

## ISCO & THE ISCO NEWSLETTER

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

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

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## INTERNATIONAL NEWS

CLICK ON THE BANNER BELOW FOR MORE INFORMATION



## THE SHIP THAT BECAME A BOMB

Stranded in Yemen's war zone, a decaying supertanker has more than a million barrels of oil aboard. If—or when—it explodes or sinks, thousands may die.

October 4, 2021 – An article by Ed Caesar in the New Yorker



“Soon, a vast, decrepit oil tanker in the Red Sea will likely sink, catch fire, or explode. The vessel, the F.S.O. Safer—pronounced “Saffer”—is named for a patch of desert near the city of Marib, in central Yemen, where the country's first reserves of crude oil were

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## INTERNATIONAL NEWS (CONTINUED)

discovered. In 1987, the Safer was redesigned as a floating storage-and-off-loading facility, or F.S.O., becoming the terminus of a pipeline that began at the Marib oil fields and proceeded westward, across mountains and five miles of seafloor. The ship has been moored there ever since, and recently it has degraded to the verge of collapse. More than a million barrels of oil are currently stored in its tanks. The Exxon Valdez spilled about a quarter of that volume when it ran aground in Alaska, in 1989.

The Safer is not sinking. It is not on fire. It has not exploded. It is not leaking oil. Yet the crew of the ship, and every informed observer, expects disaster to occur soon. But how soon? A year? Six months? Two weeks? Tomorrow? In May, Ahmed Kulaib, the former executive at sepec, told me that "it could be after five minutes." Then five minutes passed, and then another".

*Editor – If you are interested in Oil Pollution this excellent article is a **must-read**.*

*In this well-researched article Ed Caesar recounts the history of the FSV Safer and brings the narrative right up-to-date as at Summer 2021, covering the still continuing, but so far fruitless, efforts to avert a catastrophe in the making. You can download and read the article at <https://www.newyorker.com/magazine/2021/10/11/the-ship-that-became-a-bomb>*

## MORE INTERNATIONAL NEWS IN BRIEF

### NEW FILM ABOUT THE WORK OF ITOPF



October 4 - A new film showcasing the work of ITOPF is now available. This five-minute film highlights ITOPF's experience, credentials, and role during a pollution incident. It features interviews with ITOPF's Technical Director, Richard Johnson, one of our Technical Advisers, Andrew LaMasurier, and Tony Paulson,

Corporate Director, West of England P&I Club. Richard sets the scene with background information on ITOPF, our funding and activities; Andrew provides a personal insight into his work as a spill responder; and Tony offers an external perspective on the organisation, highlighting the importance of ITOPF's objectivity for an efficient spill response. View the film at the following link <https://vimeo.com/604732937>

### COMING SOON – NEW TOOLS FROM EUROWA-2 PROJECT PRESENTED AT HELCOM RESPONSE

October 4 - The EUROWA-2 project is *developing tools* which will help governments develop their oiled wildlife preparedness through an *integrated approach*. Responding well to oiled wildlife incidents and other marine wildlife emergencies needs a multidisciplinary, integrated approach where key authorities *operate jointly*. Over 25 Baltic Sea oil spill response authorities learned more about these tools at the 29<sup>th</sup> meeting of [HELCOM Response](#).

Saskia Sessions-Puplett (Sea Alarm/EUROWA Secretariat), gave an update on the [EUROWA-2](#) project at the HELCOM Wildlife Response Group (WILDLIFE, formerly EWG-OWR) meeting on 29 September. Saskia recapped the objectives of the project and outlined three tools which are being developed. [EUROWA / Read more](#)

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## **NINE CARIBBEAN COUNTRIES LAUNCH JOURNEY TOWARDS A CHEMICAL-FREE ENVIRONMENT**



*Photo credit: Przemyslaw Skibinski/Shutterstock*

October 5 - Nine Caribbean nations have joined forces in the fight for a toxic-free future for the region, with the launch of the \$11 million Caribbean ISLANDS project today.

Together, the countries are set to eliminate over 400 tonnes of contaminated material and avoid the release of more than 150,000 tonnes of marine litter.

At the virtual launch event, representatives of Antigua and Barbuda, Barbados, Belize, Dominican Republic, Guyana, Saint Kitt and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Suriname, and Trinidad and Tobago expressed their commitment to working together, sharing best practice, and delivering a common message on the need to soundly manage and dispose of harmful chemicals and materials in Caribbean Small Islands Developing States (SIDS).

The Caribbean initiative is one of six regional projects being backed by the Global Environment Facility and partners under the \$515 million program [Implementing Sustainable Low and Non-Chemical Development in Small Island Developing States](#) (ISLANDS). The GEF / [Read more](#)

## **PROGRESS TOWARDS ENTRY INTO FORCE OF THE 2010 HNS PROTOCOL**

October 6 - Since the March 2021 session of the 1992 Fund Assembly, no State has deposited an instrument of ratification or accession to the 2010 HNS Protocol with the Secretary-General of IMO. Therefore, as of 6 October 2021, there are five Contracting States to the Protocol, namely, Canada, Denmark, Norway, South Africa and Turkey. However, a number of States have continued their efforts to implement the HNS Convention into their domestic legislation, and it is hoped that more States will be able to ratify or accede to the Protocol in the next few years. IOPC Funds / [Read more](#)

## **IMO SET TO EXPAND REGIONAL PRESENCE WITH NEW OFFICE IN PACIFIC**

October 6 - IMO's Technical Cooperation Committee at its 71st session (TC 71) (20-24 September) has approved the establishment of an IMO Regional Presence Office (RPO) for the Pacific Islands region. If approved at the thirty-fourth extraordinary session of the Council (08 - 12 November 2021), this will see the Pacific Region become the sixth to feature an IMO RPO. The existing RPOs are: Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire for west and central Africa (Francophone); Accra, Ghana for west and central Africa (Anglophone); Nairobi, Kenya for eastern and southern Africa; Manila, the Philippines for East Asia; and Port of Spain, Trinidad and Tobago for the Caribbean. IMO also funds one Technical Cooperation Officer within the Pacific Community (SPC), based in Suva, Fiji. IMO / [Read more](#)

### UNEP: HOW TO MANAGE THE DAMAGE FROM OIL-SPILLS

October 7 - This month's oil spill in California and the sinking of the X-Press Pearl off the coast of Sri Lanka in July have renewed attention to the environmental dangers of such disasters, especially the toll they take on marine and coral life. In this question and answer segment, the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) explores the dire impact of oil spills, the cost of clean-ups and what can be done to limit damage to the environment and ecosystems. UNEP / [Read more](#)

### EUROPE: SINGLE-USE PLASTICS: RULES FOR THE CALCULATION, VERIFICATION AND REPORTING OF DATA ON THE SEPARATE COLLECTION OF WASTE SINGLE-USE PLASTIC BEVERAGE BOTTLES PUBLISHED

October 7 - From 24 October 2021, according to Implementing Decision 2021/1752, EU Member States shall ensure that the targets for the separate collection for recycling of waste single-use plastic beverage bottles are calculated, verified and reported according to harmonised methodology and provisions.

The Single-use Plastics Directive (Directive (EU) 2019/904) sets targets for the separate collection for recycling of waste single-use plastic beverage bottles. By 2025, Member States shall meet the target of 77% for the separate collection for recycling of waste single-use plastic beverage bottles, by weight of all such single-use bottles placed on the market. By 2029, this target increases to 90%. European Commission / [More info](#)

### ACB, PEMSEA TO HOLD VIRTUAL SESSION ON TRANSBOUNDARY COOPERATION FOR MARINE PROTECTED AREAS IN ASEAN REGION

October 8 - The ASEAN Centre for Biodiversity (ACB) and Partnerships in Environmental Management for the Seas of East Asia (PEMSEA) Resource Facility are jointly organizing a virtual session on October 21, 2021 from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. to discuss the status and progress of conservation and transboundary management of coastal and marine biodiversity in the region. Titled "Managing Networks and Transboundary Cooperation on Marine Protected Areas (MPAs) in the ASEAN Region," the session is one of the pre-congress events of the upcoming 2021 East Asian Seas (EAS) Congress hosted by the Royal Government of Cambodia on December 1-2, 2021. PEMSEA / [Read more](#)

### REMPEC: A NEW STEP TOWARDS A MORE HARMONISED APPROACH ON THE USE OF DISPERSANTS IN THE EASTERN MEDITERRANEAN REGION

October 8 - Within the framework of the Sub- regional Marine Oil Pollution Contingency Plan between Cyprus, Greece and Israel (the Plan), the Marine Environment Protection Directorate, Ministry of Maritime Affairs and Insular Policy in Greece organised in collaboration with the Regional Marine Pollution Emergency Response Centre for the Mediterranean Sea (REMPEC), a Sub-regional Workshop on "Dispersants, operational usage and effectiveness monitoring" (Piraeus, Greece, 5-6 October 2021). REMPEC / [Read more](#)

## NEWS REPORTS FROM AROUND THE WORLD

### BRAZIL: IBAMA OPENS REGISTRATION FOR THE CTF/APP SEMINAR: SISNAMA AND THE VALUE OF ENVIRONMENTAL INFORMATION

October 5 - The Brazilian Institute of the Environment and Renewable Natural Resources (IBAMA) opened on Monday (04) registration for the CTF/APP Seminar: Sisnama and the value of environmental information. Those interested in participating have until November 12 to register on the [EAD/Ibama platform](#). The virtual event will be held from November 22 to 26 and aims to strengthen the integration between the entities of the National Environment System, involved with the generation of environmental information. IBAMA / [Read more](#)

### CANADA SEEKS HALT TO WHITMER'S LINE 5 PIPELINE SHUTDOWN ORDER, INVOKING TREATY

October 4 - Citing a 1977 pipelines treaty with the U.S., the Canadian government on Monday asked a U.S. federal judge to halt proceedings considering Michigan Gov. Gretchen Whitmer's order to shut down the controversial Line 5 oil and gas pipelines in the Straits of Mackinac. Gordon Giffin, a lawyer representing the Canadian government, in a Monday letter to U.S. District Judge for Western Michigan Janet Neff, stated Canada earlier Monday had "formally invoked ... through diplomatic channels" an article of a 1977 pipelines treaty with the U.S. government which calls for negotiation between the two governments to resolve disputes over international pipelines. Detroit Free Press / [Read more](#) Related article in [The Detroit News](#)

## CANADA: STATEMENT BY MINISTER GARNEAU ON LINE 5 TRANSIT PIPELINE

October 4 - Canada is firmly committed to ensuring its energy and economic security while protecting the environment for future generations. This includes working with the United States to improve the health of the Great Lakes. For more than 65 years, Line 5 has been the safest way to transport Canadian hydrocarbons from western Canada to central Canada, helping provide energy that is essential for heating homes and powering Canada's economy.

In response to Michigan's efforts to shut down Line 5, Canada has raised its significance for Canadian economic and energy security at the highest levels of the U.S. federal government. We have also stressed the importance of fully respecting and implementing the international agreements that are in place between our two countries. Government of Canada / [Read more](#)

## GREECE: REPRESENTATIVES OF GREECE AND UNEP/MAP MEET WITH THE AMBASSADOR FOR THE MEDITERRANEAN COAST



Above - Secretary-General of the Hellenic Ministry of Environment and Energy Konstantinos Aravossis and UNEP/MAP Coordinator Tatjana Hema @Enaleia

October 4 - On 24 September 2021 the Secretary-General of the Hellenic Ministry of Environment and Energy Konstantinos Aravossis and UNEP/MAP Coordinator Tatjana Hema met with Lefteris Arapakis, the UNEP Young Champion of the Earth for Europe (2020). The meeting took place on the premises of Enaleia, a social enterprise that Mr. Arapakis co-founded. It was followed by a visit to the fish market of Keratsini, one of several sites in Greece and elsewhere in the Mediterranean basin where Enaleia works with fishers on fishing for plastic. The visitors were presented with samples of by-catch plastic items brought on shore for recycling instead of being thrown back into the sea. UNEP / [Read more](#)

## NIGERIA: OGOINI - HOUSE OF REPS COMMITTEE CALLS FOR INVOLVEMENT OF YOUTHS IN ON-GOING CLEAN-UP PROJECT

October 6 - The House of Representatives Committee on Host Community has called on the management of Hydrocarbon Pollution and Remediation project to increase youth's participation in the cleanup project in Ogoniland.

The committee believes the action will help in curbing the security challenges being faced in different project sites. Chairman of the Committee, Dumnamene Dekor, made the call on Wednesday during a two-day inspection tour of remediation sites and water facilities in the four Local Government Areas in Ogoniland. Daily Post / [Read more](#)

## NORWAY: NOSCA STRENGTHENS ITS KNOWLEDGE CHAIN

October 5 - The number of NOSCA members from research and educational institutions has in the past year increased from two to six – a significant change. This is a very positive development, says Eirik Langeland, General Manager of NOSCA Clean Oceans. NOSCA now counts among its members Sintef Ocean, NORCE, NIVA, University of Bergen, Western Norway University of Applied Sciences (HVL), and Norges Brannskole. In addition to expanding its value chain, the cluster is thus developing a knowledge chain focused on its detection, classification, clean-up, and disposal ecosystem. NOSCA / [Read more](#)

## NORWAY: NOSCA “SHARPENS” ITS EFFORTS



October 5 - In connection with NOSCA’s strategy review, work in some key areas is being intensified.

The working groups have been renamed “steering groups” to highlight the most important fields in which we work, says Eirik Langeland, General Manager in NOSCA Clean Oceans. Three steering groups are currently active: 1) oil-spill response and environmental preparedness, 2) marine pollution, and 3) biological threats to the marine environment. In addition, focus groups dealing with more specific topics will be formed as and when required.

This structure involves frequent meetings, and creates great engagement among our members. Each steering group is led by two people of whom one is from academia. Along with good geographical spread, this will help ensure a wide as exchange of views as possible, says Langeland. NOSCA / [Read more](#)

## NORWAY: FORUM FOR FREMTIDAS OLJEVERN

October 6 - On 14 and 15 September this year, the forum on future oil spill preparedness was held at the Norwegian Centre for Oil Spill Preparedness and Marine Environment in Svolvær. This is an annual conference aimed at strengthening Norwegian oil spill preparedness and response by creating an arena for collaboration and common understanding of the needs and challenges in the efforts to combat acute pollution. Its objective is to help ensure relevant research and development for operational preparedness. It is intended as an arena to identify and create common understanding of the challenges and knowledge requirements relating to oil spill preparedness and response, and to facilitate an increase in expertise and technology development. The forum on future oil spill preparedness brings together stakeholders from operational entities, industry, authorities, academia, research institutions, and other bodies in a joint effort to improve oil spill preparedness and response.

Presentations and recordings from the conference will be made available at: [Forum on future oil spill preparedness 2021 | Norwegian Centre for Oil Spill Preparedness and Marine Environment \(marintmiljo.no\)](#) NOSCA / [Read more](#)

## SOUTH AFRICA: UPL CHEMICAL FIRE RESULTED IN 'ENVIRONMENTAL CATASTROPHE' - MINISTER CREECY

October 4 - Minister of Forestry, Fisheries and Environment Barbara Creecy on Monday, released the Joint Preliminary Investigation into the Compliance Profile of UPL South Africa (Pty) Limited in Cornubia, north of Durban. The investigation into the fire at a chemicals warehouse at Cornubia found that UPL was not in possession of the requisite environmental authorisation prior to establishing its operations three months before the incident, the report found.

Creecy stated in the press release: 'The report is the result of an investigation by a multi-disciplinary team into the regulatory environment in which the UPL warehouse was required to operate, and the environmental impact of the chemical spill and fire incident that has caused the most serious environmental catastrophe in recent times.' CapeTalk / [Read more](#)

## SOUTH AFRICA: UPL ASKED TO PAY FOR FORUM ON CHEMICAL SPILL

October 6 - UPL, an Indian producer of chemicals used in agriculture, will be asked to pay for the establishment of a forum that will keep the public informed about developments relating to a spill of hazardous chemicals in the South African city of Durban.

Biz News / [Read more](#)

## **TURKEY: FROM GARANTI BBVA AND TURMEPA FOR A SUSTAINABLE WORLD AND CLEAN SEAS, BLUE BREATH PROJECT...**

September 22 - Working to combat the climate crisis and for a sustainable world, Garanti BBVA is launching the Blue Breath Project in cooperation with the Marine Cleansing Association/ TURMEPA to carry out awareness trainings on waste surface cleaning in the Marmara Sea and marine cleanliness in the provinces of the region in order to prevent marine pollution.

TURMEPA, which is part of the Marmara Sea Protection Action Plan Coordination Board established under the leadership of the Ministry of Environment and Urbanization to solve the mucilage problem in the Marmara Sea, will work primarily to prevent general pollution in the seas and to combat mucilage if needed with the support of Garanti BBVA. TURMEPA / [Read more](#)

## **UK: RIVERBANKS AND WATERCOURSES TO BE PLANTED WITH NEW WOODLAND**

September 25 - Over 3,000 hectares of new woodlands are set to be planted along England's rivers and watercourses with backing from the country's leading environmental organisations, Forestry Minister Lord Goldsmith announced today (Saturday 25 September).

Planting trees on and around riverbanks, or allowing them to grow naturally, can help to improve water quality by blocking the runoff of pollutants into rivers, manage flood risks by slowing the flow of water, boost biodiversity by creating new habitat corridors and make our rivers more climate resilient by providing shade and cooling water temperatures. DEFRA / [Read more](#)

## **USA: FEDS EXPAND SUPERFUND CLEANUP OF PASSAIC RIVER IN NEW JERSEY**

October 5 - A long-running effort to clean up one of New Jersey's most notorious Superfund sites just got bigger, federal authorities say. On Monday, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) announced that a \$1.38 billion cleanup effort of the Passaic River is expanding to include nine additional miles of the Lower Passaic River Study Area of the Diamond Alkali Superfund site. Patch / [Read more](#)

## **USA: ADMINISTRATION PROPOSES RESTORATION OF NEPA GUIDELINES**



October 6 - The White House Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) announced today it is planning to restore several critical components of federal reviews under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA).

The proposed provisions would restore longstanding and critical safeguards rescinded last year under the previous administration. Federal agencies would be required to evaluate all the potential environmental impacts – direct, indirect and cumulative – of a planned federal project. These reviews cover projects ranging from new pipelines and roads and will now prioritize impacts of climate change and environmental justice. The Nature Conservancy / [Read more](#)

## **USA: U.S. NAVY DIVE TEAMS STILL CLEARING WRECKAGE FROM HURRICANE IDA**

October 6 - One month after the passage of Hurricane Ida, salvors are still working to remove sunken and grounded vessels from Bayou Lafourche, Louisiana.

After the hurricane's passage, the Coast Guard and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers identified at least 25 vessels in need of a salvage response. The U.S. Navy's Supervisor of Diving and Salvage (SUPSALV) has taken on the task of removing these vessel casualties and returning the waterway to its normal operating condition. The Maritime Executive / [Read more](#)

## **USA: CONGRESSIONAL SUPPORT FOR CHEMICAL SAFETY BOARD**

October 7 - Dr. Katherine A. Lemos, Chairperson and CEO of the U.S Chemical Safety and Hazard Investigation Board testified before the Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations of the Committee on Energy and Commerce which held a hybrid hearing that included both in-person and remote attendance on Wednesday, September 29, 2021, at 10:30 a.m. Full committee Chairman, Frank Pallone (NJ), set the tone and said, "In my view, getting the CSB back to functioning at the highest level is the first step. The goal of today's hearing is to help get CSB back on track, and I hope that we can all come together to revitalize this critical agency." CSB / [Read more](#)

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

October 8 – Please click on the links below to download and read the latest News Reports from NOAA OR&R.

#### [NOAA Continues Support for California Oil Spill](#)



*Photo: Crude oil is shown in the Pacific Ocean offshore of Orange County, Oct. 3, 2021. Image credit: U.S. Coast Guard.*

On October 2, 2021, U.S. Coast Guard contacted NOAA regarding an unknown sheen in the water. Roughly 45 minutes later, NOAA captured satellite imagery, which became the basis for a NOAA Satellites Marine Pollution Surveillance Report, issued the same day, showing oil slicks extending for more than 30 miles along the coast.

U.S. Coast Guard field teams investigating the information observed black oil roughly 3.25 nautical miles offshore and requested NOAA support in mapping the trajectory of the oil.

#### [Marine Debris Program Celebrates Completion of 30-Day Removal Mission in Papahānaumokuākea Marine National Monument](#)

‘A’ohe hana nui ke alu ‘ia: No task is too big when done together by all. On September 22, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) celebrated the completion of a [30-day mission](#) to remove marine debris from the Papahānaumokuākea Marine National Monument. The mission removed nearly 124,000 pounds of debris and entanglement hazards from the monument’s waters and shorelines.

#### [CURBY Buoy System Delivered to the OR&R Disaster Response Center](#)

We had a shared idea to create an oceanographic/meteorological buoy system that could be deployed by a relatively small vessel to support scientific research and emergency response. We thought, “There could be so many uses in support of NOAA and NOS missions if we only had such a buoy.” If a critical fixed monitoring station was damaged during a major hurricane and there was a need for real-time data, the buoy could be deployed as a temporary monitoring device.

#### [Urban Water Federal Partnership Collaboration for Environmental Justice](#)

OR&R’s Simeon Hahn presented with EPA (Chris Orvin), the New Department of Environmental Protection Frank McLaughline), the Partnership for the Delaware Estuary (Kathy Kline and Erica Rosetti), and a community organizer, Collaborate Northeast of Wilmington, Delaware (Bobbi Britton), on the Urban Water Federal Partnership (UWFP) at the [9th Annual Del-AWARE River Watershed Forum](#)([link is external](#)) organized by the Coalition for the Delaware River Watershed.

#### [Marine Debris Program Releases the 2021 Washington Marine Debris Action Plan](#)

On October 6, the Marine Debris Program (MDP) released the 2021 Washington Marine Debris Action Plan. This document is the result of a collaborative effort between the MDP and partners across Washington State, including federal and state governments, tribes, nongovernmental organizations, industry, and academia.

#### [OR&R Biologist Recognized with Legacy Award](#)

The Pacific States/British Columbia Oil Spill Task Force recently announced winners of its [Legacy Awards](#)([link is external](#)) and we are excited to announce that OR&R scientist emeritus Gary Shigenaka was selected for a 2021 Legacy Award in the individual category.

#### [Inland River Spill Scenario in the Seneca Nation of Indians Territory, Salamanca, New York](#)

On September 23, 2021, Great Lakes Scientific Support Coordinator Lieutenant Rachel Pryor participated in a multi-agency effort to train Salamanca fire department and first responders for pollution response and spill equipment deployment in the Allegheny River.

#### [Environmental Response Management Application, ERMA, Wraps Up Busy Month with Update](#)

The month of September has been a busy one for the ERMA application. Following Hurricane Ida landfall, the application supported [response efforts](#) across multiple federal agencies tracking data streams for pollution response efforts. Through this effort, ERMA saw a ~75% increase in users on the application.

#### [Long-Standing Partnership with Coastal Response Research Center Extended to 2026](#)

The Coastal Response Research Center (CRRC) at University of New Hampshire (UNH) successfully responded to a Broad Agency Announcement to continue its work with the science of all-hazard incidents and oil spills.

#### [NOAA Conducts Site Visits on Lower Duwamish Restoration Projects](#)

NOAA and other Lower Duwamish Trustees conducted site visits at two restoration projects in the construction phase along the Lower Duwamish River. Trustees finalized a Natural Resource Damage Assessment (NRDA) settlement in May 2021 with [Vigor Industrial and Exxon Mobil](#).



## NEWS REPORTS FROM AROUND THE WORLD (CONTINUED)

### [Scientific Support Coordinator at Sector Northern New England PREP Drill](#)

New England Scientific Support Coordinator William Whitmore traveled to Belfast, Maine on September 21-22 to assist U.S. Coast Guard (USCG) Sector Northern New England with an oil spill drill that was part of the USCG National Preparedness for Response Program (PREP) and a mission-critical NOAA assignment.

### [OR&R Publishes Job Aids for Use of Uncrewed Aircraft Systems in Hurricane and Oil Spill Response](#)

A collaboration between NOAA OR&R's Emergency Response Division, the Office of Atmospheric Research, and the Office of Marine and Aviation Operations has resulted in two new job aids for oil spill and hurricane response—the Uncrewed Aircraft Systems Oil Spill Response Job and the Uncrewed Aircraft Systems Hurricane Response Job Aid.

## VENEZUELA: COASTAL VILLAGES, FISHERMEN SUFFER AS OIL SPILLS RISE

October 6 – While oil spills in much of the world are widely reported and victims compensated, that is not the case in Venezuela. PDVSA suffers frequent and, in the case of Falcon, large leaks and emissions, especially along the nation's western coast, a region full of ageing oilfields, pipelines and refineries.

Through September this year, at least 53 spills have been reported in Venezuela by Klein and the Venezuelan Observatory of Political Ecology. Including a large one in June that sent about 3.6 million litres of fuel into the Caribbean Sea. PVDN / [Read more](#)

## ISCO NEWS

### NOTICE OF MEETING - ISCO AGM 2021

It is planned to hold the 2021 ISCO AGM on the 9<sup>th</sup> December 2021, the meeting will take the form of a virtual online meeting, and once again every member is very welcomed, the time will be confirmed following the issue of the AGM papers. In the meantime please make a note in your diaries and if you have any item for the AGM then please sent them to me ASAP - Neil Marson Secretary General ([neilmarson@virginmedia.com](mailto:neilmarson@virginmedia.com))

### REDUCING THE SIZE OF THE NEWSLETTER

From your Editor – Looking at recent issues of the ISCO Newsletter I see that it continues to average about 16-18 pages every week. It's too long and a lot more than that of our target of keeping it down to about 10 pages. There's quite a lot of repetitive content too and transferring this to our website will help too.

We are planning to replace the "UPCOMING EVENTS" section with just a link to a new website page with all the upcoming events info. Another option under consideration is a similar change from newspaper to website page for "UPCOMING WEBINARS". This will be a small step towards reducing the size of the newsletter.

There are more options for reducing repetitive content and a hoped for outcome will be a shorter newsletter while retaining "one-click" access to useful features that are being relocated.

One effect will be to make more space available for "CONTRIBUTED ARTICLES", "CASE HISTORIES" and other content including "NEWS FROM ISCO MEMBERS". An important aim of the ISCO Newsletter is to ensure that in every issue, no matter in which part of the world you live, there should be at least one article that you will find interesting.

If you have any reservations or suggestions regarding the proposed changes, please let me know. [John.mcmurtrie@spillcontrol.org](mailto:John.mcmurtrie@spillcontrol.org)

### NEW ADDITIONS TO OUR WEBSITE MENU AT <https://spillcontrol.org>

- **UPCOMING EVENTS** – This new page gives you a listing of Upcoming Events with downloadable details of forthcoming events, where and when, and how to register if you would like to attend.
- **LATIN AMERICA REGIONAL PAGE** – This page is in Spanish language and features articles and news of interest to our Latin American community. Content is being provided by Carlos Sagera, ISCO's Representative in the Latin America Region.

## ISCO STUDENTS, TRAINEES & APPRENTICES CORRESPONDENCE PAGE

### ISCO OFFERS A FREE TRIAL MEMBERSHIP FOR STUDENTS, TRAINEES AND APPRENTICES

Download the application form at <https://spillcontrol.org/membership-application-form/>

Members who are students, trainees or apprentices are invited to send in their profiles, a photo and share news of their activities for sharing information and possibilities for ideas-exchange and co-operation.

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

Please note that Kayode Peter Balogun has been named head of the student group. He can be reached at [balogunkayodepeter@yahoo.com](mailto:balogunkayodepeter@yahoo.com), Mary Ann Dagleish (VP Membership) can be reached at [mrydetroit@aol.com](mailto:mrydetroit@aol.com).

**This week we are pleased to publish a profile and responses provided by Kayode Peter Balogun.**



Peter writes "First, I will like to express my sincere appreciation to ISCO which is an excellent forum for all career stages, meeting people working in similar field, academic purpose as well as general networking. It is a privilege to be a member. Here is my information regarding my studies".

Name: Kayode Peter Balogun

School: Federal University of Technology, Akure (FUTA)

Research Focus: Potential of *Musa paradisiaca* in phytoremediation of soil contaminated by crude oil.

Degree: PhD in view in Environmental Biology and Public Health, 2nd Year.

How ISCO can assist me –

- Providing link to a laboratory to carry out some of my analysis such as TPH, PAH among others
- By collaborating with professionals for further research work in oil spill cleanup and remediation Providing link to a laboratory to carry out some of my analysis such as TPH, PAH

Possible ways I could assist ISCO -

- Ever ready for any assignment that will positively impact the organization
- Invite new student members with great passion in oil spill management
- Serve as communication link between ISCO and other students.

Again, thank you for the opportunity to be part of ISCO family.

Balogun, Kayode Peter

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ISCO Members and other readers of the ISCO Newsletter who feel they can assist our Student Members or accept offers of help should contact Kayode Peter Balogun at [balogunkayodepeter@yahoo.com](mailto:balogunkayodepeter@yahoo.com) or get in touch directly with our Student members.

We will do our best to alert you about things that may be of interest to you and ask that you reciprocate by sending me info on events, opportunities, etc. that may be of interest to others and can be shared on this page. [John.mcmurtrie@spillcontrol.org](mailto:John.mcmurtrie@spillcontrol.org)

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## CONTRIBUTED ARTICLE

### ONE EXTREME TO ANOTHER – TWO VERY DIFFERENT RESPONSE SCENARIOS



For more than 40 years George Ross has travelled the globe, leading the response at major oil spill events, carrying out training and undertaking projects to build response preparedness all over the world. He is a well-known and respected figure in the international spill response community.

Another fascinating article from George. Both locations are in Scotland – one sub-sea, the other on top of a mountain. When you're in the pollution control business you never know what will come up next!

26TH March 2002 - Two American F15 Fighters missing in the Cairngorm mountains. Last radar contact put them close to Ben Macdui. Sadly, over the next few days it was confirmed that both planes had crashed into the mountain and both pilots were killed.

At that particular time our thoughts were far removed from the top of Ben Macdui. Together with Jamie Campbell and Bob McWhinnie our focus was on building a Hot-Tap machine to drill into the hull of the battleship Royal Oak now laying at the bottom of Scapa Flow in Orkney after being sunk in 1939 by a German Submarine in WW2. The ship is laying on its side in 90ft water depth. Fuel oil had been leeching from the Royal Oak for many years and it was getting worse. The Ministry of Defence decided to install valves along the uppermost sections of the fuel tanks so as any oil migrating upwards could be sucked out through these valves and pumped into tanks for disposal at the nearby Flotta oil terminal



The Royal Oak is a war grave to more than 800 sailors and cannot be removed. The installation of valves was allowed as all other measures to stop the pollution had failed. We set about the task of cutting cores out of the hull at specific points and installing the valves. Everything went reasonably well after a few hiccups.

The first batch of valves to test the theory that oil was migrating throughout the tanks and would eventually find its way to the highest point proved to be accurate. Eight valves were fitted and a quantity of fuel oil removed to prove the system worked. When our allotted time was up, we returned to Aberdeen. (Over the next ten years many more valves would be fitted and enabled successful removal of 1600 tons of fuel oil.)

One week later our team were sent 3,400 ft up Ben Macdui as all hell was going loose there. SSSI, (Site of Special Scientific interest) RSPB Reserve, Wildlife Reserve, and to cap it all, World Heritage site! In the middle of that and just emerging from four meters of snow were two F15 Fighters.

Orders were to remove both planes and all trace of the accident from the mountain. Operational limits were - we must not touch the soil and the operation must be completed with one meter of snow remaining over the protected area.

Since the accident the RAF had pin pointed the most likely position where any movement of oils from the crash site could be detected. This information was passed to us and an interceptor was dug in four metres deep of snow. Now SEPA (Scottish Environmental Protection Agency) could monitor the thaw but it took another week before water appeared exactly where the RAF predicted. Now any migration of oil down the mountain could be detected. As a precaution two more interceptors were dug further down the mountain. With that under control efforts turned to the crash site and the removal of 250 tons of contaminated snow.

Forty US Army personnel conducted line searches between the first point of impact and the crash site one mile away. Debris was strewn across this area and much of it was top secret Cameras, Gatling guns etc. While they concentrated on the removal of the planes our forty concentrated on the removal of oil which they termed as "Body fluids"- Hydraulic oil, Lube oil and Aviation fuel, mixed. Everything had to be manhandled 400ft down to a flat collection area. From there it was flown first to Braemar by a variety of RAF Helicopters. From Braemar it was sent to Aberdeen by road to be melted and oils separated. It took forty days to bring everything down off the mountain.

Eighty people were involved for forty days and no accidents occurred thanks to the operation being policed by Braemar police and Braemar mountain rescue. RAF Chinooks and Sea King Helicopters ran a shuttle service up and down the mountain every day and displayed their flying skills sometimes in white-out conditions. This experience was unique and many lessons in dealing with oil spills at altitude were learned and later applied to response strategies in various countries where pipelines traverse mountainous regions



Interceptor 4m deep



Planes emerging from snow close to top of mountain

One F15 crash site note line of impact



Bags of mixed oils recovered



Sea King picking up bags to load skips which were then taken down by Chinook

There are many photographs of this operation. All are unique and clearly illustrate the co-operation required to successfully carry out such a complex task. Conditions ranged from hot when the sun was shining to blizzards and fog but regardless of conditions the RAF Sea King mountain rescue helicopters from Lossiemouth and Kinloss took us up and safely back down again.

## UPCOMING WEBINARS

### NEW WEBINAR FROM GI WACAF

**Wednesday, October 13<sup>th</sup> - The compensation claim process in case of an oil spill**

There are **2 sessions of 60 to 75 minutes each: one in the morning at 10:00 am (GMT+1) in French and one in the afternoon at 2:00 pm (GMT+1) in English.** Do not hesitate to register, and please share the following links among your network: all GI WACAF webinars are free and open to everyone!

#### Registration links:

- How to claim for compensation in case of an oil spill? In English (at 2:00 pm GMT+1 on 13/10/2021): <https://event.webinarjam.com/register/52/zkq4va70>
- How to claim for compensation in case of an oil spill? In French (at 10:00 am GMT+1 on 13/10/2021): <https://event.webinarjam.com/register/53/gq3n5s65>

## UPCOMING WEBINARS (CONTINUED)

Il y a 2 sessions de 60 à 75 minutes chacune : une le matin à 10h00 GMT+1 en français et une l'après-midi à 14h00 GMT+1 en anglais. N'hésitez pas à vous inscrire, et partagez ces liens avec votre réseau : tous les webinaires du GI WACAF sont gratuits et ouverts à tous !

Liens pour s'inscrire :

- Comment soumettre une demande d'indemnisation pour les dommages dus à la pollution par les hydrocarbures ? En français (à 10h00 GMT+1 le 13/10/2021): <https://event.webinarjam.com/register/53/gq3n5s65>
- Comment soumettre une demande d'indemnisation pour les dommages dus à la pollution par les hydrocarbures ? En anglais (à 14h00 GMT+1 le 13/10/2021): <https://event.webinarjam.com/register/52/zkq4va70>

## WEBINARS FROM THE UK & IRELAND SPILL ASSOCIATION

**Thursday, 14 October 2021, 1500 BST** Knowledge Base: Inland – Soil sampling and analysis [More info](#)

Soil analysis is essential in planning any ground remediation project. Its aim is to find out the condition of the soils that may be affected by the contamination, where the contamination is worst, the extent of it and its depth. It is also essential to know the type of soils affected, the type of contamination, to find out if there is any pre-existing contamination and also in a separate area to the contamination what the pre-incident soil conditions are. This information is obtained by sampling and for this, there will be a mix of hand sampling but also drill rig sampling. The information that samples give will enable remedial action to be planned and a risk assessment of the options involved can be presented and agreed upon before any intrusive work is conducted.

This webinar looks at sampling; how to manually take soil samples, how to use augers for shallow samples but then for deeper samples how to use drill rigs and important what to specify when planning the sampling work.

Then there is the soil analysis which is key to writing the plan. There are a lot of soil sampling options available from UKAS accredited laboratories. We hear from a laboratory about how to prepare to take samples, how to take them, how to record what was taken and where and the movement of them through to analysis and reporting. We will touch on what to tell the lab so that they can ensure they do the best job for you.

**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](#)

## SUPPORTING UN SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS WITH LEVEL 1 TELEPHONE EMERGENCY RESPONSE BEST PRACTICE

**Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> October 2021**

From NCEC - Be part of the discussion with some of the chemical industries experts from leading organisations and chemical associations, to talk about level 1 telephone emergency response best practice and its role beyond compliance. [More info](#)

## OCEAN PROTECTION AND MONITORING TECHNOLOGIES AND SERVICES

**Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> October 2021 - 0900-1300 – Part 1 Ocean Focus**

European Commission - This webinar, jointly organised by the European Investment Bank, the European Commission's Directorate General for Maritime Affairs and Fisheries, the European Agency for the Space Programme (EUSPA), Copernicus Marine Services and OceanOPS, will present the latest developments on monitoring our seas so as to stimulate investment and partnerships between public institutions and private companies. [More info](#)

## SECONDARY CONTAINMENT – MANAGING DIFFICULT CONTAINMENT PENETRATION METHODS

**Tuesday, October 26, 2021 Time: 11:00 a.m. EDT to Noon**

Sealing difficult penetrations in secondary containment systems can be challenging using traditional methods. In this webinar, we will discuss the advantages of industrial spray coatings and BCI Polyseam™ for sealing around liner penetrations and difficult liner attachments.. 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/>

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

**Tuesday 2 November, 10:00 AM (GMT) – Phase 5 – Implementing the tactical plan.**

## UPCOMING WEBINARS (CONTINUED)

Phase 5 - This phase is all about following the tactical plans that must now be in place. During this webinar, the panel will look at what factors the Hazmat Advisor must consider before making any final decisions. The panel will also consider the various other ways that the same incident can be brought to a successful conclusion. [More info](#)

## EXXONMOBIL OIL SPILL RESPONSE KNOWLEDGE TRANSFER WEBINARS 4 - 5

Please join us for the next webinars as follows:

**Webinar 4: November 2nd 2021;** Guest speaker – Ed Owens; Topic - What we really do on an oiled shoreline response

Mr. Ed Owens was seconded to the “Arrow” response operation in Nova Scotia in 1970, because he knew something about shorelines – although nothing about oil spills. He spent the next 10 years as a government and university research scientist trying to avoid oil spills. To no avail. So, eventually in 1979 he succumbed to the world of consultants and has been involved full time since then with preparedness, training, research, as well as responding to spills worldwide. His focus is on innovation for coastal oil spills and to continually improve shoreline response programs by adapting lessons learned to the decision process and operational practices. He pioneered aerial videotape mapping techniques in the early 1980s which evolved during the 1989 Prince William Sound response into the shoreline survey strategy today known as SCAT. Currently, among other things, he is actively evaluating the applications of canine detection dogs for shoreline and pipeline spills and the analysis of UAS (“drone”) imagery to support shoreline surveys.

**Webinar 5: December 7th 2021;** Round-table discussion of stories during spills by Alan Allen, Ann Hayward Walker, Stephen Lehmann, and Ed Owens

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 will continue every first Tuesday of the following months. We intend to continue the webinars indefinitely depending on response and our ability to schedule appropriate speakers. To receive the link and other joining info, please send an email to Lin Zhao at: [lin.zhao@exxonmobil.com](mailto: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 Lin Zhao to get on the distribution list.

## SOME USEFUL LINKS

- AUSTRALIA – AMOSC - <https://amosc.com.au/training/>
- AUSTRALIA & NEW ZEALAND – ALGA - <https://landandgroundwater.com>
- 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](mailto:john.mcmurtrie@spillcontrol.org)

## TUNISIA: IMO OPRC LEVEL 2 TRAINING COURSE

November 9-11 - The Mediterranean Oil Industry Group (MOIG) and the Adriatic Training and Research Centre for Accidental Marine Pollution Preparedness and Response (ATRAC) are very pleased to invite you to IMO OPRC level 2 training course; which will be held from 09 to 11 November 2021 at Iberostar Averroes Hotel in South Hammamet-Tunisia.

The event will be open on Tuesday; 09 November 2021 at 09:00 am and expected to close on Thursday, 11 November 2021 at 13:15 pm. It will be animated by Mr. Vedran Martinic, ATRAC Director, Ms. Anja Pilepic and Mr. Marko Dordevic; Marine Environment Protection Associates.

The training course will be dedicated to Supervisors and On-Scene Commanders and its overall objective is to prepare them to coordinate and manage the response to an oil spill. The training course therefore aims at informing senior officials, designated to act as Supervisors/On-Scene Commanders during spill response operations, on the responsibilities of the members of an oil spill response organization; and on how to effectively respond to an oil spill through the deployment of equipment and resources at Regional or National levels.

The [Training Programme](#) is available on line for your reference. The working language will be English.

In order to enable MOIG to have all logistic arrangements made on time, it would be appreciated if you could have the online [Registration Form](#) completed and returned by Mail to [houcine.mejri@moig.org.tn](mailto:houcine.mejri@moig.org.tn) or by Fax at: +216 71 888 439 at your earliest convenience; preferably before 21 October 2021.

## ONLINE AND OTHER TRAINING COURSES (CONTINUED)

We would like to bring your kind attention that participants who wish to attend the training course shall be vaccinated against Corona Virus. In addition, MOIG and Iberostar Averroes Hotel will put in place the necessary preventive measures namely the respect of distancing, the wearing of masks and the use of hydro-alcoholic gel in the conference room, in order to ensure the maximum safety of participants. Whilst looking forward to meeting you in this training course, please do not hesitate to contact MOIG secretariat for any further information.

## 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
UK	October 12-14	<a href="#">Ocean Business 2021</a>	Southampton
UK / VIRTUAL	October 13-14	<a href="#">Water, Wastewater and Environmental Monitoring</a>	Online
AUSTRALIA	October 18-21	<a href="#">Ecoforum 2021 Conference</a>	Sydney
GERMANY	October 20	<a href="#">HELCOM Ministerial Meeting</a>	Lübeck
IRELAND/VIRTUAL	October 21	<a href="#">8th Atlantic Stakeholder Platform Conference</a>	Dublin / Online
UK / VIRTUAL	Nov. 1-5	<a href="#">Meetings of IOPC Funds' governing bodies.</a>	Online
CANADA/VIRTUAL	Nov. 2-4	<a href="#">ITAC-MPRI Oil Pollution Response Workshop</a>	Online
TUNISIA	Nov. 9-11	<a href="#">IMO OPRC Level 2 training course</a>	South Hammamet
VIRTUAL EVENT	Nov. 16-18	<a href="#">UN "Accelerating solutions to reduce plastic waste"</a>	Online
USA	Nov. 16-18	<a href="#">Clean Gulf Conference &amp; Exhibition</a>	San Antonio, TX
VIRTUAL EVENT	Nov. 17-18	<a href="#">Emergency Responders Drone Conference 2021</a>	Online
ITALY	Nov. 18-20	<a href="#">Sealogy Expo and EC Conference</a>	Ferrara
VIRTUAL EVENT	Nov. 22-26	<a href="#">IMO Marine Environment Protection Committee</a>	Online
SWEDEN/VIRTUAL	Nov. 24-25	<a href="#">National Conference on Oil Damage Protection 2021</a>	Karlskrona
UK	December 1-2	<a href="#">Salvage and Wreck Removal Conference</a>	London
CAMBODIA	December 1-4	<a href="#">East Asian Seas Congress</a>	Sihanoukville
COUNTRY	2022	TITLE OF EVENT	LOCATION
UK	March 15-17	<a href="#">Oceanology International</a>	London
AUSTRALIA	May 16-19	<a href="#">APPEA Conference and Exhibition</a>	Brisbane
USA	June 7-9	Elastec's Spring 2022 Oil Spill Workshop	Carmi, IL
NETHERLANDS	June 21-23	<a href="#">Interspill Conference and Exhibition</a>	Amsterdam
USA	October 4-6	Elastec's Fall 2022 Oil Spill Workshop	Carmi IL
BAHRAIN	October 11-13	<a href="#">International Conference &amp; Exhibition on Spills, Clean Seas &amp; Environment</a>	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](mailto:John.mcmurtrie@spillcontrol.org)

## MESSAGES FROM EVENT ORGANISERS

### CANADA: MULTI-PARTNER RESEARCH INITIATIVE (MPRI) WORKSHOP

Please join us for the 2021 Multi-partner Research Initiative (MPRI) Workshop, held jointly with the Industry Technical Advisory Committee (ITAC) Mini-forum, on November 2-4, 2021.

Hosted by Concordia University, this virtual event will highlight some of the latest in science, technology, and operational advances in oil spill preparedness and response from ITAC and MPRI members. The first day will feature the ITAC Mini-forum, with presentations by ITAC subject matter experts, as well as a discussion on MPRI-ITAC collaboration. This will be followed by the two-day MPRI Workshop featuring talks and panel discussions on MPRI-funded research progress, the significance and legacy of the MPRI, and next steps for oil spill response research and collaborations.

## MESSAGES FROM EVENT ORGANISERS (CONTINUED)

You are invited to register for this event at <https://sites.events.concordia.ca/sites/mpri/en/itac-mpri-workshop-2021>. We will keep you posted regarding workshop details. Please contact [itac.mpri.workshop.2021@gmail.com](mailto:itac.mpri.workshop.2021@gmail.com) if you have any question. We look forward to seeing you virtually on November 2-4, 2021!

Additional information: ITAC (Industry Technical Advisory Committee) is an industry-led group that addresses issues and advancements in international oil spill preparedness, response, and applied science and technology. ITAC seeks to expand knowledge and exchanges within the industry and with response organizations, government regulators, and the academic, science, and technical community.

MPRI (Multi-partner Research Initiative) is an oil spill research program under Canada's Oceans Protection Plan under the leadership of Fisheries and Oceans Canada. To enhance Canada's response "toolkit", MPRI brings together the best scientific expertise in oil spill research, both nationally and internationally, to advance scientific knowledge to address major gaps in oil spill response and remediation strategies.

### USA: COUNTDOWN TO THE CLEAN GULF CONFERENCE & EXHIBITION IS ON!

We're counting down the weeks until we reunite with the spill prevention and response community at [CLEAN GULF](#), November 16-18, in San Antonio, TX! We have waited two years to get together, and we hope you are just as excited as we are for the event to take place. CLEAN GULF serves the spill response industry in prevention, preparedness, and response. It gives professionals a forum to come together with their peers to discuss case studies and lessons-learned from both recent and past incidents, and discover the latest technologies advancing prevention and response operations.

**CONFERENCE PROGRAM:** We have 21 sessions scheduled in 7 conference tracks, with a diverse group of industry experts lined up to speak. Conference tracks include: Business Continuity in Disaster/Crisis, Response & Restoration, Planning & Preparedness, Training & Exercises Best Management Practices, Research, New & Advanced Response Tools & Techniques, and Current Industry Concerns.

**EXHIBIT FLOOR:** Our exhibit floor includes 100+ exhibitors featuring products and services such as chemical detection, compliance solutions, containment equipment, data processing, disaster communication, drones, surveillance technologies, incident software, in situ burn products, response software, restoration tools, risk analysis, safety equipment, skimmers, swiftwater boom, waste disposal and much more!

**NETWORKING:** Networking is the #1 reason people attend CLEAN GULF each year and we've made sure to include as much time as possible to network at this year's event! Networking activities all take place on the exhibit floor and include 3 networking breaks, lunch and a welcome reception serving lite bites and drinks.

[Register now](#) for the 2021 CLEAN GULF Conference & Exhibition

### 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](#)

### INTERSPILL 2022 – CALL FOR PAPERS DEADLINE EXTENDED TO OCTOBER 31<sup>st</sup>

"The Call for Papers deadline for Interspill, to be held in Amsterdam in June 2022, has been extended to October 31st. Any queries please contact one of the two co-chairs (Rob James at OSRL or Rob Cox at IPIECA). Abstracts should be 250 words and - if accepted - the final papers between 500 and 1000 words. [rob.cox@ipieca.org](mailto:rob.cox@ipieca.org)

## 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.



## LINKS FOR DOWNLOADING AND READING OTHER PUBLICATIONS

<a href="#">AMSA Update</a>	Latest News from the Australian Maritime Safety Authority	Current issue
<a href="#">ATRAC Newsletter</a>	News from the Adriatic Training and Research Centre	October 2020
<a href="#">BIMCO Bulletin</a>	Marine and shipping-related news from BIMCO	June 2021
<a href="#">Newsletter from George Holliday</a>	News and commentary on HSE issues from George Holliday	Free on request
<a href="#">Cedre Newsletter</a>	News from Cedre in Brittany, France	July-August 2021
<a href="#">Dr. Douglas Cormack</a>	Working to replace belief with knowledge in democratic policy making.	Website
<a href="#">Eco Magazine</a>	Reporting on ocean science, innovation and exploration	Free on request
<a href="#">EMSA Newsletter</a>	News from the European Maritime Safety Agency	September 2021
<a href="#">Environmental Expert</a>	Environmental News from Environmental Expert	Current issue
<a href="#">Environmental Technology</a>	Environmental Monitoring. Testing and Analysis	September 2021
<a href="#">GDACS Newsletter</a>	Daily alerts for natural disasters – earthquakes, floods, typhoons, etc.	Free on request
<a href="#">GEF Newsletter</a>	Monthly Newsletter from the Global Environment Facility	Jul.–Aug. 2021
<a href="#">GESAMP</a>	Group of Experts on the Scientific Aspects of Marine Environmental Protection	Latest news
<a href="#">GISEA Quarterly Newsletter</a>	News from Global Initiative for South-East Asia	Q1 2021
<a href="#">IMO News Magazine</a>	News from the International Maritime Organization	Summer 2021
<a href="#">IMO Publishing Newsletter</a>	New and forthcoming IMO publications	September 2020
<a href="#">ITOPF Ocean Orbit</a>	News magazine from ITOPF with interesting spill response articles	February 2021
<a href="#">JOIFF Catalyst Newsletter</a>	Int'l Organisation for Industrial Hazard Management	Latest issue
<a href="#">Maritime Executive Magazine</a>	Often contains articles of interest to the spill response community	Current issue
<a href="#">MED News</a>	UNEP / MAP Barcelona Convention News	September 2021
<a href="#">MOIG Newsletter</a>	News from the Mediterranean Oil Industry Group	September 2021
<a href="#">NCEC Newsletter</a>	News from the National Chemical Emergency Centre	May 2021
<a href="#">Navigate Response</a>	Global crisis communications network for shipping & marine	Current issue
<a href="#">NOAA OR&amp;R</a>	Weekly round-up of news from NOAA's Office of Response & Restoration	Latest issue
<a href="#">Oceanbuzz</a>	Newsletter giving news on the Ocean Technology Industry	Current issue
<a href="#">OCIMF Newsletter</a>	News from the Oil Companies International Marine Forum	Current issue
<a href="#">OHMSETT Gazette</a>	Oil Spill Response Research & Renewable Energy Test Facility Quarterly	Summer 2021
<a href="#">Oiled Wildlife Log</a>	Bi-annual Newsletter from Tri-State Bird Rescue & Research	May 2021
<a href="#">PEMSEA Newsletter</a>	Healthy oceans, people and economies in the East Asian Seas	Current issue
<a href="#">Pollution Online Newsletter</a>	News for pollution prevention & control professionals	Current issue
<a href="#">Salvage World</a>	Quarterly Newsletter of the International Salvage Union	Current issue
<a href="#">Sea Alarm Foundation Newsletter</a>	Oiled wildlife Preparedness and Response news from Sea Alarm	Current issue
<a href="#">Society of Maritime Industries</a>	News from the UK's maritime engineering and business services sector.	April 1, 2021
<a href="#">Spill Alert</a>	Quarterly Newsletter from UK & Ireland Spill Association	July 2021
<a href="#">Technology Innovation News Survey</a>	News from US EPA – Contaminated Site Decontamination	Aug. 16-31, 2021
<a href="#">The Marine Insurer</a>	Includes latest news on pollution insurance matters	June 2021
<a href="#">The Maritime Advocate</a>	Maritime News from Sandra Speares	Current issue
<a href="#">UNEP News</a>	Latest News from United Nations Environmental Programme	Latest News
<a href="#">USA EPA Tech Direct</a>	Remediation of contaminated soil and groundwater	Oct. 1, 2021
<a href="#">USA Federal Contract Opportunities</a>	The authoritative source for federal contract opportunities	Current issue
<a href="#">Water Pollution &amp; Flood News</a>	Monthly round-ups of UK & Worldwide Spill and Flood News	Free on request

Your editor depends on regular receipt of updated URL links for listed publications. If these are not received, relevant entries will be discontinued. Publishers are kindly requested to advise the editor [john.mcmurtrie@spillcontrol.org](mailto:john.mcmurtrie@spillcontrol.org) if any links are not up-to-date.

## NEW PUBLICATIONS

### ITOPF ANNUAL REVIEW & NOTICE OF AGM

ITOPF has just published its Annual Review for 2021. This report incorporates financial statements for the year ending 20th February 2021 and provides notice of its Annual General Meeting on 30th November 2021. Due to uncertainty regarding Covid-19 restrictions, the venue for the AGM will be announced at a later date.

In the Review, Chairman, Erik Hånell, President & CEO of Stena Bulk, reports on ITOPF's activities and achievements during the last financial year and reflects on how the organisation has adapted to meet the challenges of the pandemic.

ITOPF attended six new incidents in the year under review, only one of which involved a tanker. Five incidents involved a spill of bunker fuel and one incident involved a spill of plastic nurdles. In addition, technical advice was provided remotely in response to a further 35 incidents. The team also undertook numerous contingency planning, advisory and training assignments.

[Download the ITOPF Annual Review](#)

## JOB VACANCIES

### IMO IS CURRENTLY SEEKING A TECHNICAL OFFICER

The Marine Environment Division of IMO is currently seeking a Technical Officer on oil pollution response related matters. The position is a P2-equivalent post on a three-month contract, subject to extension based on satisfactory performance. Please click on

## JOB VACANCIES (CONTINUED)

the following link for further information on the position and application process:

<https://imo-recruit.azurewebsites.net/vacancies/606>

## REMPEC: CALL FOR APPLICATIONS FOR THE POSITION OF JUNIOR PROFESSIONAL OFFICER EXTENDED TO 31 OCTOBER 2021

<https://www.rempec.org/en/news-media/rempec-news/rempec-launch-the-recruitment-of-a-junior-programme-officer>

## INCIDENT REPORTS

### UK: TOP SCIENTIST FURIOUS AS CANCER CAUSING CHEMICALS FLOW INTO GLASGOW'S RIVER CLYDE WEEKS BEFORE CLIMATE SUMMIT

October 2 - A toxic soup from a former industrial site continues to enter the waterway upstream through the green-tinted Polmadie Burn in the city's Richmond Park. The water is contaminated with Chromium VI - which can cause inflammation of the lungs, allergic reactions in the skin and throat, kidney damage and lung cancer. Scottish Sun / [Read more](#)

### SRI LANKA: HAZMAT LEAK - CONTAINER VESSEL BERTHED AT COLOMBO

October 3 - Hazmat material or liquid, started to leak from one or more containers. Vessel arrived at colombo on Oct 2 and was berthed, in order to remove damaged container or containers. Maritime Bulletin / [Read more](#)

### USA: CALIFORNIA - OFFSHORE OIL SPILL FOULS BEACHES AND WETLANDS IN ORANGE COUNTY

October 3 - Cleanup crews are responding to a major oil spill off the coast of Orange County, California. The spill is reported to be about 13 square miles in size, according to the U.S. Coast Guard, and it is coming ashore on multiple beaches in the area.

The Coast Guard received an initial report of an oil sheen off the coast of Newport Beach on Saturday morning, just after 0900 hours. It dispatched aircraft to monitor the extent of the oil slick, with assistance from the Huntington Beach Police Department's aviation assets. A military airshow scheduled for Sunday has been canceled in order to ensure adequate airspace for spill response and monitoring.

According to local officials, the oil spill originated from an underwater pipeline from the aging Elly platform, located at the Beta oilfield off Orange County's coast. The pipeline rupture released an estimated 125,000 gallons (3,000 barrels) of crude into the water - more than the bunker spill from the Cosco Busan incident in 2007. The Maritime Executive / [Read more](#)

***[EDITOR – This incident has generated hundreds of press reports, many repetitive and I haven't had time to look at them all. What I have tried to do is to give you links to some reports that contribute to the developing narrative]***

Oct 3 - Major oil spill washes ashore in California, killing wildlife. [Deccan Herald](#)

Oct 3 - Residents to stay clear of beaches as a 13-mile-long oil spill is about to wash ashore. [Business Insider](#)

Oct 3 - Oil spill off Orange County not expected to spread to San Diego waters. [San Diego Union-Tribune](#)

Oct 3 - What caused the massive oil spill off Huntington Beach? Here is what we know. [Los Angeles Times](#)

Oct 3 - Everything We Know About the Southern California Oil Spill Right Now. [gCaptain](#)

Oct 4 - Offshore Pipeline No Longer Leaking Oil Off Southern California Coast; Cleanup Ongoing [NBC Philadelphia](#)

Oct 4 - Officials Looking Into Whether A Ship's Anchor May Have Caused Pipeline Leak Off Southern California [gCaptain](#)

Oct 4 - Anchoring Accident May Have Caused California Oil Spill. The Maritime Executive / [Read more](#)

Oct 4 - Ship anchored in wrong spot may have caused oil spill. [Los Angeles Times](#)

Oct 4 - California beaches closed after oil spill. [Yahoo News](#)

Oct 4 - Orange County oil spill - what we know & how you can help. [Sierra Club](#)

Oct 4 - Coast Guard Rushes to Contain Oil Spill Off California's Orange County. [Yahoo News](#)

Oct 5 - Officials raise potential oil spill amount to 144,000 gallons amid cleanup efforts. [ABC News](#)

Oct 5 - Did ship's anchor cause California oil spill? Maybe. [The Kansas City Star](#)

Oct 5 - Broken SoCal Oil Pipeline Moved 100 Feet From Charted Position. [The Maritime Executive](#)

Oct 5 - California Declares State of Emergency After Offshore Oil Pipeline Spill. [Democracy Now](#)

Oct 5 - Officials knew of California oil spill 12 hours before cleanup began. [The Guardian](#)

Oct 6 - Report: SoCal Pipeline Operator Took Hours to React to Spill Alarm [The Maritime Executive](#)

Oct 6 - Oiled Wildlife Care Network Comes Full Circle in Orange County [U.C. Davis](#)

## INCIDENT REPORTS (CONTINUED)

Oct 6 - Liability in the California oil spill. [Reuters](#)

Oct 6 - Evidence suggests ship anchor snagged, dragged oil pipeline. [AP News](#)

Oct 6 - Gov. Newsom Addresses Huntington Beach Oil Spill. [NBC News](#)

Oct 6 – Before oil spill Long Beach Approved 20-Year Pipeline Pump Station Lease. [Capital and Main](#)

Oct 7 - Regulator says 2019 inspection found anomalies in Amplify's California pipeline [Reuters](#)

Oct 7 - Pipeline 'Pulled Like A Bow String'; Operator Delayed Shutting It Down. [International Business Times](#)

Oct 7 - Marine wildlife may suffer the consequences of SoCal's oil spill for years to come. [SF Gate](#)

Oct 7 - Cleanup, wildlife rescue ongoing in Calif. oil spill. [Yahoo News](#)

Oct 7 - Oceana Analysis Finds Sensitive Species and Habitats Most At-Risk from California Oil Spill. [Yuba Net](#)

Oct 7 - Coast Guard Declares San Pedro Bay Pipeline Fracture a Major Marine Casualty. [gCaptain](#)

Oct 7 - Hapag-Lloyd Boxship Cleared of Responsibility in SoCal Spill Inquiry. [The Maritime Executive](#)

Oct 8 - Tar Balls Possibly Linked to Oil Spill Spotted at San Diego Beaches. [NBC News](#)

Oct 8 - Small crack in pipeline may have delayed oil spill detection. [Kansas City Star](#)

Oct 8 - Underwater Footage Shows Fractured Pipeline as California Oil Spill Cleanup Accelerates. [Yahoo](#)

Oct 9 - California pipeline likely damaged up to a year before spill. [ABC News](#)

Oct 9 - Marine researchers focus on the tiniest victims of Orange County oil spill [Bakersfield.com](#)

Oct 9 - California beaches near oil spill see 'tar balls': reports. [Fox News](#)

Oct 9 - 7 Western snowy plovers saved from oil in Huntington Beach sand, here's how. [Orange County Register](#)

Oct 9 - California Spill Not the Environmental Disaster First Feared. [NBC News](#)

## USA: TEXAS – OIL SPILL CONTAINED AT MARATHON PETROLEUM REFINERY



*Photo: Marathon Petroleum Corporation's Galveston Bay refinery in Texas City at night.*

October 7 - Cleanup is underway after crude oil was released from a storage tank at Marathon Petroleum's Galveston Bay Refinery on Wednesday, according to a statement from the company.

The oil, which caused the closure of nearby road, was contained on-site.

Houston Public Media / [Read more](#)

## LIBYA'S NOC SAYS OIL SPILL UNDER CONTROL

October 10 - Libya's National Oil Corporation (NOC) has brought under control an oil spill at an offshore storage facility, the company said on Sunday. The leak at the Farwah facility owned by Mabruk Oil Operations occurred while a tanker was loading oil on Friday, NOC said. [Reuters](#) / [Read more](#)

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