



ISCO & THE ISCO NEWSLETTER

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

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

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INTERNATIONAL NEWS

CLICK ON THE BANNERS BELOW FOR MORE INFORMATION

HOW OCEAN-BOUND PLASTIC IS REIMAGINING PRODUCTS OF THE FUTURE

Ocean-Bound Plastic is plastic waste that exists as pollution in the environment and is bound to eventually end up in the Ocean. It is usually collected from rivers and other waterways within 50km of the coastline. Very often these communities have no formal waste management system. Capturing Ocean-bound plastic before it becomes Ocean plastic is a direct and effective way to limit the damage our Ocean is suffering.



Vancouver-based Plastic Bank says it has stopped 1 billion plastic bottles from entering and polluting the world's Ocean. The global organisation works in partnership with over 17,000 individual collectors across Haiti, the Philippines, Indonesia, Brazil and Egypt to collect plastic and in exchange the collectors receive premiums that help provide basic necessities like groceries, cooking fuel, school tuition and even health insurance.

The material collected in this closed-loop recycling ecosystem is turned into 'Social Plastic' — a resource that acts as a tradeable commodity that goes back into the global

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Mike Watson at
spillcontrol@mwadigital.com

INTERNATIONAL NEWS (CONTINUED)

manufacturing supply chain to create new products and packaging materials. "Social Plastic is a significant milestone that is evidence of our ability to make deliberate environmental, social and economic impact," says David Katz, founder and CEO of Plastic Bank.

As with any tech, there are challenges to overcome. Unlike other recycled plastics, ocean-bound plastic needs to show the source of where the plastic is coming from and how it is being routed through the supply chain. The logistical difficulties that often face the suppliers in developing countries means there is a lack of infrastructure in the supply countries in order to produce the material at a large enough scale to make it cost-effective. This can be a barrier for manufacturers. However the road is an optimistic one, albeit it bumpy.

From clothing and accessories to furniture, household goods and other daily items, the options to choose sustainably sourced goods made from ocean-bound plastic is on the increase. Ocean Generation / [Read more](#)

[Editor: This is an article from Ocean Generation (formerly known as Plastic Oceans) "Since 2009, Plastic Oceans UK have been experts in Ocean plastic pollution. Our award-winning documentary 'A Plastic Ocean', was named by Sir David Attenborough as "one of the most important films of our time" and ignited mass public awareness about the impact of plastic on our Ocean. Through various education programmes, we set out to increase Ocean literacy and stop plastic reaching the Ocean within a generation". [More info](#) Ocean Generation is a charity that benefited from the recently sponsored Ocean Revival team of Royal Marines that rowed 3,700 miles from Brooklyn Bridge in New York to Tower Bridge in London].

MORE INTERNATIONAL NEWS IN BRIEF

IOGP'S NEW STRATEGY – DRIVING PERFORMANCE AND VALUE DELIVERY



August 25 - Over the past eight months the Association conducted a comprehensive strategic review to answer key questions around the current and future format of the Association and effectiveness of its offerings, to address the expected challenges and transitions in the industry and across our Membership. On 28 July, IOGP's Executive Director, Iman Hill, presented the first findings of the review at our virtual Members' Meet Up. IOGP / [Read more](#)

IPIECA: SUSTAINABILITY ARTICLE ROUND-UP

August 26 - The IPIECA monthly article round-up showcases recent sustainability-related achievements, projects and news from IPIECA members and organization--s that IPIECA partners with, demonstrating their commitment to advancing environmental and social performance across oil and gas and achieving the UN Sustainable Development Goals.

The August edition features members collaborating on projects to achieve net-zero carbon shipping and net-zero emissions from Canada's oil sands operations, and puts a spotlight on projects that are advancing green hydrogen production, liquid hydrogen storage solutions, detection of methane leaks, and carbon capture and storage. We also recognise Eni's ongoing commitment to respecting human rights, and share the new strategy from IOGP. IPIECA / [Read more](#)

PERSGA REGIONAL WORKSHOP ON CLAIMS AND COMPENSATION FOR RED SEA AND GULF OF ADEN

Venue: Remote delivery, 13/09/2021. At the invitation of the Regional Organization for the Conservation of the Environment of the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden (PERSGA), the IOPC Funds will deliver a 3-day regional workshop on the international liability and compensation regime for ship-source spills to representatives of States in the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden region. In collaboration with the International Group of P&I Associations, the workshop will provide a detailed review of the benefits of all the relevant liability and compensation Conventions, as well as an overview of the different types of claim and the claims submission process. IOPC Funds / [Read more](#)

CHINA SET TO EXPAND TARGETS FOR MARINE ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION



Photo: Dapeng, Shenzhen (image courtesy sz.gov.cn)

August 23 - In 2017, the 19th National Congress of the Chinese Communist Party set the goal of creating a “Beautiful China” by 2035. An important piece of this puzzle will be revealed in the special five-year plan (FYP) for the marine environment. There have been marine FYPs before, for fishing and the ocean economy, but this will be the first one dedicated to the environment.

President Xi Jinping is now more focused than ever on turning China into a maritime power. He has

repeatedly made instructions on this and it has been included as part of the “two centennial goals”. Protecting the marine environment has been an integral part of this grand strategy. The Maritime Executive / [Read more](#)

CHINA'S UN ENVOY URGES 'A WAY OUT' OF YEMEN'S 'PREDICAMENT'

In the picture - Geng Shuang, China's deputy permanent representative to the UN. (Photo/Foreign Ministry official website)

August 26 - Chinese envoy to the United Nations on Monday called on all parties in Yemen and the international community to "step up their efforts to find a way out of the current predicament" as the Yemeni people, particularly the children, have continued to suffer from economic, humanitarian and political challenges due to the country's ongoing civil war.

Geng Shuang, China's deputy permanent representative to the UN, stressed that a comprehensive cease-fire must be achieved as soon as possible, and that the peace process should be resumed at an early date. "There is no political option for the issue of Yemen, and a political solution is the only way out," Geng told a Security Council briefing on Yemen. ECNS / [Read more](#)



FINLAND: EMSA JOINS THE BALEX DELTA POLLUTION RESPONSE EXERCISE



EMSA is taking part in the Balex Delta 2021 large-scale HNS and pollution response exercise, held on 24 and 25 August.

In the exercise scenario, two tankers collide in the Gulf of Finland, resulting in oil and hazardous materials being released into the sea. The exercise, organised by the Finnish Border Guard, includes participants and resources from Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Germany, Latvia, Poland and Sweden.

EMSA is contributing with the Agency's Oil Spill

Response Vessel (OSRV) Norden, the vessel's on board Remotely Piloted Aircraft System (RPAS), and with additional pollution response equipment from the EMSA Equipment Assistance Service (EAS) for use on board other Member State vessels.

EMSA currently has 17 OSRV on standby around the European coastline ready to react in case of an oil spill emergency. For this exercise, EMSA mobilised the OSRV Norden, based in Malmo, Sweden. The Norden will be joining in with the activities taking place on 25 August, a day dedicated specifically to coordinating large-scale oil spill response operations at sea. The EMSA vessel will use its rigid sweeping arms for oil recovery and will simulate ship-to-ship fuel transfer operations with some of the other participating vessels. EMSA / [Read more](#) [Related Report from the Finnish Defence Forces](#)

MAURITIUS: ONLINE NATIONAL WORKSHOP ON LIABILITY AND COMPENSATION FOR TANKER SPILLS

Venue: Remote delivery, 16/09/2021. The IOPC Funds has been invited to deliver an online workshop on liability and compensation for Mauritius. Organised by the Ministry of Blue Economy, Marine Resources, Fisheries and Shipping, the workshop will be held over two days and provide an overview of the liability and compensation regime, in preparation for a more extensive event to be organised in 2022. IOPC Funds / [Read more](#)

NEW ZEALAND: NATIONAL WORKSHOP ON CLAIMS AND COMPENSATION

Venue: Remote delivery, 06/09/2021. The IOPC Funds have been invited by the government agency, Maritime New Zealand (MNZ), to deliver a three-day online workshop on claims and compensation for oil pollution damage from tanker spills. The workshop will take place on 6, 8 and 10 September 2021 and will cover the legal framework behind the international liability and compensation regime and the financing of the IOPC Funds before focussing on the claims submission and assessment processes.

IOPC Funds / [Read more](#)

QATAR: MME WORKSHOP DISCUSSES DRAFT OF NATIONAL PLAN TO COMBAT OIL POLLUTION



In the picture: Dr Mohamed Ayed al-Shamri addressing the workshop.

August 19 - A five-day workshop by the Ministry of Municipality and Environment's (MME) Department of Industrial Inspection and Pollution Control to discuss the initial draft of the national plan to combat oil pollution and pollution by dangerous and harmful substances started on Wednesday. According to a MME statement, the Industrial Inspection and Pollution Control Department is working on the national plan in co-operation with a specialist international company. This plan is one of the main requirements of the International Convention on Oil Pollution Preparedness, Response and Co-operation (OPRC) and its protocols.

The national plan to combat oil pollution and pollution by dangerous substances in the marine environment aims to raise and strengthen the capabilities of Qatar and the MME in addressing oil pollution incidents. Besides, it aims to promote Qatar's capabilities and exchange reports on important incidents that could affect the marine environment. Gulf Times / [Read more](#)

USA: LATEST NEWS REPORTS FROM NOAA OR&R

August 27 – Please click on the links below to download and read the latest News Reports from NOAA OR&R.

[CLEAN PACIFIC 2021 Conference: Dogs, Frogs, and Mercury](#)

On August 17 - 18, a number of OR&R staff participated in the CLEAN PACIFIC 2021 conference, held both virtually and in-person in Renton, Washington.

[Enhancing Coordination and Support Delivery in Disaster Recovery](#)

On August 10 and 11, representatives from several NOAA Line Offices met to discuss agency roles, responsibilities, and opportunities for enhancing coordination and support delivery in disaster recovery. The workshop was developed by the Disaster Preparedness Program and facilitated by the University of New Hampshire's Coastal Resources Research Center.

[NOAA Drift Cards Found 45 Years Later](#)

Forty-five years ago, on December 15, 1976, the tanker Argo Merchant ran aground near Nantucket Island, Massachusetts. The ship later broke up, spilling 7.6 million gallons of #6 Fuel Oil.

[FEMA Gives Mission Assignment for Henri to New England Regional Preparedness Coordinator](#)

NEWS REPORTS FROM AROUND THE WORLD (CONTINUED)

Prior to Tropical Storm/Hurricane Henri making landfall on August 22, 2021, FEMA gave a mission assignment to William Whitmore, the Disaster Preparedness Program's Regional Preparedness Coordinator based out of Gloucester, Massachusetts.

[Marine Debris Removal Mission Begins in the Papahānaumokuākea Marine National Monument](#)

On August 24, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), with support from the non-profit Papahānaumokuākea Marine Debris Project (PMDP), launched a 30-day mission to remove marine debris from the [Papahānaumokuākea Marine National Monument](#)([link is external](#)).

[Marine Debris Division Provides Briefing for U.S. International Visitor Leadership Program](#)

On August 18, Marine Debris Division staff provided a presentation on the Division's work and the United States Government's approach to addressing marine debris to a group of officials from twelve countries.

[OR&R Highlights Data and Applications at NOAA's Environmental Data Management Workshop](#)

The eleventh annual [Environmental Data Management Workshop](#)([link is external](#)) organized by NOAA took place the week of the August 16. The virtual meeting covered topics that included all facets of data management from collection through archiving.

[Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation Forum Oceans and Fisheries Working Group Meeting](#)

On August 16-17, Marine Debris Division (MDD) staff served on the U.S. delegation to the Seventeenth Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) Oceans and Fisheries Working Group (OFWG) meeting.

[Solicitation of Nominations for Marine Debris Foundation Board of Directors is Reopened](#)

The solicitation of nominations for the Marine Debris Foundation Board of Directors [has been reopened](#)([link is external](#)). The Save Our Seas 2.0 Act of 2020 established the Marine Debris Foundation (Foundation) as a charitable and nonprofit organization to support the efforts of NOAA and other entities to address marine debris and directed the Under Secretary of Commerce for Oceans and Atmosphere to appoint the Foundation's governing Board of Directors (Board).

[Marine Debris Program Supports Grant Writing Training Sessions for Mid-Atlantic Partners](#)

On August 11 and 18, the NOAA Marine Debris Program (MDP), in partnership with the National Marine Sanctuary Foundation, supported two half-day training sessions on applying for grants for the [Mid-Atlantic Marine Debris Action Plan](#) community and regional stakeholders.

[Marine Debris Division Partner Announces \\$412,000 in Fishing for Energy Grants for FY21](#)

On August 19, NOAA Marine Debris Division (MDD) partner, the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF), announced eight grants totaling \$412,000 through the Fishing for Energy partnership to support activities in California, Connecticut, Florida, Maine, Massachusetts, Mississippi, New Jersey, and Oregon to reduce the amount of derelict fishing gear in the marine environment.

[Great Lakes Scientific Support Coordinator Participates in U.S./Canada Equipment Deployment Exercise](#)

On August 18, United States Coast Guard Sector Detroit executed a field operation to validate existing booming plans in the St. Clair River. This evolution is to meet objectives outlined in the Preparedness for Response Exercise Program (PREP) scenario in which a fictitious tanker vessel collides with hard bottom and releases 5,000 barrels of fuel oil into the St. Clair River.

USA: PIPELINE COMPANY PAYS \$35 MILLION TO SETTLE CRIMINAL AND CIVIL ENVIRONMENTAL VIOLATIONS FOR INLAND SPILL OF OIL DRILLING GENERATED WATER

August 25 - In a significant environmental crime enforcement action, the Justice Department resolved criminal charges under the Clean Water Act against Summit Midstream Partners LLC, a North Dakota pipeline company that discharged 29 million gallons of water of produced water from its pipeline near Williston, North Dakota.

In addition to the criminal resolution, the United States and the States of North Dakota resolved civil charges against Summit Midstream and a related company, Meadowlark Midstream, involving violations of the Clean Water Act and North Dakota water pollution control laws. In this parallel enforcement action, Summit Midstream agreed to pay a total of \$35 million in criminal fines and civil penalties. Approximately \$15 million of the \$35 million total constitutes the criminal fines.

Produced water is the waste product of hydraulic fracturing. Summit Midstream discharged more than 700,000 barrels of produced water that contaminated land, groundwater and over 30 miles of tributaries of the Missouri River. The spill is the largest inland spill in history and was visible in photographs taken by satellites orbiting the earth.

Remediation efforts are projected to continue over the next several years. Summit and Meadowlark are required to take affirmative steps to prevent future discharges, including stringent pipeline installation, operation and testing requirements; centralized pipeline monitoring systems; spill response planning and countermeasures; and data management and training measures.

J D Supra / [Read more](#)

COMMUNICATIONS WITH ISCO

Please note that your main point of contact on ISCO matters is Secretary General Neil Marson at neilmarson@virginmedia.com. Matthew Sommerville retired as Secretary General last year and is now ISCO's Ambassador for London.

For all matters concerned with membership your contact is Mary Ann Dalglish, VP (Membership) at mrydetroit@aol.com

For all matters concerned with advertising and entries in the ISCO Directory of Supplies & Services your contact is Mike Watson at spillcontrol@mwadigital.com

For all matters concerned with the ISCO Newsletter your contact is John McMurtrie, Editor, at john.mcmurtrie@spillcontrol.org

APPOINTMENT OF NEW MEMBER OF COUNCIL FOR AZERBAIJAN



ISCO is pleased to announce the appointment of Mr Elkhan Mamedov as the new Member of ISCO Council for Azerbaijan. Elkhan has 25 years of experience in oil spill response in the Caspian Region. He joined the Briggs Environmental team in 1996 and gained experience in spill response, leadership, training, and logistics management. Since 2003 he has been Deputy Manager of the Baku Oil Spill Response Base responsible for national and international Offshore, Shoreline and Onshore Spills Management and Operations. He has also acted as an oil spill advisory specialist for various global oil and gas companies.

ISCO thanks Osman Tarzumanov, former Oil Spill Lead Advisor, Crisis, Continuity Management and Emergency Response for BP Exploration (Caspian Sea) Ltd. for his service as Member of ISCO Council for Azerbaijan. Osman has relocated to Moscow and has consequently stood down from this position.

DR MANIK SARDESSAI HAS BEEN AWARDED Hon.FISCO

ISCO is pleased to announce that Dr Manik Sardessai has been elected as an Honorary Member of ISCO.

Dr. Manik Sardessai serves as a Vice President of Technical and Environmental Affairs and Director of Training of Detroit, Michigan, USA based Marine Pollution Control (MPC) Corporation. He is responsible for developing both in-house and client training programs, including development and oversight of all course content and compliance with applicable local, state and federal regulations and delivers instructions in 40, 24, and 8 Hour Hazardous Waste Operations and Emergency Response (HazWoper, CFR 1910.120) courses, DOT, Incident Command Systems (ICS), and Chemistry classes. As a Faculty, he has taught both undergraduate and graduate level courses at Wayne State University, U.S.A. and University of Saskatchewan, Canada. At MPC, he is responsible for all elements of Corporate Health and Safety Program, including the development and enforcement of Site-Specific Health and Safety in support of emergency operations and scheduled projects. He provides Technical Advice on Chemicals; use, handling, recovery, transport, remedial procedures and actions, and supervision during emergency response involving chemicals. He also develops compliance policies and related Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs). Dr. Sardessai's education includes a Master of Science degree from Bombay University and a Ph.D. in Chemistry (Pharm.) from Wayne State University, USA. He is trained in nuclear, biological and chemical response at US Army School, Fort McClellan, Alabama. He has published over thirty publications in reputed journals and in abstracts and posters form, and has delivered invited presentations both nationally and internationally. He has been a member of the technical Support Team, Wayne County Emergency Management in Michigan. Since 2002, he has been a member of Chemical Transportation Advisory Committee (CTAC) (USCG, USA).

Dr Sardessai has recently stood down as Member of ISCO Council for the USA. ISCO wishes to thank him for his long service in this position. Amongst other activities a highlight was his contribution in acting as the ISCO liaison representative with the US Central Command during the 2010 Deepwater Horizon oil spill.

NEWS FROM ISCO MEMBERS

Corporate Members of ISCO can benefit from submitting news about new products and services in the "News from ISCO Members" section of the ISCO Newsletter. This is a free facility for Members. Given that the ISCO Newsletter has a large and highly targeted readership in over 50 countries, it's a cost-effective way to promote your company. If you have some news you would like to share with readers of the ISCO Newsletter, send it to John.McMurtrie@spillcontrol.org

LAMOR HELP ECOLOGICAL MONITORING AND PROTECTION OF BORYSLAV IN UKRAINE

July 14 - Lamor, the oil and gas firm Ukrnafta and the city of Boryslav are working together to monitor and protect the environment in the Lviv region of Ukraine. The results of the first stage of the project were discussed in a meeting at the residence of the Finnish ambassador to Ukraine. During the meeting, the representatives of Ukrnafta, Boryslav City Council and Lamor Ukraine discussed the achievements of the first stage of comprehensive ecological monitoring, as well as various aspects to improve environmental safety for the Boryslav population. Lamor / [Read more](#)

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.

Mary Ann Dalgarno writes – “Dear all, ISCO is very happy to welcome all of you to membership in ISCO. ISCO would like to assist you in your studies. In order to help us do that please send me the following information:

- Name, address, school
- Field of Study
- What type of information you would like to request from our members in order to complete your studies.
- Possible ways you could assist ISCO.
- Picture of yourself.

ISCO will take this information and compile an article on each of you. ISCO will then feature one of you each week in our Newsletter. Kayode Peter Balogun has been named head of the student group. He can be reached at balogunkayodepeter@yahoo.com, I can be reached at mrydetroit@aol.com.

If any of you have any suggestions on ways we can be of assistance to you, please let me know. I am looking forward to having all of you members in ISCO for many years. Best regards, Mary Ann Dalgarno, Membership Director.

PS. Our next ZOOM meeting will be Thursday, 30th September at 3 pm EDT (Detroit, MI USA). Hope you can all join us”.

LETTER RECEIVED FROM IZUCHUKWU UCHE IN NIGERIA



Mary Ann Dalgarno (VP Membership) has received the following letter from Izuchukwu Uche

Dear Mary,

Thank you for reaching out and for the opportunity to assist student members in their studies. Find below list of information requested.

Name - Izuchukwu Uche

Address - 18 Kewulere street Ijeshatedo Surulere Lagos Nigeria

School - University of Nigeria Nsukka

Field of Study - Environmental Management and Control

Type of Information needed to complete studies:- Personally I will require information on different nutrients suitable for remediating oil spill in different environments such as water (coastal, creeks) and on land (muddy environment). The efficacy of known and tested bioremediation products suitable for use in the tropics, particularly sub Sahara Africa, and information of bioremediation products generally.

Possible ways I could assist ISCO - One way I would like to assist ISCO is on Knowledge sharing on spill response in Africa particularly Nigeria. Also I am willing and ready to take up any volunteering opportunity and roles if and when required.

Izuchukwu Uche izucals@gmail.com

SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

YOUTH IS FIGHTING MICROPLASTIC POLLUTION WITH MAGNET WATER AFTER WINNING GOOGLE SCIENCE FAIR

August 27 - A young Irishman has come up with his own “cool science-y method” to solve the microplastic pollution conundrum, winning Google’s international science fair in the process.

By mixing magnetized iron oxide and vegetable oil, he created a kind of liquid magnet that collects microplastics which can then be removed via magnetism, leaving only glistening water behind.

After 5,000 tests it was shown that his method could clean 87%-93% of microplastics from the water, despite the fact that the microplastics came from a variety of sources like car tires, plastic bottles, and laundry water.

He demonstrated his method at the 2019 Google Science Fair and won a \$50,000 scholarship, which he used to go and study chemistry at the University of Groningen in the Netherlands.

Fionn is now trying to fit his method into a device that can span the opening of a home waterpipe, or the pipes at a wastewater plant, allowing the ferrofluid to continuously clean water that moves through it, as well as a different machine that can be mounted on boats. Good News Network / [Read more](#)

CONTRIBUTED ARTICLE

FLOATING BIOASSAYS: NEW TOOL HELPS TRACK AND ASSESS TOXICITY IN OIL SPILLS

An article by Megan Ewald, NOAA Office of Response and Restoration



Deepwater horizon oil spill. Image credit: NOAA.

At first glance, the blue surface of the open ocean seems like an empty place. But if you look closely, life teems just beneath the surface. Tiny, transparent fish eggs, larval invertebrates, and other planktonic organisms float and drift at the mercy of wind and ocean currents.

Unfortunately, those same currents also transport oil when it's spilled in the ocean.

Oil floats because it is less dense than water, but wind and waves mix it into the ocean and under slicks. Oil slicks and oil in the water, combined with sunlight that make the oil more toxic, put marine life, especially sensitive eggs and larvae at risk.

Studying how oil spills impact life in the open ocean is challenging for several reasons. Spills can happen suddenly, in hard-to-reach locations, and conditions in the open ocean are always changing.

That's why NOAA scientists Sarah Allan and Lisa DiPinto worked with a team to design a new tool that allows researchers to conduct toxicity tests, which are traditionally done in a laboratory, in the open ocean.

This could provide new insights into the impacts of oil spills on marine life, especially early-life-stage fish and invertebrates, in the open ocean in real-time.

The New Drifting Exposure and Effects Assessment Ring (DEEAR)



Bioassays are a test of oil toxicity, the study of how (and to what degree) oil may be poisonous to living things. The Drifting Exposure and Effects Assessment Ring (DEEAR) was developed as a floating bioassay. Housing tiny test subjects, like the eggs and larvae of fish, shrimp, and other invertebrates, it's designed to float in an oil spill and drift wherever the oil goes.

Traditionally, bioassays in the lab attempt to mimic oil spill conditions, exposing their test subjects to oil, then studying how those test subjects develop over time. They are used to understand what percentage of larval fish or fish embryos die from oil exposure, and what health problems may occur in survivors. However, it is very difficult to exactly replicate the open ocean or large oil spill in the lab.

The new DEEAR in-situ bioassay provides exciting opportunities to study oil toxicity where spills happen. In addition, the DEEAR is equipped with multiple scientific instruments and GPS trackers that can send scientists location and water quality data in real-time.

These advancements could help scientists understand the toxic impacts of oil spills faster, more accurately, and more efficiently than ever before.

Testing DEEAR Offshore



Above left: Natural oil seep off the coast of Santa Barbara.



Above right: DEEAR drifting path. Image credits: NOAA.

After preliminary testing, the DEEAR was deployed in the natural oil seeps near Santa Barbara, California to gauge its capabilities in offshore oil slicks.

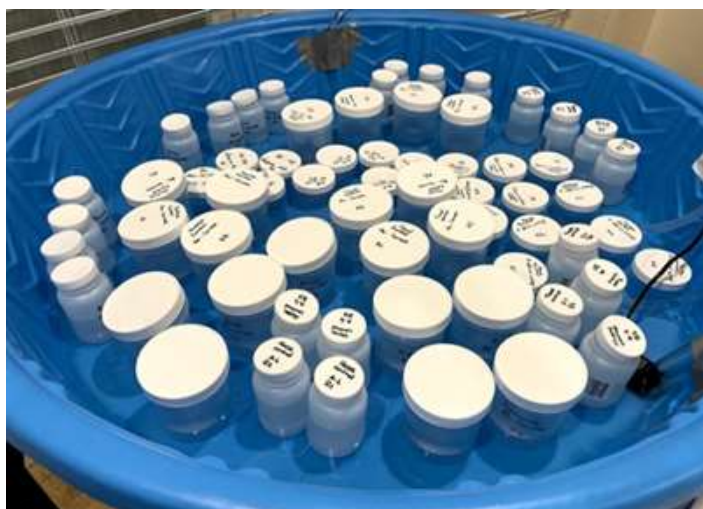
A quadcopter drone, equipped with specialized sensors, was used to characterize the surface oil conditions and select testing locations.

This is important because the DEEAR needs to be deployed where it drifts within the oil slick for the duration of the experiment.

To help scientists understand their findings, two DEEARs were used. The first was designed to drift in the oil spill for the entire 24-hour test. The second reference DEEAR was intended to float in an oil-free area 2.5 miles away.

During the daylight the units were followed with drones to track their movements in and out of oil slicks. Overnight, GPS sensors allowed for real-time monitoring. At the end both were located, retrieved, and taken back to the lab for evaluation.

DEEAR Toolkit



Above left: Exposure chambers Above right: (top): DEEAR Exposure chambers (bottom): DEEAR in water.

10 Exposure Chambers: are 9-inches long and equipped with pumps that circulate ocean water through the exposure chambers, ensuring that the test subjects are exposed to the same oil and water conditions as wild marine life. Larval fish, juvenile shrimp, and two species of fish embryos (developing eggs) were used.

Passive Sampling Devices: housed in compartments within the exposure chambers, passive samplers are made with materials that specific oil compounds stick to. They absorb oil compounds continuously throughout the experiment, similar to how organisms uptake oil from the water. At the end, the passive sampler material can be extracted-leaving scientists with only the oil compounds. This helps scientists know what types and concentrations of oil were present.

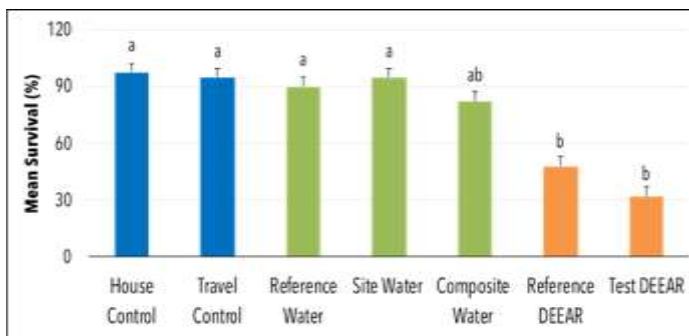
Fluorometer: measures the emission of light from oil that has absorbed a specific wavelength of light. Oil droplets produce fluorescence when they are dispersed in the water column. The higher the fluorescence, the higher the concentration of oil. This fluorometer took continuous measurements throughout the 24 hour test.

Sonde: is a water quality instrument used to measure the conductivity (salinity), temperature, and depth/pressure of ocean water.

GPS Tracker: this location tracker was set to measure its location every two seconds and update the researchers every five minutes. This allowed scientists to keep track of the DEEAR movements, address any issues, and retrieve it at the end of the 24-hours.

To ensure quality data, a remotely operated vehicle (ROV) was used to collect water samples and measure water conditions, laboratory bioassays were conducted, and scientists measured oil conditions from the boats to help compare to data collected from the DEEARs.

Results and Looking Forward



Above left: Topsmelt larvae after oil exposure.

Above right: Topsmelt larvae testing results. Image credits: NOAA.

During this first-ever deployment scientist learned the DEEAR allows for real-time assessment of oil spill conditions and its effects on marine life near the ocean’s surface. It is a reliable, robust, and accurate tool in the open ocean.

In science, each unexpected challenge is an opportunity to learn. The reference DEEAR was intended to float outside the oil slick, but briefly drifted into an oil area. This taught the researchers lessons about how to deploy and track the DEEAR. Fortunately, all of the sensors on the DEEAR made it possible to interpret the bioassay results even with this unexpected exposure.

CONTRIBUTED ARTICLE (CONTINUED)

All but one of the toxicity tests was successful based on laboratory controls and the reference DEEAR. Overall, the system was able to characterize oil exposures and the effects of those exposures on organisms in the environment. This shows that the DEEAR can be used to reliably perform bioassays in the open ocean.

While further testing and fine-tuning is needed, the DEEAR presents exciting opportunities for researchers to understand the impacts of open water oil spills.

For more information, the full publication "[Tracking and Assessing Oil Spill Toxicity to Aquatic Organisms: A Novel Approach](#)" is available online in the Journal of Environmental Toxicology.

This article is reprinted here with the kind permission of NOAA OR&R

UPCOMING WEBINARS

PFAS, GEOSYNTHETICS, AND ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION: HOW MUCH DO WE KNOW SO FAR?

Thursday, September 2, 2021, 12:00pm - 1:00pm From ALGA, This webinar will provide an overview of the current state of the practice on geosynthetic liners- poly and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFASs) interaction. [More info](#)

EIGHT PHASE APPROACH TO HNS INCIDENT SCENE MANAGEMENT – A STRUCTURED APPROACH TO SAFELY RESOLVING HAZMAT INCIDENTS

Tuesday 7th September, 10:00 AM (BST) Phase 3 – Arrival at the incident, free webinar

Phase 3 considers the immediate steps that should be taken upon arrival at a hazmat incident. This starts with an initial dynamic risk assessment and communication with the on-site response team, and the responsible person, owner or occupier. During this webinar, our panel will look at the different ways of doing a full assessment of the incident scene and the importance of performing life-saving activities such as a snatch rescue. [More info](#)

EXXONMOBIL OIL SPILL RESPONSE KNOWLEDGE TRANSFER WEBINAR 2.

Tuesday 7th September 2021, 9 – 10 am Central. For complex oil spills: Non-regulatory barriers to success.

Scientific support for response decision making including history of the NOAA SSC; risk communications and why "messages" are insufficient; possible human effects from complex oil spills (especially if fisheries and tourism areas are closed); leveraging collaborations with academics, and community leaders, among others. Presented by Ann Hayward Walker.

The ExxonMobil Oil Spill Response Knowledge Transfer Webinar series is a monthly webinar to allow highly experienced OSR experts to transfer their knowledge to attendees. The webinar series will provide a platform to communicate, transfer, and preserve OSR knowledge, and to share insights and perspectives from industry, academia, oil spill responders, and other oil spill response experts. The webinar series started on Tuesday, August 10 from 9 - 10 am Houston time and continues every first Tuesday of the following months. We intend to continue the webinars indefinitely depending on response and our ability to schedule appropriate speakers. We are looking forward to an online discussion! To receive the link and other joining info, please send an email to Lin Zhao at : lin.zhao@exxonmobil.com

Note that there is still room for more participants so feel free to forward this invite to others but ask that potential attendees RSVP me to get on the distribution list

SECONDARY CONTAINMENT – SUBSTATION DESIGN AND OIL CONTAINMENT SOLUTIONS

Tuesday, September 14, 2021 from 11 a.m. to Noon (EDT)

Electric power plants and substations use oil in their equipment to generate and distribute their electric power. The presence of oil in their operations subjects power plants and substations to environmental regulations and oversight.

The above is one of a series of webinars with a focus on secondary containment. For more info visit <https://www.basicconcepts.com/upcoming-events/>

WEBINARS FROM THE UK & IRELAND SPILL ASSOCIATION

Wednesday, 15 September 2021, 1500 BST Knowledge Base: Specialist vessels used in spill response [More info](#)

Wednesday, 22 September 2021, 1500 BST Knowledge Base: Inland – Spill response to biofuels [More info](#)

UPCOMING WEBINARS (CONTINUED)

- Thursday, 14 October 2021, 1500 BST Knowledge Base: Inland – Soil sampling and analysis [More info](#)
- Wednesday, 20 October 2021, 1500 BST Knowledge Base: Aerial surveillance, drones [More info](#)
- Wednesday, 17 November 2021, 1500 BST Knowledge Base: Inland – Drill rig selection and safety [More info](#)

WEBINAR ON TIERED PREPAREDNESS FOR WILDLIFE RESPONSE IN THE MEDITERRANEAN REGION

Tuesday; 21 September 2021; at 10:00 am (CET) - Oil Spill Response Limited (OSRL), Sea Alarm and the Mediterranean Oil Industry Group (MOIG) are very pleased to invite you to the webinar on Tiered Preparedness **Connecting the dots** for Wildlife Response in the Mediterranean Region

The webinar will last for approximately one hour and will be presented by Paul Kelway, Wildlife Preparedness & Response Manager and Yusuf Marhoon, Responder & Wildlife Core Group Member from OSRL as well as Hugo Nijkamp and Christophe Blazy from Sea Alarm. Wildlife response is now considered to be an integral component of oil spill preparedness good practice for the oil industry and in recent years several key developments have been aimed at improving industry preparedness and promoting regional and in-country planning efforts. In this webinar, we will explore the operational activities of a wildlife response and key considerations for operators in the Mediterranean region in responding effectively to an oiled wildlife incident. As well as providing an overview of current tiered response arrangements for the industry. The session will also explore future preparedness priorities for the industry and other stakeholders in the Mediterranean region.

The main objectives of this webinar will be:

1. To provide an overview of wildlife response and good practice principles in tiered preparedness and response (including the recommendations from the Cyprus Workshop);
2. To introduce OSRL's wildlife strategy and explain current Tier 3 wildlife response services offered via OSRL–Sea Alarm Technical Advice, the Wildlife Equipment Packages and the proposed GOWRS Assessment Team Service and how these fit within the context of tiered preparedness and response good practice;
3. To provide an overview of Sea Alarm's role and highlight activities and projects of relevance to the Mediterranean region;
4. To highlight the current status of wildlife response preparedness in the Mediterranean Region and opportunities and priorities for developing tier-1 and tier-2 preparedness in the region, including any tangible actions/next steps MOIG Members can take to further their OWR preparedness.

The webinar working language will be English. For registration to this event, participants are kindly requested to use the following link : [Wildlife Webinar Registration Form](#) and they will automatically receive a copy of the Webinar Link. We are looking forward to your active participation to this important event.

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](#).
- UK & WORLDWIDE – OIL SPILL RESPONSE LTD. - <https://www.oilspillresponse.com/training/courses/>
- UK & WORLDWIDE – BRIGGS ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES LTD. - <https://www.briggsmarine.com/services/training/>
- UK – NCEC HAZMAT ACADEMY – [More info](#)
- USA – TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY – NATIONAL SPILL CONTROL SCHOOL - <http://nscs.tamucc.edu/schedule-2020-2021.html>
- USA – MPC, DETROIT - <https://marinepollutioncontrol.com/services/training-and-compliance>

If you would like to be listed here, please contact your editor – john.mcmurtrie@spillcontrol.org

UPCOMING COURSE FROM LLOYDS MARITIME ACADEMY

Diploma in Maritime Safety Policies and Regulations – Starts 6th September 2021 – [More info](#)

PORTUGAL: INCIDENT COMMAND SYSTEM TRAINING COURSE

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

USA: FREE DOT HAZMAT (CLASS ROOM) TRAINING IN ROCKVILLE, MD.

Sept 14-16, 2021 -PHMSA HMIT Grant DOT Hazmat Advanced Awareness Training - More info at:

<https://hazmatsociety.org/training/phmsa-24-hour-dot-hmit-grant-dot-advanced-hazmat-dangerous-goods-workshop/>

ONLINE AND OTHER TRAINING COURSES

Sept 21-23, 2021 - PHMSA HMIT Grant DOT Hazmat Basic Awareness Training - More info at:

<https://hazmatociety.org/training/phmsa-hmit-grant-dot-hazardous-materials-regulations-basic-awareness-training-program/>

[Thanks to PC of Hazmat101 Group]

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.

NIGERIA: PRE-QUALIFICATION OF CONTRACTORS

Contractors are invited to pre-qualify for simple and complex hydrocarbon impacted sites in ogoniland, nigeria, and expression of interest in design of centre of excellence for environmental restoration along with an integrated contaminated soil management centre [download the tender invitation document](#)

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 |
| CHINA | Sept. 2-4 | International Environmental Protection Expo | Chengdu |
| USA & VIRTUAL | Sept. 6-9 | Hazmat Emergency Response Workshop | Sacramento, CA |
| NETHERLANDS | Sept. 9-10 | Envirotech for Shipping Forum | Rotterdam |
| USA & VIRTUAL | Sept. 13-15 | Clean Waterways Conference & Exhibition | Louisville, KY |
| UK | Sept. 15-16 | ChemUK 2021 Expo | Birmingham |
| UK | Sept. 20-21 | Emergency Planning Society Conference & AGM | Easingwold |
| UK | Sept. 22-23 | Contamination & Geotech Expo 2021 | Birmingham |
| UK | Sept 29 – Oct 1 | Marine Claims Conference | Edinburgh |
| USA | CANCELLED | Elastec's fall 2021 oil spill workshop | Carmi, IL |
| UK | October 12-14 | Ocean Business 2021 | Southampton |
| AUSTRALIA | October 18-21 | Ecoforum 2021 Conference | Sydney |
| GERMANY | October 20 | HELCOM Ministerial Meeting | Lübeck |
| USA | Nov. 16-18 | Clean Gulf Conference & Exhibition | San Antonio, TX |
| VIRTUAL EVENT | Nov. 17-18 | Emergency Responders Drone Conference 2021 | Online |
| VIRTUAL EVENT | Nov. 22-26 | IMO Marine Environment Protection Committee | Online |
| SWEDEN/VIRTUAL | Nov. 24-25 | National Conference on Oil Damage Protection 2021 | Karlskrona |
| UK | December 1-2 | Salvage and Wreck Removal Conference | London |
| CAMBODIA | December 1-4 | East Asian Seas Congress | Sihanoukville |
| COUNTRY | 2022 | TITLE OF EVENT | LOCATION |
| UK | March 15-17 | Oceanology International | London |
| AUSTRALIA | May 16-19 | APPEA Conference and Exhibition | Brisbane |
| USA | June 7-9 | Elastec's Spring 2022 Oil Spill Workshop | Carmi, IL |
| NETHERLANDS | June 21-23 | Interspill Conference and Exhibition | Amsterdam |
| USA | October 4-6 | Elastec's Fall 2022 Oil Spill Workshop | Carmi IL |
| BAHRAIN | October 11-13 | International Conference & Exhibition on Spills, Clean Seas & Environment | Bahrein |
| 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

MESSAGES FROM EVENT ORGANISERS

USA: 2021 CLEAN WATERWAYS CONFERENCE

The 2021 [CLEAN WATERWAYS Conference](#) is only 2 weeks away. This year's conference will take place on September 14-15 in Louisville, KY, and offers those involved in spill prevention and response in the inland environment the opportunity to connect with their peers and further develop relationships that will better prepare them for future incidents, discuss new strategies and solutions, and discover the latest technologies advancing the industry. [Check out](#) what's in store for this year's conference, and [make plans](#) to join your peers in Louisville next month!

Still facing travel restrictions? We have you covered! You can [register](#) to attend the conference virtually. We'll be live-streaming all sessions in the Response Track and all sessions from the conference will be available on-demand at the conclusion of the event. [View the full agenda and speaker list.](#) [Register for Clean Waterways](#)

USA: CLEAN GULF - 2021 CONFERENCE PROGRAM

The 2021 CLEAN GULF The [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](#)

USA: ELASTEC'S FALL WORKSHOP 2021 HAS BEEN CANCELLED

In light of recent developments due to the spread of Coronavirus (COVID-19), ongoing travel issues related to the pandemic and for the safety of attendees, Elastec has decided to cancel our Fall River Spill Workshop. However, we will be taking registrations for our Spring Workshop 2022 taking place June 7 - June 9, 2022 and our Fall Workshop 2022 taking place October 4 - October 6, 2022. [Click here](#) to learn more about our Workshops or to register.

UK: ENERGY INSURANCE LONDON

8th October 2021 - The agenda includes a session "Oil Spill & Pollution Mitigation - How does incident management work and what technology is available to enable the validation and containment of costs and managing third party claims in response to environmental and oil spill incidents? An informative session from the people on the ground. [More info](#)

SWEDEN: NATIONAL OIL SPILL CONFERENCE 2021

The annual National Oil Spill Conference in Sweden will be held in a hybrid version virtually and in Karlskrona in Sweden 24-25 November. The conference will be held in Swedish. [More info](#)

BAHREIN: NEW DATES ANNOUNCED FOR RECSO ENVIROSPILL 2022

RECSO has decided to reschedule the 2nd Edition of RECSO EnviroSpill on 11 - 13 October 2022 at the Gulf Convention Centre, Kingdom of Bahrain. [More info](#)

USA: CLEAN WATERWAYS 2022 CALL FOR PRESENTATIONS

CLEAN WATERWAYS serves the spill response industry in prevention, preparedness and response in the inland environment. It delivers a forum for attendees to come together to discuss case studies and lessons-learned from both recent and past incidents, discover the latest technologies advancing the industry and build relationships with all parties involved in a response. The 2022 Conference will take place in April. [Submit your abstract](#)

EUROPE - CALL FOR PAPERS INTERSPILL 2022

The Interspill Committee announces the preliminary programme together with the Call for Papers for Interspill 2022 and invites authors to submit abstracts for consideration by **30 September 2021**. [More info](#)

LINKS FOR DOWNLOADING AND READING OTHER PUBLICATIONS

[AMSA Update](#)

[ATRAC Newsletter](#)

[BIMCO Bulletin](#)

[Newsletter from George Holliday](#)

[Cedre Newsletter](#)

[Eco Magazine](#)

[EMSA Newsletter](#)

[Environmental Expert](#)

[GDACS Newsletter](#)

[GEF Newsletter](#)

[GESAMP](#)

Latest News from the Australian Maritime Safety Authority

News from the Adriatic Training and Research Centre

Marine and shipping-related news from BIMCO

News and commentary on HSE issues from George Holliday

News from Cedre in Brittany, France

Reporting on ocean science, innovation and exploration

News from the European Maritime Safety Agency

Environmental News from Environmental Expert

Daily alerts for natural disasters – earthquakes, floods, typhoons, etc.

Monthly Newsletter from the Global Environment Facility

Group of Experts on the Scientific Aspects of Marine Environmental Protection

Current issue

October 2020

June 2021

Free on request

June 2021

Free on request

August 2021

Current issue

Free on request

Jul.–Aug. 2021

Latest news

LINKS FOR DOWNLOADING AND READING OTHER PUBLICATIONS (CONTINUED)

| | | |
|--|--|-----------------|
| GISEA Quarterly Newsletter | News from Global Initiative for South-East Asia | Q1 2021 |
| IMO News Magazine | News from the International Maritime Organization | Summer 2020 |
| IMO Publishing Newsletter | New and forthcoming IMO publications | September 2020 |
| ITOPF Ocean Orbit | News magazine from ITOPF with interesting spill response articles | February 2021 |
| JOIFF Catalyst Newsletter | Int'l Organisation for Industrial Hazard Management | Latest issue |
| Maritime Executive Magazine | Often contains articles of interest to the spill response community | Current issue |
| MED News | UNEP / MAP Barcelona Convention News | July 2021 |
| MOIG Newsletter | News from the Mediterranean Oil Industry Group | July 2021 |
| NCEC Newsletter | News from the National Chemical Emergency Centre | May 2021 |
| 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 | Summer 2021 |
| Oiled Wildlife Log | Bi-annual Newsletter from Tri-State Bird Rescue & Research | May 2021 |
| 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. | April 1, 2021 |
| Spill Alert | Quarterly Newsletter from UK & Ireland Spill Association | July 2021 |
| Technology Innovation News Survey | News from US EPA – Contaminated Site Decontamination | July 1-15, 2021 |
| The Marine Insurer | Includes latest news on pollution insurance matters | June 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 | August 1, 2021 |
| USA Federal Contract Opportunities | The authoritative source for federal contract opportunities | Current issue |
| Water Pollution & Flood News | 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 if any links are not up-to-date.

John Wardrop, Member of ISCO Council for Australia, is recommending adding the below publication to your reading list.

The link for subscribing will be added to the "links for downloading and reading other publications" listing.



ECO Magazine is a leading international trade publication reporting on ocean science, innovation and exploration. It is committed to bringing scientists and other professionals the latest research, industry news, and job opportunities from around the world.

It is available on subscription as both digital and hard copy (posted to you) and is **completely free**. Subscription gives you access to all past digital editions and special issues.



Past articles and special editions have addressed oil spills and general marine pollution issues of interest to spill responders.

Subscribe at: [www.https://www.ecomagazine.com/](https://www.ecomagazine.com/)

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! Please see the full offer [here](#).

INCIDENT REPORTS

AUSTRALIA: OIL TANKER SPILL AT KIRKALOCKA STATION CAUSES 'ABSOLUTE DEVASTATION' TO PRISTINE CREEK SYSTEM, LOCAL WILDLIFE

August 11 - A tanker carrying 33,000 litres of used oil rolled over on Great Northern Highway on July 30 spilling 28,000 litres of oil into the local environment. Nearby Kirkalocka Station was not aware of the spill until a week later. The station owners say the oil spilled into a creek where they have found dead birds and turtles covered in oil. ABC News / [Read more](#) Photos should be credited to Kirkalocka Station via Australian Broadcasting Commission or to Kirkalocka Station via ABC Australia. [Thanks to John Wardrop, Member of ISCO Council for Australia]

SOUTH AFRICA: AT LAST, CLEANUP OF DEADLY DURBAN CHEMICAL SPILL BEGINS



Photo: A clean-up crew in hazmat gear dredges water from the Chris Saunders Park pond in Umhlanga.

August 19 - A cleanup operation began on Thursday to remove toxic water from the pond in Chris Saunders Park in Umhlanga, north of Durban, after high levels of toxins were identified in it. A team of men in hazmat suits attached a pipe to a 30,000-litre tanker to dredge the pond, the latest move to contain toxic waste released into the air and water surrounding the United Phosphorus Limited (UPL) chemicals warehouse in Cornubia, also north of Durban, which was burnt to the ground during last month's violent unrest.

The cleanup comes more than two weeks after a report was commissioned by the Umhlanga Ridge Town Centre Management Association to identify chemical compounds in the pond and Ohlanga River, which turned turquoise in the days after the fire. Sunday Times Daily News / [Read more](#)

MEXICO: FIVE DEAD, TWO MISSING AFTER FIRE ON PEMEX OFFSHORE PLATFORM



August 23 - A fire on a platform at Pemex's Ku-Maloob-Zaap offshore complex last weekend left six workers injured and at least one dead, the company reported Monday. As of Monday morning, five contractors remain missing. [Updated: As of Monday afternoon, Pemex has confirmed five dead, six injured and two missing.] The fire broke out at about 1510 hours on Sunday, and the platform was shut in to contain the blaze. It was under control by 1630, according to Pemex. The Maritime Executive / [Read more](#)

INCIDENT REPORTS (CONTINUED)

Carlos Sagrera, Member of ISCO Council for Panama and ISCO Representative Iberoamerican Region sent the above photos and has reported – “Here attached some Mexican links with news and photos of the fire at the Ku - Alfa PEMEX offshore Platform, now under control. It is the second incident in that area of the Campeche Sonda oil basin in less than two months (ISCO Newsletter N° 794)”.
<https://www.elsoldemexico.com.mx/finanzas/reportan-cinco-muertos-tras-explasion-en-plataforma-ku-alfa-de-pemex-7117643.html>
<https://www.debate.com.mx/estados/Video.-Asi-controlaron-el-siniestro-en-plataforma-Ku-Alfa-de-Pemex-20210823-0002.html>
<https://www.milenio.com/politica/plataforma-ku-alfa-pemex-reportan-explasion-ciudad-carmen>

USA: SALVORS BEGIN FINAL CUT OF GOLDEN RAY WRECK REMOVAL



Photo: The final cut began early on August 23, seen here during the weight shedding prior to the cut (St. Simons Sound Incident Response photo)

August 23 - Earlier today the salvage team working at the Golden Ray began the final cut into the remaining mid-ship hull section of the wreck. It is just two years shy of when the car carrier heeled over sailing in St. Simons Sound near Brunswick, Georgia. The cutting operation started nine months ago in November 2020.

Crews remain on sight to monitor for oil leaks while they also continue to remove floating debris and pieces that wash up along the local beaches. Everything is tagged and identified and sent to recycling for proper disposal. The Maritime Executive / [Read more](#)

THE NETHERLANDS: MINOR OIL SPILL ON DUTCH RIVER AFTER BARGE AND TANKER COLLIDE

August 24 - Netherlands-flagged tanker Vacando and German barge Ursula Valentin blocked the Oude Maas for four hours. Two inland tankers collided in a river in the Netherlands on Monday, with each vessel sustaining damage. Both were carrying hazardous goods. Lloyds List / [Read more](#)

FRENCH POLYNESIA: RADAR ISSUE BEHIND CHINESE SHIP ACCIDENT

Photo: Ping Tai Rong 49 Photo: FB French High Commission in French Polynesia

August 25 - The ship is carrying about 120,000 litres of fuel, prompting an immediate despatch of a French navy team to contain a possible oil spill.

There appears to be minimal leakage and the ship remains intact. The vessel's captain and another crew member are to appear in court in Papeete next month accused of causing marine pollution and breaching navigation protocols. RNZ / [Read more](#)



SYRIA: OIL SPILL FROM POWER STATION SPREADS ALONG COAST



In this satellite photo from Planet Labs Inc., an oil spill is seen stretching off the coast near Baniyas, Syria, Tuesday, Aug. 24, 2021.

The massive oil spill caused by leakage from a power plant inside the Baniyas Thermal Station, one of Syria's oil refineries is spreading along the coast of the Mediterranean country, Syria's state news agency said and satellite photos showed Wednesday. (Planet Labs Inc. via AP)

INCIDENT REPORTS (CONTINUED)

August 25 - A massive oil spill caused by leakage from a power plant inside one of Syria's oil refineries is spreading along the coast of the Mediterranean country, Syria's state news agency said and satellite photos showed Wednesday.

SANA said the spill reached the coastal town of Jableh, about 20 kilometers (12 miles) north of the refinery in the town of Baniyas, adding that Syria's environment department and the municipality of the coastal province of Latakia have placed all concerned departments on alert. It said work is underway to clean the coast in the rocky areas.

A day earlier, Syria's government said that maintenance teams at Baniyas Thermal Station had brought a fuel leakage from one of the tanks under control.

Satellite images from Planet Labs Inc. on Wednesday showed what appeared to be a massive oil spill stretching out over 25.5 square kilometers. An image from Monday showed no sign of the slick, suggesting whatever happened to cause the spill happened later.

AP News / [Read more](#) Related report in [ABC News](#)

ISRAEL: TAR STILL WASHING UP ON BEACHES SIX MONTHS AFTER OIL SPILL



Photo: Scraping tar off rocks at Rosh Hanikra, August 26, 2021. (Yigal Ben-Ari, Israel Nature and Parks Authority)

August 26 - Tar is still washing up onto Israel's coastal sands six months after an oil leak from a tanker in the Mediterranean covered most of the country's beaches in the sticky black goo, the Israel Nature and Parks Authority reported Thursday, providing pictures from Palmachim beach south of Tel Aviv.

Specially trained INPA staff and workers from northern Israel are still working by hand to remove the oily substance from rocks in nature reserves and national parks in northern Israel, from Rosh Hanikra on the northern border through Shikmona Dor, Habonim beaches and more.

Yigal Ben-Ari, director of the INPA's Marine Unit, said that some 55 kilometers (34 miles) of beach have been cleared in INPA-operated areas so far. [The Times of Israel / Read more](#)

INFORMATION FOR MEMBERS OF ISCO AND READERS OF THE ISCO NEWSLETTER

THE EDUCATIONAL ROLE OF THE ISCO NEWSLETTER

The ISCO Newsletter has in the past published excellent stand-alone or serialised articles on such matters as inland spill response, aerial observation of oil spills, in-situ burning, etc. by respected experts including Dr Merv Fingas and Mark Francis.

Your editor is currently looking for more interesting articles of this kind. If you think you can help, please get in touch. john.mcmurtrie@spillcontrol.org

Disseminating news about new technical developments is of value to our community. Corporate Members and others are invited to contribute articles.

Your editor is also interested to receive interesting case histories for publication. Dealing with spill events often requires an innovative approach and you are invited to share your experiences.

SOMETHING TO MAKE YOU SMILE

Drawbacks to Working in a Cubicle - Being told to: "think outside the box" when you're in a box all day long. [Paul Dixon]

[Thanks to Sandra Speares of The Maritime Advocate]

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.
