

ISCO & THE ISCO NEWSLETTER

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

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

ISCO COMMITTEE & COUNCIL
ISCO is managed by an EXECUTIVE

Directors

- Mr David Usher, President (USA)
- Mr Neil Marson, Secretary General (UK)
- Mr John McMurtrie, VP and Editor (UK)
- Ms Mary Ann Dagleish, VP M'ship (USA)

Committee Members

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

Assisted by COUNCIL

(National Representatives)

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

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

CLICK ON THE BANNERS BELOW FOR MORE INFORMATION



International Oil Spill Conference

IOSC 2021

May 10-14 | Virtual Conference



Spill Prevention, Response & Remediation
in the Western United States & Canada

AUGUST 17-18, 2021
HYATT REGENCY LAKE WASHINGTON

Register to attend in-person or virtually & save \$50 with VIP code ISCO



Spill Prevention &
Response for Inland
Regions & Waterways

SEPT. 14-15, 2021
GALT HOUSE HOTEL, LOUISVILLE, KY
Register to attend in-person or virtually &
save \$50 with VIP code ISCO

THE LLOYD'S LIST PODCAST: OIL SPILLS AND CONTAINER LOSSES

March 12 - ITOPF managing director Dr Karen Purnell joins the Lloyd's List Sustainability Editor Anastassios Adamopoulos to explain why oil spills from tankers have declined so much and what impact all those containers that are lost at sea could really have.

This week we are talking to Dr Karen Purnell, managing director at ITOPF, about how the organisation works, how the coronavirus pandemic has affected its operations and the dangers posed by containers lost at sea.

[Listen to the latest edition of Lloyd's List's weekly podcast](#)



ISCO AMBASSADORS – A MESSAGE FROM SECRETARY-GENERAL, NEIL MARSON

March 19 - The last twelve months has been a challenging time for all of us, both in our work and home environment. The arrival of COVID 19 on the world forced everyone to seek other ways of conducting and delivering our business and significant temporary changes to our personal life. This required a re-think on how we live and how work could be managed. This saw the introduction of new ways to communicate with each other and how organisations and individuals could communicate by the use of online meetings instead of the traditional face to face. These new ways of working have proven to be successful and are likely to now form the norm within companies.

But we need to be able to restore that face-to-face environment, to enable businesses to drive forward into the future - ISCO recognises the importance of such events, and we are therefore adopting a new strategy with the introduction of ISCO Ambassadors, who will be appointed to formally represent ISCO under the guardianship of the ISCO Secretariat.

MEMBERSHIP OF ISCO

[Benefits of Membership](#)
[Online Membership Application Form](#)

ADVANCE YOUR CAREER BY GAINING PROFESSIONAL RECOGNITION.

Professional recognition is a visible mark of quality, competence and commitment, and can give you a significant advantage in today's competitive environment.

All who have the relevant qualifications and the required level of experience can apply for Professional Membership of ISCO.

The organization offers independent validation and integrity. Each grade of membership reflects an individual's professional training, experience and qualifications.

You can apply for Student Membership, Associate Membership (AMISCO), MEMBERSHIP (MISCO) or FELLOWSHIP (FISCO)

[About Professional Membership](#)
[Professional-membership application form](#)

TO RECEIVE THE FREE ISCO NEWSLETTER

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

INTERNATIONAL NEWS (CONTINUED)

ISCO Ambassadors can be appointed on either a temporary basis to undertake a specific activity task, for example supporting ISCO at an International event, or on a more permanent basis acting as liaison officer between ISCO and other Governmental and NGO's, these roles will be instrumental in promoting the work of ISCO and in conjunction with the national ISCO Council Members in strengthening the membership within their areas.

ISCO recognises the importance of its membership, and like other similar organisations, requires a strong membership to fully function and provide the platform for the promotion of ISCO's aims to raise worldwide preparedness and co-operation in response to oil and chemical spills, to promote technical development and professional competency, and to provide a focus for making the knowledge and experience of spill control professionals available to IMO, UNEP, and other international, regional and national organisations.

Finally, if you are reading this newsletter, and you are not currently a member, can I ask you to take a moment and consider supporting ISCO by joining, and enjoy the benefits that ISCO membership can bring.

<https://spillcontrol.org/membership-application-form/> www.spillcontrol.org

ISCO's next Online Meeting is on Thursday 25th March – See Page 5 for details

THE BSAP UPDATE IS WELL ON TRACK AT HELCOM 42-2021, THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE HELSINKI COMMISSION

March 19 – More milestones on the now imminent update of the Baltic Sea Action Plan (BSAP) were reached during the 42nd Meeting of the Helsinki Commission (HELCOM 42-2021), held online from 17 to 18 March 2021, keeping the work on the new plan well on track and within the planned schedule.

A second full draft of the updated Baltic Sea Action Plan (BSAP) was presented at the meeting. Further refinements will now take place in the various HELCOM bodies tasked with the drafting of the update. The BSAP, in addition to actions and measures, will now also include a list of environmental hotspots that will need to be resolved. The updated Baltic Sea Action Plan (BSAP) is due to be adopted during the next HELCOM Ministerial Meeting which will be hosted by Germany and is scheduled to take place on 20 October 2021 in Lübeck, Germany. HELCOM / [Read more](#)

NEWS REPORTS FROM AROUND THE WORLD

AUSTRALIA: AMSA'S MARITIME SAFETY AWARENESS BULLETIN ADDRESSES PREVENTION OF CONTAINER LOSS

March 16 – The latest AMSA Safety Awareness Bulletin describes how container loss affects the environment and what measures should be taken to prevent it from happening. The article looks at case studies, AMSA incident and inspection data, and strategies to prevent container loss. AMSA / [Read more](#)

CHINA: BAN ON TRANSPORT OF HIGHLY TOXIC CHEMICALS IN YANGTZE RIVER BASIN

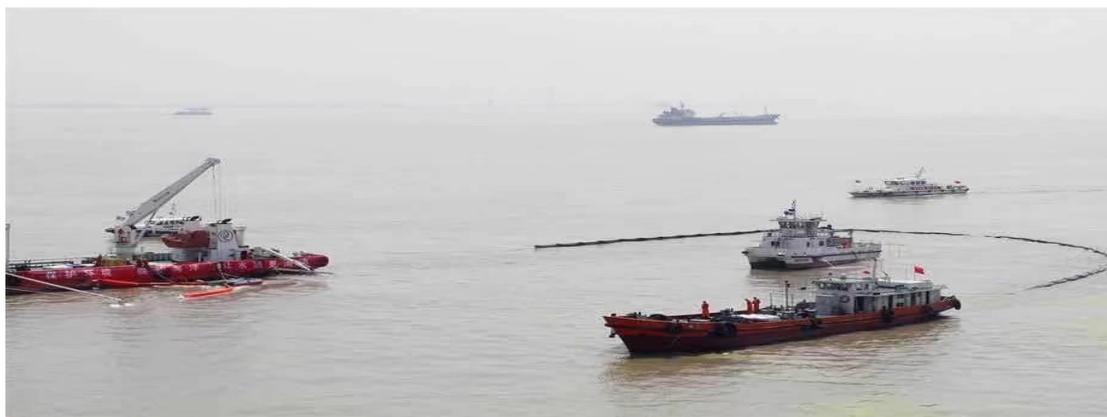
March 17 - Transportation of highly toxic chemicals in the Yangtze River Basin is prohibited effective 1st March 2021 as per Yangtze River Protection Law.

The BIMCO Maritime information department has received the following important notice from Oasis P&I Services. The announcement relates to the Chinese government enacting the Yangtze River Protection Law, banning the transportation of highly toxic chemicals in the Yangtze River effective 1 March 2021. This will impact many important ports including some wharfs of the Shanghai Port, Nantong, Zhenjiang, Zhangjiagang, Jiangyin, etc.

"In order to strengthen the protection and restoration of the ecological environment, to promote the rational and efficient utilization of resources and ensure ecological safety in the Yangtze River Basin, China enacted the Yangtze River Protection Law (hereinafter referred to as the "Law") on 26 Dec 2020 which came into effect as of 01 Mar 2021".

The total length of the Yangtze River is about 6300 km and its the main waterway is about 2843 km long. The main ports along the Yangtze River include some wharfs of Shanghai Port in Yangtze River, Taicang, Changshu, Nantong, Jiangyin, Zhangjiagang, Jingjiang, Taizhou, Yangzhou, Zhenjiang, Nanjing, Ma An Shan , Wuhan, Yibin, etc. BIMCO / [Read the complete report from BIMCO](#)

CHINA: HEBEI SEA'S FIRST MARINE OIL SPILL EMERGENCY RESPONSE CAPACITY SYSTEM



March 19 - Hebei Sea's first "local government-led, maritime department guidance, social forces involved" county-level marine oil spill emergency response capacity system was built, in order to actively create a safe, green, healthy and harmonious maritime tourism environment, Tangshan Maritime Bureau to give full play to the role

of professional functions, after full communication and coordination, to promote the Tangshan International Tourism Island oil spill emergency system built, integrated the existing emergency force, equipped with professional rescue equipment, set up a local emergency volunteer team, to solve the emergency personnel and materials. Next, Tangshan Maritime Bureau will focus on the realization of ship pollution control system and modernization, in the service and protection of local oil spill emergency capacity-building. [Thanks to Jenny Li, Hong Kong Spill Response Technology Co. Ltd.]

ISRAEL: MARINE MONITOR URGES ISRAEL TO STEP UP SURVEILLANCE OR RISK MORE OIL SPILL WOES

March 17 - The head of the company that helped Israel pinpoint a vessel it says is responsible for spilling oil that wound up polluting the country's beaches is calling on Jerusalem to significantly bolster its monitoring capabilities, or risk being stricken again.

"Until Israel, like every other country that respects its oceans, has the ability to monitor daily for oil spills and to find the perpetrators, this can happen again and again. It's a decision away," said Ami Daniel, co-founder and CEO of Tel Aviv-based marine intelligence firm Windward. The Times of Israel / [Read more](#)

KOREA: MARINE ENVIRONMENT COMPLEX TO HOLD 2021 MARINE ENVIRONMENT MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

March 19 - The Marine Environment Agency (KOEM, President Park Seung-gi) said on April 2 that it will hold an online explanation meeting for marine environment measurement and analysis agencies to implement marine environment level management in 2021.

"Marine environment level management" is a system for evaluating the measurement and analysis ability of the data produced and managed by measurement and analysis institutions such as sea use impact assessment agencies in the effort to increase the accuracy and reliability of marine environment data, and conducting related training, the industrial complex has been commissioned and operated by the Ministry of Oceans and Fisheries since 2010. KOEM / [Read more](#)



MALTA: LECTURE FOR THE IMLI VISITING FELLOWS PROGRAMME 2020-2021

March 12 - The IOPC Funds was invited by the International Maritime Law Institute (IMLI) in Malta to give an online lecture as part of IMLI's distinguished Visiting Fellows Programme.

On 12 March 2021, Claims Manager, Mark Homan, presented on the fundamental aspects of the legal framework of the international liability and compensation regime for oil spills from tankers established under the 1992 Civil Liability and Fund Conventions. He also gave an overview of the 2010 HNS Convention and the progress made towards its entry into force. IOPC Funds / [Read more](#)

NIGERIA: OGOINI CLEAN-UP: ERA/FOEN WANTS HYPREP GOVERNING COUNCIL TO ESTABLISH CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE

March 16 - Environmental Rights Action/Friends of the Earth (ERA/FoEN) said it wants the newly inaugurated Governing Council and

Board of Trustees for the Hydrocarbon Pollution Remediation Project (HYPREP) to establish a centre of excellence that will build the capacity and skills of the youths in Ogoniland.

The Federal Government of Nigeria recently inaugurated a new Governing Council and Board of Trustees for the Hydrocarbon Pollution Remediation Project (HYPREP). Nigerian Tribune / [Read more](#)

NIGERIA: FG CONSIDERS NEW TECHNOLOGIES FOR OGONI CLEANUP

March 18 - The Federal Government yesterday hinted that it is contemplating using products and technologies developed by New York-based scientists for environmental remediation of Ogoniland and other oil impacted areas of the Niger Delta.

Director in the Ministry of Environment, Olubumni Olusanya, who spoke during the demonstration in Abuja, said the technologies have been experimented with and were found to be effective. Guardian Nigeria / [Read more](#)

SYRIA: HOW THE DECADE-LONG WAR HAS LEFT A TOXIC ENVIRONMENTAL LEGACY

Photo: Crude oil and wastewater spills out of the Gir Zero oil storage facility at the Rmeilan oil fields in northeast Syria, in September 2019. Google/MAXAR

March 15 - From the dioxin-laced soils of Da Nang to the scorched oil fields of Kuwait, the toxic legacy of conflict can be just as deadly as battlefield violence. On March 15, the war in Syria turned 10 years old, a grim milestone with a devastating humanitarian cost. Yet there have so far been few serious attempts to understand the environmental toll the conflict has taken on the country. An upcoming report by Netherlands-based NGO PAX, expected to be published in the first week of April, seeks to change that.



Using satellite imaging, geo-location, and other remote sensing techniques, as well as field research and interviews with communities and officials, PAX has documented four major factors that contribute to environmental degradation in northeast Syria—makeshift oil refining, solid waste accumulation, fires, and water supply issues—and aims to provide a starting point to restore habitability. In a separate upcoming report focused on northwest Syria, the group has tracked the disappearance of a quarter of Syria’s forest coverage since 2010. Time / [Read more](#)

USA: LATEST NEWS REPORTS FROM NOAA OR&R

March 15 – To read the latest News Reports from NOAA OR&R please click on the links below.

[OR&R Celebrates Completion of 2010-2020 Hawai’i Marine Debris Action Plan](#)

On March 2, Scott Lundgren, Director of the Office of Response and Restoration (OR&R), provided congratulatory remarks during the plenary kick-off of the 2021 Hawai’i Marine Debris Action Plan workshop.

[Marine Debris Program and Materevolve Release California Microfiber Workshop Report](#)

California-based sustainable textiles consultancy, Materevolve, and the Marine Debris Program partnered to host an engaging workshop entitled “California Microfiber Workshop: Science, Innovation & Connection,” on Nov. 17, 2020.

[Disaster Preparedness Program Completes 2020 Hurricane Season After-Action Report for the National Ocean Service](#)

Each year, the [Disaster Preparedness Program](#) leads the National Ocean Service Incident Management Team through a review of the previous hurricane season with respect to our personnel, missions, and infrastructure. The process helps NOS learn from the previous year and plan for the next. These lessons learned are collected into an After Action Report and include a plan for improvement.

[NOAA Assists with the State of Knowledge Review on Chemical Dispersants for Canadian Marine Oil Spills](#)

Starting on March 1, OR&R’s Emergency Response Division participated virtually in six National Advisory Meetings on the current state of knowledge on dispersants in Canadian waters. Dispersant use in Canada is currently very restricted. The review sessions focused on the potential ecological impacts and trade-offs associated with chemical dispersants.

[OR&R, Partners Publish In Situ Bioassay Study](#)

Scientists from OR&R worked with partners to develop and field test the drifting exposure and effects assessment ring (DEEAR), an in situ bioassay system designed to assess the toxicity of oil spills to aquatic organisms. The DEEAR unit is a drifter drogue with a GPS float that has a bioassay system suspended inside it, where organisms contained in chambers are exposed to ambient water. The unit

NEWS REPORTS FROM AROUND THE WORLD (CONTINUED)

also contains an array of water quality sensors, a fluorometer, and polyethylene passive sampling devices to characterize the oil exposure.

USA: COAST GUARD, FEDERAL, LOCAL AGENCIES CONDUCT OIL SPILL RESPONSE EXERCISE AT THE LIMETREE BAY REFINERY IN ST. CROIX, U.S. VIRGIN ISLANDS



March 17 - Coast Guard, federal and U.S. Virgin Islands emergency responders in cooperation with Limetree Bay Ventures, LLC conducted an oil pollution response exercise Tuesday and Wednesday at the Limetree Bay refinery facility in Christiansted, St. Croix.

The government led functional exercise is a part of the National Preparedness for Response Exercise Program (PREP) required under the Oil Pollution Act of 1990.

“These exercises are of the upmost importance to the collective preparedness and readiness of federal, local and industry emergency responders in cases involving a major pollution incident or a natural disaster in the U.S. Virgin Islands,” said Capt. Gregory H. Magee, Commander of U.S. Coast Guard Sector San Juan. “The people of the U.S.

Virgin Islands deserve the best plans and response to any given incident. To achieve this, it is crucial our Area Contingency Plan remains current and that our response community stays proficient in the execution of the plan during a real world incident.”
US Coast Guard / [Read more](#)

ISCO NEWS

ISCO'S MARCH 2021 ZOOM MEETING TAKES PLACE THIS WEEK

Our next Zoom Meeting will be on Thursday 25th March at 1500 EDT and 1900 GMT or Friday 26th March at 0600 AEDT (or the equivalent date and time in your own region). **Note: Around this time some regions may be changing to Daylight Saving Time, so please double check to make sure you have the correct time for your area – The meeting is being hosted in Detroit and the actual time of the meeting will be 1500 EDT.**

Link for joining our Zoom Meeting <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89957845921> Meeting ID: 899 5784 5921

The meeting will last for approximately one hour and will be hosted by ISCO VP(Membership) Mary Ann Dalgleish.

The Agenda is not fixed but D-G Neil Marson will speak about the new Ambassadors Initiative. Other topics will include the new sharing platform for the “Way Forward” Volunteer Group and progress made since our February meeting.

NEWS FROM ISCO MEMBERS

THE ALASKA CHADUX NETWORK - PREVENTING THE NEXT EXXON VALDEZ

March 18 - In an article in the *Maritime Executive*, Buddy Custard, President and CEO of ISCO Member the Alaska Chadux Network, speaks about the comprehensive prevention and response program developed by Alaskans with decades of response experience in Western Alaska.



“There is a sad irony when you consider that the laws and regulations necessitated by the Exxon Valdez oil spill to protect the marine environment are not designed to accommodate the conditions that exist in Western Alaska and the Arctic today.

Alaska operators, principally the barge operators who deliver refined oil products that fuel Western Alaska’s economy and sustain our communities, came up with effective alternatives to meet compliance objectives. These alternatives would preserve safety, while accounting for the uniqueness of the Last Frontier. The creation of the nonprofit, industry-funded response organization Alaska Chadux Corporation in 1993 was an integral part of their compliance solution (now called Alaska Chadux Network).

Using the Juneau-based Marine Exchange of Alaska, our program now takes preventive measures to track each vessel in Western Alaska and the Arctic, monitoring its operating status and providing early warning if assistance is needed.

Despite these initiatives, marine casualties can still occur, and for that reason the Alaska Chadux Network also developed 17 response hubs throughout Western Alaska and Prince William Sound. This includes the only two fully dedicated offshore, oil spill response vessels in Western Alaska stationed in Kodiak and Dutch Harbor”. The *Maritime Executive* / [Read more](#)

NRC UK MAINTAINS ITS HIGH HSEQMS STANDARDS

NRC UK's Health & Safety, Environmental and Quality management system has been externally certificated to ISO 9001, ISO 14001 and OHSAS 18001 (soon to be ISO 45001). [Thanks to Mark Shepherd] <https://nrcc.com/global-operations-locations/united-kingdom/nrc-uk/>

BRIGGS MARINE ENHANCES PORT SAFETY AT RAMSGATE

Briggs Marine's client, the Port of Ramsgate, required an upgrade to their existing Aids to Navigation (AtoN) system. Due to advancements in lantern and battery technology, Briggs were able to replace their current leading light with a state-of-the-art, self-contained solar lantern, which is capable of a range of up to 14 nautical miles. Planning had been ongoing for several weeks focusing on risk assessments, permits and permissions to meet both Briggs' and the clients HSE requirements. The replacement was completed in a matter of hours with the new system resulting in a considerable cost saving for the client. <https://www.briggsmarine.com/>

AQUA-GUARD SPILL RESPONSE PRESENTS ITS NEWEST TECHNOLOGY AT OIL SPILL RESPONSE WORKSHOP

ISCO member, Aqua-Guard Spill Response was pleased to present their newest spill response technology the portable **RBS TRITON 20** oil skimming system at the Chevron & California Department of Fish and Wildlife Response Technology Workshop (OSRP). To view full presentation please click the link here: <https://youtu.be/8HA2WvGY3ZQ>

CORRESPONDENCE

RESEARCH ON OIL SPILL REMEDIATION & COMMERCIALIZATION PARTNERSHIP

I am currently doing a syndicated study on oil spill remediation products and also focusing on new innovations in this field. I am also looking for commercialization partners for one of clients' product in oil spill remediation. Please find below the product and client details.

Clean Earth Technologies has developed a solution to remediate oil and gas spills with the use of a porous and hydrophobic polysulfide that can capture oil in seconds. The sponge-like polymer product is also elastic and allows for simple mechanical recovery and reuse. <https://www.oilreviewafrica.com/exploration/industry/flinders-university-and-clean-earth-technologies-sign-deal-on-oil-spill-technology>

As you closely work with International Spill Control Organization you must be having a good network in the area. I request you to kindly spare sometime on looking into the product and share the this in your network and if someone is interested knowing more about kindly share my email id. sonal.thube@maketsandmarkets.com

Thanks & Regards, Sonal Thube, Consultant. Mobile +91 9924475556 MarketsandMarkets Research Pvt Ltd

SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

OCEAN OIL SPILLS PHOTOOXIDIZES MUCH FASTER THAN PREVIOUSLY THOUGHT

March 15 - The oil left in the oceans from oil spills is photo oxidized and turned into more persistent compounds in a span of hours to days, much faster than extended periods of time as previously thought.

This was demonstrated in new research from the University of Miami (UM) Rosenstiel School of Marine and Atmospheric Science. Researchers demonstrated that oil drifting in oceans could be photo oxidized under realistic environmental conditions - where the oil is weathered and degraded to continuous exposure to sunlight and oxygen - into other carbon-based byproducts over time. This is also demonstrated to occur at rates much faster than scientists believed during the time of the 2010 Deepwater Horizon oil spill. Science Times / [Read more](#)

USA: MICROPLASTICS AND ALGAE TANGLE IN THE GREAT LAKES

March 17 - Algae can catch up to a trillion pieces of microplastics, according to a new study. Great Lakes algae is catching huge amounts of microplastics. Researchers found that one type of algae, which has greatly expanded its range within the Great Lakes and is one of the most abundant algae by weight there, could catch up to one trillion pieces of microplastic in the Great Lakes.

"It's just a massive amount of these microscopic particle pollutants that are now part of our environment," Julie Peller, a professor

SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY (CONTINUED)

of chemistry at Valparaiso University whose recent research revealed the microplastics-algae dynamic, told EHN.

Peller and colleagues say the study may offer insight into how we can stop the microplastic pollution—any plastic debris less than five millimeters long—from getting into the lakes. However, in the meantime, algae are often used as shelter for freshwater species at the bottom of the food chain, so the findings suggest that these microplastic hiding spots could be contaminating Great Lakes fish—and the people that eat them. Environmental Health News / [Read more](#)

NYK COLLECTS SAMPLES FOR WORLD'S FIRST LARGE SURVEY OF MICROPLASTICS

March 19 - NYK has completed a year-long effort working with the Chiba Institute of Technology to collect samples of ocean water for the world's first large-scale survey of microplastics in the oceans. Using the shipping line's fleet, they were able to take 100 samples at 100 locations providing the data to help study the composition and concentration of microplastics floating in oceans around the world.

The goal of the project, which began in March 2020, was to collect and analyze microplastics in oceans around the world in an effort to create a solution to marine plastic pollution, a global environmental issue. According to the company, it was the first initiative between a shipping line and a research institute to conduct a survey of microplastics over a wide range of the ocean. The Maritime Executive / [Read more](#)

UPCOMING WEBINARS

FREE WEBINARS FROM UK AND IRELAND SPILL ASSOCIATION

Wed, 24 Mar 2021 15:00 GMT [Spill Knowledge Base: Absorbents](#)

Wed, 14 Apr 2021 15:00 BST [Spill Knowledge Base: Marine Dispersants](#)

Wed, 19 May 2021 15:00 BST [Spill Knowledge Base: Storage Tanks](#)

Wed, 16 Jun 2021 15:00 BST [Spill Knowledge Base: Marine Special Equipment](#)

Click on the blue titles for more info on specified webinars. [view our upcoming virtual events here.](#)

JOIFF CRISIS MANAGEMENT WEBINAR

One of the most common aspects of crisis events is 'denial of access' to normal workplaces and offices. The best equipped crisis command centres can be rendered useless and ineffective if access is not possible. [More info](#)

ALGA – AUSTRALIAN LAND & GROUNDWATER ASSOCIATION

Over 100 Webinars can be accessed - <https://landandgroundwater.com/webinars>

ONLINE AND OTHER TRAINING COURSES

CEDRE: "FIGHTING ACCIDENTAL OIL POLLUTION AT SEA AND ON THE COAST - LEVEL IMO 2"

Sessions in French: April 19-23, 2021 & May 31 to June 4, 2021 [More info](#)

EMPIRE EGYPT - OIL SPILL RESPONSE - 1 DAY FOUNDATION COURSE

1 Day online self-paced training program which provides a foundation knowledge and skills for on-site first response to oil spills with the emphasis on combating and the various clean-up methods, supported by exercises and quizzes. A Certificate of Completion will be issued for candidates who pass the final assessment exam.

[More info](#) For ISCO members and readers a 50% discount is available until 31 March 2021. Using the code: ISCO50

LLOYDS MARITIME ACADEMY – CERTIFICATE IN OIL SPILL RESPONSE

Our [Certificate in Oil Spill Response](#) starts on 14th April, and we wanted to remind you why this course is essential for you. This 12-week distance learning course has been designed in line with the IMO's International Convention on Oil Pollution Preparedness, Response and Co-operation (OPRC), therefore it's your chance to get the best knowledge you can in oil spill safety and effective emergency response.

USA: HAZARDOUS MATERIALS CODE ENFORCEMENT P0615

June 13-18, 2021. Emmitsburg, Maryland. 6-day on-campus - This six-day course is designed to guide students in gaining and sharing the knowledge, skills and abilities to effectively recognize and analyze hazardous materials risk, classify the materials, and apply the codes, standards, and regulations to prevent incidents and mitigate threats to life and property. [More info](#)

INTERTANKO : NEW ENCLOSED SPACE SAFETY VIDEO LAUNCHED

The International Group of P&I Clubs has launched a new enclosed space safety video, drawing attention to the risk of fatalities caused by entering enclosed spaces on board ships.

The loss prevention units of the 13 IG clubs (i.e. the ex-seafarers who provide advice and guidance on technical matters to shipowner members of the clubs) worked in collaboration with a media company to produce the animation – and while the central tenet focuses on seafarers, the message applies equally to stevedores and surveyors who are among those to die in these tragic circumstances.

The issue is hugely important and the IG is very keen to play a part in the mitigation of preventable deaths on board ships. The animation is available on the International Group website [Enclosed Space Entry - The International Group of P&I Clubs \(igpandi.org\)](#) and has been added to the Group's [LinkedIn](#) channel.

ALGA: PFAS 101 TRAINING MODULES

These training modules, prepared by members of ALGA's Emerging Contaminants of Concern Interest Group (EmCoC IG), consists of 9 online modules covering aspects of PFAS from health risk and community consultation to investigation and remediation. The content for the modules has been developed with a principally Australian and New Zealand focus, but also draws examples of best practice from around the world, making it up to date, expansive yet locally relevant. [More info](#)

CONTRACTS, TENDERS AND BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

REQUEST FOR TENDER FROM NORWEGIAN CENTRE FOR OIL SPILL PREPAREDNESS AND MARINE ENVIRONMENT

The Norwegian Centre for Oil Spill Preparedness and Marine Environment has published a request for tender on behalf of Statlig samarbeidsforum for FoU oljevern.

A literature study of recovery numbers to assess the effectiveness of mechanical recovery of oil in the marine environment from historic oil spill events will be conducted.

The goal of this study is to obtain reliable figures for mechanical recovery based on documented experiences drawn from historic events. The tender documents have been published <https://www.mercell.com/en/tender/151034911/utredning---erfaringer-med-effektivitet-av-mekanisk-opptak-ved-oljeutslipp-tender.aspx>, and we would like to share this information with the international spill control community.

We aim to reach out to potential suppliers both nationally and internationally, and we consider the ISCO Newsletter as a relevant communication medium to help spread the word.

The Norwegian Coastal Administration, the Norwegian Environment Agency and the Norwegian Center for Oil Spill Preparedness and Marine Environment are cooperating in Statlig samarbeidsforum for FoU oljevern.

The purpose of the forum is to promote more environmentally friendly and efficient national oil spill preparedness and response. By identifying and promoting knowledge gaps and research needs the forum shall foster coordinated and cost-effective research and development initiatives of high relevance to operational preparedness and response.

If you have any questions, please give me a call or send me an e-mail. Ingvild Skeie Liland ingvild.skeie.liland@marintmiljo.no

INTERNATIONAL OPEN TENDER NOTIFICATION SERVICE

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

OTHER OPPORTUNITIES: USA & EUROPE

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

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.

Readers 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 given.

If you want to request the addition of an event please contact the Editor.

For more information click on Title of Event			
COUNTRY	2021	TITLE OF EVENT	LOCATION
VIRTUAL EVENT	March 22-26	IMO Sub-Committee on Pollution Prevention and Response (PPR)	Online
VIRTUAL EVENT	March 23	CEDRE Information Day on Containers	Online
VIRTUAL EVENT	March 25	ISCO's March 2021 Zoom Meeting	Online
VIRTUAL EVENT	March 29-31	Meeting of the IOPC Funds' governing bodies	Online
USA	May 9	APICOM GM Meeting	New Orleans LA
VIRTUAL EVENT	May 10-13	International Oil Spill Conference (IOSC 2021)	Online
VIRTUAL EVENT	May 20-21	European Maritime Day	Online
VIRTUAL EVENT	May 25-27	Fourteenth Meeting of the Focal Points of the Regional Marine Pollution Emergency Response Centre for the Mediterranean Sea (REMPEC)	Online
UAE	April 6-7	HSE Forum UAE 2021	Dubai
VIRTUAL EVENT	April 8	IMO Council Meeting	Online
VIRTUAL EVENT	June 8-9	Environment Analyst Global Business Summit 2021	Online
VIRTUAL EVENT	June 8-10	43rd AMOP Technical Seminar on Environmental Contamination and Response	Online
USA	June 8-10	Elastec Spill Workshop 2021	Carmi, IL
TUNISIA	June 15	Training on Readiness Evaluation Tool for Oil Spills	Hammamet
TUNISIA	June 16-17	Regional Workshop on Oil Spill Waste Management	Hammamet
USA	August 17-18	Clean Pacific Exhibition & Conference	Renton, WA
USA	September 7-10	Hazmat Emergency Response Workshop	Sacramento, CA
NETHERLANDS	September 9-10	Envirotech for Shipping Forum	Rotterdam
USA	Sept. 13-15	Clean Waterways Conference & Exhibition	Louisville, KY
CROATIA	October 26-28	Regional Workshop – Enhancing Preparedness and Response in the Adriatic & Mediterranean Regions	Opatija
CROATIA	October 29	MOIG General Assembly Meeting	Opatija
USA	Nov. 16-18	Clean Gulf Conference & Exhibition	San Antonio, TX
BAHREIN	Nov. 28-30	International Conference & Exhibition on Spills, Clean Seas & Environment	Bahrein

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

MESSAGES FROM EVENT ORGANISERS

USA: CLEAN PACIFIC – NEW DATES AND REGISTRATION NOW OPEN

We are excited to announce that **CLEAN PACIFIC** has officially rescheduled for **August 17-18, 2021 at the same beautiful lakefront venue, Hyatt Regency Lake Washington, in Renton, WA**. Based on survey feedback we received from the CLEAN PACIFIC community, we feel that moving the event to August will allow us to push forward and safely return live and in-person. We are currently in the planning stages and the team will be working closely with the Hyatt Regency and all of our event vendors to ensure the strictest safety protocols are in place to keep our attendees and partners safe.

Registration for the 2021 CLEAN PACIFIC Conference is now open! If you are unable to travel or attend in-person, there is an option to attend virtually. Early bird registration discounts will be available through May 27th and offer \$250 off the in-person experience and \$100 off the virtual experience. To register online, [click here](#).

CLEAN PACIFIC serves the spill response industry in prevention, response and remediation in the Western United States & Canada. It delivers a forum for you to come together with your peers to discuss case studies and lessons-learned from both recent and past incidents and discover the latest technologies advancing our industry. You'll walk away energized with new strategies, solutions and working relationships among all parties involved in a response and the communities that may be impacted.

LINKS FOR DOWNLOADING AND READING OTHER PUBLICATIONS

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	March 2021
Newsletter from George Holliday	News and commentary on HSE issues from George Holliday	Free on request
Cedre Newsletter	News from Cedre in Brittany, France	January 2021
EMSA Newsletters	News from the European Maritime Safety Agency	Current issue
Environmental Expert	Environmental News from Environmental Expert	Current issue
GDACS Newsletter	Daily alerts for natural disasters – earthquakes, floods, typhoons, etc.	Free on request
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	Autumn/Winter 2020
IMO Publishing Newsletter	New and forthcoming IMO publications	September 2020
ITOPF Ocean Orbit	News magazine from ITOPF with interesting spill response articles	February 2021
JOIFF Catalyst Newsletter	Int'l Organisation for Industrial Hazard Management	Q1 2021 issue
Maritime Executive Magazine	Often contains articles of interest to the spill response community	Current issue
MEDNEWS	News from UNEP Mediterranean Action Programme	02 / 2020
MOIG Newsletter	News from the Mediterranean Oil Industry Group	February 2021
NCEC Newsletter	News from the National Chemical Emergency Centre	December 2020
Navigate Response	Global crisis communications network for shipping & marine	Current issue
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	Current issue
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	January 2021
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
Spill Alert	Quarterly Newsletter from UK & Ireland Spill Association	December 2020
Technology Innovation News Survey	News from US EPA – Contaminated Site Decontamination	Feb. 1-15, 2021
The Maritime Advocate	Maritime News from Sandra Speares	Current issue
UNEP News	Latest News from United Nations Environmental Programme	Latest News
USA EPA Tech Direct	Remediation of contaminated soil and groundwater	March 1, 2021
Water Pollution & Flood News	Monthly round-ups of UK & Worldwide Spill and Flood News	Free on request
WestMOPoCo	Western Mediterranean Region Marine Oil & HNS Pollution Co-operation	November 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 john.mcmurtrie@spillcontrol.org if any of the links are not up-to-date.

INCIDENT REPORTS

USA: CALIFORNIA - MARIN COUNTY GROUNDING RESPONSE WINDS DOWN WITHOUT WRECK REMOVAL

March 14 - The pollution prevention response effort for the grounded fishing vessel American Challenger is now over, but the fate of the wreck herself is uncertain. According to the local Press Democrat, the source of financing for a wreck removal project is unclear, and the boat might end up abandoned where she sits on the shore of Bodega Bay, California.

On Sunday, the response command reported that the wreck had rolled onto its side, and further boardings have been discontinued for safety. No sheening near the vessel has been reported since Wednesday, and the command believes that the risk of oil pollution appears to be minimal. After a net environmental benefit analysis, NOAA and the California Department of Wildlife recommended removing the containment booms, and pollution control teams are scheduled to begin reeling them back in on Monday. The Maritime Executive / [Read more](#)



GREECE: TWO CARGO SHIPS COLLIDE OFF KYTHERA

March 14 - On Saturday, two cargo ships collided about 10 miles to the west of the Greek island of Kythera. [Photos](#) from the scene taken Sunday show that the *Kiveli's* bow contacted the *Afina I's* hull amidships on the port side. The vessels remained connected after the collision. According to the Joint Search and Rescue Coordination Center of the Hellenic Coast Guard, the collision resulted in water ingress in both vessels, but no pollution has been observed. The vessel's crews were not harmed. Four patrol boats and one pollution response vessel were dispatched to the scene, accompanied by several good samaritans. A private salvage company was contracted to respond and secure the vessels' safety. The Maritime Executive / [Read more](#)

CARIBBEAN SEA: COULD THE VENEZUELAN OIL TANKER STILL POSE AN ENVIRONMENTAL THREAT?

Photo: Gary Aboud, corporate secretary of Fishermen and Friends of the Sea (FFOS), visits the FSO Nabarima on October 16, 2020. Screenshot taken from FFOS video, posted on YouTube by guns21111.



March 15 - In October 2020, the Trinidad and Tobago-based non-profit Fishermen and Friends of the Sea (FFOS) [drew public attention](#) to the fact that a Venezuela-flagged oil tanker, estimated to contain as much as 1.3 million barrels of crude oil, appeared to be leaning to one side off a remote stretch of the country's coast in the Gulf of Paria in the Caribbean Sea, potentially posing a threat to both ecosystems and livelihoods.

Months after news of the FSO Nabarima has faded from the headlines, several questions surrounding its integrity and the offloading process remain unanswered. On March 9, Cari-Bois News reached out to the Embassy of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela to the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago requesting an update on the status of the offloading process; at the time of publication, there had been no response. Global Voices / [Read more](#)

ISRAEL: SHORELINE OIL POLLUTION UPDATES

Editor: Readers please be aware that some reports may have a political agenda.

March 15 - An Oil Spill Nobody Owns - What does the continuing, low-intensity conflict between Israel and Iran have to do with the mysterious oil spill that has washed ashore along the coast of Israel and southern Lebanon in recent weeks, leaving a costly ecological disaster? Nothing at all was the first assumption. But as more information comes to light, the two may be intimately linked.

The first sign that Iran and Israel were involved in an asymmetric naval conflict came with reports of an attack against an Israeli-owned merchant vessel in the Gulf of Oman in late February. That's obviously a long way from the Mediterranean. But then two weeks later, an Iranian state-run shipping company reported an attack on one of its vessels in the eastern Mediterranean off the Syrian coast. Speculation soon followed that this could have been Israel's response to the earlier attack on its commercial vessel – only for it then to emerge in a Wall Street Journal report last week that the attack was apparently part of an Israeli campaign against Iranian cargo vessels and oil tankers over the last 18 months that has reportedly targeted a dozen vessels.

So could the oil spill have actually been an unexpected consequence of Israel's own clandestine campaign against Iran, as some media outlets have already speculated? In the wake of the Wall Street Journal report, Israel's defence minister on Sunday denied that Israel bore any responsibility for the damage along the coast. The Maritime Executive / [Read more](#)

March 15 - Israel says tanker owned by Syrian family caused oil spill - The owners of the *Emerald*, the tanker believed to have spilled massive amounts of oil off the Israeli coast in February, have been identified, the Environmental Protection Ministry revealed Sunday. According to an independent investigation by the private intelligence agency Black Cube, the tanker - registered in the Marshall Islands - is owned by a company called Emerald Marine Ltd. i24 News / [Read more](#)

March 16 - Oil spill off Israel's coast reveals Iranian smuggling dangers - Wildlife victims of Israel's largest ecological disaster include a whale, turtles, birds and fish, and gobs of tar have polluted beaches in the southeastern Mediterranean Sea from the Sinai Peninsula to southern Lebanon. The most contaminated are the shores of Israel and the Gaza Strip. Environmentalists say it could take years to clean up the damage. Bad as the spill off Israel was, it involved only 1,000 tons of crude oil – and the *Emerald* holds 90,000 tons. AIJAC / [Read more](#)

INCIDENT REPORTS (CONTINUED)

March 16 - Israel's Environment Protection Minister Gila Gamliel said Iran was behind the spill, accusing it of "ecological terrorism," though Israel's defense establishment has not confirmed that this is indeed the case. Meanwhile, dispelling rumors that Israel itself was accidentally responsible for the spill as part of its campaign against Iranian oil tankers, Israel's Defense Minister Benny Gantz firmly dismissed this theory. JNS / [Read more](#)

March 17 - Environment Ministry declares oil spill emergency over - 82% of beaches reopened to public; cleanup operation to continue. One month after Israel's coastline was devastated by tar from an oil spill at sea, the Environmental Protection Ministry on Wednesday declared the emergency over, though the cleanup operation is still ongoing. The Times of Israel / [Read more](#)

MALAYSIA: SOURCE OF POLLUTION IN WATERS OF TANJUNG TUAN CLASSIFIED AS 'OIL SPILL DRIFT'

March 17 - The source of pollution that occurred in the waters of Tanjung Tuan to Teluk Kemang, Negeri Sembilan, due to the oil spill detected on Oct 12 last year, has been classified as "oil spill drift". Melaka Environment Department director Rosli Othman said this, following the results of the oil sample analysis, which could not identify the party responsible for the pollution. "In collaboration with the Marine Department, we had taken six oil samples from four ships suspected of being involved in causing the oil spill in the waters of Tanjung Tuan. The samples were then sent to the Department of Chemistry for analysis to identify those responsible.

"However, the samples obtained at sea, on the beaches and from ships did not match...meaning there is no case for us to prosecute anyone for this incident," he told reporters after a working visit by Melaka state executive councillor for Housing, Local Government and Environment, Datuk Seri Abdul Ghafar Atan to Pantai Cermin in Tanjung Tuan here today. The Edge Markets / [Read more](#)

USA: FLORIDA - COAST GUARD OVERSEES DIESEL SPILL CLEAN-UP NEAR MARQUESAS AFTER VESSEL FIRE



March 18 - The Coast Guard is currently overseeing diesel spill clean-up operations after the 100-foot vessel, La Dolce Vita, caught fire Tuesday near Marquesas.

The vessel captain radioed Coast Guard Sector Key West watchstanders reporting the fire on Ch. 16. All six people aboard safely evacuated using the vessel's small boat and were escorted to shore by a Station Key West rescue crew. The fire reportedly started on the starboard generator.

The owner of the vessel is taking responsibility to contain and remove the resulting diesel spill. A commercial salvage crew deployed boom

Wednesday to contain a visible light sheen. The La Dolce Vita was reportedly carrying nearly 4,500 gallons maximum capacity of diesel, but it is unknown how much of the product was discharged. The cause of the fire is under investigation.

"Right now, the Coast Guard's main concern is the environmental threat," said Chief Petty Officer Thomas Goggans, Coast Guard Sector Key West incident management supervisor. "The location of the fuel spill is within a National Marine Sanctuary and a U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Refuge." US Coast Guard / [Read more](#) Related Report in [The Maritime Executive](#)

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.
