

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 BANNER BELOW FOR MORE INFORMATION

CLEAN EVENTS PRESENTS:
2020 Industry Summit
RESPONSE IN A PANDEMIC
November 17, 2020 | Houston, TX

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COMPENSATION FOR OIL POLLUTION RESULTING FROM FSO INCIDENTS

With current fears involving the risk of very large oil pollution events resulting from floating storage and offloading vessels (FSOs), the widespread use of tankers as FSOs is a matter of which we should be aware.

With an operation to offload oil from the FSO Nabarima apparently under way, this particular risk in the Caribbean may be receding. As for the FSO Safer in the area of the Red Sea, ongoing risks of explosion and oil spillage continue despite international efforts.

It appears that if an FSO cannot be defined as a ship, compensation under the IOPC Funds CLC and 1992 Fund Protocols is not available. An FSO cannot be classed as a ship unless it is undertaking a voyage.

With high level liabilities and the very substantial clean-up costs involved in the event of a major spill, the implications of non-availability of compensation will have very serious consequences for all parties involved.

To better understand the problem, readers should refer to https://www.iopcfunds.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/04/IOPC_definition_of_ship_ENGLISH_web.pdf

ISCO is highlighting a limitation within the international regime for oil pollution prevention and recommends that this is worthy of our attention.



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INTERNATIONAL NEWS (CONTINUED)

DIGITAL HUB DESIGNED TO PROTECT CORAL REEFS SHORTLISTED FOR GLOBAL AWARD



A new digital platform to help dive professionals protect fragile coral reefs has been shortlisted as a finalist in [the 2020 Con X Tech Prize](#), an award that provides seed funding to innovative conservation projects.

The Green Fins Global Hub by [The Reef-World Foundation](#), which is being developed in partnership with the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), was shortlisted for what organizers called its potentially transformative approach to conserve biodiversity and ending human-induced species extinctions.

Once up and running, the hub aims to provide more than 30,000 dive and snorkel operators across 100 countries with practical information on how to reduce the impact that tourism has on coral reefs. Among other things, it will showcase low-cost alternatives to harmful practices, like anchoring and fish feeding, while helping operators limit chemical pollution. UNEP / [Read more](#)

ENVIRONMENTAL RISK POSED BY VENEZUELAN OIL TANKER HIGHLIGHTS IMPORTANCE OF TRANSPARENCY AND PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

The unrelenting public campaign around the troubled FSO Nabarima over the past few months has underlined two critical features of Trinidad and Tobago's sustainability journey. First of all, the power that activist groups and citizens have in the palm of their hands, through social media and other digital platforms, is immense and far-reaching. Secondly, keeping information under wraps, to be dispensed intermittently, is not the way that 21st-century governments pursuing a sustainable development agenda ought to interact with their public.

The massive public outcry and push for government action is something that also seems familiar today and feeds into the growing sense of social justice towards more participatory democracies. From #BLM to #EndSARS, people are not settling for one-sided information channels. As people become less satisfied with the information in the public domain, the barriers preventing them from collecting and communicating their own information get lower and lower each day.

A lack of information from the halls of government does nothing except undermine the good work that the government has actually undertaken around the Nabarima situation. The Ministry of Foreign and Caribbean Community (CARICOM) Affairs' diplomatic initiatives with the Venezuelan government and other interested jurisdictions have recently come to light, with the minister revealing that several diplomatic notes and other interventions were part of a process that started in August. Most noteworthy was his recognition of the importance of the civil society public pressure on the government's continued action. It was also clear that the Ministry of Energy and Energy Industries (MEEI) and other key state agencies responsible for environmental management had been hard at work applying good science to oil-spill modelling and other mitigation activities, behind the scenes. Global Voices / [Read more](#)

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INTERNATIONAL NEWS (CONTINUED)

MEDEXPOL 2020 – ENHANCING COOPERATION IN THE MEDITERRANEAN

Report from IOPC Funds - Claims Manager, Chiara Della Mea, participated in a webinar to enhance regional cooperation in responding to marine oil and HNS pollution in the Mediterranean, held on 27-28 October 2020, via an e-conferencing platform with remote simultaneous interpretation.



**Mediterranean
Marine Oil & HNS
Pollution
Cooperation**

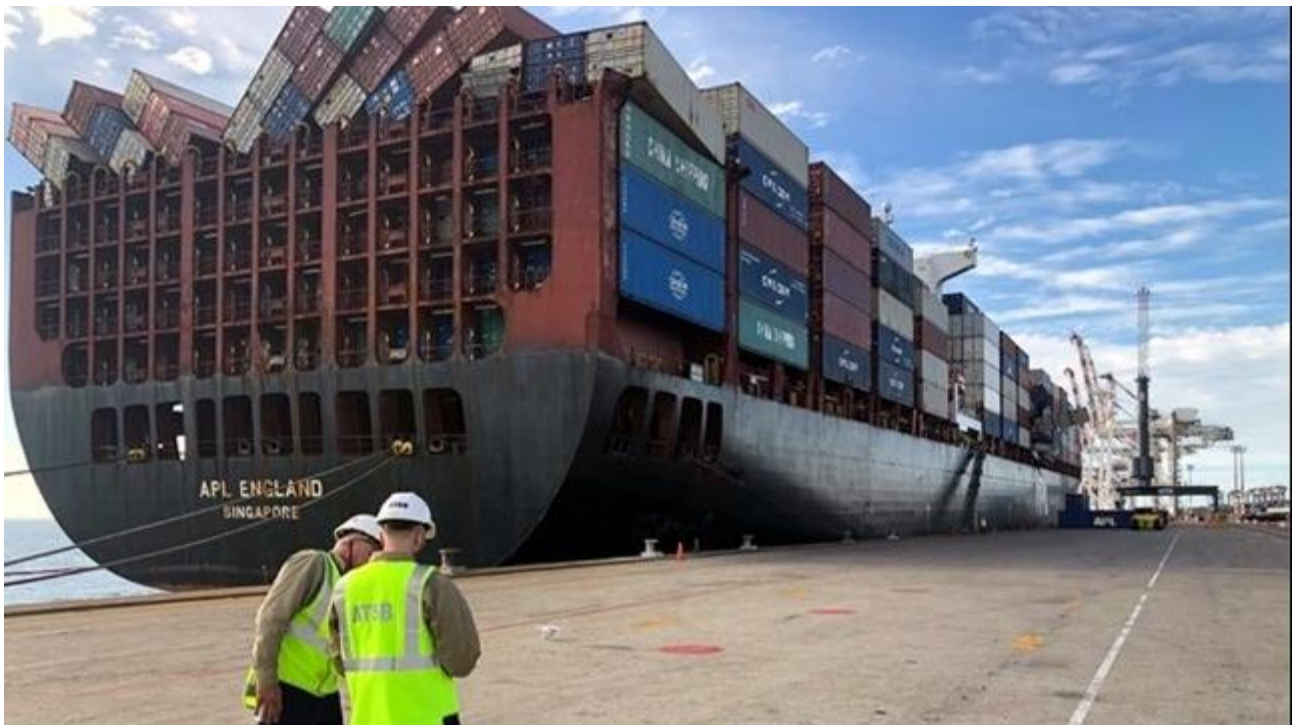
The webinar was organised by the Regional Marine Pollution Emergency Response Centre for the Mediterranean Sea (REMPEC), in close co-operation with the Secrétariat Général de la Mer (SGMer, France), in the framework of the Western Mediterranean Region Marine Oil and HNS Pollution Cooperation (West MOPoCo) Project, co-financed by the European Union under the Union Civil Protection Mechanism (UCPM).

The workshop was attended by over 70 representatives of the Mediterranean States, as well as governmental and non-governmental organisations. It provided the participants with an overview of the national progress by States in developing tools related to preparedness and response to oil and HNS spills as well as opportunities to enlarge the cooperation between parties to existing sub-regional contingency plans.

IOPC Funds / [Source document](#)

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

AUSTRALIA: ATSB PRELIMINARY REPORT ON APL ENGLAND REVIEWS CONTAINER LOSS ISSUES



APL England docked in Brisbane undergoing inspection - photo courtesy of ATSA

October 28 - The Australian Transport Safety Bureau issued its preliminary report into the incident aboard the APL England, which resulted in the loss of containers overboard in Australian waters. While the first phase of the ongoing investigation reviewed the facts and the preliminary report does not include safety findings or analysis, it already highlights several of the concerns raised by the Australian authorities after their initial inspection of the vessel.

The APL England was sailing in Australian waters when it encountered high seas. The Singapore-flagged container ship reported to

the Australian Maritime Safety Authority at the time that it had briefly lost power resulting in the loss of containers. At first, 40 containers were reported lost overboard, but the number was later increased to 50, with another 63 damaged. Inspectors in Brisbane detained the ship for safety violations and the captain was later brought up on charges in Australia related to the environmental impact as the containers washed up along the coast. The Maritime Executive / [Read more about the Preliminary Report](#)

BRAZIL: IBAMA AND CNJ SIGN AN UNPRECEDENTED PARTNERSHIP TO DEVELOP ACTIONS AIMED AT PROTECTING THE ENVIRONMENT

October 20 - The Brazilian Institute of the Environment and Renewable Natural Resources (IBAMA) and the National Council of Justice (CNJ) signed, on Tuesday (20), an unprecedented Technical Cooperation Agreement (ACT) for the exchange of information and for the development of activities aimed at protecting the environment. The idea is to strengthen the union between the judiciary and executive in policies to preserve biodiversity, through a joint work between the municipality and the Justice System.

In practice, this term will serve to integrate the techniques of remote sensing and environmental monitoring with judicial investigations. In other words, the aim is to create an appropriate environment for technical support, in particular in the development of applications based on aerospace and documentary systems, which combat illegal environmental acts, thus taking into account the two parties involved. IBAMA / [Read more](#)

GREECE: HELMEPA CONGRATULATES ITS CORPORATE MEMBER INTERNATIONAL PROPELLER CLUB, PORT OF PIRAEUS FOR ITS ENVIRONMENTAL SENSITIVITY



October 26 - In an original and socially responsible way celebrated the Propeller Club on the 85th anniversary of its founding, symbolically cleaning the Votsalakia Coast, in Piraeus, yesterday Sunday, October 25th. More than 60 volunteers, led by President Kostis Frangoulis and Members of the Board of Governors, participated in the clean-up, meticulously observing the protection measures in place due to the pandemic. The waste they collected was many and various, but mostly disposable plastics!

GREECE: HELMEPA MEMBER COMPANIES ONLINE MEETING WITH USCG

October 30 - On Tuesday, October 27, 2020, an online meeting of representatives of HELMEPA Member Companies was held with Rear Admiral Richard Timme, Assistant Commander for Prevention Policy, US Coast Guard. This was another HELMEPA initiative as the pandemic could not hold the established annual Members' Meeting led by the US Coast Guard at their headquarters in Washington, DC. The Director General of HELMEPA, Mr. Dimitris Mitsatsos, welcomed RADM Timme, who in turn thanked HELMEPA for the invitation to address the managing members of the association and thereby maintain the important and long-term cooperation between the two organizations, even in these unprecedented circumstances. HELMEPA / [Read more](#)

MAURITIUS: REPTILE RESCUE MISSION AFTER DEVASTATING MAURITIUS OIL SPILL

October 29 - When an oil freighter ran aground within a few kilometres of Mauritian nature reserves, local conservationists rushed in to rescue three globally threatened lizard species found nowhere else. The reptiles were moved to a captive breeding programme that could provide a vital lifeline.

As an island nation, Mauritius is famed for its unusual and unique wildlife, which evolved independently over millions of years of isolation. As well as the intrinsic value of this wildlife, the tourism revenue generated by Mauritius' fascinating fauna is one of the principal sources of income for the country. Preserving genetic diversity, even within a single species, is extremely important in order to maintain healthy levels of variation and avoid inbreeding. Birdlife / [Read more and see photos](#)

USA: L.A.'S COAST WAS ONCE A DDT DUMPING GROUND.

October 25 - Not far from Santa Catalina Island, in an ocean shared by divers and fishermen, kelp forests and whales, David Valentine decoded unusual signals underwater that gave him chills.

The UC Santa Barbara scientist was supposed to be studying methane seeps that day, but with a deep-sea robot on loan and a few hours to spare, now was the chance to confirm an environmental abuse that others in the past could not. He was chasing a hunch, and sure enough, initial sonar scans pinged back a pattern of dots that popped up on the map like a trail of breadcrumbs.

The robot made its way 3,000 feet down to the bottom, beaming bright lights and a camera as it slowly skimmed the seafloor. At this depth and darkness, the uncharted topography felt as eerie as driving through a vast desert at night.

And that's when the barrels came into view. - Barrels filled with toxic chemicals banned decades ago.

Tales of this buried secret bubbling under the sea had haunted Valentine for years: a largely unknown chapter in the most infamous case of environmental destruction off the coast of Los Angeles — one lasting decades, costing tens of millions of dollars, frustrating generations of scientists. The fouling of the ocean was so reckless, some said, it seemed unimaginable.

As many as half a million of these barrels could still be underwater right now, according to interviews and a Times review of historical records, manifests and undigitized research. From 1947 to 1982, the nation's largest manufacturer of DDT — a pesticide so powerful that it poisoned birds and fish — was based in Los Angeles. LA Times / [Continue reading this horror report](#) [Thanks to Marc Shaye, Hon.FISCO, Member of ISCO Executive Committee]

USA: LATEST NEWS REPORTS FROM NOAA OR&R

October 26 – Please click on the links below to read the latest News Reports from NOAA OR&R

[OR&R Lecture Series: Dr. Quay Dortch Speaks on Harmful Algal Blooms \(HABS\)](#)

Did you know that harmful algal blooms (HABS) cost the U.S. economy millions of dollars each year and impact every coast in the U.S., including the Great Lakes? Last Thursday on the You Don't Know What You Don't Know lecture series, we were honored to have renowned scientist and HAB expert, Dr. Quay Dortch, join us.

[Annual Gulf of Mexico Marine Debris Meeting Goes Virtual](#)

On October 20-21, the [Gulf of Mexico Alliance's Marine Debris Cross Team Initiative](#)([link is external](#)) held its annual two-day meeting to bring together entities across the Gulf that currently address marine debris issues.

[\\$22.3 Million Settlement Finalized to Restore Natural Resources Injured by Refugio Beach Oil Spill](#)

On October 14, 2020 a [\\$22.3 million settlement was finalized](#) to restore natural resources injured by the 2015 [Refugio Beach oil spill](#) near Santa Barbara, California. The settlement will go toward resolving natural resource damage claims, restoring habitats and wildlife injured by oil, and compensating the public for lost recreational opportunities.

[Request for Proposals: Disaster Preparedness Program Second Annual Lagniappe Awards](#)

The Disaster Preparedness Program (DPP) is pleased to announce the second annual Lagniappe Awards request for proposals. The DPP has budgeted FY21 funds to continue to support preparedness across the National Ocean Service (NOS).

[Marine Debris Program Participates in Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation Forum Oceans and Fisheries Working Group Meeting](#)

On October 19, Marine Debris Program (MDP) staff served on the U.S. delegation to the Fifteenth Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) Oceans and Fisheries Working Group (OFWG) meeting.

[Marine Debris Program Participates in Pacific Islands Region Observer Program Training](#)

On October 15, the NOAA Marine Debris Program's (MDP) Chief Scientist, Amy V. Uhrin, provided a virtual presentation to the Pacific Islands Region Observer Program as part of their 6-month re-training meeting.

USA: COAST GUARD - VRP-ACP RELATIONSHIPS IN PACIFIC NORTHWEST REGION CHANGES TO AREA CONTINGENCY PLANNING CONSTRUCT

October 27 - This Bulletin serves to alert all vessel response plan (VRP) holders with vessels operating within the Oregon and Washington federal navigable waterways of structural changes to the area contingency planning construct and physical location of applicable Area Contingency Plans (ACPs).

The current NWACP will no longer function as the USCG coastal ACP for Sector Columbia River and Sector Puget Sound. Names and locations of relevant ACPs (inland and coastal) are detailed below. USCG Marine Safety Information Bulletin / [Read more](#)

USA: VIDEO: HURRICANE ZETA ROARS THROUGH LOUISIANA

October 28 - On Wednesday evening, Hurricane Zeta made landfall in the Mississippi River Delta as a Category 2 storm, passing west of Port Fourchon on its way to New Orleans. The storm arrived with sustained winds of 110 miles per hour in the fishing town of Cocodrie, then moved on a northeasterly course towards Louisiana's best-known city.

In anticipation of the storm's arrival, the Captain of the Port for Sector New Orleans shut down virtually all vessel movement within the port at 0200 hours on Wednesday. The closure covers segments of the Gulf Intracoastal Waterway and Lower Mississippi in the vicinity of New Orleans, along with the lower 45 miles of the Atchafalaya River.

As of Wednesday, about one third of all oil and gas production platforms in the U.S. Gulf of Mexico were shut in and evacuated due to the storm, according to the Bureau of Safety and Environmental Enforcement. The platforms closed down account for about two thirds of U.S. GoM oil production and about half of U.S. GoM gas production. In addition, three stationary rigs were evacuated and six DP rigs were moved off station as a precautionary measure. The Maritime Bulletin / [Read more](#)

OBITUARY

IMO SECRETARY-GENERAL EMERITUS MR. WILLIAM A. O'NEIL, REMEMBERED



Mr. William A. O'Neil, Secretary-General Emeritus of the International Maritime Organization (IMO), has died in the United Kingdom, aged 93.

IMO Secretary-General Kitack Lim expressed his sincere condolences to the Canadian Government, Mr. O'Neil's remaining family, and the condolences of the entire IMO membership and staff.

"It is with great sadness that we have learned of the passing of Mr. O'Neil, who was a great friend and mentor who made a huge personal contribution to securing globally applicable safety, security and environmental standards," Mr. Lim said. Mr. O'Neil was Secretary-General of IMO from 1990 to 2003.

"Mr. O'Neil was a truly great Secretary-General whose actions and initiatives had a great and lasting impact on the work of the Organization. I, personally, always valued his guidance and advice, as well as his friendship and leadership. Mr. O'Neil left a lasting legacy on the Organization. He was committed to the universality of IMO and oversaw a significant increase

in membership. He encouraged wide and effective participation in the Organization from all stakeholders in the maritime sector," Mr. Lim said.

"Above all, Mr. O'Neil was dedicated to enabling developing States to adopt and implement IMO instruments, through his active pursuance of new sources of extrabudgetary funding. And he worked tirelessly to strengthen the relevance and capacity of IMO's educational institutes, the World Maritime University and the IMO International Maritime Law Institute."

During Mr. O'Neil's tenure, the Organization adopted a number of new treaties and responded to global issues such as maritime security and piracy.

Mr. O'Neil personally acted to request the IMO membership address key safety issues, including the safety of bulk carriers and of large passenger ships. He established a team of experts to look into ro-ro safety, following the tragic sinking of the Estonia ro-ro ferry. All of these led to significant improvements in maritime safety standards.

Protecting the environment was also paramount for Mr. O'Neil. He oversaw the adoption in 1997, of the Protocol to the MARPOL Convention, to include a new Annex VI on Prevention of Air Pollution from Ship – now expanded to include energy efficiency requirements – and revisions of the MARPOL Convention to accelerate the phase out of single hull tankers. His passion for protecting marine biodiversity laid the foundation for the development of measures to prevent the spread of potentially harmful aquatic species

in ships' ballast water – which would later, in 2004, be adopted as a new IMO treaty on ballast water management.

The introduction of the mandatory International Safety Management (ISM) Code and the key 1997 revisions to the International Convention on Standards of Training, Certification and Watchkeeping for Seafarers (STCW), 1978, were amongst other landmark achievements made by IMO under Mr. O'Neil's stewardship.

After the attacks of September 11, 2001, Mr. O'Neil's leadership led to the development of an entirely new regime for the security in the maritime field, the International Ship and Port Facility Security Code, which was adopted in less than one year, demonstrating the Organization's ability to nimbly respond to emerging threats.

The landmark public memorial to seafarers at IMO Headquarters in London, stands as a monument to Mr. O'Neil's appreciation and acknowledgement of the human element in shipping and specifically the role of the people at the heart of shipping, the seafarers. The Seafarers Memorial Fund was established by Mr. O'Neil to fund the sculpture.

Mr. O'Neil was elected Secretary-General of the IMO for a first term of Office beginning in 1990, a second term beginning in 1994, a third term beginning in 1998 and a further two-year term from 2002 to 31 December 2003. He was the second longest serving Secretary-General of IMO.

Mr. O'Neil graduated in civil engineering from the University of Toronto in his native Canada in 1949 and served in various positions with the Federal Department of Transport. He was particularly closely associated with the St. Lawrence Seaway Authority.

Mr. O'Neil was Commissioner of the Canadian Coast Guard from 1975 to 1980 and then became President and Chief Executive Officer of the St. Lawrence Authority, a position he held until joining the IMO. However, his links with IMO go back to 1972, when he represented Canada at the IMO Council. He became Chair of the IMO Council in 1980 and was re-elected four times.

In 1991, Mr. O'Neil became Chancellor of World Maritime University, Malmö, Sweden and Chair of the Governing Board of the International Maritime Law Institute in Malta.

Mr. O'Neil was a member of the Association of Professional Engineers of Ontario and of the American Society of Civil Engineers. He was Doctor of Laws (Honoris Causa) University of Malta, Doctor of Science (Honoris Causa) Nottingham Trent University, Doctor of Laws (Honoris Causa) Memorial University of Newfoundland and Doctor of Laws (Honoris Causa) Korea Maritime University.

In 1992, Mr. O'Neil was elected Fellow of the Royal Society of Arts. In 1994 he was elected Member of the Royal Academy of Engineering and fellow of the Institute of Logistics and transport (formerly the Chartered Institute of Transport), United Kingdom and awarded The Admirals' medal, Canada. In 1995 he was awarded the NUMAST Award (National Union of Marine Aviation and Shipping Transport Officers), United Kingdom; the SEATRADE Personality of the Year Award; the Professional Engineers Ontario Gold Medal and was made Commandeur, Ordre National des Cèdres, Lebanon and Member of the Order of Canada.

In 1996, Mr. O'Neil was made a member of the Engineering Alumni Hall of Distinction at the University of Toronto and in 1997 he was awarded the Silver Bell Award of the Seamen's Church Institute, New York. In 1998 he was awarded the CMA Commodore Award (Connecticut Maritime Association), United States, the Orden "Vasco Nuñez de Balboa" en el Grado de Gran Cruz, Panama and the "Dioscuri" Prize, Lega Navale Italiana, Agrigento, Italy. In 1999 he was awarded the Vice Admiral "Jerry" Land Medal of the Society of Naval Architects and Marine Engineers, United States and in 2000 the Halert C. Shepherd Award, United States.

Amongst other honours, in 2001 he was awarded the Medal for Distinguished Services to the Directorate General for Maritime Affairs, Colombia and in 2002 the CITIS (Communication & IT in Shipping) Lifetime Achievement Award, United Kingdom, the Golden Jubilee Medal, Canada and the "15 November 1817 Medal, Uruguay and was made a Freeman of the Worshipful Company of Shipwrights (Honoris Causa), United Kingdom. In 2003, he was awarded the Order of Merit of the Merchant Marine, Venezuela.

Mr. O'Neil was awarded the IMO International Maritime Prize for 2003.

Mr. O'Neil died on 29 October 2020. He leaves behind his wife, Mrs. Olga O'Neil, children and grandchildren.

SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

FIRST DETAILED OIL SAMPLE ANALYSIS COMPLETED FROM MAURITIUS OIL SPILL

October 29 - When the Japanese bulk carrier MV Wakashio struck a coral reef off the coast of Mauritius on July 25, 2020, and began leaking fuel oil two weeks later, local residents and the international community sprang into action to protect the pristine habitats that fringe the Indian Ocean nation. But they did so without insight from careful chemical analysis, which is customary after spills to help guide short and long-term response plans and protects the health of people facing such a spill.

Now the first ultra-high-resolution analysis of an oil sample from Mauritius shows that the material is a complex and unusual mix of hydrocarbons—and even though some of the components in it may have already degraded or evaporated, what remains still gives it the ability to persist in the environment. That is the conclusion of marine oil spill experts Chris Reddy and Bob Nelson at the Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution (WHOI), who are collaborating with Professor Kliti Grice, Director of the Western Australian Organic Isotope Geochemistry Centre (WA-OIGC) and Associate Professor Monique Gagnon and Alan Scarlett at Curtin University in Perth, Australia. Both teams analyzed a sample of floating residue collected August 16. They subjected it to many of the same analytical techniques used to "fingerprint" samples from other large spills around the world. [Newswise / Read more](#)

RESEARCH ADVANCING POLLUTION RESPONSE AND RESTORATION IN 2020

Part One of an article by Megan Ewald, NOAA Office of Response and Restoration

Marine pollution can happen anywhere human activities overlap with the ocean, so marine pollution science is a very diverse subject.

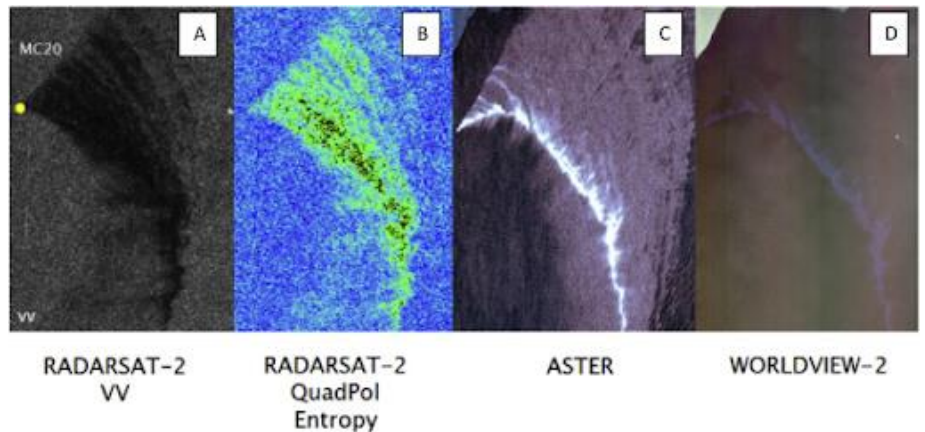
Each year NOAA Office of Response and Restoration (OR&R) scientists collaborate with leading experts on topics like coral reefs, environmental economics, endangered species, satellite technology, and many other subjects that intersect with pollution science. All of these studies have different goals, be it developing a new tool for tracking a spill or better understanding the impacts of pollution, but all advance OR&R's ability to respond to, assess the impacts of, and restore the environment after oil spills and hazardous waste and marine debris pollution.



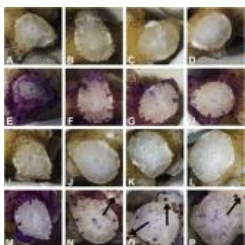
This blog highlights nine scientific articles, and one NOAA Tech Memo, on research advancing pollution response and assessment.

Detecting Oil Slick Thickness From Satellites

“Classification of Oil Spill by Thicknesses Using Multiple Remote Sensors” validated that synthetic aperture radar satellites can detect emulsions of thicker oil from thin sheens on water from space, then deliver this information in near-real-time to responders on boats. Thicker oil is easier to burn away or skim from the ocean’s surface. This technology could allow for faster identification and cleanup of this thick, actionable oil.



Studying How Long it Takes Coral Tissue to Regenerate After Oil Exposure



“Effect of Louisiana Sweet Crude Oil on a Pacific Coral, *Pocillopora damicornis*” found that coral tissue regeneration was significantly reduced after a 96-hour exposure to seawater containing a low concentration of crude oil. This, and other findings, are important to understand before an oil spill occurs. It

allows scientists to more accurately assess coral injury, [hold polluters accountable](#), and restore coral reefs after oil spills.

Catching Marine Debris in the Hawaii Longline Fishery

“Relative abundance of derelict fishing gear in the Hawaii-based pelagic longline fishery grounds as estimated from fishery observer data” analyzed



derelict fishing gear in the Hawaiian waters where commercial fisheries use [longlines](#) to catch fish like tuna. Although all types of marine debris were considered in the analysis, almost 90% of the snagged items were derelict fishing gear from other fisheries operating in this region.

The authors found that fishing gear snagged on these longlines has decreased by 66% between 2008-2016.

Pioneering New Methods to Assess Injured Habitats



“Restoration Scaling Approaches to Addressing Ecological Injury: The Habitat-Based Resource Equivalency Method” introduces a new method to evaluate restoration needs for Natural Resource Damage Assessment.

This new method refines calculations for habitats where natural resources are injured, but don’t die from pollution, and could help design restoration projects that help ecosystems recover faster.

Planning for Sea Turtles and Oil Spills Around the World



Fig. 2. Clockwise from top left: responders searched convergence areas where oil, *Sargassum*, and turtles were aggregated during the *Deepwater Horizon* oil spill. When turtles were observed, responders attempted to rescue them from the surface using dipnets. Oiled turtles were then brought aboard rescue vessels, examined, and cleaned. Turtles were then taken to rehabilitation facilities to receive extended veterinary care until they were ready for release. Photos: NOAA

“[Oil Spills and Sea Turtles: Documented Effects and Considerations for Response and Assessment Efforts](#)” performed a global review of oil spill incident databases to evaluate reported effects of oil spills on sea turtles. This paper summarizes available information about oil spills and their effects on sea turtles to identify knowledge gaps and give guidance to sea turtle managers globally.


CEDRE TRAINING CALENDAR FOR 2021

You can now access the 2021 training calendar. At Cedre or offshoring, our cross-company training is a great opportunity to strengthen your professional network.

Each year, 13 sessions are held on 9 different themes:

- At sea and on the coast - Oil and HNS spill response in surface waters
- Inland waters
- On the coast and in the river - Relocated Fost
- Sea-pollution-pollution training of the General Staff
- ORSEC/POLMAR-Earth Crisis Management
- Principles for intervention at sea in case of chemical pollution
- Merchant ships and the role of shipping actors in case of accidental pollution
- Aerial finding of pollution at sea

Training at Cedre means, above all, benefiting from internationally recognized education. Learning is facilitated by alternating different teaching methods:

- theoretical courses
- practical phases with equipment deployment and actual oil spill (in our facilities only!) 
- feedback on concrete cases
- Tutorials
- paper exercises

Download the [catalogue](#) describing our different trainings.

Download the dates of the training [sessions](#).

WEBINARS & ONLINE TRAINING

Postings for publication in this section should be sent to the Editor – john.mcmurtrie@spillcontrol.org

WEBINARS FROM OSRL

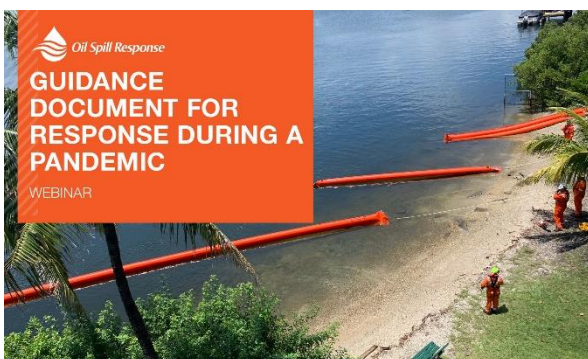


Volunteer Management Thursday 5th November 0800 and 1400 GMT

Principal Trainer, Chris Milles, will talk about why it is advisable for oil companies to consider a Volunteer Plan as part of their preparedness for oil spills. He will discuss selection of volunteers, and management of the process.

[Register for 08:00 GMT](#)

[Register for 14:00 GMT](#)



Guidance Documents for Response During a Pandemic Wednesday 28th October 1300 SGT

In OSRL, health, safety and wellbeing of our personnel is the top priority which means that we will be responding to incidents as long as it can be done safely, legally and with sufficient precautions in place. This webinar will consist of the documents that are being developed to guide our responders to manage the risk of COVID-19.

In the session, we will be touching on • A brief introduction of both of our Specific Measures for In-Field Guide document and COVID-19 Field Guide Appendix • NEBA Considerations under COVID-19 [Register here](#)

WEEK 10 - EM DISPERSANTS / HERDERS WEBINAR SERIES

Please join dispersant / herder webinar series week 10 – final week! Speakers for week 10 are shown below – a mix of discussions on dispersant / dispersed oil / oil toxicity, issues related to surface application of dispersants, and subsea dispersant injection. Note that there is still room for more participants so feel free to forward invite to others but I ask that potential attendees email me to RSVP: tim.j.nedwed@exxonmobil.com

WEBINARS & ONLINE TRAINING (CONTINUED)

Also, note that the first five weeks of the webinar were recorded and are now available online at this link: <https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PL5-xnKVew34azpYvrdUrOL8VPXL2ERJOM>

The agenda for week 10 is as follows and Zoom link to join is below

Webinar 10 November 3 9 – 10:30 am Central

- Dispersant related research at SINTEF - Large-scale testing at Ohmsett of subsea dispersant injection (SSDI) and subsea mechanical dispersion (SSMD) in 2015, -17 and -19 Per Johan Brandvik
- Dispersant related research at John Hopkins - Impacts of dispersants on formation of oil aerosols and their risks Joe Katz
- Dispersant toxicity - Assessing the toxicity of dispersants to cold water marine species Ben de Jourdan

Zoom Link: Join from a PC, Mac, iPad, iPhone or Android device: Please click this URL to join.

<https://exxonmobil.zoom.us/j/91394551832?pwd=d1hDUGwwUk5xWGpKVvdTQUNiNDNadz09> Passcode: 201669 There are other options for joining the webinar - Details of the complete series of the ExxonMobil webinars and joining instructions were published in Issue 751 of the ISCO Newsletter. For more info and to register please send email to tim.j.nedwed@exxonmobil.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 given.

COUNTRY	2020	TITLE OF EVENT	LOCATION
For more information click on Title of Event			
USA	November 5	NAMEPA Marine Conference & Awards	Online
UK	Nov. 16-20	IMO Marine Environment Protection Committee	Online
USA	November 17	"Response in a Pandemic" – Clean Events Summit	Houston TX/Online
USA & CANADA	November 18	Pacific States/British Columbia Oil Spill Task Force Annual Meeting	Online
SWEDEN	Nov. 26-27	Swedish National Oil Spill Conference 2020	Online
MALTA	December 2	Fourth Meeting of the Mediterranean Network of Law Enforcement Officials relating to MARPOL within the framework of the Barcelona Convention	Online
UK	December 2-4	Salvage & Wreck Removal Conference	Online
UK	December 2-4	Meetings of the IOPC Funds' Governing Bodies	Online
VIRTUAL EVENT	December 7-11	59th GEF Council Meeting	Online
UK	December 8-10	Marine Insurance London	Online
COUNTRY	2021	TITLE OF EVENT	LOCATION
VIRTUAL EVENT	February 2-4	Sustainability Leaders Forum 2021	Online
VIRTUAL EVENT	February 8-9	The JOIFF Industrial Fire & Hazard Management Virtual Conference & Exhibition 2021	Online
ICELAND	March 2-4	International Symposium on Plastics in the Arctic and Sub-Arctic Region	Online
MALTA	March 10	Regional Meeting of National Experts on the Post-2021 Mediterranean Strategy for Prevention of and Response to Marine Pollution from Ships	Online
FRANCE	March 23	CEDRE Information Day on Containers	Paris
USA	May 9	APICOM GM Meeting	New Orleans LA
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 8-10	Elastec Spill Workshop 2021	Carmi, IL
USA	June 28-30	Clean Pacific Conference & Exhibition	Seattle, WA
USA	September 7-10	Hazmat Emergency Response Workshop	Sacramento, CA
USA	Nov. 16-18	Clean Gulf Conference & Exhibition	San Antonio, TX

Please advise the Editor if any of the above entries require correction or updating. John.mcmurtrie@spillcontrol.org

TOOLS FOR BUILDING A FOUNDATION IN SAFETY

Marc Shaye, Hon.FISCO, Member of the ISCO Executive Committee writes – “I know FDR to be a leading firm in safety training and thought reproducing this article would be a useful adjunct for our readers”.



This blog utilizes research and data from a range of professional safety journals (i.e., Professional Safety) and research reports, and blends it with economic realities and common company leadership expectations. It is written as a series for those who are new to safety or have an expanded role within safety. It is meant to be easily digestible by reviewing one to two key points.

Lastly, this blog does not intend to be the end all, but is designed to mentor by overviewing basic safety program organization and key concepts.

Your New Boss May Not Really Understand Safety, October 2020

Due to the Pandemic, the Safety Director you reported to for the past 15 years has taken an early retirement package. As the company adjusts to the Pandemic economy, they have promoted you from your plant position to be the new Safety Lead for the company. In addition, your new boss, is also new to their position of COO.

The Challenges You Now Face - As we know, the Pandemic has changed the economy dramatically – what were stable industries are now stressed, what were secure jobs now are furloughed. As a result, the COO is looking to cut everything non-essential. You are told to reduce costs and that “we are only going to comply with safety regulations and do nothing else – none of that risk-based crap. You have no excuse to go backwards.” This new COO has come from accounting and has no operational experience or expertise. Lastly, despite a 16 year reduction in the company-wide DART rate, every 2-3 years there has been a serious injury or fatality.

So being thrust into a leadership role, you now know your challenges:

- You need to deliver on cost savings; and
- The company cannot regress on its safety performance.
- Your Opportunity

So how will you meet these challenges? In theory, it is quite simple, but the implementation is quite challenging on how to:

Over time, educate the COO on why elements other than regulatory compliance are needed in a safety program; and Bring the risk reduction techniques to the workforce that will actually that allow them to identify and address hazards before they are exposed.

Elements of a Proactive Safety Program		
Regulatory, Engineering and Technology	Management Systems and Processes (Plan-Do-Check-Act/Adjust/Abandon)	Culture
Regulations, Interpretations and Guidance	VPP and Other Regulator Sponsored Management Systems	Behavior Based Safety and other observational programs
Facility Design and Construction or Area Layout	ISO-45001	Leadership, Mentoring, and Coaching
Equipment Design and Operation (Includes safety devices)	ANSI Z10 (in the US) or National Standards in other countries	Company and Local Culture
Safety Equipment Information	Job Safety Assessments (JSAs), Task Based Risk Assessments (TaBRA), and other risk assessment processes	
Exposure Testing and Monitoring		

First, determine your new COO’s understanding of safety, both the depth and magnitude. There is often a reasonable understanding of the Total Recordable Incident Rate (TRIR) or a Days Away, Restricted or Transferred (DART) rate and as with any metric, the desire and demand to continuously improve those rates. To drive improvement in the rates, it is easy in a leadership position to say ‘you need to comply with all our safety regulations or you will be fired’. Now as a safety professional, leading a safety program based on just the TRIR and DART rate is the equivalent of driving a car and only looking through the rear view mirror.

So how do you help leadership to better understand safety and over time, show them a bigger picture of the program and its components. It may be best to layer the education process, to explain it takes more

than reacting to rate and threats to improve safety. The primary objective is to explain that not every hazard or risk is regulated or has a work instruction. As outlined on the left, multiple tools, processes and programs are needed over time to build a culture that proactively identifies and addresses hazards. FDR Safety / [See more](#)

CONTRACTS, TENDERS AND 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 of these publications.

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

LINKS FOR DOWNLOADING AND READING OTHER PUBLICATIONS

Some publication links have been removed because they appear to have ceased publication or a URL link is not being provided. The removed links are for the following publications – *ALGA Cronicle*; *Clean Nigeria Associates Newsletter*; *Nautical Institute eNewsletter*; *Maritime New Zealand “Safe Seas, Clean Seas”*. To request renewal of a deleted link or to add a publication link for another publication please contact the editor.

AMSA Update	Latest News from the Australian Maritime Safety Authority	Current issue
ATRAC Newsletter	News from the Adriatic Training and Research Centre	October 2020
AUSMEPA Bulletin	News from the Australian Marine Environment Protection Assoc’n	Summer 2020
BIMCO Bulletin	Marine and shipping-related news from BIMCO	September 2020
Newsletter from George Holliday	News and commentary on HSE issues from George Holliday	On request email
Cedre Newsletter	News from Cedre in Brittany, France	September 2020
EMSA Newsletter	News from the European Maritime Safety Agency	Current issue
Environmental Expert	Environmental News from Environmental Expert	Current issue
GEF Newsletter	Monthly Newsletter from the Global Environment Facility	Subscription
GESAMP	Group of Experts on the Scientific Aspects of Marine Environmental Protection	Latest news
GISEA Quarterly Newsletter	News from Global Initiative for South-East Asia	Q3 2020
IMO News Magazine	News from the International Maritime Organization	Summer 2020
IMO Publishing Newsletter	New and forthcoming IMO publications	September 2020
ITOPF Ocean Orbit	News magazine from ITOPF with interesting spill response articles	October 2019
JOIFF Catalyst Newsletter	Int’l Organisation for Industrial Hazard Management	Q3 2020 issue
Maritime Executive Magazine	Often contains articles of interest to the spill response community	March–April 2020
MEDNEWS	News from UNEP Mediterranean Action Programme	02 / 2020
MOIG Newsletter	News from the Mediterranean Oil Industry Group	January 2020
NCEC Newsletter	News from the National Chemical Emergency Centre	October 2020
Navigate Response	Global crisis communications network for shipping & marine	June 2020
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	August 2020
OHMSETT Gazette	Oil Spill Response Research & Renewable Energy Test Facility Quarterly	Autumn 2020
Oiled Wildlife Log	Bi-annual Newsletter from Tri-State Bird Rescue & Research	Fall 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	Current issue
Pollution Online Newsletter	News for pollution prevention & control professionals	Current 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
Society of Maritime Industries	News from the UK’s maritime engineering and business services sector.	October 2020
Technology Innovation News Survey	News from US EPA – Contaminated Site Decontamination	Sept. 1-15, 2020
The Maritime Advocate	Maritime News from Sandra Speares	Current issue
USA EPA Tech Direct	Remediation of contaminated soil and groundwater	October 1, 2020
WestMOPoCo	Western Mediterranean Region Marine Oil & HNS Pollution Co-operation	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. Publishers are kindly requested to advise the editor if any of the links are not up-to-date.

INCIDENT REPORTS

USA: PREPARATIONS UNDERWAY FOR CUTTING & LIFTING GOLDEN RAY WRECK

October 28 - The heavy-lift vessel VB10,000 arrived at the Golden Ray wreck site as planned on October 27, 2020. The largest heavy-lift vessel built in the United States, the VB10,000 is now preparing for the next phase of the clearance of the capsized ro-ro vessel in St. Simmons Bay, Georgia. The Maritime Executive / [Read more](#)

CHINA: HONG KONG - CARGO SHIP CONTACTED EMBANKMENT, CONTAINERS FELL OVERBOARD

October 23 - Cargo ship KAM SHUN 338 with cargo of containers ran onto Stonecutters Island embankment, Hong Kong, early in the morning Oct 23. 5 containers went overboard, recovery operation under way. Maritime Bulletin / [Read more](#)

USA: DELAWARE'S MYSTERY OIL SPILL REMAINS A MYSTERY

October 29 - The operation to clean-up balls of oil that have washed ashore in Delaware Bay has expanded to Maryland beaches as the investigation into the source of the substance continues.

As of Tuesday, clean-up crews had recovered more than 65 tons of oiled debris and sand from Delaware beaches. The cleanup now extends all the way from Bowers Beach, Delaware to Ocean City, Maryland, a distance of about 65 miles.

The mystery oil began washing ashore in patties on October 19. As of late Tuesday, cleanup crews had successfully recovered 65 tons of oily debris and sand from the impacted beaches along Delaware Bay shoreline and Atlantic Coast. gCaptain / [Read more](#)

USA: HAWAII - COAST GUARD, PARTNERS OVERSEE CLEAN-UP OF SUNKEN VESSEL IN HAWAII KAI

October 26 - Coast Guard, partners oversee clean-up of sunken vessel in Hawaii Kai. US Coast Guard / [Read more](#)

UK: BRITISH AUTHORITIES SEARCH FOR CONTAINERS OVERBOARD IN BRISTOL CHANNEL

October 27 - British authorities are warning ships operating in the Bristol Channel that a container ship lost several containers that it was transporting overboard near Land's End, England. The containers have been spotted floating in the waterway as a hazard to ships and are also washing up on the shoreline. The Maritime Executive / [Read more](#)

SOUTH AFRICA: NGOS CALL ON CAPE TOWN BEACHGOERS TO HELP CLEAN UP DEBRIS FROM MASSIVE NURDLE SPILL

October 27 - On Monday afternoon, under a warm Cape Town sun, families flocked to Muizenberg beach. While children played in the sand and swam in the ocean, some people picked up nurdles that had been washed up on the beach. Nurdles are the raw material used by manufacturers to make plastic. Last Wednesday 21 October, Shark Spotters received reports that nurdles had been sighted on beaches along the southern coast. MSN / [Read more](#)

CANADA: HUSKY ENERGY PIPELINE SHUT IN AFTER 900,000 LITRES OF PRODUCED WATER LEAKS IN NORTHERN ALBERTA

October 28 - Husky Energy says 900,000 litres of produced water spilled from one of its pipelines in northwestern Alberta. Produced water is a byproduct of oil and gas extraction and sometimes contains residual petroleum and chemicals. The Alberta Energy Regulator said cleanup efforts are underway after the pipeline leaked into a low-lying wetland, about 15 kilometres southeast of Rainbow Lake. Global News / [Read more](#) [Thanks to Dr Merv Fingas, Hon.FISCO, Member of ISCO Council for Canada]

RUSSIA: PUBLIC JOINT STOCK MINING AND METALLURGICAL NORILSK NICKEL : CLEAN-UP PROGRESS UPDATE ON THE ACCIDENT

October 29 - Since the fuel spill at its HPP-3 in Norilsk, the CompanyPublic Joint Stock Company 'Mining and Metallurgical Company 'Norilsk Nickel'Go to the glossaryhas completed three main stages of the clean-up programme to tackle the accident, with the spill now fully localised and most of the fuel and water mixture collected. By now, more than 25,000 cu m of mixture have been pumped through newly installed pipelines from temporary tanks to a storage facility for subsequent separation. Market Screener / [Read more](#)

NORTH PACIFIC OCEAN: MEGA CONTAINER SHIP LOST AT LEAST 100 CONTAINERS

October 30 - Container ship ONE AQUILA understood to lose at least 100 containers overboard in North Pacific midway between Japan and US coast, sailing with the storm, in vicinity 40 00N 178 10E in the morning Oct 30, being en route from China to Long Beach. The ship turned stb and increased speed to keep wind in stb quarters, to reduce adverse weather impact. Awaiting confirmation, more details. Maritime Bulletin / [Read more](#)

ISRAEL: OIL SPILL AT MARINE TERMINAL OFF ASHKELON

October 30 - On Friday, Israel's Ministry of Environmental Protection responded to a leak at the marine terminal of the Eilat-Ashkelon Pipeline. According to the agency, a spill of several cubic meters of light crude oil was released when an "emergency detachment accessory" of the terminal malfunctioned.

The pipeline operator's response team sealed the leak and treated the spill with dispersants. Though the site of the spill occurred about three kilometers offshore, the ministry requested a shutdown of the desalination plant in Ashkelon for a period of several hours as a precautionary measure. The Maritime Executive / [Read more](#)

USA: TEXAS - TEXAS TRAIN DERAILS FORCING MAURICEVILLE RESIDENTS, SCHOOLS TO EVACUATE AFTER CHEMICAL SPILL AND POWER OUTAGE



October 30 - On Thursday, October 29, a Texas train derailed spilling chemicals, knocking out power in the surrounding area in the morning and forcing hundreds of people living nearby to evacuate. "On the morning of October 29th, 2020 at approximately 7.30 am, a KCS train derailed on Farm to Market road 1130 in Orange County, Texas involving 25 rail cars – 10 rail cars empty and 15 rail cars loaded. Five confirmed tank cars were breached, four were leaking a petroleum product that did not represent a risk to the general population and the fifth involves a corrosive product that is being contained," Orange County Office of Emergency Management said in a statement, according to Beaumont Enterprise. MEAWW / [Read more](#)

VENEZUELA: US GIVES ENI GREEN LIGHT TO OFFLOAD OIL FROM NABARIMA

November 1 - Italian-based multinational oil company ENI has announced that they have received a green light from the United States' authorities to offload crude oil from the Nabarima FSO, without breaking the international sanctions regime, according to a report on the energynow.tt website. Trinidad & Tobago Guardian / [Read more](#) [Editor: Although just published it looks like this report may be rather historic as previous reports seem to indicate that the lightering operation is already underway]

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.
