

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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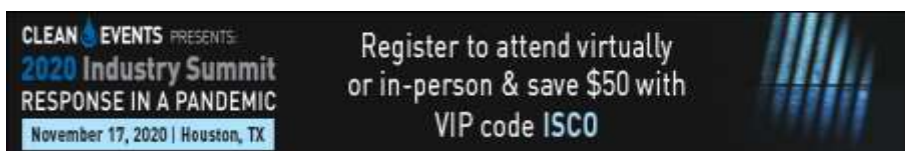
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INTERNATIONAL NEWS

CLICK ON THE BANNER BELOW FOR MORE INFORMATION



REMOTE LEGAL ASSISTANCE ON THE EFFECTIVE IMPLEMENTATION OF IMO LIABILITY AND COMPENSATION CONVENTIONS

October 23 - During August and September 2020, the IOPC Funds assisted the GI WACAF Project team in providing remote legal assistance in relation to the effective implementation of relevant IMO liability and compensation conventions in The Gambia, Liberia, Namibia and Nigeria.

The review analysed the gaps in existing legislation and made recommendations towards the transposition of relevant IMO conventions into national legislation and their effective implementation. The review included the Oil Preparedness and Response Convention (OPRC), 1992 Civil Liability and Fund Conventions and the Bunkers Convention. Webinars were organised for each State with the national focal points to present the reports resulting from the review and to address outstanding issues. IOPC Funds / [Read more](#)



ORGANISATION OF THE RAMOGEPOL EXERCISE "SANREMO 2020"

October 23 - On Thursday 17 September 2020, the Italian Ministry of the Environment and the Italian Coastguards organised an anti-pollution exercise as part of the RAMOGEPOL response plan.

Due to the health situation, this simulation exercise did not involve naval and air resources. Nevertheless, its aim was to test the co-ordination and responsiveness of the French, Monegasque and Italian authorities as realistically as possible in the case of a major pollution incident.

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INTERNATIONAL NEWS (CONTINUED)

The scenario of this exercise, entitled "SANREMO 2020," was a simulation of a collision between an oil tanker and a yacht off the coast of San Remo, in the maritime border area of the three countries of the Agreement, causing the spillage of a large quantity of oil, threatening the Ligurian, French and Monegasque coasts. The danger posed by this accidental pollution led to the activation of crisis centres in each country and a video conference with the competent authorities. RAMOGEPOL / [Read more](#)

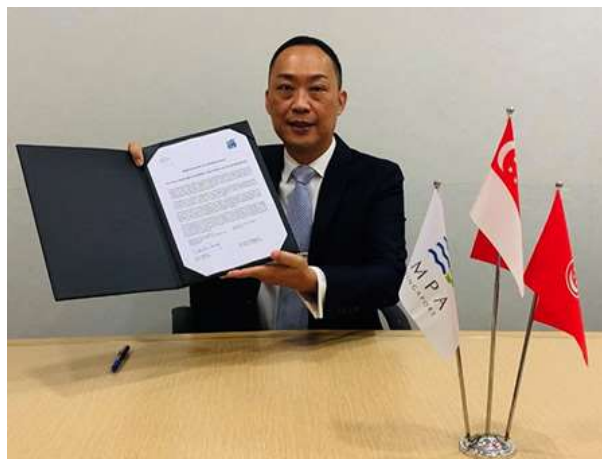
JAPAN TO SEND NEW TEAM TO WORK OUT MAURITIUS AID AFTER OIL SPILL

October 23 - Japan will send a new team of experts to Mauritius to work out long-term measures to help the country recover from damage to its environment and fisheries following a major oil spill caused by a Japanese freighter in July, the Foreign Ministry said Friday.

The team, including officials from the Japan International Cooperation Agency, will leave Japan on Saturday and join disaster relief personnel sent earlier. It will carry out two months of surveys to work out an aid package, the ministry said. Kyodonews / [Read more](#)

ITOPF AND MPA RENEW MOU

October 24 - ITOPF and the Maritime and Port Authority of Singapore (MPA) have renewed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on oil spill response equipment and vessel rates in Singapore. This comes into effect on 24 October 2020.



Richard Johnson, ITOPF, and MPA's Port Master, Captain Kevin Wong.

The new document, which was presented at the Singapore International Bunkering Conference and Exhibition (SIBCON) 2020 on 7 October, was signed remotely by ITOPF's Technical Director, Richard Johnson, and MPA's Port Master, Captain Kevin Wong.

The MoU was first signed in 2007 to expedite claims for compensation. It comprises pre-agreed rates for the use of resources during a spill response for vessels entered in the International Group of Protection & Indemnity Clubs (IGP&I) or incidents involving the International Oil Pollution Compensation (IOPC) Funds. Richard Johnson commented, "This is the fourth edition of the MoU and signals the enduring success of this initiative in facilitating compensation payments for the benefit of all parties involved, as well as a strong partnership between ITOPF and MPA." <https://www.itopf.org/>

CLEANATLANTIC PROJECT STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING

On 8th September, Cedre attended an online presentation of the progress of the European project CleanAtlantic during a meeting organised with the project's steering committee. This committee comprises representatives of the environment ministries of the five project countries (Ireland, United Kingdom, France, Spain and Portugal), the OSPAR Commission Secretariat as well as Kimo International. This meeting was the opportunity for the consortium to present its initial results and to discuss the dissemination of the results through OSPAR's work and national and international public policies, in particular the Marine Strategy Framework Directive, with the steering committee. <https://www.cedre.fr/en>

CAMBODIA: SCALING UP THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY FOR THE SEAS OF EAST ASIA (SDS-SEA) IN CAMBODIA



October 22 - A national forum to conclude the implementation of the GEF/UNDP/PEMSEA Scaling Up SDS-SEA Project was held in Phnom Penh, Cambodia on 2 September. The implementation of the project was initiated in 2015 through the signing of a Memorandum of Agreement between and among the coastal Provincial Governments of Kampot, Kep, Koh Kong, and Preah Sihanouk, the Ministry of Environment, and the PEMSEA Resource Facility.

The project has generated a number of outputs and created impacts at national and local levels. At the national level, the different Ministries and relevant stakeholders collaboratively developed the National State of Oceans and Coasts of Cambodia report. PEMSEA / [Read more](#)

CANADA: NEW MARINE OIL SPILL RESPONSE BASE TO BEGIN CONSTRUCTION ON VANCOUVER ISLAND



Construction of the new marine oil spill response centre is expected to begin in late October: (CTV News)

October 22 - "This is going to protect the food of Beecher Bay and the Beecher Bay people... and protect the food of the island," said Russ Chipps, Elected Chief of the Beecher Bay Band.

"There's no spill response on this side of the coast and we are going to be that spill response on this side of the coast," he said.

The base is part of a \$150 million project that will see four other bases built in Sidney, Nanaimo, Port Alberni and Ucluelet. The Beecher Bay facility is designed to meet the requirements of the Trans-Mountain Pipeline expansion. CTV News / [Read more](#)

FRANCE: CEDRE IN THE FIELD FOR NATIONAL BEACH LITTER MONITORING

As coordinator of the French beach litter monitoring network (RNS-MD-L), Cedre visited the monitoring sites in Hauts-de-France to meet the local operators in charge of monitoring. Cedre met with PNM EPMO (Parc Naturel Marin des Estuaires Picards et de la Mer d'Opale), CPIE Flandre maritime and the associations Adele and Nature Libre, as well as taking part in the last 2020 annual litter survey on certain sites. Cedre also explored the shoreline within the PNM EPMO nature park area with a view to identifying new monitoring sites and took samples at certain hotspots. This opportunity was also taken to train PNM EPMO in the microplastics monitoring protocol adopted by the French national monitoring network for microplastics in beach sediment (RNS-mP-P) and to take several samples of sand to contribute to the assessment of microplastic pollution on the French coastline. <https://www.cedre.fr/en>

JAPAN TO RELEASE FUKUSHIMA'S NUCLEAR WASTE WATER INTO SEA

October 18 - Nearly a decade after the Fukushima nuclear disaster, Japan's government has decided to release over one million tonnes of contaminated water into the sea, media reports said on Friday, with a formal announcement expected to be made later this month. The decision is expected to rankle neighbouring countries like South Korea, which has already stepped up radiation tests of food from Japan, and further devastate the fishing industry in Fukushima that has battled against such a move for years.

The disposal of contaminated water at the Fukushima Daiichi plant has been a longstanding problem for Japan as it proceeds with an decades-long decommissioning project. Nearly 1.2 million tonnes of contaminated water are currently stored in huge tanks at the facility. The plant, run by Tokyo Electric Power Company Holdings Inc, suffered multiple nuclear meltdowns after a 2011 earthquake and tsunami.

On Friday, Japan's industry minister Hiroshi Kajiyama said no decision had been made on the disposal of the water yet, but the government aims to make one quickly. [gCaptain / Read more](#)

USA: LATEST NEWS REPORTS FROM NOAA OR&R

October 19 – Please click on the links below to read the latest News Reports from NOAA OR&R

[Marine Debris Program Presents to University of Hawai'i at Hilo Marine Science Course](#)

On October 9, the NOAA Marine Debris Program's (MDP) Pacific Island Regional Coordinator, Mark Manuel, provided a virtual presentation to the University of Hawai'i at Hilo (UH-Hilo) Marine Science 100 course.

[Next Generation Environmental Sensitivity Index Workshop](#)

OR&R will host a Next Generation ESI Workshop—with stakeholders across multiple USCG Districts—to brainstorm ways to improve the process of updating Environmental Sensitivity Index (ESI) maps.

[Disaster Preparedness Program Staff Awarded 2020 NOS Team Member of the Year Award](#)

The Team Member of the Year award recognizes outstanding contributions to the National Ocean Service (NOS) programs and the demonstrated exceptional and sustained effort toward accomplishment of NOS missions.

USA: UNIFIED COMMAND, INCIDENT COMMAND POST ESTABLISHED FOR OIL CLEANUP EFFORTS ON DELAWARE SHORE

October 21 - A unified command consisting of the United States Coast Guard and Delaware Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control (DNREC) was established Wednesday as cleanup efforts continue on oil patties that washed ashore at various locations on the Delaware Bay coastline between Fowler Beach and Cape Henlopen, Delaware.

Crew members from Coast Guard Marine Safety Detachment Lewes, DNREC, Lewis Environmental, a remediation contractor, and Tri-State Bird Rescue and Research are currently on scene conducting cleanup operations, responding to and investigating reports of wildlife impacted by oil, and assessing the oil spill's shoreline and waterway impact. Currently there are over 75 contractors, DNREC responders and Coast Guard personnel responding to the incident. [US Coastguard / Read more](#)

PEOPLE IN THE NEWS

INTERNATIONAL MARITIME PRIZE FOR 2019 GOES TO MR. PETER HINCHLIFFE (ICS)



The prestigious International Maritime Prize for 2019 is to be awarded to Mr. Peter Hinchliffe, former Secretary-General, International Chamber of Shipping (ICS), who participated in International Maritime Organization's (IMO) meetings for many years, providing shipping industry leadership on a number of key regulatory developments.

In their nomination, the ICS highlighted Mr. Hinchliffe's contribution to IMO's work through the ICS, which he joined as marine advisor in 2001, becoming Secretary-General of ICS in 2011. In that role, he was a strong advocate for IMO and the role it plays as international regulator. He recognized the need for change and advancement on environmental issues, safety matters and other fronts. [IMO / Read more](#)

USA: A MESSAGE FROM TOM COOLBAUGH OF OHMSETT



I am thrilled to be part of Ohmsett as the Program/Facility Manager and to lead such a passionate, dedicated team of professionals.

Many of you may know me from my past 32 years with ExxonMobil, especially the past 13 of those years when I was involved with oil spill response science and technology. During that period, I had the opportunity to come to Ohmsett a number of times either as part of a team working on a research project or as a presenter during workshops and training sessions. It's always been a highlight having the chance to spend time at the facility.

The past month has flown by as I spent time getting acquainted with the specifics of the facility and its systems as the Program Manager; as opposed to my experiences as a visitor or customer.

When making my decision to join the Ohmsett team, three areas stood out most: 1) the "whatever it takes" attitude the team uses to assist customers like you; 2) the opportunity to stay connected with

the spill response community, albeit, in a different role; and 3) a chance to contribute to the ongoing success of the facility and its talented team members in the years to come.

With all of that in mind, I'm excited about the many projects we'll be working on in the near future such as the tank refurbishment taking place in the summer of 2021, a wave control system upgrade, and a new beach attenuation system, just to name a few. These upgrades will enhance our operational performance and provide improved (and stable) waves our customers expect in a testing environment.

The challenge ahead is a big one for all of us since the COVID-19 pandemic and uncertainties around the economy have affected so many aspects of our industry. As we look forward, let us know if you have some ideas on how the Ohmsett facility can enhance testing and training experiences in a COVID-19/post-COVID-19 world. We have a number of ideas, but are always ready to listen to people like you who have such a wealth of experience and knowledge.

We have a great team here at Ohmsett, and I'm eager to learn from and work with them as we continue the efforts toward establishing Ohmsett as an International Center of Excellence. Feel free to reach out to any of us at any time <https://www.ohmsett.com/>

OSRL - COVID-19 UPDATE (23RD OCTOBER 2020)

In our last update, we talked about three confirmed positive COVID-19 cases in the OSRL Brazil team. We are pleased to confirm our team in Brazil have now completely recovered, the team have been medically cleared to return to work. Fortunately, the severity of the cases in Brazil was mild and the spread contained. Nevertheless, the team are maintaining strict COVID vigilance post recovery.

OSRL has conducted a review of our crisis management processes and procedures with a view to ensuring we remain well placed to manage the COVID 19 pandemic and potential future waves that might impact our global bases in the coming months. The review covered the structure of the Crisis Management Team (CMT) and Business Continuity Team (BCT), the agenda and frequency of meetings, updating of CM processes to reflect lessons learned, simplification and streamlining of documentation as well as identifying COVID 19 focal points to guide staff on using the documentation. The recommendations from the review are now being actioned.

Following on with our country plan developments, we have updated 9 plans; Azerbaijan, Bahrain, Egypt, Kuwait, New Zealand, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, UAE. All our country plans are available [here](#).

This week we released a guide which provides the top 10 Human Factor considerations when responding during a pandemic such as the mindset, emotions, personal worries, concerns and motivations that responders are likely to experience when responding to an oil spill in these times. By considering these Human Factors in advance, this enables the incident owner or response organisation to consider the concerns responders may have. This document can be used to help gather appropriate incident specific information to allow more targeted responder briefings to address these specific concerns early in the response. The document can be downloaded [here](#).

OSRL ran a Global exercise last week, the past nine months of restrictions have been a necessary frustration for us all, but the limitations of lockdown and social distancing have been felt within Response in particular. Great strides have been made to improve our virtual response capability, but physical, hands-on response remains something that our Members continue to rely upon. For our responders, the ability to exercise and practice is vital, with skill fade a very real risk emerging from prolonged periods of enforced lockdown.

OSRL's Global Exercise Programme was introduced at the beginning of 2018 to provide a structured training and exercise program; this in turn provides a level of assurance in responder competency to our Members. The 2020 programme has, of course, been impacted by COVID-19, but by employing our COVID-19 processes and risk

NEWS FROM ISCO MEMBERS (CONTINUED)

management we are now able to safely conduct practical deployment exercises. The UK last week saw over 82% of our responders participate in four shoreline deployments, four SCAT exercises and four offshore containment and recovery deployments using both traditional and enhanced recovery systems. Each exercise was conducted in slow-time to provide an opportunity to re-establish competence, close skills gaps and regain any lost confidence in these critical capabilities. The exercise activity was then punctuated with a real-time drill element to put those skills to the test, which provided an invaluable assurance opportunity both internally and for our Members. We were able to provide further assurance through the application of technology, with a member of Shell's Oil Spill Expertise Centre (OSEC) physically joining the exercise whilst trialling wearable technology to connect the deployment with the rest of the OSEC Team who were observing remotely.

The success of the week was in no small part due to the planning team's attention to detail and rigorous application of COVID processes, but perhaps most importantly as an opportunity to do what we do best; the tangible expressions of practical problem solving and teamwork. For many, the opportunity to exercise again reignited our collective purpose as well as providing that all important opportunity to reconnect and rediscover the camaraderie that is an essential ingredient for any response, especially one with the specific human challenges brought by COVID-19.

Continuing with other updates, we're pleased to welcome Mark Cockram to the Subsea Well Intervention Services (SWIS), Mark has been a key SWIS STAF Rep since service inception, contributing to the sustainability and growth of the SWIS service. Mark's appointment, as Subsea Manager for the Western Hemisphere and Americas is of key strategic importance for OSRL and the fulfilment of this role sees OSRL taking the next step in increasing the scope of the SWIS services, as well as aligning response capability.

Last week OSRL welcomed The Maritime and Coastguard Agency (MCA) as a new Associate Member. The MCA operates across the United Kingdom, preventing the loss of life along the country's coast and at sea. It also has a stated commitment to ensure the 'environmental safety of UK coast and waters', reflecting the impetus for the new agreement with OSRL.

Claire Hughes, director of HM Coastguard, said: "The Maritime and Coastguard Agency takes its responsibility for the UK's precious coastlines and waters very seriously and will always look to review what resources we have available which led to the signing of this agreement." Read more [here](#).

WEBINARS & ONLINE TRAINING

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

WEBINARS FROM OSRL



No Such Thing As a Bad Exercise? Thursday 29th October 0800 and 1400 GMT

This webinar will take you through a series of key learnings gained in the delivery of a number of exercises around the world over the last 20 years. Preparedness Solutions Manager, Lee Barber, will give an exercise practitioner's overview of the different types of exercises usually conducted as well as what we have found works and also what doesn't work. We will also cover some recent experiences in virtual exercises brought about primarily as a result of COVID.

[Register for 08:00 GMT](#)

[Register for 14:00 GMT](#)



Volunteer Management Thursday 5th November 0800 and 1400 GMT

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

[Register for 08:00 GMT](#)

[Register for 14:00 GMT](#)



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

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

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

UK & IRELAND SPILL ASSOCIATION INLAND SPILL WEBINAR

Time: October 29th, 1600 In conjunction with RSK RAW October 29th via Zoom.

This year there has been an increase in the number of spills that we class as inland, therefore not marine and not shoreline.

In this webinar, we will talk about the general trend that our members have seen and also highlight some statistics.

We will touch on what we know of the Llangennech spill following the derailment and welcome the new guidance issued by the EA on Contaminated Land Risk Assessment.

We will also hear a case study from accredited member company RSK RAW which will prove of interest to those that attend

[Register for your place here.](#)

WEEK 9 - EM DISPERSANTS / HERDERS WEBINAR SERIES

Please join dispersant / herder webinar series week 9. The primary focus for week 9 is modeling related to dispersant use.

Note that there is still room for more participants so feel free to forward invite to others but I ask that potential attendees email me to RSVP: tim.j.nedwed@exxonmobil.com

The agenda for week 9 is as follows and Zoom link to join is below -

Webinar 9 October 27 9 – 10:30 am Central

- Fundamentals and challenges of oil spill modelling - Perspectives from an experienced modeler on the challenges of predicting the fate and effects of oil spills Wolfgang Konkel
- Subsea Dispersant Injection Comparative Risk Assessment - Sensitivity Analysis for Oil Fate and Exposure Modeling of a Subsea Blowout Debbie French McCay
- An Evaluation of Models that Estimate Droplet Size from Subsurface Oil Releases - Findings from a study comparing seven droplet size prediction algorithms to published datasets of droplet size measurements Cort Cooper

Zoom Link: Join from a PC, Mac, iPad, iPhone or Android device:

Please click this URL to join: <https://exxonmobil.zoom.us/j/91394551832?pwd=d1hDUGwwUk5xWGpKVVdTQUiNDNDadz09>

Passcode: 201669 There are other options for joining the webinar - Details of the complete series of the ExxonMobil webinars and joining instructions were published in Issue 751 of the ISCO Newsletter. For more info and to register please send email to tim.j.nedwed@exxonmobil.com

SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

SCIENTISTS CREATED A 'SUPER ENZYME' THAT EATS PLASTIC POLLUTION

September 29 - A so-called 'super-enzyme' that eats plastic could be 'a significant leap forward' in finding solutions to tackle the pollution crisis, scientists hope. The enhanced protein is made up of two enzymes produced by a type of bacteria that feeds on plastic bottles, known as *Ideonella sakaiensis*. Professor John McGeehan, director of the Centre for Enzyme Innovation (CEI) at the University of Portsmouth, said that unlike natural degradation, which can take hundreds of years, the super-enzyme is able to convert the plastic back to its original materials, or building blocks, in just a few days.

As part of their current study, published in the journal Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences, the team mixed PETase with the second enzyme, called MHETase, and found 'the digestion of the plastic bottles literally doubled'. Metro / [Read more](#)

NEW TOOL FOR FAST AND EFFICIENT OIL SPILL RESPONSE AT SEA



Oil spill in-situ burning. © Photo: Lars Poort

October 13 - A new, free tool for oil spill response at sea is now available online for authorities and local response units. The aim of the tool is to minimize environmental impacts of oil spills in the Arctic and around the world. The Finnish Environment Institute SYKE and Aarhus University have cooperated in the GRACE project to create a new planning tool to protect the sea.

The Environment & Oil Spill Response (EOS) tool can support decisions of inclusion of mechanical recovery, in situ burning and chemical dispersants

in national oil spill contingency plans. Although developed with focus on the Arctic, the tool is generic and can be applied for any specific assessment area in the world wherever a risk of oil spill may be present.

The EOS tool consists of an interactive spreadsheet and a handbook. They both can be found on the [EOS webpage of Aarhus University for free download](#). It is also possible to contact and give feedback to the scientists behind the response tool.

The EOS tool can be used for cross-border coordination of oil spill responses of the different involved countries. It can also serve as platform to decide on oil spill response capacity and expertise building.

Besides coordination of response activities, it is also possible to use the EOS tool in connection with specific oil exploration and exploitation activities such as contingency planning, risk assessments and identification of knowledge gaps. SYKE / [Read more](#)

CEDRE: RECENT COUNTER-POLLUTION EXPERIMENTAL WORK

The September issue of the CEDRE Newsletter highlights some recent projects that will be of interest to our community.

Used Cooking Oil (UCO) weathering assessment - As part of Cedre's work on the behaviour of different substances spilt on water, in September we studied Used Cooking Oil. This substance (like palm oil or animal fat) is used in refineries to produce Hydrogenated Vegetable Oil (HVO) for the manufacture of biofuels. A weathering trial was conducted in the Polludrome® over an 8-day period. A volume of 20 litres of UCO heated to 45°C (the temperature at which it is transported) was released and the product's physical and chemical properties were monitored via regularly taken samples. Visually, the product showed very different behaviour from petroleum oil: the UCO initially congealed due to the cooling effect upon its release then tended to gradually liquefy without emulsifying. The conclusions of this study will lay the groundwork for recommendations to define the most appropriate response strategies.

Oil Sniffer Tests - At the end of September, Cedre organised the testing of a detection system for oil buried in sediment. This test, carried out on Cedre's man-made beach, involved a researcher from the University of Rennes, two people from RETIA and a consultant from Merl Consulting. The aim of this test was to assess the detector's capacities on different types of oil (refined, crude, weathered, heavy fuel oil) buried at a depth of up to 70 cm (maximum sediment depth on the manmade beach). The system, a Proton Transfer Reaction Mass Spectrometer (PTRMS), detects and identifies VOCs (Volatile Organic Compounds) emitted by the oil. The trials proved highly conclusive: the equipment's sensitivity allowed it to detect even the heaviest oils (therefore with a lower concentration of VOCs) while its selectivity makes it possible to eliminate potentially large amounts of background noise according to the area investigated. The subsequent phase of these trials should involve an assessment of the miniaturisation possibilities for this equipment to make it more readily transportable and portable

IPoMaC project: offshore sensor trials - Within the framework of the IPoMaC project on emergency response to marine chemical spills supported by Ceppol which aims to assess the potential of sensors for detecting chemical pollution at the water surface, Cedre took part in an offshore trial onboard the assistance vessel Sapeur on 8th and 9th September. The purpose of this trial was to prepare a larger offshore campaign to be conducted in 2021 and which could involve other French State operators involved in spill response such as French Customs. https://www.cedre.fr/en/content/download/10450/file/293_E.pdf

PIONEERING LADAR SYSTEM AIMS TO REVOLUTIONIZE MARINE PLASTIC DETECTION



October 20 - Anglo-Norwegian R&D company Ladar Ltd has developed a ground-breaking, compact LADARTM (laser detection and ranging) system that can supercharge plastic detection capabilities for end users involved in everything from environmental research and monitoring to marine clean-up campaigns and harvesting plastic for recycling.

“In normal operating situations LADARTM can detect objects in the surface layer at a range of a few metres up to a nautical mile distant,” says Dokken. This allows for the creation of an effective surveillance zone around a platform where plastic objects can be detected, characterized, classified and tracked. Relevant

observational data is processed using AI algorithms and displayed in real time via an intuitive GUI (graphical user interface). “We designed the system to be as user friendly as possible,” Dokken says. “It can be easily integrated into existing instrument decks or used as a standalone tool.” The Maritime Executive / [Read more](#)

MESSAGES RECEIVED FROM EVENT ORGANISERS

SESSION DESCRIPTIONS NOW AVAILABLE – 2020 INDUSTRY SUMMIT: RESPONSE IN A PANDEMIC

The [2020 Industry Summit](#) can be attended in-person in Houston, TX, or virtually, and was created for the response community to come together to discuss best practices and lessons learned utilizing virtual command post during an actual response and to understand other ways to accomplish the virtual ICS process.

2020 Industry Summit: Response in a Pandemic Session Outline:

Establishing a Command Post in Real Events – Virtually, In-Person or Hybrid

Running a command post virtually and/or having virtual components is actually not a new phenomenon. Some instances have necessitated hosting participants in separate locations and connecting them virtually. Fast forward to a COVID world and running commands posts virtually has become a requirement. Panelists in this session will focus on the process of setting up a virtual or hybrid command post in real events.

Session Chair: Alfred Sly, Emergency Preparedness & Response Advisor, ExxonMobil Corporation

Moderator: Michael Baccigalopi, Oil Spill Advisor, bp Gulf of Mexico

Establishing Field Facilities in a Real Event

During real events field response activities still need to be executed well. Key activities like operational briefings, wildlife response, and oil spill clean-up require some face to face interaction to be successful. The panelists in this session will share and discuss real event case studies and what they have experienced and learned in our current COVID environment.

Session Chair/Moderator: Stephen Pepper, Director, Crisis Management, Phillips 66

Conducting Virtual Exercises

This session will focus on what systems have been used to date to run a variety of exercise scenarios using virtual tools. The presenters will share their experiences on what worked well and what needed improvement, including the most effective techniques for engaging participants. Panelists will elaborate on the future possibilities for a virtual exercise and how to design a valuable training opportunity for IMT members. This session will also include agency expectations for virtual exercises.

Session Chair: Art Powers, Emergency Preparedness & Response Advisor, ExxonMobil Corporation

Moderator: Barbara Parker, EM Science and Advocacy Manager - PTS Emergency Management, Shell

Sharing of COVID Guidance – Upstream, Downstream, and Midstream

The events of 2020 have forced operators to update and rewrite guidance documents practically on the fly in response to

MESSAGES RECEIVED FROM EVENT ORGANISERS (CONTINUED)

constantly changing health environments. This panel will provide an opportunity to discuss what everyone has done to keep their platforms and/or refineries running. Further, this will allow some best practices to surface that can be applied towards the future.

Session Chair: Jennifer Crouch, Principal CEM & Security – GOM, BHP

Moderator: Mike Drieu, GOM CEM Manager, Occidental Petroleum

Media – How Would You Run a Press Conference in a Virtual Setting?

Running media events can be tricky unto themselves, but how would you run it if it was in a virtual setting? The panelists in this session will explore important topics relative to facilitating and managing a media event in a virtual setting, as well as equipment to use. Session Chair: Paul Galloway, GOM Emergency Management Team Leader, Chevron USA Inc.

Moderator: Michael Baccigalopi, bp Gulf of Mexico

[Register for the 2020 Summit](#)

REGISTRATION IS OPEN FOR ELASTEC'S SPRING WORKSHOP 2021

Carmi, Illinois & New Harmony, Indian June 8 - 10, 2021

This year's instructor will be Trever Miller of SWAT Consulting. Trever has 29 years of experience in all aspects of environmental field operations with a focus on emergency spill response.

Elastec's Spring Workshop 2021 is an intensive, hands-on oil spill response training course designed for spill responders who desire in-depth river booming and oil skimmer training.

The price of the **Spring Workshop 2021** is **\$1,250.00** and includes all workshop events, training and lunches. It also qualifies as an 8-hour Hazwoper refresher course. Travel and lodging are additional. First priority will be given to paid registrants as space is limited.



Trever Miller

Topics covered will include:

- Defining a Reportable Emergency
- Assessing a Release Situation
- Identifying the Correct ER Plans to Use
- Employing the Correct PPE and Safety Process
- Isolating the Scene
- Deploying the Correct Tactical ER Equipment

[Click Here](#) to learn more about Elastec's Spring Workshop 2021.

We are currently offering a 10% early bird discount for attendees who register and pay before December 31, 2020

HEALTH & SAFETY

NORTH COVID-19 TRACKING TOOL WINS SAFETY4SEA TECHNOLOGY AWARD

October 20 - Leading global marine insurer North P&I Club has won the 2020 SAFETY4SEA Technology Award for its Digital Covid-19 Tracking Tool, after a public vote recognised the solution as the year's standout technological contribution to maritime safety.

The unique Tracking Tool provides live updates on developments related to Covid-19, with data provided by North Correspondents as well as international maritime and health organisations. This allows users to plan their operations based on the most up-to-date information regarding infection rates, port entry requirements, quarantine rules and more. gCaptain / [Read more](#)

CONTRACTS, TENDERS AND BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

INTERNATIONAL OPEN TENDER NOTIFICATION SERVICE

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

OTHER OPPORTUNITIES: USA & EUROPE

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

EUROPE – European Maritime Safety Agency invitations to tender are often posted in The EMSA Newsletter.

See “Links for other publications” for links to download current issues of these publications.

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

UPCOMING EVENTS

Event organisers are requested to notify ISCO immediately if a listed event is cancelled or postponed

Your Editor is doing his best to keep this listing up-to-date but it should not be assumed that listed events have not been cancelled or postponed.

It is recommended that you check with event organisers before finalising your attendance plans.

If an event title is not printed in blue ink it is not hyperlinked to the event website. This may be because the website is not yet available or because the link for the website has not yet been sent to the Editor.

COUNTRY	2020	TITLE OF EVENT	LOCATION
For more information click on Title of Event			
USA	October 26-30	Great Lakes PFAS Summit	Online
UK	October 27-29	Arctic Shipping Forum North America	Online
USA	October 27-29	GEF Virtual Agency Retreat	Online
VIRTUAL EVENT	October 27-28	REMPEC Regional Workshop Webinar to enhance co-operation in the Mediterranean (MEDEXPOL 2020)	Online
NETHERLANDS	POSTPONED	European Environmental Ports Conference 2020	Rotterdam
USA	November 5	NAMEPA Marine Conference & Awards	Online
UK	Nov. 16-20	IMO Marine Environment Protection Committee	Online
USA	November 17	"Response in a Pandemic" – Clean Events Summit	Houston TX/Online
USA & CANADA	November 18	Pacific States/British Columbia Oil Spill Task Force Annual Meeting	Online
SWEDEN	Nov. 26-27	Swedish National Oil Spill Conference 2020	Online
MALTA	December 2	Fourth Meeting of the Mediterranean Network of Law Enforcement Officials relating to MARPOL within the framework of the Barcelona Convention	Online
UK	December 2-4	Salvage & Wreck Removal Conference	Online
UK	December 2-4	Meetings of the IOPC Funds' Governing Bodies	Online
VIRTUAL EVENT	December 7-11	59th GEF Council Meeting	Online
UK	December 8-10	Marine Insurance London	Online
COUNTRY	2021	TITLE OF EVENT	LOCATION
VIRTUAL EVENT	February 2-4	Sustainability Leaders Forum 2021	Online
VIRTUAL EVENT	February 8-9	The JOIFF Industrial Fire & Hazard Management Virtual Conference & Exhibition 2021	Online
ICELAND	March 2-4	International Symposium on Plastics in the Arctic and Sub-Arctic Region	Online
MALTA	March 10	Regional Meeting of National Experts on the Post-2021 Mediterranean Strategy for Prevention of and Response to Marine Pollution from Ships	Online
FRANCE	March 23	CEDRE Information Day on Containers	Paris
USA	May 9	APICOM GM Meeting	New Orleans LA
USA	May 10-13	International Oil Spill Conference (IOSC 2021)	New Orleans, LA
MALTA	May 25-27	Fourteenth Meeting of the Focal Points of the Regional Marine Pollution Emergency Response Centre for the Mediterranean Sea (REMPEC)	Valetta
CANADA	June 8-10	43rd AMOP Technical Seminar on Environmental Contamination and Response	Edmonton, Alberta
USA	June 8-10	Elastec Spill Workshop 2021	Carmi, IL
USA	June 28-30	Clean Pacific Conference & Exhibition	Seattle, WA
USA	September 7-10	Hazmat Emergency Response Workshop	Sacramento, CA
USA	Nov. 16-18	Clean Gulf Conference & Exhibition	San Antonio, TX

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

LINKS FOR DOWNLOADING AND READING OTHER PUBLICATIONS

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

LINKS FOR DOWNLOADING AND READING OTHER PUBLICATIONS (CONTINUED)

AMSA Update	Latest News from the Australian Maritime Safety Authority	Current issue
ATRAC Newsletter	News from the Adriatic Training and Research Centre	October 2020
AUSMEPA Bulletin	News from the Australian Marine Environment Protection Assoc'n	Summer 2020
BIMCO Bulletin	Marine and shipping-related news from BIMCO	September 2020
Newsletter from George Holliday	News and commentary on HSE issues from George Holliday	On request email
Cedre Newsletter	News from Cedre in Brittany, France	September 2020
EMSA Newsletter	News from the European Maritime Safety Agency	Current issue
Environmental Expert	Environmental News from Environmental Expert	Current issue
GEF Newsletter	Monthly Newsletter from the Global Environment Facility	Subscription
GESAMP	Group of Experts on the Scientific Aspects of Marine Environmental Protection	Latest news
GISEA Quarterly Newsletter	News from Global Initiative for South-East Asia	Q3 2020
IMO News Magazine	News from the International Maritime Organization	Summer 2020
IMO Publishing Newsletter	New and forthcoming IMO publications	September 2020
ITOPF Ocean Orbit	News magazine from ITOPF with interesting spill response articles	October 2019
JOIFF Catalyst Newsletter	Int'l Organisation for Industrial Hazard Management	Q3 2020 issue
Maritime Executive Magazine	Often contains articles of interest to the spill response community	March–April 2020
MEDNEWS	News from UNEP Mediterranean Action Programme	02 / 2020
MOIG Newsletter	News from the Mediterranean Oil Industry Group	January 2020
NCEC Newsletter	News from the National Chemical Emergency Centre	October 2020
Navigate Response	Global crisis communications network for shipping & marine	June 2020
NOAA OR&R	Weekly round-up of news from NOAA's Office of Response & Restoration	Latest issue
Oceanbuzz	Newsletter giving news on the Ocean Technology Industry	Current issue
OCIMF Newsletter	News from the Oil Companies International Marine Forum	August 2020
OHMSETT Gazette	Oil Spill Response Research & Renewable Energy Test Facility Quarterly	Autumn 2020
Oiled Wildlife Log	Bi-annual Newsletter from Tri-State Bird Rescue & Research	Fall 2020
OSPAR Newsletter	Protecting & Conserving the N.E. Atlantic and its resources	End of year 2019
PEMSEA Newsletter	Healthy oceans, people and economies in the East Asian Seas	Current issue
Pollution Online Newsletter	News for pollution prevention & control professionals	Current issue
Salvage World	Quarterly Newsletter of the International Salvage Union	Current issue
Sea Alarm Foundation Newsletter	Oiled wildlife Preparedness and Response news from Sea Alarm	Current issue
Society of Maritime Industries	News from the UK's maritime engineering and business services sector.	October 2020
Technology Innovation News Survey	News from US EPA – Contaminated Site Decontamination	Sept. 1-15, 2020
The Maritime Advocate	Maritime News from Sandra Speares	Current issue
USA EPA Tech Direct	Remediation of contaminated soil and groundwater	October 1, 2020
WestMOPoCo	Western Mediterranean Region Marine Oil & HNS Pollution Co-operation	January 2020

Your editor depends on regular receipt of updated URL links for listed publications. If these are not received, relevant entries will be discontinued. Publishers are kindly requested to advise the editor if any of the links are not up-to-date.

INCIDENT REPORTS

TAIWAN CHINA: BRIDGE COLLAPSES, SENDING TRUCK PLUNGING ONTO FISHING BOATS

October 1 - A 140-meter (459-foot) bridge has collapsed in northeast Taiwan, sending an oil tanker in the water and killing at least two people in fishing boats below.

Video posted online by Taiwan legislator Wang Ting-yu showed the bridge falling into the water at Nanfangao harbor in Yilan County on Tuesday morning local time.

According to Taiwan's state-run Central News Agency, the truck fell onto a number of fishing boats and sparked a fire. At least 12 people were injured, the Yilan County Fire Bureau said, with rescue operations continuing in the evening. Two dead bodies had been found at 8 p.m. local time, CNA reported. CNN / Read more [[Thanks to ISCO Member, SYNERGY Komposite Technik Co. Ltd.]

TAIWAN, CHINA: TANKER DAMAGED IN CONTACT, FUEL SPILL

October 19 - Operating in Taichung port, Taiwan, bunker tanker TAIAN NO.2 at around midday Oct 19 was pushed by a wind gust onto piers corner and suffered hull breach, understood in starboard cargo tanks area. Some of fuel in damaged tank leaked into harbor, cleansing operation was launched, with tanker fenced off by booms. Maritime Bulletin / [Read more](#)

AUSTRALIA: HAZARDOUS CHEMICAL SPILL ON VESSEL AT BUSSELTON PORT

October 20 – Several emergency services units, including from Fremantle and Claremont, responded to reports of a hazardous material spillage on board the Cosco Singapore about 7.20pm tonight. The West Australian understands at least 20L of sodium O,O-diisobutyl dithiophosphate, a chemical which can cause severe skin burns and eye damage, spilled across the vessel's deck. The West Australian / [Read more](#)

USA: DELAWARE - BUNKER FUEL SPILL COMES ASHORE IN DELAWARE BAY

October 20 - The U.S. Coast Guard and Delaware state officials are responding to a bunker fuel spill that is washing up at Broadkill Beach, Delaware, a small community at the entrance to Delaware Bay. On Monday evening, the Delaware Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control called the Coast Guard National Response Center to relay a report of oil patties that washed ashore on Broadkill Beach. Coast Guard Sector Delaware Bay contracted with an oil spill response company to begin a cleanup. The Maritime Executive / [Read more](#)

October 22 - Clean up efforts continue in Delaware following the discovery of a major oil spill in the area. The Delaware Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control says oil patties have washed ashore at various locations on the Delaware Bay coastline between Fowler Beach and Cape Henlopen. Crew members from the Coast Guard, DNREC, Lewis Environmental, a remediation contractor, and Tri-State Bird Rescue and Research have all been taking part in the cleanup efforts. We're told so far at least 24 oiled seagulls have been spotted. Approximately 2 tons of oily sand and debris was removed from the affected areas on Tuesday alone. There is still no word on the source of the spill. WMDT / [Read more](#)

UK: CONTAINER SHIP LOST CONTAINERS OVERBOARD IN STORMY CELTIC SEA

October 20 - Container ship ELBTRADER understood to lose 7 or more containers overboard in vicinity 50 20N 005 55W, north of Land's End, at around 1500 UTC Oct 20. The ship is en route from Antwerp to Dublin, she was continuing her voyage as of 1730 UTC. News not yet confirmed. Maritime Bulletin / [Read more](#)

VENEZUELA / TRINIDAD & TOBAGO: STATUS OF FSO NABARIMA – CONFLICTING REPORTS. AN UNNECESSARY PANIC ???

After fears of an impending catastrophe (See reports on Pages 13-14 of last week's ISCO Newsletter) it seems that the very serious concerns may have been unfounded. Your editor received a large number of comments and relayed reports. Some are given below.

Comment from Carlos Sagrea, Member of ISCO Council for Panama – “It must be taken into account that in Venezuela there is no transparency in the news from PDVSA in relation to its contingencies and everything is known by the alerts of the NGOs and then only because of this pressure is that PDVSA acts following the political slogans of its Government. This has been the case, for example, with the multiple spills of hydrocarbons in the last decade, many of them with severe environmental and social economic consequences. With this background, it is logical that in a situation like that of the FSO Nabarima, it was the Trinidad and Tobago authorities who had to take action on the matter, to really know what the situation was. And we must thank the Venezuelan NGOs for the work they do in spreading these messages, although sometimes they can be excessive in some forecasts. Below are some reports from local media”.

<https://www.eluniversal.com/economia/83114/girot-pdvsa-usa-las-sanciones-de-eeuu-como-excusa-ante-su-inaccion-por-la-situacion-del-nabarima>

<https://elpitazo.net/oriente/claves-lo-que-se-sabe-del-tanquero-nabarima>

<https://primerinforme.com/index.php/2020/10/19/con-un-buque-sancionado-pdvsa-se-prepara-para-transferir-el-crudo-del-nabarima/>

<https://talcualdigital.com/emergencias-de-desastres-del-caribe-tambien-vigila-precaria-situacion-del-nabarima/>

INCIDENT REPORTS (CONTINUED)

Comment and a possible explanation from Voytenko Mikhail of the Maritime Bulletin – “Photos show intentionally listed and tilted tanker – with the purposes of maintenance and repairs. Faulty valves were fixed or replaced, water was pumped out, tanker as of now, is dry and sound. Intentional tilting and listing of the ship with the purpose of carrying out otherwise inaccessible, underwater parts, is a usual practice in shipping”

“A damaged Venezuelan oil tanker recently tilting to one side in the Caribbean after taking on water poses no significant risk of spilling and causing an environmental catastrophe, Minister of Energy of Trinidad & Tobago Franklin Khan said on Oct 22, after a team of experts from his country inspected the FSO Nabarima. Khan said a Trinidadian technical team did an aerial inspection from a Venezuelan helicopter showing that the tanker was floating upright with no tilt. Upon landing, they found no water inside and the double hulls were sound, Khan said. “The team confirm that major maintenance is ongoing,” Khan said. “Pumps and electrical motors are being repaired and replaced as needed.” The Maritime Bulletin / [Read more](#)

October 20 - PDVSA to Offload Crude from Listing Oil Facility Off Venezuela. - An oil tanker operated by Venezuelan state oil company Petroleos de Venezuela on Tuesday approached a floating oil facility where it is expected to receive crude via transfer at sea amid environmental concerns, Refinitiv Eikon data showed.

Environmental groups have in the past two weeks expressed concern about a potential spill of the 1.3 million barrels of crude aboard the Nabarima oil facility – part of the Petrosucre joint venture between PDVSA and Italy's Eni SpA – after images showed the vessel tilting to its side.

PDVSA now plans to offload some of the crude on board via a ship-to-ship (STS) transfer involving the Icaro, an Aframax vessel it owns, a person familiar with the matter told Reuters on Monday. The Refinitiv Eikon data showed the Icaro approached the Nabarima at 2:37 p.m. local time (1837 GMT). gCaptain / [Read more](#)

October 22 - Damaged Venezuelan oil tanker poses minimal spill risk: Officials - At the urging of environmental groups, oil worker unions and fishing communities on the surrounding coasts, officials in Trinidad asked Venezuelan officials to let them go on board to independently inspect the ship. Khan said a Trinidadian technical team did an aerial inspection from a Venezuelan helicopter showing that the tanker was floating upright with no tilt. Upon landing, they found no water inside and the double hulls were sound, Khan said. Al Jazeera / [Read more](#)

October 23 - Venezuela military guarding sensitive oil transfer. - The Venezuelan military is heavily guarding the gradual transfer of crude from an impaired floating storage vessel in the Gulf of Paria, making it difficult for concerned parties in Venezuela and nearby Caribbean islands to monitor progress. State-owned PdV started the piecemeal offloading of the Nabarima on 21 October, siphoning the oil onto a 30,000 bl barge and then onto the 700,000 bl Aframax Icaro. Once full, the Icaro will move the crude into onshore storage. Argus Media / [Read more](#)

SOUTH AFRICA: TEAM PROBES PIPELINE THEFT WHICH LED TO CRUDE OIL SPILL

October 21 - KwaZulu-Natal MEC for Economic Development, Tourism and Environmental Affairs, Nomusa Dube-Ncube, has assigned a team of environmentalists to work with Transnet after a pipeline theft incident resulted in the spillage of crude oil in the Bellair Area in Durban. “As the department, we wish to indicate that at this stage, we are working with all role players to implement spill containment measures to prevent damage to the environment,” Dube-Ncube said on Tuesday. SA News / [Read more](#)

October 21 - Transnet has implemented containment measures to limit the extent of the crude oil spillage which occurred on 19 October, in the Bellair area, Durban due to an attempted theft incident on the crude oil pipeline. The South African / [Read more](#)

October 25 - Dube-Ncube said the relevant role players were doing their part in the clean up as per the directives issued by the national Human Settlements, Water and Sanitation Department, which gave clear instructions to be followed in the river and Bay clean-up and remediation in terms of the National Water Act.

The MEC added that a coastal and estuary specialist from Ezemvelo had also been working with the team deployed by Transnet, saying, “he has done exceedingly well in protecting our biodiversity”. Dube-Ncube said Transnet and their clean-up lead specialist company SpillTech had also been doing a “fantastic job”. Big News Network / [Read more](#)

RUSSIA: GOVT AGENCIES BLAME TOXIC ALGAE BLOOM FOR KAMCHATKA'S ENVIRONMENTAL DISASTER

October 23 - Earlier this month (October 2020), social media erupted after many found dead marine lives on the beaches of Russia's Kamchatka region. A report by environmental advocacy group Greenpeace suggested that approximately 95 percent of the marine

lives were destroyed and washed up on the beaches, terming it as an environmental disaster. The outcry gave birth to multiple theories including ocean pollution due to rocket propellant, oil spill and even leak from toxic chemical waste facility.

Amid wild speculations, an investigation was launched, indicating that the incident might have begun as early as mid-September. But following the probe, scientists at the Russian Academy of Sciences (RAS) ruled out any man-made disaster. Rather, it was due to natural causes contrary to the earlier reports.

The agency also found four times higher concentrations of petroleum hydrocarbons and 2.5 times higher phenol levels in the water — both associated with an oil leak. While RAS confirmed the higher levels, its Vice President Andrei Adrianov said that it certainly could not have led to the mass deaths of aquatic beings in the region.

All the agencies said in their reports that the mass casualty was caused by the red tides or foam that was observed in Kamchatka. But what caused the red tides? It is a result of a toxic algae bloom. In Kamchatka, scientists believe that the phenomenon was caused by microscopic algae of the genus *Gymnodinium*. During rapid production, the algae produce toxins that are harmful to marine life. Russia Beyond reported that the yellow foam was one of the characteristics of the algal bloom. IB Times / [Read more](#)

RUSSIA: OIL SPILL AT FAR EASTERN PORT AND A PIPELINE LEAK

October 23 - Russian authorities have reported a new oil spill at an export installation in the far east of the country less than a week after a pipeline leak in the north required major mobilisation of equipment and people to halt its spread. Authorities on Thursday acknowledged the incident, adding on Friday that oil has polluted an area of about 35,000 square metres, and that booms have been deployed to contain the spread.

Meanwhile, Lukoil has said it will be able to complete the clean-up of the Kolva river in the Nenets region “within one week”. Lukoil first vice president Asat Shamsuarov said that “the company possesses sufficient resources and personnel to fulfil the task”. Top company executives flew to the northern city of Syktyvkar on Thursday to hold a joint meeting with representatives of country’s environmental watchdog Rosprirodnadzor and the Komi regional governor Vladimir Uiba to co-ordinate clean-up and remedial efforts.

Emergency declared as oil spill spotted in Russian river - The spill from a pipeline, leading from the Lukoil-operated Kharyaga oilfield and crossing the Kolva river, was firstly reported at the end of the last week. An old idled pipeline from the field was found to be leaking oil into the Kolva river that runs from the Nenets region to neighbouring Komi region where it enters another major water artery, the Usa river. Together with Lukoil, authorities installed six rows of booms across the Kolva river to halt the spread of oil. Upstream / [Read more](#)

USA: MAINE - OLD TOWN MILL SPILLS 30,000 GALLONS OF PULPING CHEMICALS INTO PENOBSCOT RIVER

October 22 - More than 30,000 gallons of pulping chemicals from the ND Paper mill in Old Town leaked into the Penobscot River earlier this month, violating state and federal laws, according to the Maine Department of Environmental Protection.

The mill suspended production after discovering that chemicals were spilling into the river through a ruptured underground sewer line and a failed floor drain on Oct. 7. It appears the spill happened periodically over a six-day span, said Brian Kavanah, director of the state agency’s bureau of water quality.

The mill reported the leak to the Department of Environmental Protection, which helped with the spill cleanup and repairs to the infrastructure the following day. Bangor Daily News / [Read more](#)

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