">Regional Meeting of National Experts on the Post-2021 Mediterranean Strategy for Prevention of and Response to Marine Pollution from Ships</a>	Valetta
UK	October 12-13	<a href="#">El Hazardous Area Classification</a>	London
UK	October 19-23	<a href="#">IMO Marine Environment Protection Committee</a>	London
USA	October 20-22	<a href="#">Clean Gulf Conference &amp; Exhibition</a>	San Antonio, TX
ONLINE	October 27-29	<a href="#">Arctic Shipping Forum North America</a>	Internet
MONACO	October 27-29	<a href="#">Regional Workshop to enhance Marine Oil and HNS regional cooperation in the Mediterranean (MEDEXPOL 2020)</a>	Monaco
UK	November 2 -	<a href="#">Meetings of the IOPC Funds' governing bodies</a>	London
NETHERLANDS	November 4-5	<a href="#">European Environmental Ports Conference 2020</a>	Rotterdam
UK	December 2-3	<a href="#">Salvage &amp; Wreck Removal Conference</a>	London
BAHREIN	December 7-8	<a href="#">El Middle East HSE Forum</a>	Bahrein
COUNTRY	2021	TITLE OF EVENT	LOCATION
FRANCE	March 23	<a href="#">CEDRE Information Day on Containers</a>	Paris
USA	May 10-13	<a href="#">International Oil Spill Conference (IOSC 2021)</a>	New Orleans, LA
MALTA	May 25-27	<a href="#">Fourteenth Meeting of the Focal Points of the Regional Marine Pollution Emergency Response Centre for the Mediterranean Sea (REMPEC)</a>	Valetta
CANADA	June 8-10	<a href="#">43rd AMOP Technical Seminar on Environmental Contamination and Response</a>	Edmonton, Alberta
USA	June 28-30	<a href="#">Clean Pacific Conference &amp; Exhibition</a>	Seattle, WA
USA	September 7-10	<a href="#">Hazmat Emergency Response Workshop</a>	Sacramento, CA
COUNTRY	2022	TITLE OF EVENT	LOCATION
NETHERLANDS	Details TBA	<a href="#">Interspill Conference &amp; Exhibition</a>	Amsterdam

## MESSAGES FROM EVENT ORGANISERS

### INDIA: OIL SPILL INDIA 2020 CONFERENCE & EXHIBITION IS POSTPONED

We have made the decision to postpone Oil Spill India, original due to stage on 23-24 September 2020, until the second half of 2021, with new dates to be confirmed, subject to formal venue confirmation.

A full statement will be published in the next ISCO Newsletter.

## LINKS FOR DOWNLOADING & READING OTHER PUBLICATIONS

<a href="#">ALGA Cronicle</a>	News from Australasia on Contaminated Land Remediation	April 2020
<a href="#">AMSA Update</a>	Latest News from the Australian Maritime Safety Authority	Current issue
<a href="#">ATRAC Newsletter</a>	News from the Adriatic Training and Research Centre	December 2019
<a href="#">AUSMEPA Bulletin</a>	News from the Australian Marine Environment Protection Assoc'n	Summer 2020
<a href="#">BIMCO Bulletin</a>	Marine and shipping-related news from BIMCO	June 2020
<a href="#">Newsletter from George Holliday</a>	News and commentary on HSE issues from George Holliday	On request email
<a href="#">Cedre Newsletter</a>	News from Cedre in Brittany, France	May 2020
<a href="#">Clean Nigeria Associates Newsletter</a>	News from CNA about Oil Spill Response in Nigeria	Publication paused
<a href="#">EMSA Newsletter</a>	News from the European Maritime Safety Agency	Current issue
<a href="#">Environmental Expert</a>	Environmental News from Environmental Expert	Current issue
<a href="#">GEF Newsletter</a>	Monthly Newsletter from the Global Environment Facility	Subscription
<a href="#">GESAMP</a>	Group of Experts on the Scientific Aspects of Marine Environmental Protection	Latest news
<a href="#">GISEA Quarterly Newsletter</a>	News from Global Initiative for South-East Asia	Q2 2020
<a href="#">IMO News Magazine</a>	News from the International Maritime Organization	Summer 2020
<a href="#">IMO Publishing Newsletter</a>	New and forthcoming IMO publications	June-July 2020
<a href="#">ITOPF Ocean Orbit</a>	News magazine from ITOPF with interesting spill response articles	October 2019
<a href="#">JOIFF "The Catalyst"</a>	Int'l Organisation for Industrial Hazard Management	Q2 2020 issue
<a href="#">Maritime Executive Magazine</a>	Often contains articles of interest to the spill response community	March–April 2020
<a href="#">MEDNEWS</a>	News from UNEP Mediterranean Action Programme	02 / 2020
<a href="#">MOIG Newsletter</a>	News from the Mediterranean Oil Industry Group	January 2020
<a href="#">NCEC Newsletter</a>	News from the National Chemical Emergency Centre	March 2020
<a href="#">Nautical Institute News</a>	News from the Nautical Institute	Jan.–Feb. 2020
<a href="#">Navigate Response</a>	Global crisis communications network for shipping & marine	June 2020
<a href="#">NOAA OR&amp;R</a>	Weekly round-up of news from NOAA's Office of Response & Restoration	Latest issue
<a href="#">Oceanbuzz</a>	Newsletter giving news on the Ocean Technology Industry	Current issue
<a href="#">OCIMF Newsletter</a>	News from the Oil Companies International Marine Forum	May 2020
<a href="#">OHMSETT Gazette</a>	Oil Spill Response Research & Renewable Energy Test Facility Quarterly	Spring 2020
<a href="#">OSPAR Newsletter</a>	Protecting & Conserving the N.E. Atlantic and its resources	End of year 2019
<a href="#">PEMSEA Newsletter</a>	Healthy oceans, people and economies in the East Asian Seas	March 2020
<a href="#">Pollution Online Newsletter</a>	News for pollution prevention & control professionals	Current issue
<a href="#">Safe Seas, Clean Seas</a>	Quarterly Newsletter from Maritime New Zealand	July 2018 issue
<a href="#">Salvage World</a>	Quarterly Newsletter of the International Salvage Union	Current issue
<a href="#">Sea Alarm Foundation Newsletter</a>	Oiled wildlife Preparedness and Response news from Sea Alarm	Current issue
<a href="#">Technology Innovation News Survey</a>	News from US EPA – Contaminated Site Decontamination	May 16-31, 2020
<a href="#">USA EPA Tech Direct</a>	Remediation of contaminated soil and groundwater	July 1, 2020
<a href="#">WestMOPoCo</a>	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

### RUSSIA: ANOTHER OIL SPILL ON TAYMYR TUNDRA

July 12 - The emergency situation appeared in the village of Tukhar when a pipeline ruptured and about 44,5 tons of fuel leaked into the ground. The village is located near the Bolshaya Kheta, a side river to the great Yenisey. According to Norilsktransgaz, a subsidiary of mining and metals company Nor Nickel, the leak took place on the 12th July and lasted only 15 minutes. Emergency services were quickly on site and managed to halt the spill. There is no health hazards for locals in the area, the company informs. The Barents Observer / [Read more](#) Related Report in [Republic World](#)

### UAE: OIL SLICK CONTROLLED SUCCESSFULLY IN SHARJAH'S KHORFAKKAN BEACHES

July 12 - The Environment and Protected Areas Authority (EPAA) in Sharjah, along with the supporting authorities, managed to contain and control the oil slick that recently reached the Al Lu'lu'eya and Al-Zubarah beaches in Khorfakkan. The slick is considered of the light crude, but it causes serious environmental damage and affects the marine biological system.

Being an oil pollution, the emergency and crisis team, led by the EPAA, dealt with the incident efficiently in cooperation with the supporting bodies including the Sharjah Police, Municipality of Khorfakkan, Municipal Council of Khorfakkan, Coast Guard and Bee'ah. They were able together to control that kind of oil spill.

Gulf Today / [Read more and watch video](#)

### USA: NAVY: PROGRESS ON WARSHIP FIRE, BUT SHIP'S FATE UNCERTAIN

July 14 - Marking significant progress, firefighters were able to move deeper inside the fire-engulfed USS Bonhomme Richard on Tuesday on their third day of battling the flames. But a top Navy official said it was too soon to say if the 23-year-old ship that is burning on opposite ends will be salvageable. In other good signs of progress, the fire had moved away from the one million gallons (3.8 million liters) of fuel on board, easing the risk of an explosion or spill, though the military was still taking precautions if either worst-case scenario should occur, he said. The Washington Post / [Read more](#) Related Reports in [WCAX3](#) and [The Maritime Executive](#)

### INDONESIA: NAVY ASSAULT SHIP SANK IN JAVA SEA

July 14 - Indonesian Navy Medium Landing Ship (LSM) KRI TELUK JAKARTA-541 sank in Java sea northeast of Kangean island, eastern Java, in the morning Jul 14. The ship was caught in rough weather while on logistics duty, understood bow ramp integrity was compromised with ensuing water ingress. All 55 people on board were rescued. Maritime Bulletin / [Read more](#)

### CANADA: ONTARIO - POSSIBLE CHEMICAL SPILL IN TALFOURD CREEK

July 14 - Shell Canada is continuing to investigate a possible chemical spill at the Shell Manufacturing Centre in Corunna. The company reported the sheen was contained and vacuum trucks were deployed to remove it from the water. Blackburn News / [Read more](#)

### EGYPT: RUPTURED PIPELINE IN EGYPT CAUSES MASSIVE BLAZE

July 14 - A ruptured crude oil pipeline set off a monstrous blaze on a desert highway in Egypt on Tuesday, injuring at least 17 people, local authorities said. For hours firefighters battled to contain the towering pillars of fire, which burned dozens of cars. Video circulating on social media showed clouds of dense, black smoke billowing over the desert road that stretches from the capital, Cairo, to the city of Ismailia, on the Suez Canal. Associated Press / [Read more](#)

### USA: WASHINGTON - UP TO 100 GALLONS OF TURBINE OIL SPILLED INTO COLUMBIA RIVER FROM FAULTY BONNEVILLE DAM TURBINE

July 16 - Up to 100 gallons of turbine oil spilled from the Bonneville Dam into the Columbia River over the last week, according to an environmental advocacy group. Oregon Live / [Read more](#)

### SOUTH AFRICA: MSC CONTAINER SHIP LOST CONTAINERS IN ROUGH WEATHER

July 17 - According to SAMSA South African Maritime Safety report, container ship MSC PALAK lost up to 23 containers overboard at night Jul 14 while being anchored at Algoa Bay, Port Elizabeth area, South Africa. Container ship left port of Ngqura on Jul 13, but anchored to wait out storm, which bashed the region on Jul 13-14. Local fishermen later reported floating containers in the area. Maritime Bulletin / [Read more](#) Related Report in [The Maritime Executive](#)

### NIGERIA: TANKER ATTACKED, 15 CREW KIDNAPPED, GULF OF GUINEA

July 18 - Chemical tanker CURACAO TRADER was attacked at around 1100 UTC Jul 17 in Gulf of Guinea, 230 nm south of Lagos, Nigeria, while en route from Lome Togo to undefined port. Pirates boarded tanker and kidnapped 15 crew, according to Dryad/IMB report. They're believed to be of Russian and Ukrainian nationalities.

Update: 13 out of its 19 Ukrainian and Russian crew members have been taken hostage by the pirates – as a result the ship is currently drifting with limited man power on board. Immediate assistance has been secured from nearby refrigerated carrier MV Frio Chikuma, owned by Laskaridis Family interests, which is currently proceeding full speed towards the Curacao Maritime Bulletin / [Read more](#)

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