

## ISCO & THE ISCO NEWSLETTER

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

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

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## INTERNATIONAL NEWS

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## BETTER REGULATION NEEDED TO PREVENT MARINE DISASTERS

MARITIME POLLUTION: NO LONGER A DROP IN THE OCEAN



*Within days of X-Press Pearl fire hundreds of dead marine animals washed ashore  
(Photo/Sri Lanka Port Authority)*

June 29 - X-Press Pearl, the cargo ship that sank off Sri Lanka, earlier this month, is just the latest shipping disaster to have struck. Over the decades, maritime pollution has reached dangerous levels due to accidents, spills, fires or simply dumping of wastes. It is time for governments to get together and crackdown on an industry that goes largely unchecked, despite patchy safety and pollution track record.

After two weeks of on-board fire, the Singapore-registered container ship X-Press Pearl split into two earlier this month and sank just off the coast of Sri Lanka, while the other half followed suit soon afterwards.

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## INTERNATIONAL NEWS (CONTINUED)

The cargo ship was carrying 1,486 containers, including 23 tonnes of nitric acid, a highly corrosive and inflammable chemical. Even before the ship had begun to sink, dozens of containers fell off into the sea, spilling their contents. Within hours, the coastal area of Sri Lanka close to the site of the disaster was covered with millions of microgranules of plastics as well as other toxic material.

The ship also carried hundreds of tonnes of fuel oil that spilled in the sea, threatening marine life in one of the richest parts of the Indian Ocean, besides ruining some of the most pristine beaches of the country that is often referred to as the Emerald Island.

Sure enough, within days over 100 carcasses of turtles with throat and shell damage, as well as a dozen of dead dolphins and a blue whale, washed ashore. Anil Jasinghe, secretary of the environment ministry, told media that the animals died due to burns and also due to chemicals. Activists say that the actual number of marine animals that died due to the disaster could be several times more. Experts warned that Sri Lanka may have mildly acidic rains due to the disaster and also banned fishing in the area, impacting nearly 6000 fishing vessels.

X-Press Pearl was just one of dozens of very serious shipping disasters that have occurred around the globe since the Exxon Valdez incident in 1989 which ran aground in Alaska, spilling millions of gallons of oil that contaminated over 2000 km of Alaskan coastline and caused the death of thousands of birds, fish and other animals. Reports suggest that almost 30 years later, despite a huge cleanup effort, traces of oil can still be found in Alaska.

Exxon Valdez was as severe a warning as possible to deliver to the world that it needed to be more cautious and protective of its seas. But it seems to have been duly ignored as the last 30 years have seen hundreds of marine accidents, including some matching or even exceeding the damage caused by Valdez, leaving deep impact on the marine life across the world, even as the oceans battled the toxic effects of climate change and global warming that have exacerbated every succeeding year.

Just last year has seen over a dozen major shipping disasters in places as distant as Brazil and Mauritius. In July last year, a Japanese bulk carrier MV Wakashio ran aground on a coral reef near Mauritius and within days spilled over 1,000 tonnes of fuel oil in the sea, leading to the worst-ever disaster to hit the pristine waters and beaches of the Indian Ocean island.

With sharp rise in global trade over the past 30 years, shipping industry has increased multifold in size, both individual ships as well as the number of ships afloat around the world. This poses a twin set of problems for the world, both with serious impact on pollution and climate change.

While the modern ships may have better safety standards, but their sheer size means that the impact of even a single accident is several times more than the ships of smaller sizes, carrying the same cargo. One recent example of what the super-large sizes can mean to the environment or the seas is from the obstruction of Suez Canal by Ever Given, one of the largest container ships in the world. It remained blocked in the world's busiest canal for nearly 10 days, leading to severe disruptions in the trade. Fortunately, it did not directly cause any pollution, but it gave a foretaste of how inadequately prepared the world and its ports are to handle super-sized ships, economical as they may be for shipping companies. Media India Group / [Read more](#) [Thanks to Dan Sheehan, Hon.FISCO, Member of ISCO Executive Committee]

## MORE INTERNATIONAL NEWS IN BRIEF

### UN AGENCY TAKES OVER NIGERIA'S OGONI CLEAN-UP FROM HYPREP

The board of the Hydrocarbon Pollution and Remediation has said 70 per cent of the clean-up of impacted sites in Ogoniland, Rivers State, will now be managed by the United Nations Environment Programme.

A member on the board of HYPREP and prominent Ogoni activist, Celestine Akpobari, disclosed this on Monday in Port Harcourt. Akpobari said before the change, UNEP was overseeing few aspects of the clean-up, adding that it was no longer in the hands of the HYPREP to decide the activities of the clean-up exercise.



## MORE INTERNATIONAL NEWS IN BRIEF (CONTINUED)

He recalled that the environmental report on the pollution in Ogoni land was undertaken by UNEP. “The report we are talking about was carried out by UNEP. So if they manage the clean-up, they will be able to say from now to three months’ time; we want to achieve this.

“Imagine the last administration... they were supposed to spend \$800m in four years. They ended up spending only about \$30m. UNEP will not be like that,” he stated. [MSN / Read more](#)

## IOPC FUNDS ONLINE SHORT COURSE 2021

The annual IOPC Funds Short Course, which was held online this year for the first time, took place between 14 and 25 June 2021.

Rather than the usual week-long intensive course, the programme was adapted to run three hours per day over the course of the two weeks, to ensure participants from various time zones were able to actively participate.

This year’s course was attended by participants from 21 Member States of the 1992 Fund, representing maritime administrations, national coast guards and others, with nine Member States participating in the course for the first time. [IOPC Funds / Read more](#)

## NEWS REPORTS FROM AROUND THE WORLD

### AUSTRALIA: AUSMEPA CLOSES AFTER 20 YEARS

March 31 - The Australian Marine Environment Protection Association (AUSMEPA) is closing its doors after more than 20 years of working to protect Australia’s precious marine environment.

In a letter announcing the closure, AUSMEPA chairman Captain Warwick Norman, AM and its executive officer Julie Nash said the organisation’s ability to attract sufficient corporate support has been “overwhelmingly challenging”.

“The impact of the coronavirus pandemic has affected AUSMEPA along with many other organisations who rely on corporate giving for survival,” they wrote.

“The understandable lack of business confidence has had a knock-on effect to AUSMEPA’s corporate memberships and donations and has made finding new members and sponsorship exceedingly difficult.” [Daily Cargo News / Read more](#)

### AUSTRALIA: NEW AMSA INITIATIVE ON GHOST FISHING



June 29 - Ghost fishing is a term used for abandoned, lost or discarded fishing gear and is one of the most harmful marine plastics in our oceans. Marine mammals, seabirds’, turtles and even sharks are getting entangled or ingesting ghost fishing gear potentially causing slow and painful deaths through injury and starvation. Valuable fish stocks are also being lost, ultimately affecting those who depend on fish for their livelihood.

You can help prevent ghost fishing in the marine environment by:

- Storing waste fishing gear such as cut-off lengths of rope or line, damaged floats or lures and used cyalumes (glow sticks) in closed containers.
- Checking lines and nets regularly for damage.
- Trying to retrieve snagged gear where safe to do so.
- Stowing your gear securely when not in use.

Disposing waste fishing gear appropriately when back on shore is also important—read more about [how you can control waste onboard](#).

The Australian Government has launched a Ghost Nets Initiative to address the issue of ghost nets and marine debris littering northern Australian waters and beaches. This initiative will be delivered by Parks Australia over the next three years to improve our ocean and reduce threats to our marine life. To find out more visit the [Parks Australia website](#).

## CANADA: WEST COAST CLEANUP NETS OVER 200 TONNES OF MARINE DEBRIS



June 28 - For weeks at a time, crews have been scouring remote sections of the West Coast — digging out massive fishing nets, hauling lines, tossing thousand of buoys and shifting mountains of Styrofoam to try to make a dent in the ocean refuse finding its way onto B.C.'s wildest shores.

A shocking 210 tonnes of flotsam and plastic detritus was removed over six weeks from a mere 300 kilometres of the province's intricate 25,000-kilometre shoreline during this year's massive cleanup of the ecologically sensitive foreshores of the Great Bear Rainforest.

"It's just perpetual. It just keeps washing ashore," said Scott Benton, executive director of the Wilderness Tourism Association. The industrial-scale effort involved a fleet of nine small-ship ecotourism vessels crewed by 150 people who would have otherwise been out of work this May and June due to COVID-19 travel restrictions, Benton said.

The undertaking also required an immense barge, a helicopter, a contingent of small boats and partnerships with the Kitsoo/Xai'xais, Gitga'at, Haisla, and Gitxaala nations. National Observer / [Read more](#)

## CANADA: HOW WILL THE TMX PIPELINE AFFECT MARINE SHIPPING IN THE SALISH SEA?

June 22 - The transport of oil by ships is no stranger to [controversy](#). But the tempo of that debate is sure to increase as the Trans Mountain Expansion (TMX) project heads for completion at the end of 2022, with all three berths operating at full capacity later in 2023, placing any potential risks to coastal ecosystems from increased tanker traffic firmly in the public spotlight.

Clear Seas recently published a study on [Vessel Traffic in Canada's Pacific Region](#) and it provides fresh insights and important context to the discussion – particularly around its impact on ship traffic through an increase in the number of oil tankers. Given that statistics are widely used on both <https://clearseas.org/en/blog/how-the-tmx-pipeline-will-affect-marine-shipping-in-the-salish-sea/> sides of the issue to advance deeply held positions, our research team sought to ensure that the most accurate information is being considered. That is why we are releasing this updated summary that looks at the effect of the TMX project on regional ship traffic and the quantity of oil that these ships will carry. It's important to emphasize that this analysis is not a measure of risk, but an impartial measure of vessel traffic with valuable added context. The methodology we used to calculate traffic is at the bottom of this blog.

One certainty is that as a result of the TMX project, oil tankers will become a more common sight in the Salish Sea, likely as common as container ships. The Clear Seas analysis predicts that when the project is fully on stream, the additional tankers collecting the oil from the TMX project could represent a nine per cent increase in commercial ship traffic travelling through the Strait of Juan de Fuca, or a thirteen per cent increase in that traffic bound for Canadian ports. Clear Seas / [Read more](#) [Thanks to Gerald Graham]

## FINLAND: AUTHORITIES ACTIVELY USING EMSA'S REMOTELY PILOTED AIRCRAFT TO SUPPORT VITAL COAST GUARD TASKS OVER THE BALTIC SEA



June 16 - The Finnish Border Guard will be using EMSA's remotely piloted aircraft services over the coming weeks from the base of Hanko to provide increased situational awareness for an array of different operational tasks in areas such as search and rescue, maritime safety and security, customs and border control, environmental protection and general law enforcement at sea.

Modern surveillance technology has much to offer governmental authorities working in the maritime domain and the Finnish Border Guard intends to make the most of EMSA's remotely piloted aircraft, both directly and in cooperation with other national authorities. While the flights will be performed in Finnish airspace, mission planning and data is also being coordinated and shared with both Sweden and Estonia. Part of

EMSA's regional RPAS service, this collaboration will allow the countries involved to create a common maritime picture and where appropriate to respond in close coordination with each other. EMSA / [Read more](#)



## KENYA: HUGE RAILWAY PROJECT IS CAUSING ENVIRONMENTAL DAMAGE.

June 28 - Kenya is constructing a railway line that connects the coastal port of Mombasa and the interior of the country. It is expected to terminate at Malaba, a town on the border with Uganda, and link up with other railways that are being built in East Africa. It's locally known as the Standard Gauge Railway (SGR).

Although the actual land area affected by the railway itself is small, parts of it are raised and it cuts through a wide range of the country's ecologically fragile and important ecosystems. For instance, the railway cuts across Tsavo Conservation Area (which supports about 40% of Kenya's elephant population) and the Nairobi National Park. It also traverses range lands in southern Kenya that support pastoral communities and are vulnerable to the impacts of climate and changes in land use. The Conversation / [Read more](#)

## MAURITIUS: MOL LAUNCHES CHARITABLE TRUST IN MAURITIUS AFTER WAKASHIO GROUNDING

June 28 - Mitsui O.S.K Lines (MOL) has established a charitable trust in Mauritius, pending the launch of a MOL Japanese Foundation, to support environmental and social projects.

This move is explained by the fact that it had chartered the MV Wakashio that later ended up grounding on the reefs of Pointe-d'Esny, on the south-east coast of the Indian Ocean, island on July 25, 2020. The grounding resulted in an oil spill in its pristine lagoon, the first for this island highly dependent on tourism.

The Japanese shipping company says it has been working with the Wakashio's owner, Nagashiki Shipping, and the Mauritian authorities on mangrove and coral reef rehabilitation projects on the southeast coastline affected by the oil spill. The trust will receive an initial funding of 300 million yen and will be managed locally by hand-picked professionals. A total of 800 million yen (approx. USD \$7.24 million) will be injected in the trust. gCaptain / [Read more](#)

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

June 28 – Please click on the links below to read the latest New Reports from NOAA OR&R

[OR&R Disaster Preparedness Program Hosts Hurricane Preparedness Summit](#)

On June 21 and 23, the OR&R Disaster Preparedness Program (DPP) hosted its annual Hurricane Preparedness Summit. The two-day conference, which was facilitated by the University of New Hampshire's Coastal Response Research Center (CRRC) covered a range of hurricane preparedness and response topics.

[New West Coast Oil Spill Data](#)

The Pacific States/British Columbia Oil Spill Task Force—an organization comprised of representatives from state and provincial environmental agencies in the Pacific coastal area—collects and shares data on oil spills, coordinates oil spill prevention projects, and promote regulatory safeguards to improve prevention, preparation, and response to oil spills on a state and provincial level.

[Marine Debris Program Interviewed for National Children's Museum Podcast](#)

On June 24, the Marine Debris Program's (MDP) Monitoring Coordinator Hillary Burgess was featured on the National Children's Museum podcast STEAM Daydream.

## PEOPLE IN THE NEWS

### USA: PRESIDENT JOE BIDEN APPOINTS IMarEST FELLOW TO LEAD ON CLIMATE



June 28 - Dr Richard 'Rick' W. Spinrad, CSci CMarSci FIMarEST, esteemed Fellow of The Institute of Marine Engineering, Science and Technology (IMarEST), has been appointed by President Joe Biden as the new head of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), which plays a key role in protecting the environment.

NOAA has an expansive role in protecting the US economy and environment, including providing weather forecasts, monitoring climate, managing fisheries, and helping with marine commerce. It oversees offices such as the National Weather Service and the National Ocean Service.

In his new role, Rick will be responsible for the strategic direction of the NOAA. He will assist in advancing U.S. weather modelling and prediction, tackle the climate crisis, accelerate the application of new technologies for improved environmental observations, leverage non-governmental and private partnerships, and promote a sustainable blue economy. IMarEST / [Read more](#)

### ISCO WELCOMES NEW MEMBERS

ISCO is pleased to announce 18 new members who have recently joined the organization

#### NEW PROFESSIONAL MEMBER IN ABU DHABI, UAE

**Ihab El-Saftawi (MISCO)** - Ihab El Saftawi has joined ISCO as a Professional Member (MISCO). He is Senior Specialist in Oil Spill and Hazmat Response with ADNOC in Abu Dhabi, UAE.

#### NEW CORPORATE MEMBERS IN VIETNAM, CANADA, UK, ISRAEL, INDIA and USA.

**Vietnam Environmental Incident Response Center ("SOS Center")** has a network of the response stations in many provinces and cities in Vietnam (up to 90 stations by January 2021). They have responded to 110 environmental incidents so far, especially on land and near shore. SOS Center provides an important role in fast, effective responding to oil/chemical spills that occur on land (factories, industrial zones, warehouses, roads...), on water (ports, harbors, jetties, waterways, shorelines...) by the stand-by forces of the SOS Center's response station(s) at the nearest distance to the incident location.

**RESTCo** is a federally incorporated, privately held, Canadian business. It was established in 2010 by a number of like-minded individuals to work together with remote (off-grid) communities, notably in the Canadian Arctic and Boreal regions, to reduce the vulnerability of their energy systems. RESTCo operates as a collaborative, bringing together the expertise of our principals and a network of experts. Between our principals we boast over 170 years of experience in diverse fields including oil spill response.

**Marittima Ltd.** is a UK-based Marine environmental consultancy providing emergency response to oil spills and salvage incidents, claims assessments, post-incident environmental damage and restoration advice. Other services include training, contingency planning, as well as ESG policy development and due diligence for the maritime sector.

**M. Danchor Ltd.** was established at June 2015, due to growth in maritime activities and increase of oil & gas drilling activities along the Israeli shoreline. The company has more than 33 years of experience in the maritime and offshore industry and experts in vessels chartering, commercial diving, emergency spill response, salvage and more.

**Log 9 Spill Containment Pvt. Ltd.** is based in India and offers both onshore and offshore spill containment solutions for oils, chemicals, or any other kind of fluid-based spill. The company also provides spill kits for faster response to any unknown or accidental spill and is the manufacturer of SORBENE products. These are sorbents made with Graphene, the wonder material. This is a range of spill containment products made using innovative and patented technology that makes these products unique and offers major advantages compared with other absorbent products available in the market.

**Nuka Research and Planning Group LLC.**, based in USA with offices in in Seldovia, Alaska and Plymouth. Massachusetts, is an environmental consulting firm offering a range of services to support policy development, planning, training, outreach and facilitation for international clients in industry, government, and non-profit sectors. Nuka Research has experience working on a range of projects including environmental sampling, all-hazards and oil spill contingency planning, geospatial data management and visualization, maritime risk assessment, training and exercise facilitation, and policy research and analysis.

#### **NEW INDIVIDUAL MEMBERS**

Dr Theodore Topolski (Switzerland)  
Sonny Isu (Nigeria)  
Wu Yue (China)  
Kayode Peter Balogun (Nigeria)  
Basseyy Okon Basseyy (UK)  
Fatima Aruwa (Nigeria)

Mahmoud Ibrahim-Mahmoud (Nigeria)  
Xudong Ye (Canada)  
Ms Larissa Montas (USA)  
Miss Akshaya Thakku Rajan (India)  
Wen Ji (USA)

### MINUTES OF ISCO ZOOM MEETING HELD ON 24<sup>th</sup> JUNE 2021

The Meeting was held at 1400 hrs. EDT and hosted by Mary Ann Dagleish, VP (Membership).

[Please excuse any misspellings of names of attendees.]

### Present

Dan Sobieski  
John McMurtrie  
Carlos Sagrera  
MOIG  
Larissa Montas  
Dave Westerholm  
Dan Sheehan  
Hughie Conton  
Matthew Sommerville

Andy Nicoll  
Mike Watson  
Jader Cordenas  
Akshaya Thakku Rajan  
Jane Delgrado  
Marc Shaye  
Kayode Balogun  
Neil Marson  
Sylvanus Ngene

Bill Boyle  
Jader Cardenas  
Oscar Villadiago  
John Noble  
Amir Murod  
Mike Lawson  
Starry B.  
Mary Ann Dalgleish

Neil Marson discussed his involvement in ISAS as interim manager and executive director. There should be no conflict between ISCO and ISAS.

Neil Marson gave a report on adding Ambassadors. Carlos Sagrera, Ambassador to Spanish speaking countries, reported on reaching out to various companies.

Mike Watson discussed update on data base and marketing program. Information sheets have been sent to all corporate members asking for information regarding their companies. Info will be included in data base. Marketing is relative to advertising in Newsletter. Have received several inquiries.

Marc Shaye recommended we implement a recognition program for members who meet standards for environmental excellency. Dan Sheehan and Marc Shaye will work on this program.

Jane Delgrado updated LinkedIn information. Requested everyone log into LinkedIn.

Clean Pacific will be virtual and in person in Seattle this August. Looking for someone to man the booth in person or will participate virtually. To be determined. Jane Delgrado said Ohmsett will not participate in Clean Pacific this year.

The next meeting will remain at 9:00 am edt (Detroit, MI USA) on July 22nd. We will alternate meeting times between 9am and 3pm (Detroit, MI USA time)

[Thanks to Mary Ann Dalgleish, VP (Memnership), for compiling the minutes]

## NEWS FROM ISCO MEMBERS

If you have some news you would like to share with readers of the ISCO Newsletter, send it to [John.McMurtrie@spillcontrol.org](mailto:John.McMurtrie@spillcontrol.org)

### OSRL NEWSLETTER FOR JUNE 2021

In this issue, we bring you our latest insights article - Developing Leaders for a Crisis - Ego is the Enemy.

Recordings of our recent seminars are available on our Technical Library and we have included a link at the bottom of the newsletter so you can find them easily. Recent topics covered include Common Questions about Dispersants, the Complexities of Inland Response and Wildlife Response in the Incident Management System. [Download the OSRL Newsletter](#)

## ISCO STUDENTS, TRAINEES & APPRENTICES CORRESPONDENCE PAGE

ISCO offers a free one year trial membership for students, trainees and apprentices who are making a career in our industry.

Our recently joined Student Members have been invited to share news of their activities with the aim of creating opportunities for sharing information and possibilities for ideas-exchange and co-operation. Please note that the ISCO discussion group on Linked-in also provides a good platform for correspondence and ideas-sharing.

This week we hear from **Akshaya Thakku Rajan** of the Indian Institute of Technology in Madras, India.

"I am in the third year of my PhD program and my research topic focuses on "Oil spill weathering and its interactions with the Biological Carbon Pump". Currently I am working on marine oil snow (MOS) formation mechanisms.

Please feel free to contact me regarding this". [trakshaya96@gmail.com](mailto:trakshaya96@gmail.com)

Recently, Zoom meeting host Mary Ann Dalgleish made a proposal that our Student Members nominate one of their number to act as an "ISCO ambassador" to help develop and co-ordinate a students, trainees and apprentices group within ISCO.

In response, Student Member **Kayode Peter Balogun** has written to volunteer to act in this role. He writes –

I hail from Nigeria, was born in the city of Lagos, Nigeria. A passionate environmentalist and oil spill responder with 6 years experience working with National Oil Spill Detection and Response Agency, Nigeria in the department of Oil Field Assessment before

## ISCO STUDENTS, TRAINEES & APPRENTICES CORRESPONDENCE PAGE (CONTINUED)

proceeding for a Ph.D programme in Environmental Biology and Public Health option at the Federal University of Technology, Akure (FUTA).

I am presently working on the potentials of some plants cultivars in the phytoremediation of crude oil. This research is expected to provide information on the potential of the cultivars to remediate the environment and as well provide information on the suitability of the fruits developed on crude oil polluted site for human consumption.

I had initially been awarded a MSc. degree in the aforementioned programme (Environmental Biology and Public Health at the Federal University of Technology, Akure) after a successful completion of a Bachelor's degree in Plant Science at the Ekiti State University, Nigeria". [balogunkayodepeter@yahoo.com](mailto:balogunkayodepeter@yahoo.com)

This offer to help is currently being considered by the ISCO Committee.

## CORRESPONDENCE

### REQUEST FOR ASSISTANCE

My name is Daniela Keesler, I am a professor and researcher at the Universidad Nacional del Centro in Argentina. I am looking for information and statistics on oil spills on offshore production platforms. I would like to know if you have statistics on this type of spill, or if you can guide me where I could find information on this. Please reply to : [daniela.keesler@fio.unicen.edu.ar](mailto:daniela.keesler@fio.unicen.edu.ar)

## SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

### NEW TOOL FOR SPILL RESPONSE TRAINING IN PORT AREAS

June 11 - Cedre has equipped itself with facilities characteristic of port areas, allowing to train in the containment and recovery of hydrocarbons or chemicals that may occur in these complex environments, in order to put trainees in situations during practical training.

Two aluminum pontoons (9 meters by 3 meters) from the port of Concarneau in redevelopment, have thus begun a second life in the basins of Cedre. These some 54 m<sup>2</sup> of floating platform have been equipped with an electric terminal and a fuel refuelling station. A retention with a gas oil storage tank under liftable gratings as well as networks of gutters along the banks will make it possible to propose new scenarios of oil spills in real life to our trainees. CEDRE / [More info](#)

### NEW MATERIAL INSPIRED BY SPIDER SILK COULD HELP SOLVE OUR PLASTIC PROBLEM



*a picture of the spider silk made into disposable food containers*

June 16 - To tackle the issues of environmental damage, we need more sustainable materials that we can recycle or that biodegrade. There's been a surge in plant-based plastics, but many of these can only be composted using industrial processes, not by people at home.

Now researchers at the University of Cambridge have found a way to make plastic from abundant and sustainable plant proteins. Inspired by spider silk, the film works in a way similar to other plastics, but it can be composted at home.

The new research has investigated the potential use of a biodegradable and renewable polymer, such as soy protein, to make a new material that could be an alternative to other plant-based plastics.

The researchers created a plant-based plastic and added nanoparticles – particles smaller than one millionth of a metre. This meant they could control the structure of the material to create flexible films, with a material that looks like spider silk on a molecular level. They've called it a "vegan spider silk".

The team used various techniques, including scanning electron microscopy and transmission electron microscopy to study the structure of the film. They analysed important properties, such as barrier properties and moisture absorption. They found the nanoparticles helped to increase the various properties – strength and long-term durability and stability – significantly. World Economic Forum / [Read more](#)

### TESTING BEACH CLEANERS FOR RECOVERING PARAFFIN AND PALM OIL

As part of a project devoted to improving knowledge of pollution by paraffin and palm oil, Cedre conducted trials with a tractor-towed beach cleaner and a walk-behind beach cleaner on its man-made beach. For each equipment test, fragments of different sizes of paraffins (2 refined and 1 semi-refined) and one palm oil were deposited on the beach. The criteria for determining the effectiveness of clean-up were the recovery rate and the fragmentation of the balls due to vibration. At the end of these trials, recovery by both



types of beach cleaner proved to be successful with very satisfactory recovery rates. In terms of fragmentation, although it appeared to be very limited, it was shown to be dependent on the physical properties of the substance (such as the solidification point) which will therefore be an element to take into account when defining recovery strategies. CEDRE / [May 2021 Newsletter](#)

### SPARC TECHNOLOGIES: INTRODUCING GRAPHENE-BASED ENVIRONMENTAL REMEDIATION TECHNOLOGY

June 21 - South Australian-based company Sparc Technologies Limited (ASX:SPN) has secured a US patent for graphene-based materials. These materials can provide new technology for environmental remediation to remove heavy metals from water and convert contaminated water into drinking water.

With its hydrophobicity, graphene is a suitable material to clean contaminated water from different substances because it can separate toxins from water. These advantages make it a well-suited material for major uses to solve environmental challenges to help industries take steps towards a more sustainable future.

Sparc's technology could remove contaminants such as Per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS), arsenic, and mercury from water. This technology paves the way towards a sustainable solution to major environmental problems related to contamination with such substances.

The tests performed by Sparc for treatment of contaminated water were carried out using polyamine-modified reduced graphene oxide adsorbent. The study was done on PFAS-contaminated water with the most common PFAS compounds. The results showed that polyamine-modified reduced graphene oxide could be twice as effective as the current techniques used. Azo Nano / [Read more](#)

### HOW ENGINEERED BACTERIA COULD CLEAN UP OILSANDS POLLUTION AND MINING WASTE



*Oilsands operations are into their seventh decade, and more than a trillion litres of wastewater now resides in tailings ponds. (Shutterstock)*

June 22 - Crucially, the successes of synthetic biology in the sphere of environmental remediation have not been one-off demonstrations in academic laboratories. They have been proven in the field at sizeable scales and they have taken large bites out of some of the greatest environmental challenges in the world.

Tailings ponds contain organic compounds such as naphthenic acid fraction compounds (NAFCs) and polyaromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs) that are harmful to aquatic life and human health and are notoriously difficult to eliminate from water. They are also teeming with microbial life.

These microbes do not merely survive, but thrive in the contaminated water. They sense, ingest and metabolize the toxic compounds in the water, albeit at very slow rates. My team at the University of British Columbia and our colleagues at Allonnia isolated and studied the genomics of these unique creatures and, in collaboration with Ginkgo Bioworks, are now increasing their appetite for and metabolism of the toxic compounds.

After validating the performance of the micro-organisms in the field, the UBC-Allonnia team designed some of the largest treatment systems of their kind to achieve the rates and scales needed to remediate the water within the timeline prescribed in Alberta's [Tailings Management Framework](#).

We will test our treatment system at the tailings ponds in early 2022 to fine-tune the micro-organisms and the reactors, and assess the risks. Some of these risks include the inefficacy or higher than expected costs of the technology, the potential damage the microbes may cause to the ecosystem and whether regulators and shareholders are comfortable with deploying engineered micro-organisms in the environment. The Conversation / [Read more](#)

## RESEARCHERS COMBAT GHOST FISHING WITH NEW MATERIALS



June 27 - "Sadly, large numbers of nets are lost at sea each year, and lost fishing gear has many negative impacts on both life in the sea and fisheries management. Because the nets are made of synthetic materials such as nylon, which is very resilient and durable, lost and discarded fishing gear continues to catch fish for many years after it enters the sea", he says.

This phenomenon is called 'ghost fishing'. A new centre for research-based innovation (SFI) called DSOLVE is being established at the University of Tromsø, and Christian Karl and his colleagues at SINTEF will be looking into how the plastic used to manufacture fishing gear can be made less harmful to the environment.

Currently, nets that are designed to be degradable are more expensive and less efficient to use than traditional nylon nets. Issues are also being raised about how degradable the materials used to make these nets really are, and whether in fact they represent a truly ecologically sustainable solution.

Researchers from SINTEF will be looking in detail at how new plastic materials break down in the natural environment, and what environmental impacts they have compared with traditional materials.

SINTEF Ocean and SINTEF Industry have been working to address similar problems in the past. Changes in the mechanical properties of conventional nylon nets and a new, and supposedly biodegradable, material have previously been studied over a period of three years. Scientists found that the strength of the new nets was not only weaker than the average for nylon net materials, but that the nets themselves were also less effective in terms of catching efficiency than existing nylon gear.

This is research that requires a cross-disciplinary approach, so a team has been assembled consisting of chemists, microbiologists, physicists, and polymer specialists. This means that Christian Karl from SINTEF Industry and Eduardo Grimaldo from SINTEF Ocean, together with their colleagues from these institutes, will be looking into the microbiological and chemical breakdown and analysis of polymers. The Maritime Executive / [Read more](#)



## UPCOMING WEBINARS

### WEBINAR ANNOUNCEMENT FROM EXXONMOBIL

#### ExxonMobil – Oil Spill Response Knowledge Transfer Webinar Series

ExxonMobil organized a virtual dispersant and herder webinar series in 2020. This year, we intend to hold monthly webinars with a much broader focus by allowing highly experienced OSR experts to transfer their knowledge to attendees.

Alan A. Allen is scheduled for the first webinar. Al will share his knowledge/experience on the evolution of OSR over the last 50 years. Ann Hayward Walker is scheduled for the second webinar. She will share her knowledge/experience related to effective response communications.

The webinars will be held via monthly Zoom calls starting August 10 from 9 – 10 am Houston time (45 min talk + 15 min Q&A) and every first Tuesday of the following months. We intend to continue the webinars indefinitely depending on response and our ability to schedule appropriate speakers.

Anyone interested in participating should email: [lin.zhao@exxonmobil.com](mailto:lin.zhao@exxonmobil.com). We will send a separate invite with additional details about the speakers and their talks for each meeting to those that RSVP.

### GI WACAF – UPCOMING WEBINAR

  
GI WACAF

## GI WACAF webinar series - Season #2

# Webinar #4: wildlife response in case of an oil spill

13 July 2021 at 2:00 pm (GMT+1)

Speakers:

- Christophe Blazy, Technical Adviser, and Saskia Sessions-Puplett, Senior Technical Adviser, Sea Alarm
- Nicky Stander, Preparedness and Response Manager, SANCCOB

Facilitation by:  
Chloé Gondo, GI WACAF Project Coordinator

Also available in French, same date, at 10:00 am GMT+1

**REGISTER NOW**  
Link in description

#### Registration links:

- English session (at 2:00 pm GMT+1 on 13/07/2021): <https://event.webinarjam.com/register/48/4q71gsgy>
- French session (at 10:00 am GMT+1 on 13/07/2021): <https://event.webinarjam.com/register/49/vo94vh7v>

### BASIC CONCEPTS – SECONDARY CONTAINMENT WEBINARS

**Date: Tuesday, July 27, 2021 Time: 11:00 a.m. EDT to Noon**

The Clean Water Act and SPCC regulations govern above ground storage of chemicals, hydrocarbons and other hazardous materials that might find their way into navigable waterways. In this webinar, we will discuss SPCC rules and regulations for general and sized secondary containment systems.

**MIDEL and Vipor Solutions** [Register Now!](#)

The above is one of a series of webinars with a focus on secondary containment. More info can be found in issue 791 of the ISCO Newsletter or visit <https://www.basicconcepts.com/upcoming-events/>



## UPCOMING WEBINARS (CONTINUED)

### UPCOMING WEBINAR FROM UK & IRELAND SPILL ASSOCIATION

14<sup>th</sup> July 2021 – 1500 BST - Knowledge Base: Modelling and data gathering in marine spills

More info and registration - <https://ukeirespill.org/events/knowledge-base-modelling-and-data-gathering-in-marine-spills/>

### WEBINAR FROM PACIFIC STATES/BRITISH COLUMBIA OIL SPILL TASK FORCE

The Pacific States/British Columbia Oil Spill Task Force is hosting a two-part webinar on lessons learned from virtual worst case drills and conducting virtual inspections during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Join members of the Task Force and industry to hear successes and challenges faced while navigating the virtual world – what was gained and what was lost?

We'll also have a discussion about what the future holds – how do we go back or should we? The agenda for both days is available [here](#).

- Day 1: June 30, 10:30 AM-12:00 PM Pacific Time. **Virtual Drills: Worse Case Discharge Exercises**
- Day 2: July 7, 10:30 AM-12:00 PM Pacific Time. **Prevention During COVID: Virtual Inspections**

All webinar details and ZOOM links can be accessed on the Task Force website [here](#). (You'll be asked to sign in but no fee required)

## ONLINE AND OTHER TRAINING COURSES

### SOME USEFUL LINKS

- AUSTRALIA – AMOSC - <https://amosc.com.au/training/>
- AUSTRALIA & NEW ZEALAND – ALGA - <https://landandgroundwater.com/event/pfas-101>
- FRANCE - CEDRE - Click on these links [training catalogue](#) and [2021 calendar](#). We also invite you to visit our new online training space and the training courses offered: <https://elearning.cedre.fr/>
- UK & WORLDWIDE – OIL SPILL RESPONSE LTD. - <https://www.oilspillresponse.com/training/courses/>
- UK & WORLDWIDE – BRIGGS ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES LTD. - <https://www.briggsmarine.com/services/training/>
- USA – TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY – NATIONAL SPILL CONTROL SCHOOL - <http://nscs.tamucc.edu/schedule-2020-2021.html>

If you would like to be listed here, please contact your editor – [john.mcmurtrie@spillcontrol.org](mailto:john.mcmurtrie@spillcontrol.org)

### LLOYDS MARITIME ACADEMY: DIPLOMA FOR HARBOUR MASTERS

Our [Diploma for Harbour Masters](#) will teach you:

- The full scope of the Harbour Master and marine safety management role
- Management of safe navigation and the provision of pilotage and vessel traffic services
- How to investigate important issues related to managing the marine environment
- To examine the key issue of port security, emergency planning and incident response
- How to explore the role of the Harbour Master in relation to the supervision of recreational leisure activities
- Important management roles in personnel management, finance management, strategic planning and public relations.
- Starting 10 November 2021. Delivered by digital learning over 12 months. [More info](#)

### PORTUGAL: INCIDENT COMMAND SYSTEM TRAINING COURSE

From Linked-In - [John Tulloch](#) reshared a post: We've extended your ICS 300-course discount until July 30th, 2021! Yes, all delegates can still enjoy the 10% discount on the Incident Command System (ICS 300) Course and 40% off on our partner's accommodation in Faro, Portugal!

Join us in Portugal from September 8th to 10th, 2021, to learn how to manage an expanding incident using the Incident Command System and also get to network with our speakers, Richard Sims and Maria Mayrinck, and other stakeholders. Register here: <https://lnkd.in/d9a4CEW> #incidentmanagementsystem #Portugal #discountoffer #Portugal

## 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**

US Government solicitations are frequently posted in Technology Innovation News Survey, US EPA Tech Direct and USA Federal Contracts Update. 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.

**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	July 22-23	<a href="#">Meeting of IOPC Funds Governing Bodies</a>	Online
USA & VIRTUAL	August 17-18	<a href="#">Clean Pacific Exhibition &amp; Conference</a>	Renton, WA
VIRTUAL EVENT	TBA	<a href="#">Hazmat Emergency Response Workshop</a>	Online
NETHERLANDS	September 9-10	<a href="#">Envirotech for Shipping Forum</a>	Rotterdam
USA & VIRTUAL	Sept. 13-15	<a href="#">Clean Waterways Conference &amp; Exhibition</a>	Louisville, KY
GERMANY	October 20	<a href="#">HELCOM Ministerial Meeting</a>	Lübeck
UK	Sept 29 – Oct 1	<a href="#">Marine Claims Conference</a>	Edinburgh
USA	Nov. 16-18	<a href="#">Clean Gulf Conference &amp; Exhibition</a>	San Antonio, TX
VIRTUAL EVENT	Nov. 17-18	<a href="#">Emergency Responders Drone Conference 2021</a>	Online
BAHREIN	Nov. 28-30	<a href="#">International Conference &amp; Exhibition on Spills, Clean Seas &amp; Environment</a>	Bahrein
UK	December 1-2	<a href="#">Salvage and Wreck Removal Conference</a>	London
CAMBODIA	December 1-4	<a href="#">East Asian Seas Congress</a>	Sihanoukville
COUNTRY	2022	TITLE OF EVENT	LOCATION
UK	March 15-17	<a href="#">Oceanology International</a>	London
CROATIA	October 25-27	Regional Workshop – Enhancing Preparedness and Response in the Adriatic & Mediterranean Regions	Opatija

Please advise the Editor if any of the above entries require correction or updating. If you are holding an event you would like to be featured here, please send details to [John.mcmurtrie@spillcontrol.org](mailto:John.mcmurtrie@spillcontrol.org)

**MESSAGES FROM EVENT ORGANISERS**

**CROATIA: UPDATES FROM MEDITERRANEAN OIL INDUSTRY GROUP**

Please be informed that after consultation with ATRAC, it was agreed to postpone the Regional workshop on “Enhancing Oil Spill Preparedness and Response in the Adriatic and Mediterranean regions to 25-27 October 2022; in Opatija-Croatia. The MOIG Extraordinary General Assembly will be also postponed to next year. We will fix a new date in the next few months.

**USA: CLEAN PACIFIC CONFERENCE**

You may have already heard that the State of Washington will officially re-open on June 30, which means the Hyatt Regency Lake Washington, venue for the [2021 CLEAN PACIFIC Conference](#), is fully open for business without any restrictions for events. We are very excited to be hosting the in-person CLEAN PACIFIC event, August 17-18, at the Hyatt Regency Lake Washington and can’t wait to get together with our attendees and exhibitors!

**USA: 2021 CLEAN WATERWAYS CONFERENCE PROGRAM**

These [sessions](#) will take place at the Galt House Hotel in Louisville, KY, September 14-15, with a selection of sessions being live-streamed in our virtual platform for those who can’t attend in-person. If you register for CLEAN WATERWAYS by June 25th, you will receive our early bird registration discounts, which offer savings for both in-person and virtual registrations.

**USA: CLEAN GULF - JUST RELEASED: 2021 PRELIMINARY CONFERENCE PROGRAM**

The 2021 CLEAN GULF The [preliminary conference agenda](#), with speakers, is now available! Check out the program and commit to joining your peers in spill prevention and response this November. [Registration](#) [View the full program online](#)

## LINKS FOR DOWNLOADING AND READING OTHER PUBLICATIONS

<a href="#">AMSA Update</a>	Latest News from the Australian Maritime Safety Authority	Current issue
<a href="#">ATRAC Newsletter</a>	News from the Adriatic Training and Research Centre	October 2020
<a href="#">BIMCO Bulletin</a>	Marine and shipping-related news from BIMCO	June 2021
<a href="#">Newsletter from George Holliday</a>	News and commentary on HSE issues from George Holliday	Free on request
<a href="#">Cedre Newsletter</a>	News from Cedre in Brittany, France	April 2021
<a href="#">EMSA Newsletter</a>	News from the European Maritime Safety Agency	June 2021
<a href="#">Environmental Expert</a>	Environmental News from Environmental Expert	Current issue
<a href="#">GDACS Newsletter</a>	Daily alerts for natural disasters – earthquakes, floods, typhoons, etc.	Free on request
<a href="#">GEF Newsletter</a>	Monthly Newsletter from the Global Environment Facility	Subscription
<a href="#">GESAMP</a>	Group of Experts on the Scientific Aspects of Marine Environmental Protection	Latest news
<a href="#">GISEA Quarterly Newsletter</a>	News from Global Initiative for South-East Asia	Q1 2021
<a href="#">IMO News Magazine</a>	News from the International Maritime Organization	Summer 2020
<a href="#">IMO Publishing Newsletter</a>	New and forthcoming IMO publications	September 2020
<a href="#">ITOPF Ocean Orbit</a>	News magazine from ITOPF with interesting spill response articles	February 2021
<a href="#">JOIFF Catalyst Newsletter</a>	Int'l Organisation for Industrial Hazard Management	Latest issue
<a href="#">Maritime Executive Magazine</a>	Often contains articles of interest to the spill response community	Current issue
<a href="#">MED News</a>	UNEP / MAP Barcelona Convention News	April 2021
<a href="#">MOIG Newsletter</a>	News from the Mediterranean Oil Industry Group	June 2021
<a href="#">NCEC Newsletter</a>	News from the National Chemical Emergency Centre	May 2021
<a href="#">Navigate Response</a>	Global crisis communications network for shipping & marine	Current issue
<a href="#">NOAA OR&amp;R</a>	Weekly round-up of news from NOAA's Office of Response & Restoration	Latest issue
<a href="#">Oceanbuzz</a>	Newsletter giving news on the Ocean Technology Industry	Current issue
<a href="#">OCIMF Newsletter</a>	News from the Oil Companies International Marine Forum	Current issue
<a href="#">OHMSETT Gazette</a>	Oil Spill Response Research & Renewable Energy Test Facility Quarterly	Autumn 2020
<a href="#">Oiled Wildlife Log</a>	Bi-annual Newsletter from Tri-State Bird Rescue & Research	May 2021
<a href="#">OSPAR Newsletter</a>	Protecting & Conserving the N.E. Atlantic and its resources	End of year 2019
<a href="#">PEMSEA Newsletter</a>	Healthy oceans, people and economies in the East Asian Seas	Current issue
<a href="#">Pollution Online Newsletter</a>	News for pollution prevention & control professionals	Current issue
<a href="#">Salvage World</a>	Quarterly Newsletter of the International Salvage Union	Current issue
<a href="#">Sea Alarm Foundation Newsletter</a>	Oiled wildlife Preparedness and Response news from Sea Alarm	Current issue
<a href="#">Society of Maritime Industries</a>	News from the UK's maritime engineering and business services sector.	April 1, 2021
<a href="#">Spill Alert</a>	Quarterly Newsletter from UK & Ireland Spill Association	December 2020
<a href="#">Technology Innovation News Survey</a>	News from US EPA – Contaminated Site Decontamination	May 1-15, 2021
<a href="#">The Marine Insurer</a>	Includes latest news on pollution insurance matters	June 2021
<a href="#">The Maritime Advocate</a>	Maritime News from Sandra Speares	Current issue
<a href="#">UNEP News</a>	Latest News from United Nations Environmental Programme	Latest News
<a href="#">USA EPA Tech Direct</a>	Remediation of contaminated soil and groundwater	July 1, 2021
<a href="#">USA Federal Contract Opportunities</a>	The authoritative source for federal contract opportunities	June 20-27, 2021
<a href="#">Water Pollution &amp; Flood News</a>	Monthly round-ups of UK & Worldwide Spill and Flood News	Free on request

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](mailto:john.mcmurtrie@spillcontrol.org) if any links are not up-to-date

## JOB VACANCIES

### GI WACAF IS HIRING A NEW PROJECT MANAGER

**Are you interested in marine environment protection, oil spill preparedness and response, and technical cooperation in Africa? Are you fluent in French? GI WACAF is hiring a new Project Manager!**

The Project Manager is responsible for developing the strategy and implementing the activities of the GI WACAF Action Plan with guidance and instruction from the Steering Committee. He or she will be based in London, UK (can be flexible but with the ability to attend regular meetings in London, UK). The job requires being able to travel internationally approximately 6-8 weeks every year. Ideal start date in post is 1st September 2021. Please see the full offer [here](#).

Applicants are requested to submit a CV and cover letter to [emilie.canova@ipieca.org](mailto:emilie.canova@ipieca.org) and [cgondo@imo.org](mailto:cgondo@imo.org). Applications will be reviewed on a rolling basis. Pre-selected candidates will be interviewed.

## INCIDENT REPORTS

### SRI LANKA: CONTINUING REPORTS ON THE X-PRESS PEARL

REPORTS FROM X-PRESS PEARL - INCIDENT INFORMATION CENTRE <https://www.x-presspearl-informationcentre.com/>

Press Reports are given below – Click on the names of the highlighted publications

**June 30** - X-Press Pearl Investigation Focuses on Communications – [The Maritime Executive](#)

**June 30** - Over 200 rare marine animals died due to chemical leak from sunk ship, hears Sri Lankan court – [The Hindu](#)



July 3 - Fishermen feeling the impact of Sri Lanka ship disaster - [Gruntstuff](#)

### INDIA: PORTUGUESE SHIP SPILLS 10 KL OIL 450 KM OFF CHENNAI

June 17 - The Indian Coast Guard said on Thursday that 10 kilolitres (KL) of oil have spilled into the sea about 450 km southeast of Chennai from a Portuguese flag container ship named MV Devon. On investigation, it was found that MV Devon had developed an underwater crack on the crack on the left side of the fuel tank containing about 120 KL of Very Low Sulphur Fuel Oil (VLSFO) [lansLive / Read more](#)

### JAMAICA: CONTAINER VESSEL DETAINED OVER UNUSUAL OIL SPILL

June 27 - The ship should have left the Port of Kingston on Friday but has been prevented from doing so. An estimated 2,000 litres of heavy crude oil had flowed into the sea at Gordon Cay. Captain Steven Spence of the Maritime Authority of Jamaica (MAJ) said the agency's investigation found that the hazardous liquid was stored in flexi bags, as against the conventional method of storage tanks, and that the bags fell victim to Jamaica's high tropical temperature. Spence further explained that instead of being placed in the cargo hold, the container was being transported on the ship's deck and expressed concern about the fact that there were at least 21 more flexi bags on board. [The Gleaner / Read more](#)

June 27 - Oil leak in Kingston Jamaica. Extra bunker kept in flexible tanks? Some allegedly, 2 tons of fuel oil leaked from container ship CFS WIND overboard on Jun 23 at Kingston, Jamaica. The ship was to leave Kingston on Jun 25, but after leak she was detained for investigation and damage assessment. Circumstances of the leak are rather unusual – port authorities believe fuel leaked from damaged flexible fuel tank on deck, during the bunkering process. Not clear bunker tank was replenished from flexible tank, or from bunker tanker or barge. According to port authorities, there are some 21 flexible fuel tanks on board of CFS WIND, which are kept in deck area and, as such, being vulnerable to damages and leaks. [The Maritime Bulletin / Read more](#)

### USA: VIDEO: GOLDEN RAY SECTION THREE CUT COMPLETED AFTER EIGHT WEEKS



July 1 - After possibly its most challenging cut that encountered delays including the fire at the wreck site, the wreck removal team completed the cutting operation to separate section three of the Golden Ray wreck. As with the four previous sections removed from the site, the team will now undertake steps to prepare the section to be lifted onto a barge before it can be removed and eventually sent to the recycling operation. The completion of this cut leaves the team with two cuts and three more sections before the wreck has been cleared.

After the section three separation was completed, the environmental team identified an oil discharge outside the barriers strung around the site. Response vessels contained the oil with an apparatus called a Current Buster. [Martime Executive / Read more](#)

MEXICO: GAS LEAK SPARKS HUGE BLAZE ON OCEAN SURFACE OFF MEXICO



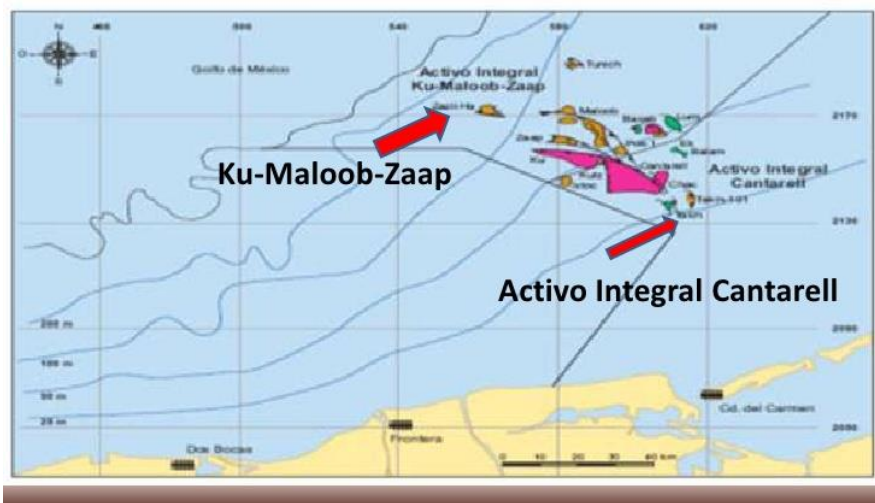
July 3 - A fire on the ocean surface west of Mexico’s Yucatan peninsula has been extinguished, state oil company Pemex said, blaming a gas leak from an underwater pipeline for sparking the blaze captured in videos that went viral.

Bright orange flames jumping out of water resembling molten lava was dubbed an “eye of fire” on social media due to the blaze’s circular shape, as it raged a short distance from a Pemex oil platform early on Friday.

The fire took more than five hours to fully put out, according to Pemex. It began in an underwater pipeline that connects to a platform at Pemex’s flagship Ku Maloob Zaap oil development, the company’s most important, four sources told Reuters earlier. The Guardian / [Watch video and read more](#) Related report in [gCaptain](#)

Report received from Carlos Sagrera, Member of ISCO Council for Panama and ISCO Representante para Región Iberoamericana

**LOS DOS IMPORTANTES YACIMIENTOS EN MÉXICO**



“I imagine that you have already news in English about this incident in an underwater pipeline near the KU-C satellite platform, belonging to the Ku-Maloob-Zaap Production Asset (Sonda de Campeche - See attached map). Here enclosed the official information of PEMEX and some links with Mexican newspapers.

According to PEMEX, the situation was quickly controlled with security protocols activated and the presence of at least of two nearby firefighting vessels (Santa Cruz Island, Campeche Bay). In addition, the interconnection valves in the pipeline were closed, extinguishing the fire and gas emanation, the contingency being concluded around 10 hours after the beginning of the incident and normal operating conditions were reestablished. No injuries or evacuations are reported”

## INCIDENT REPORTS (CONTINUED)

<https://www.excelsior.com.mx/nacional/pemex-informa-detalles-sobre-accidente-en-campeche/1457973>

<https://www.proceso.com.mx/nacional/2021/7/2/sofocan-incendio-que-amenazaba-plataforma-petrolera-de-la-sonda-de-campeche-267067.html>

<https://www.elsoldemexico.com.mx/finanzas/pemex-analiza-causas-del-incendio-en-sonda-de-campeche-complejo-ku-malooob-zaap-6916866.html>

<https://www.elheraldodetabasco.com.mx/republica/pemex-hermetico-ante-presunto-siniestro-en-sonda-de-campeche-6915941.html>

[https://www.excelsior.com.mx/nacional/explota-linea-de-gasoducto-de-pemex-en-el-golfo-de-mexico/1457946?utm\\_source=1457973&utm\\_medium=editorchoice&utm\\_campaign=sidebar](https://www.excelsior.com.mx/nacional/explota-linea-de-gasoducto-de-pemex-en-el-golfo-de-mexico/1457946?utm_source=1457973&utm_medium=editorchoice&utm_campaign=sidebar)

## CANADA: HIGHWAY, RAIL LINE REMAIN CLOSED FOR TAR SPILL CLEANUP AFTER TRAIN DERAILS IN ALBERTA

July 3 - A highway and rail line south of Lacombe, Alta., will remain closed for hours to allow for cleanup after litres of tar oil spilled from a derailed rail car. Lacombe city officials say 22 rail cars were derailed along Highway 2A on Friday night, mainly carrying asphalt oil. They say one rail car released 32,000 litres of tar oil.

On Friday night, RCMP in Blackfalds, Alta., said emergency crews were actively working to contain and manage the spill. Yahoo News / [Read more](#)

## AND NOW FOR SOMETHING COMPLETELY DIFFERENT...

### ISCO MEMBER, ED LEVINE, HAS SENT A LINK FOR THE OIL SONG

Ctrl + Click on the link below to listen to The Oil Song · Steve Forbert - Provided to YouTube by Virtual Label LLC

<https://www.google.com/url?sa=t&rct=j&q=&esrc=s&source=web&cd=&cad=rja&uact=8&ved=2ahUKEwjOsNWY8cnxAhX1RkEAHcg5Bd0Q3ywwAHOECAIQAg&url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.youtube.com%2Fwatch%3Fv%3D-KMtBEgGRc&usg=AOvVaw0h7dT7LICULqtSMBf5jKlc>

Lyrics

"Oh the engine's gone dead, " cried the men who work there  
And she passed up the dock on the wide Delaware  
Then the ship ran aground and the oil got away  
And they penned that report, "The Big Spill" on that day... [More](#)

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## PASSING ON KNOWLEDGE AND EXPERIENCE

By contributing articles and case histories for publication you can help ISCO achieve its objective of advancing response preparedness, professional development and competency.

As the years go by, hard won knowledge and experience is lost as people retire or move on. The benefits of past learning and new R&D work both need to be widely shared.

Articles that pass on valuable know-how are particularly useful – overcoming difficult challenges, innovating, relating what you did, why you did it that way, how you did it and what was achieved.

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