

## ISCO & THE ISCO NEWSLETTER

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

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

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## INTERNATIONAL NEWS

CLICK ON THE BANNERS BELOW FOR MORE INFORMATION



## A GLOBAL PLAN TO END PLASTIC POLLUTION IN OUR SEAS IS NEAR

Ink it in your diary, set a reminder, whatever you need to do ... because later this month in Nairobi the world might just get its act together on one of the biggest menaces plaguing the ocean, and deliver a global treaty on plastic pollution. Some will no doubt think we should've had one of those already. But at the conclusion of the fifth United Nations Environmental Assembly (UNEA) – held from 28 February to 2 March – this long overdue measure is widely anticipated.

The scourge of plastic – 79% of plastic created since the mid 1900s is still with us, held in landfill for posterity or sinks in natural environments, predominantly in the oceans – caused international outrage in 2017, not least because of documentaries such as Blue Planet II. But despite millions mobilising on beach cleans and the like, the problem has worsened. According to the Environmental Investigation Agency, marine plastic emissions are due to triple by 2040 as plastic production soars.

*The above is the introduction to an article by Lucy Siegle published in The Guardian "Down to Earth". You can read her short article at -*  
<https://someviewontheworld.wordpress.com/2022/02/03/a-global-plan-to-end-plastic-pollution-in-our-seas-is-near/>

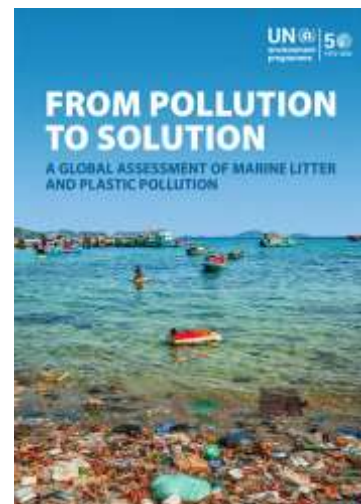
More info – Click on the links below –

From Pollution to Solution: A global assessment of marine litter and plastic pollution reveals the impact of marine litter and plastic pollution in the environment and their effects on the health of ecosystems, wildlife and humans

<https://www.unep.org/interactive/pollution-to-solution/>

Fifth session of the United Nations Environment Assembly (UNEA-5) takes place online and in Nairobi on 28 February – 2 March 2022.

<https://www.unep.org/environmentassembly/unea5>



## ISCO AMBASSADORS

(Members with special responsibilities in specified geographical areas)

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Matthew Sommerville	UK London
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## YOU ARE INVITED TO JOIN THE ISCO DISCUSSION GROUP ON LINKED-IN



Click on the link below –

<https://www.linkedin.com/groups/4016064/>

## AND ISCO'S FACEBOOK GROUP

Click on the link –

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/388528312842431>



## WHATSAPP GROUP FOR STUDENTS, TRAINEES & APPRENTICES

Here is the link for joining this group –

<https://chat.whatsapp.com/KMxdW7IEal79namyNlbVqg>

## ADVANCE YOUR CAREER BY GAINING PROFESSIONAL RECOGNITION

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

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

The organization offers independent validation and integrity. Each grade of membership reflects an individual's professional training, experience and qualifications. You can apply for MEMBERSHIP (MISCO) or FELLOWSHIP (FISCO)

[About Professional Membership](#)

[Professional Membership Application Form](#)

## INTERNATIONAL NEWS (CONTINUED)

### IMO RESPONDING TO PERU OIL SPILL

February 2 - IMO is supporting international efforts to assist Peru in oil spill response, following an oil spill which occurred north of Lima on 15 January.

The Government of Peru has declared an environment emergency. The crude oil spill - estimated to be in the magnitude of 1000 m3 - affected several tens of kilometres of shoreline, local wildlife, fisheries and tourism related activities. A government-led clean-up effort is under way, including an oiled wildlife response.

Following a request for technical assistance from the Government of Peru, IMO has deployed an oil spill response expert to Lima. He will remain in Peru for two weeks and support the Government of Peru by providing technical advice on the ongoing oil spill response and national contingency planning.

The expert will join the international efforts of the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) and the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)-led Joint Environment Unit to respond and address the impacts of the spill. [Read more](#)

### ITOPF ATTENDS CRUDE OIL SPILL IN PERU

February 3 - ITOPF has been mobilised to give technical advice in relation to a crude oil spill off the coast of Callao, Peru, that occurred on 15th January during the discharging operations at La Pampilla Terminal.

Since 20th January, ITOPF has worked alongside the Direccion de Capitanias y Guardacostas (DICAPI) and other members of a Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) to mitigate the impact of oiling on the Peruvian shoreline and nearshore waters.

To date, ITOPF's efforts have focused on working collaboratively with local authorities to map the extent and severity of oil contamination along affected areas of shoreline and provide technical advice on effective clean-up techniques.

Aerial and ground surveys are being regularly carried out to understand the reach of the oil spill and to aid the planning of on-going clean-up efforts. <https://www.itopf.org>

## ISCO NEWS

### ONLINE MEETINGS WITH STUDENT MEMBERS

These are online meetings where each student presents for about 15 to 20 min. We will learn about each student's area of work and how this stream of science adds value to domain of oil spill response / plastic pollution knowledge. Another ten minutes will be available for Q & A".

Student Group leader Kayode Peter Balogun and Captain D. C. Sekhar, Member of ISCO Council for India, are working together on the co-ordination of these presentations.

The most recent presentation was given by Larissa Montas, Department of Chemical, Environmental and Materials Engineering University of Miami on Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> February – See details under ISCO News in last week's newsletter.

The next Student Presentation will be given by Marko Dordevic who is studying for his doctorate in marine and coastal studies at the Faculty of Maritime Studies, University of Rijeka, Croatia. His presentation will take place on 17<sup>th</sup> February 2022. More info about Marko's presentation will be published in the next ISCO newsletter.

These Student Presentations are now being recorded and it is planned to make them available for downloading later on the ISCO website.

ISCO offers free membership for students, trainees and apprentices during the period of their studies. You can learn more about Student Membership at <https://spillcontrol.org/student-membership/>

Companies and organizations that are interested in offering students internships and learning / experience acquisition opportunities are invited to contact the ISCO Student Group. Student Group leader Peter Balogun can be reached at [balogunkayodepeter@yahoo.com](mailto:balogunkayodepeter@yahoo.com)

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## **IPIECA MEMBERS AND PARTNERS SUSTAINABILITY ARTICLE ROUND-UP**



January 2022 - The Ipieca sustainability article round-up showcases recent sustainability-related achievements, projects and news from Ipieca members and organizations that Ipieca partners with, demonstrating their commitment to advancing environmental and social performance across the energy transition and achieving the UN Sustainable Development Goals.

The first round-up of 2022 is packed with collaboration and partnerships driving renewable energy, hydrogen and sustainable aviation. IPIECA / [Read more](#)

## **IPIECA, IOGP AND GGFR LAUNCH 'FLARING MANAGEMENT GUIDANCE FOR THE OIL AND GAS INDUSTRY'**

February 2 - Ipieca, IOGP and World Bank's Global Gas Flaring Reduction Partnership (GGFR) today launch the 'Flaring management guidance for the oil and gas industry' which provides a framework for oil and gas companies, governments and regulators to reduce or eliminate flaring.

By reducing or eliminating flaring, which produces CO2 and methane, and can adversely impact local air quality, the industry can significantly reduce its climate impact. By making use of the gas as an additional energy source, it can also support sustainable growth. IPIECA / [Read more](#)

## **ITOPF CONTRIBUTES TO GARD PODCAST ON NURDLE SPILL**

January 18 - Thomas Sturgeon contributed to Gard's three-part podcast series on the TRANS CARRIER spill of nurdles (plastic pellets) in Norway 2020. He highlighted the challenges of cleaning up nurdle spills, explained some of the clean-up techniques used, and shared lessons learnt from other incidents. The podcast is available on Gard's website, see [OnWatch episode 6: Learning from the Trans Carrier nurdl... - GARD](#)

[Editor – Unfortunately ISCO did not have advance notice of the Gard podcasts and was therefore unable to alert members and other readers on our [“Upcoming Events”](#) site. However, all three of the Gard podcasts on the Trans Carrier nurdle spills are available for you to listen to at <https://podcasts.apple.com/gb/podcast/gard-onwatch/id1574881333> ]

## **MARCH 2022 MEETING OF THE IOPC FUNDS GOVERNING BODIES TO BE HELD REMOTELY**

January 31 - The invitation and agenda have now been issued for the next sessions of the IOPC Funds governing bodies, which will be held remotely via KUDO from 29 to 30 March 2022 (IOPC/2022/Circ.2). IOPC Funds / [Read more](#)

## **NEWS REPORTS FROM AROUND THE WORLD**

### **CANADA: SHIP-SOURCE OIL POLLUTION FUND RECOVERS \$375,000 FROM MARINE POLLUTER IN NOVA SCOTIA**

January 20 - Today, the Administrator of the Ship-source Oil Pollution Fund announced the successful recovery of \$375,000 from the shipowners of the Cormorant for polluting the water in Bridgewater, Nova Scotia in 2015.

In 2015, the Cormorant partially sank at Bridgewater, Nova Scotia, discharging oil into the La Have River. A response operation managed by the Canadian Coast Guard (CCG) removed 5,850 litres of waste oil and 350 litres of hydraulic oil from the vessel. The CCG submitted a claim to the Fund for the associated costs. [http://sopf.gc.ca/?page\\_id=6802](http://sopf.gc.ca/?page_id=6802)

## NIGERIA: BIDDING FOR CLEANUP OF 37 POLLUTED OGONI SITES BEGINS



February 1 - The bidding process for the cleanup of 37 additional oil-polluted sites in Ogoniland in the Niger Delta region has commenced, the Federal Government announced on Monday.

The Minister of State for Environment, Sharon Ikeazor, who disclosed this at a press briefing in Abuja, stated that the exercise started in January this year and that 5,354,766 cubic meters of land would be remediated. She said, "In 2019, contracts for 21 lots were awarded for remediation, these covered 12 of the 65 listed sites in the UNEP (United Nation Environment Programme) report. These lots covered an area of 276 acres. "To date 18 of these lots have been completed and certified by NOSDRA (National Oil Spill Detection and Response Agency. Three of the lots are currently undergoing the certification process and one lot is still undergoing remediation. Punch / [Read more](#)

## NIGERIA: BODO REMEDIATION AND REVEGETATION PROJECT - ANNUAL REPORT OF 2021 ACTIVITIES

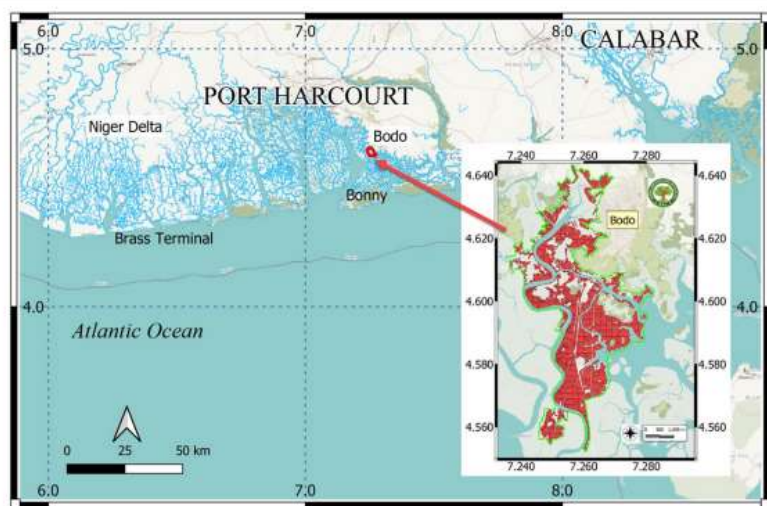


Figure 1-1: Location of the Bodo Remediation and Revegetation Project in the Niger Delta.

January 2022 - The Project Directorate of the Bodo Mediation Initiative is pleased to present this summary of 2021 activities, including results from the remediation effort, chemical sampling and mangrove planting, as well as progress towards Project closeout.

The Bodo Remediation and Revegetation Project encompasses 963 ha (~2,400 acres) and is the largest remediation and planting project ever undertaken in an oil contaminated mangrove habitat in Nigeria and worldwide. Damage was initially caused by spills in 2008 but increased as a result of over 60 documented spill events in the Project work area as well as innumerable others related to illegal actions such as crude oil theft from the Trans-Nigeria Pipeline which passes directly through the Project work area and illegal refining. Fortunately, the occurrence of new oiling was reduced in 2021. BODO / [Read more](#)

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

February 4 – Please click on the links below to download and read the latest news reports from NOAA OR&R.

[Annual Gulf of Mexico Marine Debris Meeting](#)

On January 25-26, 2022 the [Gulf of Mexico Alliance's Marine Debris Cross Team Initiative](#)(link is external) held its annual two-day meeting to bring together entities across the Gulf that currently address marine debris issues.

[Great Start in the Great Lakes After Two Successful Virtual Events!](#)

NOAA's Scientific Support Coordinator in the Great Lakes, LT Rachel Pryor, hosted two webinars in recent weeks.

[US-Russia Science Corner: Sharing About Major Fish Stocks and Commercial Fisheries](#)

As we closed out the fully virtual [2022 Alaska Marine Science Symposium](#)(link is external), the Alaska Ocean Observing System (AOOS) and World Wildlife Fund (WWF) hosted a unique webinar, convening U.S. and Russian experts to share information on fish populations in our shared (and neighboring) seas.

[Disaster Preparedness Program Holds Incident Management Team 101 Training for National Ocean Service](#)

NOAA's Disaster Preparedness Program (DPP) held their National Ocean Service (NOS) Incident Management Team (IMT) 101 Training on Tuesday, January 25, 2022. The training included six modules specifically designed to provide NOS IMT members with an overview of their roles and responsibilities, as well as information on response management systems, tools, and best practices useful in managing all-hazards disasters.

[OR&R, NOAA Provide Mission Support for Woods Hole Oceanographic Institute Underwater Vehicle Mission](#)

Staff across several NOAA offices, including OR&R, recently supported scientists from the Woods Hole Oceanographic Institute (WHOI) and the Monterey Bay Aquarium Research Institute (MBARI) who remotely piloted a [Long-Range Autonomous Underwater Vehicle \(LRAUV\)](#)(link is external) to a leaking shipwreck for further study.

[Marine Debris Program Invited to Present Again to Virginia Elementary School](#)

## NEWS REPORTS FROM AROUND THE WORLD (CONTINUED)

On Jan. 13, NOAA Marine Debris Program's Mid-Atlantic Regional Coordinator Katie Morgan provided a virtual presentation and Q&A session to more than 120 fifth grade students across six classrooms at Spring Hill Elementary School in Virginia.

[NOAA Attends Wind Farm Workshop Hosted by U.S. Coast Guard's Sector Delaware Bay](#)

On Jan. 19, 2022, the U.S. Coast Guard Sector Delaware Bay Area Committee hosted a wind farm workshop for federal, state, and local government agencies, along with industry and nongovernmental environmental organization partners.

[In OR&R Lecture, ESI Program Manager Discusses the Future of ESIs](#)

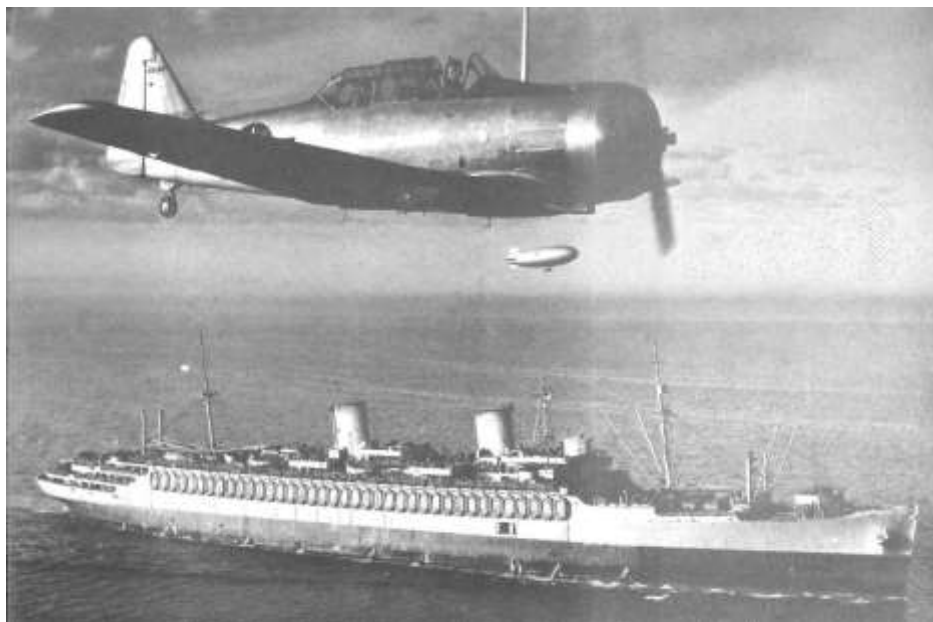
It's a sight that nobody wants to encounter: an oil spill at your favorite local stretch of coastline. You may immediately think of the sea turtles trying to nest on the beach, but there is much more to protect than meets the eye.

## USA: NOAA WELCOMES NEW MEMBERS OF THE AGENCY'S LEADERSHIP TEAM

February 1 - NOAA today announced key members of the agency's leadership who will work to tackle climate change, promote equity throughout the agency, build up the coastal economy, develop a new generation of environmental satellites, manage ocean fisheries and endangered wildlife and improve public resilience to extreme weather and climate events.

"Extraordinary times call for exceptional people, and this team is who we need to advance climate science, grow the blue economy and build a climate-ready nation," said NOAA Administrator Rick Spinrad, Ph.D. "This team knows how to combine their expertise in environmental science and policy with a commitment to scientific integrity, inclusion and equity as we work together to ensure science informs the important decisions being made from the individual to global level." NOAA / [Read more](#)

## USA: THE LONG BLUE LINE: 1942—COAST GUARD'S HISTORY MAKING YEAR 80 YEARS AGO!



February 4 - Early in 1942, the Coast Guard suffered its first wartime combat casualties when enemy forces attacked two Coast Guard-manned vessels serving on opposite sides of the world. Off the coast of Iceland, U-132 attacked the Secretary-Class Cutter Alexander Hamilton, which suffered 26 killed and 56 wounded. It capsized and had to be sunk by friendly fire on Jan. 30, 1942. Hamilton was the first American warship lost to enemy action after the U.S. declared war. That same day, the Coast Guard-manned transport USS Wakefield was refueling in besieged Singapore when a Japanese bomb from a high-level air raid penetrated the ship killing four Coast Guardsmen. Despite the casualties, Wakefield survived the bombing and successfully delivered its cargo of civilian refugees to India. USCG / [Read more](#)

## PEOPLE IN THE NEWS

## CAPTAIN D. C. SEKHAR HONoured BY AWARD OF FELLOWSHIP OF COMPANY OF MASTER MARINERS OF INDIA



Captain Sekhar who heads up AlphaMERS Ltd., based in Bengaluru, India has been elevated to 'Fellow of Company of Master Mariners' by CMMI (India), an institution formed in 1956. He is well known internationally for his work in pioneering the development of counter-pollution barriers that are now making a major contribution to the prevention of marine pollution. This photograph was taken in 2004 when he made a career change after serving as a captain of large sea-going tankers.

Captain Sekhar is Member of ISCO Council for India and has an important role in the organisation, supporting the development of ISCO's rapidly growing initiative to create a new membership group for students, trainees and apprentices.

Captain Sekhar will be delivering a Keynote Address on "Offshore Oil Spill Challenges" at the 12th World PetroCoal Congress 2022 on 16th February 2022. <http://worldpetrocoal.in/>



### BALAENA LLC - DEVELOPMENT & TESTING OF A NEW TYPE OF OSRV

Please see article on Page 7 of last week's ISCO Newsletter . Unfortunately there was a typo in the press release. Please note that the correct URL for Balaena's website is [www.balaenah2o.com](http://www.balaenah2o.com)

## SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

### BIODEGRADATION OF PLASTIC WASTE USING INSECTS

February 1 - Of the biological remediation strategies, which include microbial colonies which can break down complex organic and inorganic matter, insects have emerged as a potential alternative method. The new paper in Sustainability has explored the use of these biological organisms for plastic and food waste remediation strategies.

Utilizing insects can potentially help to achieve a zero-waste, circular economy. A zero-waste approach aims to keep waste from entering the environment, whilst a circular economy approach regenerates the environment, helping to achieve greater sustainability. One notable example of a zero-waste circular strategy using a common species of insects is the use of cockroaches. With their insatiable appetites, they can quickly clear organic waste, and are valuable food sources in some communities.

A greater understanding of etymology has led to the investigation of other insect species for the biological remediation of plastic and food waste. Both black soldier fly (*H. illucens*) larvae, mealworms (in particular, *T. molitor*), and superworms (*Z. morio*) have emerged as attractive candidates for this purpose.

*H. illucens* is well-known as a species that can efficiently degrade organic compounds and breed quickly, with adult flies laying vast amounts of eggs. *Z. morio* and *T. molitor* can feed on plastics, notably polystyrene and polyethylene, which are the main components of plastic waste from the food industry. Utilizing these species together will make possible the design of a self-sustaining natural solution for landfills and dumpsters to dispose of food waste-contaminated plastic waste.

Further Reading - Khuan, Z.J et al. (2022) *Worming the Circular Economy for Biowaste and Plastics: Hermetia illucens, Tenebrio molitor, and Zophobas morio* [online] *Sustainability* 14(3)1594 | mdpi.com. Available at: <https://www.mdpi.com/2071-1050/14/3/1594> AZO Materials / [Read more](#)

### OCEAN VISUALS TO SUPPORT PETROBRAS WITH OIL SPILL DETECTION AND CLASSIFICATION

February 1 - The technology consists of an integrated hardware and software system for real-time detection, verification and characterization of oil and effluents on the water surface and in the water column on board vessels.

The use of remote sensors on offshore and maritime installations has revolutionized the way in which information is acquired, allowing the detection, characterization and monitoring of hydrocarbon leaks or effluent disposal at different scales, with a high frequency of observation and quick availability of results.

"This new technology can be one of the most important steps in oil spill detection. The technology not only detects the oil, but it remotely characterizes and identifies it, and eventually leads to its origin. With this pilot project, Petrobras will be able to handle potential oil spill cases in a much more efficient way, using this state-of-the-art technology from our partner Ocean Visuals and reducing the oil spill impact on the environment", says Alexandre de Carvalho, Sales and Business Development Manager of Belga Marine. Environmental Expert / [Read more](#)

## HEALTH & SAFETY

### ENVIRONMENTALLY SENSITIVE SPILL SOLUTIONS

February 4 - A chemical spill requires an adequate and appropriate response in order to protect sensitive environments and prevent pollution from spreading to nearby water and air sources.

Developing an effective emergency spill response plan is an essential Occupational Health and Safety (OHS) requirement for mine site operators, particularly those who are handling mobile equipment, according to Steve Keown.

"Whether its fuel, lubricants, or coolant, mobile equipment has the potential to spring a leak while out in the field, and an incidental chemical spill that occurs while working remotely can pose a significant OHS risk if a large spill occurs and workers are underprepared," says the BSC National Product Manager.

As for the gravity of the damage a spill can cause, that depends largely on how effectively the spill is managed by on-site personnel, Steve cautions. "It will not suffice for site managers to hope for the best on these applications, it is essential that they prepare for the worst-case scenario."

In Australia, the Environment Protection Act 20171 (EP Act) and Environment Protection Regulations 2021 (EP Regulations) now

## HEALTH & SAFETY (CONTINUED)

require all businesses to take proactive steps in managing the risks of spillage.<sup>1</sup>

According to Steve, there are few companies who have invested as much into aligning with regulations and preparing for worst-case scenarios as ENPAC, an American company that was founded on one simple principle: “To protect the environment from hazardous chemicals by providing customers with high quality, affordable containment solutions.” Safe to Work / [Read more](#)

## TRAINING COURSES

### 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 [2022 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)

## UPCOMING EVENTS

**TO VIEW UPCOMING EVENTS PLEASE CLICK ON** <https://spillcontrol.org/upcoming-events/>

To see ALL of the posted events you will need to click on “LOAD MORE” at the foot of each opened “upcoming events” page. Event organisers are requested to notify ISCO immediately if a listed event is cancelled or postponed. Your Editor does his best to keep the 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.

Please advise the Editor if any of the 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)

## UPCOMING WEBINARS

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**FEBRUARY 9 - WEBINAR ON POINTS TO CONSIDER IN THE SELECTION OF OIL SPILL BOOMS - 10:00 AM (CET)** More info at <https://spillcontrol.org/upcoming-webinars/>

## MESSAGES FROM EVENT ORGANISERS

### USA: CLEAN WATERWAYS - APRIL 5-7, PITTSBURGH, PA

[CLEAN WATERWAYS](#) brings together all entities involved in a response in the inland environment and gives attendees the opportunity to network and discuss best practices moving forward. The conference sessions we have planned are led by experts in both industry and government and focus on topics specific to fresh water spills and environmental considerations. In addition to the conference sessions, the live event will host 50+ exhibitors, two networking receptions and multiple networking breaks.

### USA: CLEAN PACIFIC - ANNOUNCING 2022 DATES + CALL FOR PRESENTATIONS

We are pleased to announce that the 2022 CLEAN PACIFIC Conference will be held August 23-24 on Lake Washington outside of Seattle, WA. Registration and exhibit space/sponsorship sales will open next month so be on the lookout for those important

## MESSAGES FROM EVENT ORGANISERS (CONTINUED)

announcements!

CLEAN PACIFIC brings together the tight-knit response community in the Western United States and Canada to address spill prevention, response and remediation matters pertinent to that region's environmental sensitivities. The goal of CLEAN PACIFIC is to deliver a valuable event that covers region-specific issues that face the Western United States and Canada and offer ample time for attendees to network and cultivate the relationships that are crucial before, during, or after a response.

We are now accepting abstracts to be reviewed by our committee of experts in spill prevention and response at the upcoming CLEAN PACIFIC 2022 planning meeting. Prospective speakers are invited to [submit](#) a 200–300-word abstract(s) [online](#) for consideration **by Friday, February 11th**. All abstracts are reviewed for content and relevance by the planning committee and are selected by consensus. <https://www.cleanpacific.org/>

## INDIA: OIL SPILL INDIA – 6<sup>th</sup> INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE & EXHIBITION

**4-5 August 2022 at Taj Palace, New Delhi. Theme: Commitment, Synergy, Excellence.**

The 6th edition of the Oil Spill India Conference, scheduled in 4-5 August 2022 at Hotel Taj Palace, 2, Sardar Patel Marg, Diplomatic Enclave, Chanakyaपुरi, New Delhi, India aims to tackle the most prevalent issues facing the global oil spill industry. The summit agenda would stimulate learning through panel debates, technical case studies and keynote sessions that ensure that attendee's leave with the skills and knowledge required in overcoming the challenges & risks faced by operators & stakeholders.

Showcasing over 60 International Expert Speakers/Panelists, 400+ Delegates, 200+ global organizations from 25+ countries under one roof, OSI 2022 would witness valued perspectives being shared and participants brainstorming on OSR preparedness, developments, methodologies, techniques and models used for combating spills of any kind or source. As in 2016, the forum would continue its special features on Emergency Response, Salvage & Wreck Removal in addition to Spill Response.

The conference will carry forward its topical theme "COMMITMENT, SYNERGY, EXCELLENCE" for the 2021 edition, underlining the importance & industry's quest for disaster mitigation.

Based on its theme the 2022 Preliminary Conference Programme will focus on the stimulating landscapes of Oil Spill Prevention, Preparedness, Response & Restoration activities. Highlighting case studies on some of the world's worst spills in the backdrop of the global oil industry moving into more challenging environments and the increasing public sensitivities to oil spill disasters.

More info - <http://www.oilspillindia.org/>

## CONTRIBUTED ARTICLE



### INTERSPILL 2022 – 139 DAYS TO GO! - INTRODUCING OUR OPENING KEYNOTE SPEAKERS

With just 139 days to go it is time to introduce our Keynote Speakers who will welcome you to Amsterdam. The opening keynotes on Tuesday 21 June in the Auditorium, Hall 10, RAI Exhibition and Convention Centre, Amsterdam will be:

**Nancy Scheijven-Westra, Director Vessel Traffic and Water Management, Rijkswaterstaat**

After studying business economics at the school for business administration and economics, Nancy studied international management and different cultures in Europe at the University of Maastricht.

After her studies Nancy did a traineeship at Ormit and after that she worked as a management consultant at Ordina for 10 years. In this position she carried out assignments for both the public and the private sector.

Thereafter Nancy chose to work for Dutch Ministry of Education where she fulfilled several roles in the field of business operations, she was also responsible director of HRM there.

In 2010 she joined Rijkswaterstaat, part of the Dutch Ministry of Infrastructure and Water management. For four years Nancy worked as Director of Asset and Environmental management at the division North Holland.

In 2017 Nancy made the transition to primary activity of Rijkswaterstaat. She became Director vessel traffic and water management of the man waterway infrastructure. She is responsible for the daily operation of about 450 locks and bridges in the Netherlands,





vessel traffic management services, incident management and law enforcement. She is also responsible for the water management including the reporting on water quantity in times of both drought and floods.

Being the Director vessel traffic and water management, Nancy faces future developments on autonomous shipping. Rijkswaterstaat supports maturation of Smart Shipping and invests in its infrastructure to give autonomous ships a warm welcome.

### **Ms Maja Markovčić Kostelac EMSA Executive Director**



Ms Maja Markovčić Kostelac took up the position of Executive Director of the European Maritime Safety Agency (EMSA) on 1 January 2019. She is responsible for the running and development of the Agency under the oversight of its Administrative Board.

Starting out as a maritime lawyer, she has subsequently gained long-standing experience in the maritime field in both the public and private sector.

Prior to joining EMSA, Ms Markovčić Kostelac was State Secretary for Croatia's Ministry of the Sea, Transport and Infrastructure. Her duties entailed developing strategies,

policies and legislation in the area of maritime transport, maritime safety, security and environmental protection. In this role, she also led the Croatian delegation in a range of international forums at the United Nations, such as the International Maritime Organization (IMO) and the International Labour Organization (ILO).

During her time at Croatia's Ministry of the Sea, Transport and Infrastructure she held a number of positions, including Director of the Maritime Policy Directorate. She also served as Director of the Croatian Shipowners' Association (Mare Nostrum).

Since joining EMSA, Ms Markovčić Kostelac has established the Agency's five-year strategy (2020-2024) and organises its implementation. She has led EMSA's work on a range of strategic and operational issues, including the maritime dimension of the European Green Deal, the development of enhanced digital solutions for national level administrations and relevant authorities, and the provision of support at international level to the European Commission and Member States at the IMO.

### **Morten Mickelsen, Chair of IPIECA**

Morten brings 40 years of oil, gas and energy industry experience and sustainability expertise to his role as [Ipieca](#) chair, where he oversees the development and delivery of Ipieca's strategy and yearly work streams.

He works with Ipieca's leadership team to direct the efforts of over 1,000 sustainability professionals from more than 70 member organizations, who work together through IPIECA to produce and share good practice and knowledge to help the industry improve its environmental and social performance.

In 2020 and into 2021, Morten led the work on a new Ipieca vision and strategy which builds on its core role of advancing environmental and social performance to also support the industry's contribution to the energy transition and sustainable development.



During his 15 years to date at Equinor, Morten has been in Vice President roles for major field development projects, field operations and corporate sustainability in which he was part of the leadership team which built up a new corporate function for sustainability.

Prior to working at Equinor, he spent 25 years at Norsk Hydro, where he managed petroleum technology for several fields on the Norwegian Continental Shelf and reservoir research teams.

In his free time, Bergen-based Morten likes to make the most of Norway's varied and often spectacular landscapes, enjoying cross-country skiing, hiking and fishing.

[Find out more about Morten here.](#)

For more details: [www.interspill.org](http://www.interspill.org)

Contact: Mark J Orr, Executive Director, Interspill Ltd - +44 7864 707408.

## 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 <https://clu-in.org/products/tins/> US EPA Tech Direct <https://clu-in.org/techdirect/td012022.htm> and USA Federal Contracts Update <https://clu-in.org/Federal-Contract-Opportunities> European Maritime Safety Agency invitations to tender are often posted in The EMSA Newsletter. (Look in "Links for other publications" for the current issue of this publication)

### USA: REQUEST FOR INFORMATION - NEW AND INNOVATIVE TYPE I SORBENTS



The United States Coast Guard (USCG) Research and Development Center (RDC) and the Bureau of Safety and Environmental Enforcement (BSEE) Oil Spill Preparedness Division (OSPD) invite interested parties to submit a white paper in response to a Request for Information (RFI) to collect information on new and innovative Type I sorbents.



The USCG RDC and BSEE OSPD plan to carry out evaluations of newly developed Type I sorbents for potential use by Federal On-Scene Coordinators (FOSCs) or Oil Spill Removal Organizations (OSROs) during crude oil/fuel oil/diesel spill incidents.

White papers will be evaluated by Government personnel against the criteria in USCG's Oil Spill Response Technology Evaluation Process. Sorbent technologies that rate highly against the criteria will be invited to submit their product for testing at Ohmsett in October 2022.

Sorbents with a technology readiness level (TRL) of 6 to 8 will be considered. TRL 9 sorbents will not be considered for this evaluation. For additional information about TRLs, please review BSEE's research project number 1042 titled "Technology Readiness Level (TRL) Definitions for Oil Spill Response Technologies and Equipment" at <https://www.bsee.gov/research-record/osrr-1042-technology-readiness-level-trl-definitions-for-oil-spill-response>

Additional details can be found in the Request for Information at Sam.gov notice ID RDCSOSR, or <https://sam.gov/opp/aa1d093824334562a1678f534ff9a26b/view> Responses are due February 28, 2022.

## LINKS FOR DOWNLOADING AND READING OTHER PUBLICATIONS

### TO VIEW LINKS FOR DOWNLOADING AND READING OTHER PUBLICATIONS PLEASE CLICK ON

<https://spillcontrol.org/2021/10/19/links-for-downloading-and-reading-other-publications/>

As a service to its Members ISCO provides a listing of publications that may be of interest to our community. This page provides details and links for downloading more than 40 publications most of which can be accessed at no cost.

This page is frequently updated. ISCO 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. Readers wishing to recommend the addition of additional publications should contact the editor.

### PERU: OIL SPILL UPDATES

Continued from last week's reports – There were three oil spills ...

- A. The very large spill on January 15 at the La Pampilla Refinery, initially estimated at 6,000 bbl of crude oil.
- B. Quite a small spill (reportedly about 8 bbl) at the same refinery on January 26 during subsea pipeline maintenance work.
- C. A small offshore spill (said to be about 7 or 8 bbl) off the north coast of Peru.

**Jan. 28 - Peru reports another release of oil off Lima** - Environmental regulators in Peru have reported a second oil spill off Peru near the La Pampilla refinery complex. An additional eight barrels of oil had leaked into the sea, they said. Repsol acknowledged that more oil had entered the water, but it said that the release should not be classified as a "new oil spill." "During the work carried out [Tuesday] on the infrastructure located 18 metres below the surface of the sea, a controlled upwelling of remnants of the spill on January 15th was generated. Insurance Marine News / [Read more](#)

**Jan. 31 - After Offshore Spill, Peru Shuts Down its Largest Oil Refinery** - After a 12,000-barrel oil spill at a loading buoy off Lima earlier this month, the government of Peru has shut down all crude oil deliveries for Repsol's La Pampilla refinery. The order requires Repsol to submit a new spill management plan and obtain regulatory approval before reopening its marine terminals for receiving. The decision means that the facility will have to shut down, taking with it about 40 percent of Peru's gasoline and diesel production.

In a statement, Repsol called the order "disproportionate and unreasonable," but it said that it would cooperate with the authorities to resume production as soon as possible. It pledged to make "the greatest efforts to avoid the risk of shortages of essential products for Peruvian citizens and the country's development." In the meantime, it says that it is making progress on the cleanup: at a cost of about \$28 million, it has flown in 30 skimmers, 3,770 meters of containment barrier, 84,500 meters of sorbent material and 30 storage tanks, along with other equipment. Locally, it has hired on about 2,000 beach cleanup staff and about 144 pieces of heavy machinery. The Maritime Executive / [Read more](#)

**Feb. 3 - Its Beaches Mired in Crude Oil, Peru Vows to Make Refinery Pay**



*Photo: Workers cleaning up an oil spill last week in Ancon, Peru. Oil spilled from a refinery has washed up on 27 miles of coastline. Credit...Angela Ponce for The New York Times*

The company blames waves caused by a distant volcano eruption, but the Peruvian government has vowed to "defend the sea."

The oil has washed across some 27 miles of Pacific coastline, pushed north by the wind to beaches along Peru's desert coast, leaving in its wake countless dead fish and marine animals coated in oil, including locally endangered sea otters and penguins that live on rocky islands in two protected marine reserves. "For the ecosystem to fully recover, we're talking 10, maybe 20 years," said Deyvis Huamán, a biologist with Peru's national park system. The New York Times / [Read more](#)

**Feb. 5 - Repsol says Peru oil spill will be cleaned up in March** - Spanish energy giant Repsol on Thursday vowed to finish by March cleaning up a devastating oil spill that has polluted beaches and killed wildlife. However, he warned that it would take a little longer to finish cleaning cliffs and rocks that are difficult to access. RTL Today / [Read more](#)

### THAILAND: NAVY SHIPS DEPLOYED TO CONTAIN OIL SPILL IN THE GULF OF THAILAND

Continued from report in last week's ISCO News

**Jan. 29** - A beach in eastern Thailand was declared a disaster area on Saturday as oil leaking from an underwater pipeline in the Gulf of Thailand continued to wash ashore and blacken the sand.

The leak from the pipeline owned by Star Petroleum Refining Public Company Limited (SPRC) started late on Tuesday and was brought under control a day later after spilling an estimated 50,000 litres (13,209 gallons) of oil into the ocean 20 km (12 miles) from the country's industrialised eastern seaboard. Some of the oil reached the shoreline at Mae Ramphueng beach in Rayong province late on Friday after spreading over 47 sq km (18 sq miles) of sea in the gulf.

The navy is working with SPRC to contain the leak and said the main oil mass was still offshore with only a small amount washing up on at least two spots along the 12-km-long beach.

About 150 SPRC workers and 200 navy personnel had been deployed to clean up the beach and oil boom barriers had been set up, the navy said. gCaptain / [Read more](#) [Thanks to John Wardrop, Member of ISCO Council for Australia]



## INCIDENT REPORTS (CONTINUED)

**Jan. 30 - Oil Spill Threatens Corals In Eastern Thailand** - Authorities are rushing to prevent an oil spill in eastern Thailand from damaging fragile corals, after officials said on Sunday the leak that began last week was drifting towards more coastal areas. Minister of Natural Resources and the Environment Varawut Silpa-archa said it was crucial to try to prevent the main mass of oil from reaching the shore at Ao Prao, a small bay on Koh Samet, which is a popular resort island. "If the oil reached inside this area it could impact the beach and cause heavy damage to the shallow water corals," Varawut said. gCaptain / [Read more](#)

**Jan. 31 - Beach declared a disaster area after oil spill** - A beach in eastern Thailand was declared a disaster area on Saturday as oil leaking from an underwater pipeline in the Gulf of Thailand continued to wash ashore and blacken the sand. The leak from the pipeline owned by Star Petroleum Refining Public Company Limited (SPRC) started late on Tuesday and was brought under control a day later after spilling an estimated 50,000 litres (13,209 gallons) of oil into the ocean 20 km (12 miles) from the country's industrialised eastern seaboard. NDTV / [Read more](#)

**Feb. 1 - Star Petroleum Promises to Pay for Oil Spill Cleanup South of Bangkok -**

*Photo: Courtesy Thailand Marine Department*



Thai oil refiner Star Petroleum has agreed to pay for cleanup costs after a pipeline broke off the coast of Thailand's Rayong Province, spilling an estimated 40,000 gallons of oil into the water. The breach occurred last week in a pipeline for a refinery's loading buoy, and the oil has drifted ashore at Mae Ramphueng, a popular beach destination about 90 miles to the southeast of Bangkok.

Spill response officials have been using booms, skimmers and dispersants to remove the slick from the surface. Thailand's Pollution Control Department (PCD) has promised to hold Star Petroleum to account for "every penny" of the cost to remediate the spill. The Maritime Executive / [Read more](#)

## ECUADOR: PRIVATE PIPELINE OPERATOR SUSPENDS PUMPING CRUDE FOLLOWING BURST

**Jan. 29** - OCP Ecuador, the operator of Ecuador's privately held heavy crude pipeline, suspended pumping crude on Saturday as a preventative measure after it ruptured in the Amazon, and began cleaning and repairs.

The burst happened late on Friday in the Piedra Fina zone, an area in Ecuador's Amazon where regressive erosion caused the OCP pipeline and the state-owned SOTE pipeline to halt pumping in December, forcing the government to declare force majeure over its oil exports and production. Reuters / [Read more and watch an excellent video](#)

**Feb. 1 - Oil spill pollutes nature reserve in Ecuadorian Amazon -**



*Photo: AFP, Quito, FEB 01 2022, 02:06 IST  
UPDATED: FEB 01 2022, 02:14 IST  
Handout picture released by Ecuador's Ministry of Environment shows an oil spill occurred in Piedra Fina, Ecuador. Credit: AFP Photo/Ecuador's Ministry of Environment.*

An oil spill in eastern Ecuador has reached a nature reserve and polluted a river that supplies water to indigenous communities, the country's environmental ministry said Monday.

## INCIDENT REPORTS (CONTINUED)

Heavy rains caused a mudslide in the eastern Napo province on Friday, during which a rock struck and ruptured a pipeline owned by private company OCP Ecuador.

OCP Ecuador said Sunday it had begun repairing the pipeline and that "crude oil has been collected in retention pools to be taken to the Lago Agrio station in tanker trucks." Deccan Herald / [Read more](#)

**Feb. 3 - Amazon oil spill in Ecuador was 6,300 barrels** - An oil spill caused by a ruptured pipeline in Ecuador's part of the Amazon leaked almost 6,300 barrels into an environmental reserve, according to information given on Wednesday by the company that owns the conduit.

The firm OCP said it had "collected and reinjected 5,300 barrels of crude into the system" since the accident on Friday when a boulder fell on the pipeline in a mountainous region. OCP said the recovered oil amounted to 84 percent of the total that leaked, which would mean around 6,300 barrels. The oil was collected in large basins deployed as an emergency measure when there is a leak.

OCP president Jorge Vugdelija said in a statement that the company was using people and machines to "collect traces of crude found in the river." Macau Business / [Read more](#)

**Feb. 4 - Ecuadorian authorities speak of "major disaster" following oil spill last week** - An oil spill in Ecuador in late January has been spreading over the past few days throughout the Yasuní area reaching unforeseen proportions, it was reported Wednesday.

After a spill of 6,300 barrels of crude in the Amazon due to a break in an oil pipeline in the area of the Coca River eroded by deficiencies in the construction of a Chinese dam, authorities are beginning to speak of a "major environmental disaster."

Ecuador's Environment Minister Gustavo Manrique said an oil slick had been reported in Añangu, in the Yasuní National Park. Local indigenous communities had already spoken of a spill which has allegedly affected at least 300 kilometers, from the area where the pipeline broke to the entrance to the Yasuní intangible area. Merco Press / [Read more](#)

## AUSTRALIA: TASMANIA - TASPORTS MANAGING SPILL AFTER TUG COLLISION

**Feb. 1** - TasPorts teams have pulled the final tug, Wilga, out of the contamination area after a collision at the Port of Devonport between commercial vessel Goliath and TasPorts tugs Campbell Cove and York Cove. The collision on Friday 28 January caused both TasPorts tugs, which were berthed and stationary at the time of the incident, to take on water, and they became submerged alongside the wharf at Berth 3 West. "In response to the incident, TasPorts teams mobilised quickly and deployed oil spill response equipment within 45 minutes of the collision, which captured the third vessel in the containment area." Infrastructure Magazine / [Read more](#)

**Feb. 2** - United Salvage has begun the clean-up of the oil spill at the Devonport wharf in Tasmania after tugs Campbell Cove and York Cove sank were struck by cement carrier Goliath (IMO 9036430). The salvor said that the clean-up would be a complex process because the ships suffered multiple impacts, first from being hit by the Goliath (on January 28th) and then the two tugs hitting each other. They have also sunk right next to each other alongside the wharf at Berth 4 West in Devonport, making access problematic. United Salvage divers have identified where the access points are to the tanks and they will go through the process of spiking those and then start pumping out the oil. It was not known how much oil was still left on the tugs. Insurance Marine News (Link missing)

## NIGERIA: TRINITY SPIRIT OIL TANKER THAT CAN CARRY 2 MILLION BARRELS EXPLODES AT SEA

**Feb. 3 - An explosion has rocked an oil production vessel off the coast of Nigeria.**

Dramatic footage shared on social media shows the Trinity Spirit oil tanker on fire and apparently sinking, with thick plumes of black smoke billowing into the sky. Reports of the explosion first emerged in the early hours of Wednesday.

The vessel is a floating production storage vessel (FPSO), owned by Nigeria's Shebah Exploration & Production Company Ltd (SEPCOL).

The vessel is capable of storing about 2 million barrels of oil and can process up to 22,000 barrels a day, according to the company's website. Newsbreak / [Read more](#) [Thanks to Mary Ann Dagleish, ISCO VP, Membership]

**Feb. 3 - A floating production, storage and offloading (FPSO) explodes** - The vessel Trinity Spirit with a capacity to process up to 22,000 barrels of oil per day, inject up to 40,000 barrels of water per day and store 2 million barrels of oil, has exploded and sunk at the Ukpokiti Terminal, around Excravos, Warri south-west, Delta State, Nigeria.

According to the first information, ten workers were onboard the facilities, of which seven are missing, and three casualties feared.

The incident is confirmed by owner Sepcol: "the management of Shebah Exploration & Production Company Ltd (SEPCOL) in receivership, hereby announces the unfortunate incident of a fire that engulfed our offshore facility, the FPSO Trinity Spirit located at the Ukpokiti Teminal, following an explosion during the early hours of Wednesday, 2nd of February 2022.

information, video provided by salvage\_and\_wreck [https://www.instagram.com/salvage\\_and\\_wreck/](https://www.instagram.com/salvage_and_wreck/)

Maritime Bulletin / [www.maritimebulletin.net](http://www.maritimebulletin.net)

## INCIDENT REPORTS (CONTINUED)

**Feb. 4 - Trinity Spirit FPSO Was Old and Poorly Maintained** - An oil vessel used for storage that exploded off the coast of Nigeria this week had not been maintained for sometime and had technical issues, two sources and an environmental group said on Friday, as its wreckage lay in the sea after the fire was put out.

The 10 crew members who were on board at the time of explosion early on Wednesday remained unaccounted for, according to witnesses, amid fears they may have been caught in the fire.

A Reuters witness saw the burnt out remains of the Trinity Spirit floating production, storage and offloading (FPSO) vessel, which broke into two and partially submerged but there was no evidence of spilled crude.

It was not immediately clear who had put out the fire but vessel owner Shebah Exploration & Production Company Ltd said on Thursday it had received help from surrounding communities and Chevron Corp, which has a facility nearby.

Nnimmo Bassey, from Health of Mother Foundation, which tracks oil spills in Nigeria said the vessel, which has been in operation for more than 30 years, had outlived its lifespan of 20 years, should have been decommissioned and was not supposed to carry any crude. gCaptain / [Read more](#)

## FRANCE: REUNION - TANKER GROUNDS DURING TROPICAL CYCLONE BATSIRAI

February 3 - The Tresta Star, a tanker from the island of Mauritius, has run aground off the eastern coast of Reunion Island, a French Department in the Indian Ocean neighboring Mauritius.

Due to Tropical Cyclone Batsirai, the vessel had set course south of the island, but suffered engine trouble and drifted towards Reunion Island. It is currently aground off Saint-Philippe, at the Tremblet, which is at the foot of the Piton de La Fournaise's volcano. Eleven crew members are on board, comprised of seven Indians and four Bangladeshis.

Tropical Cyclone Batsirai, a powerful Category 4 cyclone with winds gusting up 130 mph, passed to the north of Reunion Island and Mauritius on Thursday.

The French Minister for Overseas Territories, Sebastien Lecornu, who visited Mauritius when the MV Wakashio ran aground, wrote on Twitter earlier that there is a strong risk that the TrestaStar will suffer the same fate. "The Mauritian ship [#TrestaStar](#) is in difficulty and risks running aground in the next few hours off Reunion. I am carefully following the situation with the [@Prefet974](#). Our efforts are currently focused on rescuing the crew.," he wrote in his post.

"An attempt to tow the vessel to avoid it running aground around the Tremblet, in Saint-Philippe will be undertaken. The towing and salvage operations of the ship have begun," he added.

These effort will be conducted by the Regional Surveillance and Rescue Operational Center of Reunion Island and the French Navy. However, the operations won't be that easy due to a heavy weather caused by Batsirai.

Lecornu added that the tanker is empty. "At this stage, there is no risk of serious marine oil pollution," he added. gCaptain / [Read more](#)

## USA: FLORIDA - MSC-CHARTERED TUG AND BARGE RUN AGROUND

February 4 - U.S. Coast Guard Station Fort Lauderdale and Customs and Border Protection Air and Marine Operations crews rescued four people from the 70-foot tugboat Sea Eagle and a barge it was towing after they ran aground on beach near Boca Raton, Florida, on Thursday. The Sea Eagle's crew sent out a mayday call on Thursday at about 8:45 p.m. reporting they were in distress and taking on water with four people aboard.

CBP rescue crews arrived on scene and picked up three people from the attached barge. Station Fort Lauderdale's crew rescued the Sea Eagle's captain, who stayed behind with the tug. Sea Eagle's crew was reunited on Station Fort Lauderdale's vessel and were brought shore. There were no reported injuries.

The tug is reported to have approximately 10,000 gallons of diesel fuel on board.

The tug and barge are chartered by the U.S. Navy Military Sealift Command and were on a scheduled routine supply mission to the Atlantic Undersea Test and Evaluation Center in the Bahamas, carrying a cargo of ordnance, fuel and other supplies. The vessels are operated by NOSAT, Northcliffe Ocean Shipping & Trading, which is currently working with a salvage company to safely remove them and tow them to a nearby port.

The Coast Guard said there is no danger to people living nearby the stranded barge and the Navy Explosive Ordnance Disposal unit will safely clear the barge of any potential munitions or ordnance on board. gCaptain / [Read more](#)



## INCIDENT REPORTS (CONTINUED)

### USA: TEXAS - BUSINESS EVACUATED AFTER RAIL CAR LEAKS HIGHLY FLAMMABLE CHEMICAL IN BAYTOWN

February 4 - This leak happened Friday afternoon in the business-area park on Delta Parkway near Highway 99 and FM 1405. It was said a rail car had leaked a flammable liquid, prompting an evacuation. But in a 3:50 p.m. update, authorities said one business was evacuated.

According to authorities, the chemical spilled is Triethylamine, which is a highly flammable chemical. The cause of the spill was not immediately disclosed. ABC News / [Read more](#)

## STOP PRESS – BREAKING NEWS

### UN DECLARES PROGRESS IN TALKS WITH YEMEN’S WARRING PARTIES OVER DECAYING OIL TANKER

February 6 - The United Nations (UN) has announced that positive discussions with Yemen’s warring parties had taken place regarding a proposal to solve the crisis caused by a rusting oil tanker off Yemen’s Red Sea coast.

“David Gressly, the UN Resident and Humanitarian Coordinator for Yemen held constructive meetings last week on the UN-coordinated proposal to mitigate the threat posed by FSO Safer, an ageing floating storage and offloading unit moored off the coast of Hodeidah,” said the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) on Saturday in a statement.

The statement said that Gressly held a series of meetings in Aden and discussed the proposal with Yemen’s Prime Minister Maeen Abdulmalik, the Transport Minister, and the Safer Emergency Committee.

“In our very positive discussions, the government officials confirmed that they support the UN-coordinated proposal to shift a million barrels of oil on board the vessel to another ship,” he said, adding “they want to see the threat mitigated as soon as possible”.

He also held very constructive discussions on January 29 with senior representatives of the Houthi group on the FSO Safer, Xinhua news agency reported.

The Houthis “stressed their concern over the environmental and humanitarian risk posed by the tanker and their wish to see rapid action to resolve the problem, agreeing in principle on how to move forward with the UN-coordinated proposal,” according to the statement. The Siasat Daily / [Read more](#)

## A REMINDER FOR ISCO MEMBERS

### TIMELY PAYMENT OF MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL FEES

ISCO is grateful that most members pay their annual dues on time but unfortunately there are exceptions.

All members are reminded that membership fees should be paid annually in advance on the date of the anniversary of the date on which you first joined the organization.

Currently, our Membership Director Mary Ann Dalgleish is spending a considerable amount of time in chasing up overdue subscriptions. This task is made even more difficult in cases where invoices and reminders get bounced because contact details are no longer valid. If you have not received an invoice or payment reminder please contact Mary Ann at [mrydetroit@aol.com](mailto:mrydetroit@aol.com) without delay.

You can renew your membership online at <https://spillcontrol.org/subscriptions/>

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