

ISCO & THE ISCO NEWSLETTER

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

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

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INTERNATIONAL NEWS

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UN HAS AGREEMENT TO TRANSFER OIL FROM FSO SAFER NEAR THE YEMEN COAST

February 16 - In a nearly two-hour-long update, the United Nations Security Council discussed the dangers of a potential escalation of the war in Yemen and the humanitarian crisis. While saying the dangers remain high, but there remains the potential for a political settlement, the UN team reported a tentative agreement to address the problem of an aging FSO loaded with more than one million barrels of oil caught in the conflict.

After the Security Council meeting, envoy Grundberg briefed reporters at the UN. He said the agreement need to be solidified and cautioned over the difficulties in the region while expressing optimism that the agreement could proceed. Another U.N. senior policy adviser told the reporters that efforts are already underway to bring a boom from Djibouti to Yemen's main port at Hodeida and that the UN is trying to locate a suitable vessel to which the oil could be transferred. The Maritime Executive / [Read more](#)

UN RESIDENT AND HUMANITARIAN COORDINATOR WELCOMES PROGRESS ON FSO SAFER PROPOSAL

February 5 - During meetings with the Government of Yemen in Aden, Mr. Gressly discussed the proposal with the Prime Minister, the Minister of Transport, and the Safer Emergency Committee. "In our very positive discussions, the Government officials confirmed that they support the UN-coordinated proposal to shift the million barrels of oil onboard the vessel to another ship," said Mr. Gressly, "They want to see the threat mitigated as soon as possible."

"I also held very constructive discussions on 29 January with senior representatives of the Sana'a authorities on the FSO Safer," said Mr. Gressly. "They stressed their concern over the environmental and humanitarian risk posed by the tanker and their wish to see rapid action to resolve the problem. They also agreed in principle on how to move forward with the UN-coordinated proposal. OCHA / [Read more](#)

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[Professional Membership Application Form](#)

INTERNATIONAL NEWS (CONTINUED)

ISCO NEWS

MEMBERS' NEXT ZOOM MEETING IS ON THURSDAY 24th FEBRUARY

All members are invited to join our monthly online meeting at 3 pm EST (8 pm GMT)

Here is the link for joining the meeting <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/5220550000>

UN MEETING SETS SIGHTS ON GLOBAL PLASTICS TREATY



Above: Plastic waste in Manila Bay (Daniel Muller / Greenpeace)

February 13 - In Nairobi this month, the world's governments will discuss the path towards the first global treaty to tackle plastic pollution. But with multiple proposals on the table, the scope and ambition of a future treaty hangs in the balance.

The UN Environment Assembly, which is scheduled for 28 February to 2 March in the Kenyan capital, could deliver a mandate for an intergovernmental negotiating committee to broker an agreement obliging all countries to eliminate plastic leakage – especially into the ocean – through national targets and plans for reduction, recycling and management. The Maritime Executive / [Read more](#)

EU JOINED BY 13 COUNTRIES TO FORM COALITION TO PROTECT OCEAN BIODIVERSITY

February 13 - The EU and 13 other countries including Canada, India and the United Kingdom have agreed to form a coalition to protect biodiversity in the high seas, European Commission President Ursula von der Leyen told Ouest-France newspaper in an interview.

More nations may join once the coalition is launched together with French President Emmanuel Macron at the One Ocean Summit on Friday in Brest, western France, the newspaper reported.

"We are already investing heavily in ocean-related research and innovation," von der Leyen said. The bloc is setting aside half a billion euros (\$574 million) to "restore our oceans by 2030." gCaptain / [Read more](#)

THE WORLD MUST UNITE IN A WAR AGAINST PLASTIC

February 16 - Reducing plastic use seems like one of the easiest environmental actions people can take. We re-use bags, put takeout coffee in our own mugs or recycle our plastic bottles, and feel good about ourselves. But it is not so simple. Plastic pollution is still causing immense harm to our planet.

There is no corner of the Earth, from mountaintop to sea trench, left unscathed by

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INTERNATIONAL NEWS (CONTINUED)

plastic. We see it everywhere: disposable bags drifting underwater, pale plastic imitations of jellyfish; crumpled and fading bottles strewn along roadsides; takeout dishes and shampoo bottles spilling from the guts of dead whales. UNEP / [Read more](#)

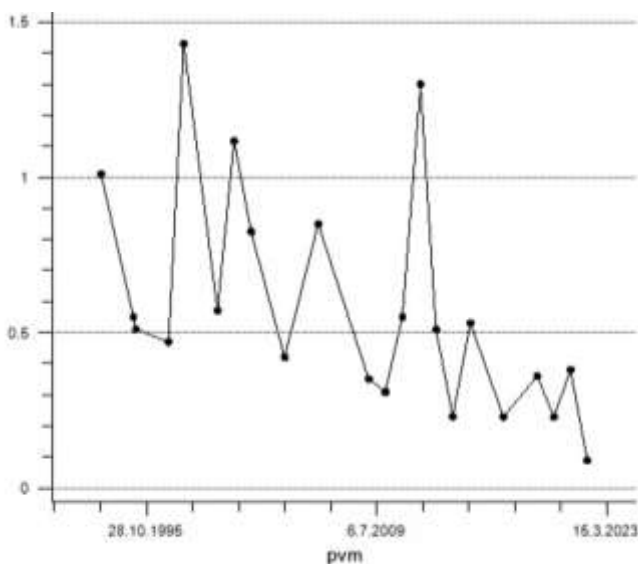
MORE INTERNATIONAL AND REGIONAL NEWS

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN THE KINGDOM OF SAUDI ARABIA AND PAKISTAN ON ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

February 9 - Memorandum of Understanding between the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and Pakistan to Strengthen cooperation on environmental protection and pollution prevention to achieve Sustainable development in both countries.

The MoU signed by Minister of Environment, Water and Agriculture Eng. Abdulrahman Abdulmohsen AlFadley and Minister of Climate Change and Special Assistant to the Prime Minister of Pakistan Malik Amin Aslam. The MoU was signed at the ministry's headquarters in Riyadh. MEWA / [Read more](#)

OIL CONCENTRATION IN THE BALTIC SEA HAS DECREASED IN RECENT DECADES



Oil concentrations (milligrams per litre) in the central part of the Gulf of Finland (monitoring station LL7) in winters 1993-2022. Source: SYKE (png)

February 18 - Observed oil concentrations in the surface water in the Baltic Sea were low, and at levels that are typical for the winter.

The oil concentration in the Baltic Sea has decreased in recent decades.

The most likely reasons are stricter legislation, international agreements, the effectiveness of Finland's aerial surveillance of its sea areas, and a general change in attitude.

Monitoring oil concentrations in the Baltic Sea is part of the Finnish monitoring programme for marine management.

SYKE / [Read more](#)

NEWS REPORTS FROM AROUND THE WORLD

BRAZIL: FEARS OF OIL SPILLS AS EXXONMOBIL SEEKS TO DRILL AT THE MOUTH OF A BRAZIL RIVER

This article deals with community concerns over a proposed oil development in the mouth of the Sao Francisco River, Brazil. Note: The article contains a link to a Portuguese language version of the article.

February 10 - U.S. oil giant ExxonMobil is seeking to drill 11 wells in a marine area near the estuary of the São Francisco River in eastern Brazil. In the event of an accident, at least 52 conservation units would be affected, including a barrier reef that's a priority for conservation.

The company is still awaiting an environmental license, but has already started to train local fishing communities on how to deal with possible oil spills. Communities, meanwhile, say they have been largely excluded from consultations on the project, which regulators have held online despite the lack of internet connectivity in the most affected areas. Mongabay / [Read more](#)

BRAZIL: IBAMA SURVEY AREAS AFFECTED BY OIL SPILL ON THE COAST OF CEARÁ

February 18 - The Brazilian Institute of the Environment and Renewable Natural Resources (IBAMA), through the Center for Prevention and Care for Environmental Emergencies in Ceará, informs that, after being informed about the appearance of oily stains on beaches in the state, began - at the end of January, a series of surveys to confirm the arrival of the oil and provide technical guidance on its removal and final destination.

IBAMA was on the beaches of the entire east coast to the municipality of Fortaleza. After the Federal University of Ceará (UFC) and the Brazilian Navy collected and analyzed the samples, it was found that the oil found is not the same as the incident that occurred in the years 2019/2020. IBAMA / [Read more](#)

CANADA: 2010 HNS CONVENTION – IMO & IOPC FUNDS WORKSHOP

February 11 - Canada is organising a virtual workshop that is expected to take place in September of 2022. The exact dates will be announced at the March 2022 meeting of the governing bodies.

The virtual format would allow more States and industry representatives to participate, given travel restrictions due to the COVID-19 pandemic IOPC Funds / [Read more](#)

CANADA: GOVERNMENT OF CANADA AND QUATSINO AND KITASOO XAI'XAIS FIRST NATIONS ANNOUNCE LAUNCH OF NEW RESPONSE VESSELS TO STRENGTHEN MARINE SAFETY IN BRITISH COLUMBIA

February 14 - The Government of Canada and the Quatsino and Kitasoo Xai'xais First Nations are pleased to announce the arrival and launch of two new dedicated response vessels under the Canadian Coast Guard's Indigenous Community Boat Volunteer Pilot Program.

The Quatsino and Kitasoo Xai'xais First Nations are members of the Coastal Nations Coast Guard Auxiliary, and work and train with the Canadian Coast Guard, providing marine response within their respective traditional territories.

Canadian Coast Guard / [Read more](#)

CANADA: MV ZIM KINGSTON'S MISSING CONTAINERS STILL SPARKING VANCOUVER ISLAND CONCERNS



Above: Mounds of synthetic material, likely part of a large cargo spill from the MV Zim Kingston, were collected recently at Cape Palmerston by the coastal cleanup non-profit Epic Exeo. Photo by Cody Gardner

February 17 - Vancouver Island MPs and residents are raising concerns about ocean protection and spill response after debris from shipping containers lost by MV Zim Kingston still appears to be washing ashore months after the cargo vessel caught fire in stormy weather.

The ship lost 109 shipping containers, two of which contained hazardous chemicals, in heavy seas off Victoria on Oct. 23, 2021.

"There are a lot of shipping containers still in the water," said North Island MP Rachel Blaney on Tuesday, adding only four containers have been located so far. National Observer / [Read more](#)

ECUADOR: GALAPAGOS NEW MARINE RESERVE ENFORCEMENT FOCUSES ON LOCALS AND NOT ON INTERNATIONAL COMMERCIAL VESSELS

February 12 - Though he makes a living from the protected waters around Ecuador's storied Galapagos Islands, fisherman Pedro Asensio has his doubts about an expanded marine reserve created last month by his country's government.

The additional 60,000 square kilometers (23,170 square miles) added last month is the first step in a plan by Ecuador, Colombia, Costa Rica and Panama to create a migration corridor between protected areas for species threatened by climate change and industrial fishing.

Fishing is banned outright in half of the new reserve, while in the other half lines with multiple hooks, known locally as palangre, are forbidden, though fishermen are allowed to use manual techniques like scuba diving to catch lobster.

Environmentalists say the expanded reserve will help protect critically endangered species – including hammerhead sharks, whale sharks and turtles.

But locals say enforcement is wrongly focused on them and not the commercial vessels – including a 300-ship fleet from China – which anchor in international waters near the islands. gCaptain / [Read more](#)

NIGERIA: HOUSE COMMITTEE OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY HAS ASSURED EQUITABLE REMEDIATION

February 14 - House Committee on Host Communities of the National Assembly has assured equitable remediation as it concluded a tour on some communities in Gokana Local Government Area of Rivers, allegedly impacted by oil spillage. The tour was part of an oversight function to ascertain the level of damage caused by oil spill in the area.

Mr Dumnamene Dekor, Chairman of the committee and lawmaker representing Khana/Gokana federal constituency, disclosed this in a statement on Monday, February 14, 2022, in Port Harcourt. Environews Nigeria / [Read more](#)

SRI LANKAN COMMUNITIES COUNT THE COST OF DEVASTATING CHEMICALS AND PLASTICS SPILL



Above: Sacks of debris collected from the sinking of the X-Press Pearl off the coast of Colombo. Image: Sandun Jayawardana

February 14 - Six months after the sinking of the Singapore-flagged X-Press Pearl off the coast of Colombo, local communities are trying to recover from one of the worst maritime disasters in history.

On a beach in Sri Lanka's western coast on 7 February, a band of women painstakingly sift sand in the pelting sun, hunting for tiny plastic pellets and other debris still washing ashore since the X-Press Pearl sank in May 2021. Predominantly from the fisher community, they continue to bear the brunt of the island's worst maritime disaster.

This stretch in Sarakkuwa, Pamunugama, 30 kilometres from Colombo, was the epicentre of the debris spill. Wave after wave of pellets, burnt plastic, even entire containers, washed up here. The wreck now lies offshore, ringed by salvage vehicles.

It's a six-day week, from 8am to 2pm, with two 30-minute breaks. At 10am, the temperature is already above 30 degrees Celsius. They are sweltering under hats, protective clothing and facemasks. But it's worth it, they insist. Their daily wage of Rs 3,000 (US\$15) feeds families whose menfolk idled for months when expanses of sea were declared no-fishing zones. EcoBusiness / [Read more](#)

SRI LANKA: OIL, PLASTIC, ACID: SRI LANKA'S CARGO SPILL UNDER A MICROSCOPE

February 16 - Marine pollution caused by the wreckage of a container ship off Colombo's coast has captured the world's attention. At a global ocean summit, expert scientists warn that the environmental harm goes beyond plastic washed up on beaches.

When the X-Press Pearl container ship caught fire and sank in the Indian Ocean in May last year, the spillage of 'nurdles' or plastic pellets from its cargo came under the spotlight. These pollutants, previously less known and washed up in the billions along Sri Lanka's coastline, were said to cause the most 'significant harm' to the environment.

Now, expert scientists who have taken a closer look at the chemical spillage are saying that the nurdle pollution just forms "the tip of an iceberg". Of 1,486 containers carried on the vessel, about 80 were classified as "dangerous goods", containing caustic soda and nitric acid. The ship also carried epoxy resins, used in paints and primers, ethanol and lead ingots, used to make vehicle batteries. Eco-Business / [Read more](#)

SOMALIA: WORKSHOP ON PLANNING FOR OIL SPILL RESPONSE IN SOMALIA



February 16 - At the invitation of the Ministry of Ports and Marine Transport for Somalia, the IOPC Funds participated in a two-day national workshop on oil spill response and contingency planning from 15 to 16 February 2022 in Mogadishu, Somalia.

The workshop focused on the national contingency plan currently being developed and highlighted the operational and legal requirements for preparedness, including the relevant International Conventions that should be acceded to and implemented. Claims Manager, Chiara Della Mea, delivered a remote presentation on the legal framework of the international liability and compensation regime for oil pollution. IOPC Funds / [Read more](#)

USA: HOW \$1B IN FEDERAL AID FOR GREAT LAKES WILL CLEAN UP 9 AREAS IN MICHIGAN BY 2030

February 18 - A historic \$1 billion for the federal Great Lakes restoration program from the bipartisan infrastructure bill will speed the cleanup of nine damaged areas in Michigan to completion by 2030, officials said Thursday.

The Michigan areas to be cleaned up, including the Detroit, Rouge and Clinton rivers, are among 25 in the lakes region designated as

NEWS REPORTS FROM AROUND THE WORLD (CONTINUED)

"areas of concern" due to environmental degradation largely caused by industrial pollution, urban development and agriculture runoff.

President Joe Biden announced the new funding for the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative during a trip Thursday to Lorain, Ohio, noting that the United States and Canada over three decades ago made a commitment to restore polluted waterways and habitats that flow into the freshwater lakes. The Detroit News / [Read more](#)

USA: LATEST NEWS REPORTS FROM NOAA OR&R

February 18 – Please click on the links below to download and read the latest news from NOAA OR&R

[“For Great Lakes’ Sake” Tabletop Exercise Enhances NOAA’s Readiness for Oil Spill Response in the Great Lakes](#)

On the afternoons of February 8-10, 2022, the Disaster Preparedness Program (DPP) partnered with the [Great Lakes Regional Collaboration Team](#) to hold a virtual tabletop exercise named “For Great Lakes’ Sake.” LT Rachel Pryor of the Emergency Response Division (ERD) co-hosted the first internal NOAA tabletop exercise in the Great Lakes along with DPP’s Emergency Management Specialist, Katie Krushinski. The goal of the exercise was to bring regional NOAA Great Lakes entities together to improve coordination, communication, and collaboration.

[Marine Debris Program Engages with Stakeholders at Alaska Forum on the Environment and North Pacific Fisheries Management Council](#)

Over recent weeks, the NOAA Marine Debris Program (MDP) participated in outreach to the Alaska fishing industry and marine debris community stakeholders through two events. These engagements focused on the unique nature of debris issues in Alaska, emerging work, and future efforts and opportunities, including collaborative action planning.

[Marine Debris Program Participates in Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation - Oceans and Fisheries Working Group Meeting](#)

On February 14-15, Marine Debris Program (MDP) staff served on the United States delegation to the eighteenth meeting of the Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) Oceans and Fisheries Working Group (OFWG). APEC is an important multilateral forum facilitating collaboration among economies in the Asia Pacific region, and marine debris is a high priority topic of discussion for the OFWG, and other relevant APEC working groups.

[Marine Debris Program Presents to University of Hawai‘i at Hilo TCBES Master's Seminar](#)

On February 7th, the NOAA Marine Debris Program’s Pacific Island Regional Coordinator, Mark Manuel, provided a virtual presentation to the University of Hawai‘i at Hilo (UH-Hilo) [Tropical Conservation Biology and Environmental Science](#) (link is external) (TCBES) graduate seminar series.

[\\$2.5 M Finalized to Restore Natural Resources in Pearl Harbor, Oahu, Hawaii](#)

On February 14th, 2022, a [Consent Decree](#) was entered finalizing \$2.5 million to restore natural resources injured by releases of hazardous substances at Pearl Harbor in Oahu, Hawaii.

NEWS FROM ISCO MEMBERS

PACIFIC TOWING - PACTOW ‘WORKHORSE’ BACK IN THE WATER



Left: Installation of the Waiowa’s new 19.7 tonne engine was performed by PacTow’s in-house workshop, maintenance, and engineering teams. **Above:** Pacific Towing’s ASD tug ‘Waiowa’ assisting Singapore flagged oil tanker ‘Crescent River’ in Port Moresby.

NEWS FROM ISCO MEMBERS (CONTINUED)

Pacific Towing (PacTow) is celebrating the return of its tug 'Waiowa' to the water. One of PacTow's 12 tugs, Waiowa is back at work following an engine replacement. Predominantly used for open ocean towage and salvage projects, Waiowa has already been utilised on three projects since rejoining the PacTow fleet.

Waiowa is a 35-metre-long Azimuth Stern Drive (ASD) tug with a 57-tonne bollard pull and 4,300 brake horsepower. Although her home base is PacTow's headquarters in Port Moresby, Waiowa will be deployed throughout PNG and Melanesia, as well as further afield in Southeast Asia and Oceania as required. With large fuel and water tanks, as well as sizeable accommodation she has considerable open ocean capacity, making her ideal for a range of salvage, emergency response, and long-distance towage projects.

PacTow's in-house workshop, maintenance, and engineering teams installed the Waiowa's new engine, which was sourced from India with the assistance of Australia Pacific Maritime Pty Ltd. General Manager Neil Papenfus confirmed that COVID-19 supply chain challenges delayed the engine's replacement, but that Waiowa is "in class with Lloyd's Register, fully operational, and very much as good as new."

The Waiowa's engine replacement was a multi-stage endeavour. First, the old engine was stripped of all 'bolt on' items while still inside the Waiowa. Dry docked at PNG Dock Yards, the side of the hull was cut open (approximately 2.2m high x 1.5m wide) so that the old engine main tablature could be removed.

The new engine, weighing just under 20 tonnes, was hoisted onto a structure of purpose-fabricated rails so that it could be 'rolled' through the hole cut in the hull in to the Waiowa's engine room. Once inside, the engine was again hoisted up and then rotated 90 degrees so that it would align with the gearbox.

The hull was then welded back up and vacuum tested before being removed from docking and put back in the water. The PacTow team then worked on re-assembling the 'modified standalone' starboard lube oil system, cooling water mechanisms, sea water pipework, electrics etc.

Papenfus said that the installation of the Waiowa's new 19.7-tonne engine required "engineering excellence, innovation, and lots of teamwork" and that "PacTow is in the fortunate position of having its own in-house expertise and capacity to conduct major maintenance projects on our fleet." In-house capacity has never been more valuable to PNG businesses than in the last two years when it has been next to impossible to get specialist technicians into the country and when international supply chains are so unreliable.

PacTow delivers excellent, reliable, and safe marine services through PNG and the broader Pacific. A well-maintained fleet, as well as a dedicated and exceptionally trained team, underpin PacTow's ongoing expansion and success. PacTow is part of a larger sea and land logistics group wholly owned by Steamships Limited. To learn more about PacTow: www.paciftowingmarineservices.com

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>
- USA – ALLIANCE OF HAZARDOUS MATERIALS PROFESSIONALS - https://www.ahmpnet.org/events/event_list.asp

If you would like to be listed here, please contact your editor – 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

February 28 – PAJ Oil Spill Workshop 2022 More info - <http://www.pcs.gr.jp/p-kokusai/pdf/work-9-e.pdf>

Several new NOAA OR&R events have been listed at <https://spillcontrol.org/upcoming-events/>

UPCOMING WEBINARS & PODCASTS

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To see ALL of the posted webinars you may need to click on “LOAD MORE” at the foot of the opened “upcoming webinars” page.

Webinar organisers are requested to notify ISCO immediately if a listed webinar is cancelled or postponed. Your Editor does his best to keep the listing up-to-date but it should not be assumed that listed webinars have not been cancelled or postponed. It is recommended that you check with webinar organisers before finalising your attendance plans.

Please advise the Editor if any of the entries require correction or updating. If you are holding a webinar you would like to be featured here, please send details to John.mcmurtrie@spillcontrol.org



February 24 – OSRL & IPECA-IOGP “Tiered Preparedness & Response Guidelines” 1400 GMT

For more info visit - <https://spillcontrol.org/upcoming-webinars/> or [TPR Guidelines Introduction](#)

Message from MOIG - We would like to inform you that for those who were unable to attend the webinar on “Points to consider in the selection of oil spill booms” held on 09 February 2022, that we posted the recording on MOIG website in Latest News. <http://medoilgroup.org/index.php/news-events>

MESSAGES FROM EVENT ORGANISERS

JAPAN: PAJ OIL SPILL WORKSHOP 2022

February 28 - “Challenges Facing Oil Spill Response Operations During the Recent COVID Pandemic”

The focus of this years Workshop will be on the incidents that have happened during the last 2 years, the planning that has gone into dealing with incidents on a global perspective and successful execution of the respective responses under the restrictions. You will hear firsthand from the people involved in the planning of their respective organizations and from the people who have responded to the incidents.

After all presentations have been given, the session will be opened to the audience of this Workshop for free discussion with each presenter to deepen and confirm understanding of the issues raised and to answer any questions that the audience may have.

Language: English & Japanese (with simultaneous interpretation) More info at <http://www.pcs.gr.jp/p-kokusai/pdf/work-9-e.pdf>

USA: NOW ACCEPTING ABSTRACTS FOR THE 2022 CLEAN GULF CONFERENCE

The 31st annual CLEAN GULF Conference is extending an industry-wide call for participation. Prospective speakers are invited to submit a 200-300 word abstract(s) online for consideration by the program committee by Friday, April 1st. All abstracts are reviewed for content and relevance by the planning committee and are selected by consensus. [Get more details](#)

USA: JUST ANNOUNCED: KEYNOTE FOR CLEAN WATERWAYS 2022



State of the Inland Waterways Industry

Peter Stephaich, Chairman & CEO, Campbell Transportation Company, Inc.

The waters of the Allegheny, Monongahela, and the Ohio remain an essential economic lifeblood for Pittsburgh and region. They also happen to have one of the oldest systems of locks and dams in the country. With the recent award of a massive infrastructure investment of over \$850 million for the Upper Ohio Navigation Project of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers things are going to get busy.

However, by no means does that mean that the industry has not been continually focused on improvements in multiple areas, notably safety and environmental programs, and operating efficiencies. In this session Mr.

Stephaich will highlight a number of topics to include updates on the market, infrastructure, regulations, intellectual research, carbon reduction initiatives. The updates will conclude with time for questions and answers.

[Register for Clean Waterways](#) [View full Conference Agenda](#)

EUROPE: INTERSPILL FEBRUARY NEWSLETTER WITH UPDATED INFORMATION

The Interspill Committee have been working hard to prepare for Interspill 2022 to be held at RAI Amsterdam between 21 – 23 June 2022.

Interspill 2022 conference will have three streams throughout which is possible as we received so many high quality abstracts. The

MESSAGES FROM EVENT ORGANISERS (CONTINUED)

scope of the conference is intentionally broad and reflects the principal issues facing our sector over the next decade. There are many themes within the 21 sessions but some highlights are emergent fuel technologies, increase in shipping risks, management of aged oil and gas infrastructure, protecting our oceans from further harm and lessons learned working during a pandemic.

[Download the February newsletter with updated information](#)

INDIA: OIL SPILL INDIA – 6th INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE & EXHIBITION

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

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/>

CANADA: NEW DATES ANNOUNCED FOR IOSSC 2022: OCTOBER 4-7, 2022

With the ongoing rise in COVID-19 and full respect for the impact on our attendees, the decision was reached to postpone the [International Oil Spill Science Conference 2022 \(IOSSC 2022\)](#) to October 4-7, 2022.

IOSSC 2022 will still be a hybrid event, comprising both in-person and virtual sessions. The abstract submission remains open. Abstracts can be [submitted online](#) before June 17, 2022. We continue to welcome your submissions.

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.



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 if any links are not up-to-date. Readers wishing to recommend the addition of additional publications should contact the editor.

TINY PLASTIC PARTICLES ACCUMULATING IN RIVER HEADWATERS: STUDY

This article summarises modelling research of sources and fates of plastic waste from source to the sea and compares this with field research. It contains a link to the downloadable report in 'Science Advances'.

February 10 - Researchers modeled the journey of microplastics released in wastewater treatment plant effluent into rivers of different sizes and flow speeds, focusing on the smallest microplastic fragments — less than 100 microns across, or the width of a single human hair.

The study found that in slow-flowing stream headwaters — often located in remote, biodiverse regions — microplastics accumulated quicker and stayed longer than in faster flowing stretches of river.

Microplastic accumulation in sediments could be the 'missing plastic' not found in comparisons of stream pollution levels with those found in oceans. Trapped particles may be released during storms and flood events, causing a lag between environmental contamination and release to the sea.

A few hours in stream sediments can start to change plastics chemically, and microbes can grow on their surfaces. Most toxicity studies of microplastics use virgin plastics, so these environmentally transformed plastics pose an unknown risk to biodiversity and health.

Tiny fragments of plastic can linger for years in slow flowing streams and rivers, according to the results of a computer modeling study published in [Science Advances](#) last month. Mongabay / [Read more](#) [Thanks to John Wardrop, Member of ISCO Council for Australia]

NANOMATERIALS FOR ENVIRONMENTAL REMEDIATION

February 14 - The latest article available as a pre-proof in Chemical Physics Impact reflects on the importance of nanomaterials such as nanocatalysts due to their importance in decreasing environmental pollutants via numerous processes.

See <https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S2667022422000032>

Every year, new alterations and materials are produced; however, these materials are generated by advanced industries, and leftovers are discharged into the air, water, soil, and nature, causing pollution.

It is one of the most serious issues that any country faces. The principal pollutants that affect the environment include fine particles, toxic substances, insecticides, fertilizers, oil spills, poisonous gases, industrial discharges, wastewater, and chemical molecules.

Owing to their physicochemical features, such as extremely high surface area, many adsorption locations, different temperatures alteration, low intraparticle distances, variable pore diameter, and surface composition, these nanomaterials are particularly effective adsorbents in wastewater treatment.

Nanocatalysts are generally composed of metallic nanoparticles and semiconductors, and they have a great potential for action against germs, pathogens, radioisotopes, and organic pollutants. AzoNano / [Read more](#)

TECHNICAL SUPPORT

IPIECA - DISPERSANT DECISION TOOLKIT

Ipieca and IOGP have launched a quick reference infographic and video for local responders to use when deciding whether to spray surface dispersant on oil spills.

[View/download the video here](#)

Dispersants are detergent-like liquids that break down large surface oil slicks into tiny droplets. These droplets sink from the water surface into the very top layer of the water column where naturally occurring oil-eating bacteria also live.

These tiny oil droplets are now the width of a human hair, making it much easier for the bacteria to eat the oil which increases the rate of biodegradation.

The oil spill response industry has many good practice guides and technical manuals that explain what dispersants are, and when and how to use them correctly.

The new Dispersant decision toolkit draws together this information in a clear and concise infographic poster and animated video.

These tools are quick to consult and guide the user through every key decision that needs to be made before using dispersants, helping first responders decide if dispersant use is appropriate.

<https://www.ipieca.org/resources/awareness-briefing/dispersant-decision-toolkit/>

[Download the infographic](#)



PERU: OIL SPILL UPDATES

Feb 14 - The UN estimates that the damage from the oil spill will affect the coast of Peru for at least six years - A mission of experts from the United Nations has assured that the consequences of the Repsol oil spill in the Peruvian sea will affect the environment of the central coast for six to ten years, it indicated on Friday when presenting to the Executive its findings and recommendations regarding the disaster. environmental. The spill occurred on January 15 and already affects 112 square kilometers of sea and coastline, including two protected natural areas. TheN24 / [Read more](#)

Feb 16 - Beach Cleaning Goes On One Month After Peru Spill - Dozens of beaches near Lima were still beach cleaned and thousands of fishermen remained without work Tuesday, one month after an oil spill at a refinery created what the United Nations called the worst ecological disaster in Peru's recent history.

Clean up of the oil is going slowly, with Peruvian authorities saying that less than a quarter of the 11,900 barrels spilled into Pacific Ocean on January 15 has been collected. Spanish oil company Repsol says only 10,300 barrels spilled that day at its La Pampilla refinery in front of Peru's capital. Republic World / [Read more](#)

CANADA: COMPANY RESPONSIBLE FOR FUEL SPILL OFF NEWFOUNDLAND SAYS IT'S WORKING TO MITIGATE IMPACT

Feb 13 - The owner of a cargo ship that dumped fuel into the waters south of Newfoundland says it is working to mitigate the impact of its accidental spill. The MV Alaskaborg, owned by Dutch company Royal Wagenborg, discharged 30,000 litres of fuel Thursday.

In an emailed statement to CBC, Royal Wagenborg said it has developed a plan using two vessels with pollution response equipment and land-based teams to conduct shoreline assessments in the area. The company said while the spill occurred "as a result of an emergency bilge operation of the cargo hold" amid rough weather, the "exact circumstances of this incident are unknown." The company said it will work with Canadian authorities and emergency response contractors to mitigate the environmental impact of the accident. CBC News / [Read more](#)

Feb 15 - A marine bird expert says wildlife is at risk after a cargo ship spilled roughly 30,000 litres of an oil-water mixture into the Atlantic Ocean off Newfoundland's south coast on Thursday. Bill Montevecchi, a professor of psychology, biology and ocean sciences at Memorial University told CBC News on Monday the spill is a horrific thing to see, and could affect a multitude of bird species that live in the region. CBC News / [Read more](#)

UK: CONCERNS FOR UK COASTLINE AS ENI OIL PIPELINE SPILLS 500 BARRELS INTO EAST IRISH SEA

Feb 15 - Concerns have been raised for the UK coastline after a 500-barrel oil spill into the East Irish Sea from a pipeline operated by Eni. The Italian energy giant confirmed that oil was released on Monday from its pipeline between the Conwy and Douglas installations, around 20 miles off the coast of north Wales. Eni said the pipeline in Liverpool Bay was shut immediately and remains off and that there was no impact to any workers on the installations. Energy Voice / [Read more](#) [Thanks to Capt. Bill Boyle, MNI, Hon.FISCO]

Feb 17 - A spokesperson for the Maritime and Coastguard Agency said: "The Maritime and Coastguard Agency's Counter Pollution and Salvage team, together with the Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy (BEIS)'s Offshore Petroleum Regulator for Environment & Decommissioning team and the Secretary of State's Representative, are monitoring the response of Eni UK and assisting partner local authorities in an ongoing response to an incident, which was first reported off the North Wales Coast on Monday 14 February." OGV Energy News / [Read more](#)

FRANCE: CONTAINER SHIP LOST CONTAINERS IN ENGLISH CHANNEL

Feb 16 - Container ship WEC VAN EYCK on Feb 16 lost 4 containers overboard in western English Channel, some 43 nm NNW of Ushant island, France zone, and reported accident to French MRCC, CROSS Corsan. Understood accident was caused by foul weather, the ship had to maneuver to stabilize containers, after the accident. She resumed sailing to port of destination in the morning Feb 17, she's en route from Thamesport UK to Nibao Spain, Bay of Biscay. 2 drifting containers were spotted on Feb 17 north of Ushant, during a surveillance flight. The Maritime Bulletin / [Read more](#)

NORTH SEA: BULGARIAN BULK CARRIER AND MAERSK TANKER PUSHED INTO WINDFARMS BY STORM EUNICE

Feb 19 - Bulk carrier DIAMOND SKY, anchored at Vandelaar Anchorage, North sea, west of Zeebrugge, dragged anchor in Eunice storm in the afternoon Feb 18, and drifted through windfarm mine fields, situated west of Vlissingen, Netherlands – Belgium offshore. By some miracle, the ship didn't collided with windmills. As of 0812 UTC Feb 19, she was still at anchor, stuck between windmills. The Maritime Bulletin / [Read more](#)

NORTH SEA: 26 CONTAINERS LOST BY 6,500 CONTAINER SHIP IN STORMY SEA

Feb 19 - Container ship MARCOS V being caught in storm Eunice, lost at least 26 containers, all reportedly empty FEU, in North sea NNW of Frisian islands, Netherlands, at night Feb 18 (according to track), and reporting loss in the morning Feb 19. The ship was sailing south en route to Rotterdam, she has been changing destinations at least 2 times since leaving Bremerhaven on Feb 13, cruising or being anchored in North sea, between UK and mainland. Last destination was Rotterdam, probably after containers loss. She berthed at Rotterdam at around 1200 UTC Feb 19. Dutch CG started a search for lost containers, none were found as of morning Feb 19. The Maritime Bulletin / [Read more](#)

ATLANTIC: MOL CAR CARRIER ON FIRE, ABANDONED

Feb 20 - MOL Ship Management (Singapore) wishes to update the situation regarding the Felicity Ace, car carrier, which is assumed to remain on fire south of the Azores currently drifting away from the islands. A local patrol boat has arrived on scene with the initial salvage team.

Two large tugs with firefighting equipment have been arranged to support the vessel, one of which will arrive from Gibraltar with ETA February 20th. A second tug, also from Gibraltar is scheduled to arrive on scene with ETA February 21st. In addition a salvage craft with firefighting equipment is set to arrive from Rotterdam with ETA February 23/24.

Currently there is no oil leakage confirmed from the vessel, which remains stable. The Maritime Bulletin / [Read more](#)

INFORMATION FOR ISCO MEMBERS AND OTHER READERS

In the Maritime Bulletin, Mikhail Voytenko regularly advises on vessel abandonments, groundings and sinkings – several every week – but, unless there is an immediate and significant release of oil or chemicals, spillages are not reported. However many of Mikhail's reports cover incidents that may have potential to cause pollution.

To view all of his reports, visit <https://www.maritimebulletin.net/>

ANNOUNCING NEW DEVELOPMENTS, PRODUCTS & SERVICES

Disseminating news about new technical developments is of value to our community.

Corporate Members are invited to contribute articles.

Corporate Members of ISCO can benefit from submitting news about new products and services in the “News from ISCO Members” section of the ISCO Newsletter.

This is a free facility for Members. Given that the ISCO Newsletter has a large and highly targeted readership in over 60 countries, it's a cost-effective way to promote your company.

Because the ISCO Newsletter is initially prepared as a Word document it's essential that text and photographs submitted can be easily copied and pasted into the preliminary draft of the newsletter.

Please note that submissions must also comply with ISCO's editorial policy.

1. The Editor has sole discretion over what is accepted for publication
2. The Editor reserves the right to edit press releases
3. Information in press releases must be factual and free from sales hype and exaggerated claims
4. Subject matter of press releases must be relevant to the interests of the spill response community
5. Space availability for printing press releases is limited and they should be kept short
6. If a press release is too long only part of it will be printed but a link can be included for downloading its entirety
7. Links for downloading additional information or viewing video material can be included
8. Submitted photographs and other images must be freely available for publication by ISCO.
9. Depending on space availability press releases may be included in the next newsletter or held over for inclusion in a later issue.

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