



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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- Mr John Wardrop (Australia)
- Mr Marc Shaye (USA)
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**SEASON'S GREETINGS
TO ALL OUR READERS**



HEADLINE INTERNATIONAL NEWS

UN BIODIVERSITY CONFERENCE (COP 15)

7-19 December 2022 in Montreal, Canada, governments from around the world will come together to agree on a new set of goals to guide global action through 2030 to halt and reverse nature loss.

Nature is critical to meeting the Sustainable Development Goals and limiting global warming to 1.5 degrees.

Adoption of a bold global biodiversity framework that addresses the key drivers of nature loss is needed to secure our own health and well-being alongside that of the planet.

What needs to happen at COP 15:

- Adoption of an equitable and comprehensive framework matched by the resources needed for implementation
- Clear targets to address overexploitation, pollution, fragmentation and unsustainable agricultural practices
- A plan that safeguards the rights of indigenous peoples and recognizes their contributions as stewards of nature
- Finance for biodiversity and alignment of financial flows with nature to drive finances toward sustainable investments and away from environmentally harmful ones [UNEP / Read more](#)

“In delivering on biodiversity, we deliver on climate, on pollution, on the UN Decade of Ecosystem Restoration, and on the food and energy system transformation. So let us ensure that this COP will be remembered as the moment we finally set our societies and economies on the path to rebuilding the biodiversity upon which we all rely”.

- Inger Andersen - UN Under-Secretary-General and UNEP Executive Director.

COP15 explained: What is the biodiversity conference and why is it important? [NHM / Read more](#)

ISCO AMBASSADORS

(Members with special responsibilities in specified geographical areas)

Carlos Sagrera Latin America (Spanish speaking)
Matthew Sommerville UK London
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ISCO NEWS

ISCO NEWS

IMO MARINE ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE MEETING

The MEPC Meeting takes place in London from 12th to 16th December. ISCO attendees will include Matthew Sommerville, Dan Sheehan and Mary Ann Dalgleish. If available in time, a report will be published in next week's newsletter.

PUBLICATION OF THE ISCO NEWSLETTER

Your Editor is taking a two week holiday. The next issue (No. 869) will be the last one for this year. Publication will resume on 9th January 2013 with issue 870.

INTERNATIONAL & REGIONAL NEWS

OSPAR SEEKS STAKEHOLDER VIEWS ON PROPOSED EXPANSION TO THE NORTH ATLANTIC CURRENT AND EVLANOV SEA BASIN MARINE PROTECTED AREA

December 2 - OSPAR seeks stakeholder views on proposed expansion to the North Atlantic Current and Evlanov Sea basin Marine Protected Area (NACES MPA)

The OSPAR Commission for the protection of the marine environment of the North-East Atlantic (OSPAR) adopted the NACES MPA for seabirds in 2021. OSPAR is now seeking views on whether to extend the NACES MPA to cover the seabed and other species and habitats. OSPAR / [Read more](#)

IPIECA: PRE-COP15 INTERVIEW WITH STEVEN DICKINSON

December 6 - From 7 to 19 December world leaders will gather in Montreal at the UN Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) COP15 to ratify the Global Biodiversity Framework (GBF). Ipieca-IOGP Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (BES) Working Group Chair Steven Dickinson (TotalEnergies) discusses the importance of landing an ambitious GBF and the role of Ipieca and the industry in supporting its aims.

IPIECA / [Read the short interview with Steven Dickinson](#)

IMO: GLOLITTER LATIN AMERICA AND CARIBBEAN REGIONAL TASK FORCE MEETING UNDERWAY

December 7 - A Regional Task Force meeting in Costa Rica is taking place as part of the [GloLitter Partnerships](#) project to reduce marine plastic litter from maritime transport and the fishing sector.

The event in San Jose (6-9 December) is a chance for Latin American and Caribbean participants to explore twinning opportunities to address marine plastic litter originating from shipping and fisheries in their region.

The host, Costa Rica, is a GloLitter Lead Partner Country (LPC) and is joined at the meeting by Jamaica, also a GloLitter LPC, along with Nicaragua and Panama, the project's Partner Countries (PCs). The event is organized in partnership with IMO's Technical Cooperation Division (TCD) through the Central American Commission on Maritime Transport (COCATRAM). Co-sponsors of the event are the Government of Norway (NORAD), Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, and IMO TCD. IMO / [Read more](#)

IMO: MARINE ENVIRONMENT PROTECTION COMMITTEE (MEPC) – 79TH SESSION, 12-16 DECEMBER 2022

The Marine Environment Protection Committee (MEPC) - 79th session will meet in-person session (with hybrid participation) from 12-16 December 2022.

Agenda highlights include –

- Adoption of mandatory MARPOL amendments
- Tackling climate change - cutting GHG emissions from ships
- Energy efficiency of ships
- Air pollution prevention
- Ballast water management

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INTERNATIONAL & REGIONAL NEWS (CONTINUED)

- Particularly Sensitive Sea Areas
- Designating Mediterranean Sea as an Emission Control Area for Sulphur Oxides
- Mandatory garbage record books for smaller ships
- Strategy to address marine plastic litter from ships
- Capacity building to address marine plastic litter from ships
- Protecting seas in the Arctic - arrangements for port reception facilities
- Fuel flashpoint in bunker delivery note – amendments
- Tackling climate change - cutting GHG emissions from ships
- Revision of the initial IMO GHG Strategy
- Mid-term measures including possible technical and economic measures
- Impact assessments of candidate measures
- Lifecycle GHG assessment guidelines
- Proposals related to onboard CO2 capture
- Revision of the IMO Fuel Consumption Monitoring Data Collection System
- Designation of a particular sensitive sea area in the North-Western Mediterranean Sea to protect cetaceans from international shipping

Work Programme proposals –

- Proposal for a new output for the revision of MARPOL Annex II in order to improve the effectiveness of cargo tank stripping, tank washing operations and prewash procedures for products with a high melting point and/or high viscosity.

- Proposal for a new output to amend the Revised guidelines and specifications for pollution prevention equipment for machinery space bilges of ships (resolution MEPC.107(49)).

Working groups – The MEPC is expected to establish the following groups:

- Drafting Group on Amendments to Mandatory Instruments
- Technical Group on Designation of PSSA
- Ballast Water Review Group
- Working Group on Air Pollution and Energy Efficiency
- Working Group on Reduction of GHG emissions from ships

Timetable and agenda - See Agenda MEPC 79/1/1 which includes the proposed timetable: docs.imo.org/

Opening/Chair -

The meeting will be opened by IMO Secretary-General Kitack Lim and will be chaired by Mr. Harry Conway (Liberia).

An election will be held for the Chair and Vice-Chair for 2023. IMO / [See more detailed info on the Agenda](#)

IOPC FUNDS - PRESENTATION TO THE POLLUTION SUB-COMMITTEE OF THE INTERNATIONAL GROUP OF P&I ASSOCIATIONS



December 7 - The IOPC Funds were delighted to present to the members of the International Group of P&I Associations Pollution Sub-Committee on the occasion of its autumn meeting on Wednesday 7 December 2022.

The Committee is one of many established by the International Group to examine on behalf of the membership of the clubs in the Group, the impact of problems which are common to all shipowners IOPC Funds / [Read more](#)

IOPC FUNDS - 15-YEAR ANNIVERSARY AND CLOSURE OF THE HEBEI SPIRIT INCIDENT

December 7 - Fifteen years ago, on 7 December 2007, the Hong Kong-registered tanker Hebei Spirit (146 848 GT) was struck by a crane barge while at anchor about five nautical miles off Taean on the west coast of the Republic of Korea. As reported to the IOPC Funds governing bodies in October 2022, all outstanding claims arising from the Hebei Spirit incident have been settled, all corresponding legal actions have been withdrawn and the incident is now considered closed by the IOPC Funds.

At the time of the incident, the tanker was almost fully laden with around 209 000 tonnes of four different crude oils and, as a result of the collision, a total of 10 900 tonnes of oil escaped into the sea, polluting to varying degrees the west coast of the Republic of Korea and leading to over 128 000 claims for compensation being submitted. IOPC Funds / [Read more](#)

UNEP: STRENGTHENING GLOBAL DIALOGUE THROUGH THE SUSTAINABLE OCEAN INITIATIVE



Above: Participants in the 3rd Meeting of the Sustainable Ocean Initiative Global Dialogue in Busan, Republic of Korea. Photo courtesy of UNEP/Sustainable Ocean Initiative

December 8 - From 25 – 28 October 2022, the Cartagena Convention Secretariat participated in the Third meeting of the Sustainable Ocean Initiative (SOI) Global Dialogue with Regional Seas Organizations and Regional Fishery Bodies. Participants comprised representatives of regional seas organizations (RSOs), regional fishery bodies (RFBs), other global and regional organizations and initiatives, national governments and non-governmental organizations. The event was held in Busan, Republic of Korea under the theme “Forging a new era of regional leadership in the post-2020 world”.

The meeting focused on specific timely issues of relevance, including other effective area-based conservation measures, as well as issues related to the post-2020 global biodiversity framework, an international legally binding instrument under the UN Convention on the Law of the Sea on the conservation and sustainable use of marine biological diversity of areas beyond national jurisdiction (ABNJ), and an international legally binding instrument on plastic pollution, all of which are presently still under development in their respective processes and not yet finalized. The meeting also considered these issues in the context of the four thematic areas of focus of the SOI Global Dialogue: (i) ecosystem approach/ecosystem-based management, (ii) area-based management tools, (iii) reducing and mitigating the impacts of pollution, and (iv) monitoring, assessment and information-sharing. UNEP / [Read more](#)

NEWS REPORTS FROM AROUND THE WORLD

Editor: Many of these reports are gleaned from news provided on the websites of Environment Agencies and other national organisations, some of which are not being well maintained. ISCO does not have the resources to monitor multiple social media platforms. Your editor is grateful to those organisations that directly send him their national news reports of interest to the spill response community.

AUSTRALIA: AMSA CEO ATTENDS 128TH SESSION OF THE IMO COUNCIL IN LONDON



December 8 - Last week AMSA CEO Mick Kinley attended the 128th session of the International Maritime Organization (IMO) Council in London as the Head of the Australian Delegation.

Australia has been a member of the IMO council for the last 37 years and we take our role very seriously. We are committed to ensuring the IMO can meet the challenges arising from emerging technologies, expanding global trade and environmental changes.

While in London the CEO met several female leaders in the maritime industry, including President of the World Maritime University [Dr. Cleopatra Dombia-Henry](#) and Principal Secretary, State Department for Shipping and Maritime of Kenya [Nancy Karigithu](#) — both women of great calibre who continue to make a significant contribution to maritime. Learn more about [Australia’s contribution at the IMO and claims to category b of the IMO council](#). AMSA / [Read more](#)

CANADA: GOVERNMENT LAUNCHES CALL FOR PROPOSALS FOR THE MULTI-PARTNER RESEARCH INITIATIVE

December 5 - Today, the Honourable Jonathan Wilkinson, Minister of Natural Resources, launched an open call for proposals through the renewed Multi-Partner Research Initiative (MPRI) to support oil spill response science and research projects across Canada and abroad. Over the next five years, the initiative will provide \$20.3 million in contribution funding to selected proposals.

The renewed MPRI is part of the next phase of the Oceans Protection Plan. Investments announced today will support collaboration among leading experts to improve our understanding of oil spill response in offshore, coastal and onshore environments. Activities under the initiative also aim to improve oil spill response technologies and their efficacy to ensure that Canada is well equipped to make informed decisions that minimize the environmental impacts of oil spills and enhance habitat recovery. More information on eligibility and how to apply can be found on the MPRI call for proposals webpage. Yahoo Finance / [Read more](#)

CANADA & USA: COAST GUARDS RENEW POLLUTION CONTINGENCY PLAN

Photo: Mario Pelletier, Commissioner of the Canadian Coast Guard and Admiral Linda Fagan, Commandant, United States Coast Guard signing the renewed Canada-United States Joint Marine Pollution Contingency Plan. (Photo: U.S. Coast Guard)



December 6 - On November 19, 2022, Canadian Coast Guard Commissioner Mario Pelletier and U.S. Coast Guard Commandant Admiral Linda L. Fagan signed the renewed Canada-United States Joint Marine Pollution Contingency Plan to provide a coordinated system for planning, preparedness and response to spills occurring in the waters between the two countries.

The Joint Marine Pollution Contingency Plan provides a coordinated mechanism for planning, preparing for and responding to spills in transboundary waters and establishes procedures for the coordination of spill response efforts between Canada and the U.S. It allows both coast guards to work together to mitigate any potential pollution impacts on the marine environment. Marine Link / [Read more](#)

NIGERIA: CLEAN NIGERIA ASSOCIATES COMMISSIONS ITS FIRST OFFICE IN WARRI



December - CNA was able to commission its first office building in Warri during the year to better serve our members, which was one of the most significant achievements for 2022.

The CNA Board Chairman's (Mrs Azuka Eluchie Fca) representative was present to commission the new building in the photo.

Photo courtesy of CNA

<https://www.cleannigeria.org/>

NIGERIA : Ogoni Clean-up: FG Achieves Remediation of 635 Hectares of Contaminated Shorelines

December 8 - The Minister of Environment, Mr Mohammed Abdullahi, spoke at a "Scorecard, PMB-Administration" event, organised by the Ministry of Information and Culture, on Wednesday in Abuja. Abdullah said that the ministry had set up a Hydrocarbon Pollution Remediation Project (HYPREP) to ensure security and promote peace building efforts in impacted communities. He said that the aim of the HYPREP was also to enhance local capacity for better environmental management, promote awareness of sound environmental management, ensure livelihoods and sustainable development. National Accord / [Read more](#)

PANAMA DECLARES CANDIDATE FOR NEXT IMO SECRETARY-GENERAL

December 5 - With Kitack Lim beginning the last year of his second term as Secretary-General of the International Maritime Organization, the Republic of Panama through the Panama Maritime Authority (AMP) became the first to officially declare a candidate as his successor. Panama announced that it will support its member and the current director of the Marine Environment Division, Arsenio Domínguez, to become the ninth elected Secretary General of the IMO with the term beginning January 1, 2024
The Maritime Executive / [Read more](#)

UK: ABP COMPLETES ITS ANNUAL HUMBER OIL SPILL INCIDENT MANAGEMENT EXERCISE

December 5 - Associated British Ports (ABP), in partnership with cross sector stakeholders, successfully completed its annual Humber Oil Spill Incident Management Exercise (HUMEX) during November, according to ABP's release.

The exercise works to test the processes involved in managing an oil spill within the Humber. ABP is the Statutory and Competent Harbour Authority for the Humber Estuary and is responsible for ensuring the safety of marine operations within the ports and estuary. As part of its duty of care to the Humber, each year ABP Humber conduct an Incident Management Exercise to test the Oil Spill Contingency Plan "Humber Clean". Port News / [Read more](#)

UK: PLASTIC-ALTERNATIVE DEVELOPER AMONG £1M EARTHSHOT PRIZE WINNERS

December 2 - A UK firm that makes packaging from seaweed has been named as one of the £1m winners of Prince William's Earthshot climate prize.

The alternative to plastic was developed by London startup Notpla. The firm was founded by Rodrigo Garcia Gonzalez and Pierre Paslier while they were students at Imperial College London and the Royal College of Art. BBC News / [Read more](#)

USA: WEEKLY ROUND-UP OF NEWS & INFORMATION FROM NOAA OR&R

December 5 – Please click on the links below to download and read the latest news reports from NOAA OR&R

[NOAA, Partners Exercise a Worst-Case Discharge in Anacortes, Washington](#)



Above: The exercise Incident Command System in action. Image credit: NOAA/LTJG Eben Smith.

In early October, NOAA OR&R scientists participated in a functional tabletop exercise in Anacortes, Washington. The purpose of the exercise was to demonstrate the capability of the oil industry and other agencies working together to develop an oil spill response plan that is used to minimize and mitigate the impacts of an oil spill

[Celebrating Five Years of Improving Preparedness, Response, and Recovery](#)

The Office of Response and Restoration Disaster Preparedness Program serves a vital role for the National Ocean Service's preparedness and continuity of operations planning. This November, the program celebrated a major milestone — five years of preparing partners and communities to respond to and recover from disasters. Their work is growing in importance and demand as coastal disasters become more frequent and severe.

[New Publication on Discounting in Natural Resource Damage Assessment](#)

On Nov. 22 2022, the [Journal of Benefit Cost Analysis\(link is external\)](#) published "Discounting in Natural Resource Damage Assessment(link is external) " by OR&R's economists Cameron Duff, Chris Giguere, and Jason Murray, and co-authors from Industrial Economics and the University of Wisconsin.

NEWS REPORTS FROM AROUND THE WORLD (CONTINUED)

Workshop Report on Preparing for Oil Spill Impacts to Dolphins Now Available

On Feb.15-16, 2022, the Coastal Response Research Center and NOAA's Office of Response and Restoration co-sponsored a virtual workshop entitled "Greater Houston Area Bottlenose Dolphin Data Gaps."

Virtual Seminar Highlights Statewide Coordination on Preventing Marine Debris

On Nov. 17, the NOAA Marine Debris Program coordinated and presented at the bi-annual California Ocean Litter Prevention Strategy webinar. The webinar brought together over 80 partners across the state and included a diverse set of sectors including state agencies, nonprofits, policy-makers, and academia.

National Academies Report about Oil in the Sea Available in Pre-Publication Release

In late September 2022, the National Academies of Science, Engineering and Medicine (NASEM) released a pre-publication version of Oil in the Sea IV: Inputs, Fate and Effects.

OR&R Participates in 2022 Clean Gulf Conference

The Office of Response and Restoration attended the 2022 Clean Gulf Conference in New Orleans from Nov. 8-10, with representation from the director, senior scientist, scientific support coordinators and scientists, and Assessment and Restoration staff.

OR&R Scientists Prepare for Oil Spills on Beaches by Sampling Porewater

On Nov. 3, scientists from the Southeast region in OR&R's Assessment & Restoration Division prepared to assess oil spill impacts on beaches by testing a beach porewater sampling protocol.

OR&R Scientists Share Experiences and Expertise with Students

OR&R scientists hosted a booth at the "Scientist at Sea Research Symposium" put on by local Eckerd College to showcase student research.

USA: CHANGES TO TRI REPORTING REQUIREMENTS FOR PER- AND POLYFLUOROALKYL SUBSTANCES AND TO SUPPLIER NOTIFICATIONS FOR CHEMICALS OF SPECIAL CONCERN

December 5 - EPA is proposing to add per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) subject to reporting under the Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act (EPCRA) and the Pollution Prevention Act (PPA) pursuant to the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2020 (NDAA) to the list of Lower Thresholds for Chemicals of Special Concern (chemicals of special concern).

The addition of these PFAS to the list of chemicals of special concern would cause such PFAS to be subject to the same reporting requirements as other chemicals of special concern. It would eliminate the use of the de minimis exemption, the option for facilities to use the reporting Form A, and would limit the use of range reporting for PFAS. EPA / [Read more](#)

USA: EPA ISSUES GUIDANCE TO STATES TO REDUCE HARMFUL PFAS POLLUTION

December 6 - Today, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) released a memorandum to states that provides direction on how to use the nation's bedrock clean water permitting program to protect against per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS). The guidance released today, which outlines how states can monitor for PFAS discharges and take steps to reduce them where they are detected, is part of the Agency's holistic approach to addressing these harmful forever chemicals under EPA's [PFAS Strategic Roadmap](#).

This action is a critical step in EPA's efforts to restrict PFAS at their source, which will reduce the levels of PFAS entering wastewater and stormwater systems and ultimately lower people's exposure to PFAS through swimming, fishing, drinking and other pathways. EPA / [Read more](#)

PEOPLE IN THE NEWS

GABINO GONZALEZ TAKES UP NEW POSITION AS DEPUTY COORDINATOR AT UNEP/MAP



Gabino has advised "I'm honored to share that I'm starting a new position as Deputy Coordinator at UNEP/MAP-Barcelona Convention, after over 16 years at the Regional Marine Pollution Emergency Response" He has over 21 years of international experience, including 19 years in three regional implementing bodies governed by the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and the International Maritime Organization (IMO). His background combines a thorough knowledge of IMO Conventions related to prevention, preparedness, and response to marine pollution, research and development, scientific survey, chemical quality control, oil spill response operations, regional emergency coordination, advocacy, capacity building, development of regional and international technical guidelines and training material.

CONGRATULATIONS TO MOIG DIRECTOR, HOUCINE MEJRI, ON ENGINEERING AWARD

Houcine, who held the grade of Engineer Senior has been elevated to Expert Grade. Houcine has a master Degree in Geology applied to Environment from the Science Faculty of Tunis-Tunisia. He started his professional Career in ETAP Laboratories in 1995 as a chemical Engineer in fluid analysis.

Houcine is Director of the Mediterranean Oil Industry Group, a voluntary non-profit making association of petroleum enterprises formed to promote continual improvement of oil spill response capabilities of the Mediterranean through mutual regional cooperation. It was initiated by the IPIECA, following a joint IMO/IPIECA seminar. The Mediterranean Oil Industry Group (MOIG) is an Industry Partner of ISCO.



BSEE ANNOUNCES 2022 INSPECTOR OF THE YEAR



The Bureau of Safety and Environmental Enforcement has named Jason Bowens, a member of the Production Operations Inspection Unit for the New Orleans District, as the recipient of the fiscal year 2022 Inspector of the Year award.

The Inspector of the Year program is BSEE's highest level of recognition program for its inspectors, who travel offshore daily to inspect platforms, rigs, drillships, and other offshore energy facilities. The award is presented annually to the inspector who demonstrates the highest level of accomplishment in performing BSEE's mission. It specifically recognizes an inspector's extraordinary achievements and performance to ensure the safety and protection of human, marine, and coastal environments on the Outer Continental Shelf.

OBITUARY

DR MANIK SARDESSAI - SAD NEWS JUST RECEIVED FROM CHARLES USHER OF MPC IN DETROIT, USA



"It is with is with great sadness that I must inform you that our dear friend, colleague, and mentor Dr. Manik Sardesai passed away early this morning. He was at lunch with his Brother and family in India when he had a sudden and fatal heart attack.

For those of you who did not know Manik he was part of our MPC family for at least 30 years. He was very close to my heart and my Father's. We loved him dearly. He was my "Manik Uncle".

I can honestly say that he was one of the best people I have and will ever know. MPC would not be the company that it is without his many years of truly dedicated service and love of the company.

He taught us so many things, most of all how to be a good, kind and loving person. His example has and will always be a guiding light in my life".

Dr. Manik Sardesai served as a Vice President of Technical and Environmental Affairs and Director of Training for Detroit, Michigan USA based Marine Pollution Control (MPC) Corporation. He was responsible for both in-house and client training programs, including development and oversight of all course content and compliance with applicable local, state and federal regulations and instruction in Hazardous Waste Operations and Emergency Response (HazWoper, CFR 1910.120) courses, DOT, Incident Command Systems (ICS), and Chemistry classes. As a Faculty, he taught both undergraduate and graduate level courses at Wayne State University, U.S.A. and University of Saskatchewan, Canada. At MPC, he was responsible for all elements of Corporate Health and Safety Program, including the development and enforcement of Site-Specific Health and Safety in support of emergency operations and scheduled projects. He provided Technical Advice on Chemicals; use, handling, recovery, transport, remedial procedures and actions, and supervision during emergency response involving chemicals. He also developed compliance policies and related Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs).

OBITUARY (CONTINUED)

Dr. Sardesai's education included a Master of Science degree from Bombay University and a Ph.D. in Chemistry (Pharm.) from Wayne State University, USA. He was trained in nuclear, biological and chemical response at US Army School, Fort McClellan, Alabama. He published over thirty publications in reputed journals and delivered invited presentations both nationally and internationally. He was a member of the technical Support Team, Wayne County Emergency Management in Michigan and was a member of Chemical Transportation Advisory Committee (CTAC) (USCG, USA).

The ISCO team extends its sincere condolences to Manik's family and to all his colleagues and friends at MPC. For ISCO Manik acted as Member of Council for the USA. During the Deepwater Horizon oil spill he acted as liaison between the Incident Command and ISCO's Emergency Response Assistance Facility.

NEWS FROM ISCO MEMBERS

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

FROM ISCO CORPORATE MEMBER, PACIFIC TOWING IN PAPUA NEW GUINEA - 'PNG BETTER PREPARED FOR OIL SPILL DISASTER'



Above: Pacific Towing's ASD tug Waiowa (4,300 BHP and 57 Tonne BP) and her crew were responsible for deploying oil spill booms in the NMSA led National Oil Spill Response Exercise in Port Moresby's Fairfax Harbour. Photo courtesy of Pacific Towing.

Papua New Guinea is better equipped to respond to a major maritime incident resulting in a significant oil spill following a national oil spill response exercise in Port Moresby's Fairfax Harbour. PNG's National Maritime Safety Authority (NMSA) in cooperation with Oil Spill Response Ltd from Singapore led the exercise in November.

NMSA Executive Manager Maritime Operations, Captain Krzysztof Orłowski described the hypothetical disaster at the centre of the exercise: "A container vessel proceeding to Motukea Wharf in Port Moresby experienced black out, temporarily lost control of the steering, and collided with bulk carrier MV Kumul Arrow anchored in Fairfax Harbour. The impact of collision led to damage of the MV Kumul Arrow's hull and spillage of 1,000 tonnes of Heavy Fuel Oil (HFO) from her fuel tank. One crew of the MV Kumul Arrow suffered a head injury and required immediate medivac ashore."

Partnering with NMSA and Oil Spill Ltd in the exercise were, PNG MRCC, French Navy Ship D'Entrecasteaux, MV Kumul Arrow (chartered by Ok Tedi Mining), PNG Ports VTS, AES, St Johns Ambulance, Pacific Towing, and Puma Energy.

Captain Orłowski confirmed that the exercise was a great success with all participating entities working well together. He acknowledged the value of the theoretical training that had been conducted beforehand in terms of preparing everyone for the demands of the actual exercise, as well as the "professionalism and enthusiasm" of all participants. Captain Orłowski also confirmed that additional oil spill response exercises will be planned and budgeted for 2023.

One of the exercise participants, Gerard Kasnari, Marine Operations Manager – Pacific Towing, commented on the oil spill exercise saying that "both the theoretical and practical training were valuable in improving participants' understanding of the different

NEWS FROM ISCO MEMBERS (CONTINUED)

response techniques, and enhanced their appreciation of all aspects of oil spill response. As a result, I believe that we're collectively much better prepared to handle a major spill here in PNG."

The 'Oil Spill Clearance – On Scene Commander (IMO Level 2 Equivalent)' training was conducted by Oil Spill Response Ltd and was certified by the UK Maritime and Coastguard Agency. [Thanks to Linda Van Leeuwen] www.pacifictowingmarineservices.com

SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

If you are interested in new technology you may find it useful to visit Technology Innovation News Survey at <https://clu-in.org/products/tins/> and Tech Direct at <https://clu-in.org/techdirect/archive/>

LEACHED CHEMICALS FROM PLASTIC POLLUTION KILL KEY MARINE MICROBES: STUDY

A new study has found that the chemicals that leach into seawater from plastic waste can disrupt microbes that form an essential part of the marine food web. About 50 per cent of the Earth's oxygen is estimated to be produced by photosynthetic microbes in our oceans. Each year, about 9.5 million tonnes of plastic waste enters the oceans. Larger plastic items cause immense harm to marine wildlife that gets tangled up in them or eat the plastic by mistake. The degraded microplastics then end up in the marine food web.

"This study shows the chemicals that leach out of plastic can also disrupt the health of microbial ocean communities, harming the tiny life forms that we can't see but that play a vital role in the health of our oceans," says Macquarie University microbial ecologist Dr Sasha Tetu.

The latest study builds on earlier lab-based research at Macquarie University by Dr Tetu's group that showed that chemicals leaching from plastic were harmful to a single-organism community of *Prochlorococcus*, the most abundant plankton in the ocean.

Now, researchers have tested the effects of chemicals that leach from common plastics on a live ocean microbial community – and the news is concerning.

"Photosynthetic microorganisms were strongly affected - they showed significant decline in numbers, and also in their photosynthetic efficiency and their diversity." These photosynthetic marine microbes play a crucial ecosystem role, contributing to carbon cycling and oxygen production and supporting the marine food web, says Tetu. The Lighthouse / [Read more](#)

RECENT INTERESTING PEER-REVIEWED OIL SPILL PUBLICATIONS



A COLUMN CREATED BY DR. MERV FINGAS, MEMBER OF ISCO COUNCIL

This is part of a weekly column which provides the references and abstracts of new peer-reviewed scientific publications on oil spills. These references are selected on the basis of those papers that provide new insights into the fate, effects and control of oil spills. Readers may choose to obtain the full publications and to do so, one of three methods is suggested; contact your library, search the internet with the DOI (digital object identifier) provided, or search the internet for the exact title. These are given in the order of likely success in obtaining the article. Merv Fingas, ISCO Colleague.

220. Polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs) in mangrove ecosystems: A review

Robin, S.L., Marchand, C.
(2022) *Environmental Pollution*, 311, art. no. 119959,
DOI: 10.1016/j.envpol.2022.119959

ABSTRACT: Polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs) are organic pollutants of increasing concern in the different fields of the environment and human health. There are 16 of them that are recognized as priority pollutants by the US environmental protection agency due to their mutagenic and carcinogenic potentials. Due to their hydrophobicity and stability, they are persistent in the environment and can be transported over long distances. Their toxicological effects on multiple species, including humans, as well as their bioaccumulation in the food web became major topics in organic pollutants research this last decade. In the environment, multiple studies have been conducted on their accumulation in the soil and their degradation processes resulting in numerous review papers. However, the dynamics of PAHs in mangrove ecosystems is not yet completely understood. In this review paper, an exhaustive presentation of what is known about PAHs and their transfer, accumulation, and degradation in mangrove ecosystems is offered. This article brings to light the knowledge already acquired on the subject and the perspective research necessary to fully comprehend PAHs dynamics in mangrove ecosystems.

221. Light to intermediate oil sheens increase Manx shearwater feather permeability

Murphy, E., Jessopp, M., Darby, J.
(2022) *Royal Society Open Science*, 9 (10), art. no. 220488, 08aa84255be96ffba
DOI: 10.1098/rsos.220488

ABSTRACT: Oil pollution has profound negative impacts on the marine environment, with seabirds particularly vulnerable to oiling, due to the amount of time spent on the sea surface foraging or resting. Exposure to oil can affect feather structure and influence

waterproofing, buoyancy and thermoregulation. We investigated the effects of surface crude oil on the feather structure of Manx shearwaters (*Puffinus puffinus*), a seabird species that spends a high proportion of time on the water surface. Sampled body contour feathers were exposed to varying thicknesses of surface crude oil before assessing their resistance to water permeation, increase in mass and clumping of feather barbules. Surface oil as thin as 0.1 μm was enough to increase feather permeability, while greatest impacts on permeability were caused by exposure to dark colour surface sheens 3 μm in thickness. Increases in feather mass of up to 1000% were noted in heavy oiling scenarios due to contact with thicker oil slicks, which may significantly affect wing loading and energetic expenditure.

222. Bioaccumulation and toxicokinetics of polycyclic aromatic compounds and metals in giant floater mussels (*Pyganodon grandis*) exposed to a simulated diluted bitumen spill

Séguin, J.Y., Mason, J., Hanson, M.L., Hollebone, B.P., Orihel, D.M., Palace, V.P., Rodriguez-Gil, J.L., Blais, J.M.
(2022) *Aquatic Toxicology*, 252, art. no. 106316,
DOI: 10.1016/j.aquatox.2022.106316

ABSTRACT: Oil spills constitute a major risk to the environment and the bioaccumulation potential of the derived oil constituents will influence their impact on aquatic biota. Here we determined the bioaccumulation potential and toxicokinetic parameters of polycyclic aromatic compounds (PACs) and various selected metals in the giant floater mussels (*Pyganodon grandis*) following experimental oil spills in a freshwater lake. Specifically, these mussels were exposed *ex situ* for 25 days to water contaminated with naturally weathered diluted bitumen (dilbit), a form of oil commonly transported through pipelines. We detected greater concentrations of total PAC in mussels (ΣPAC_{44}) exposed to dilbit-contaminated water (25.92–27.79 $\mu\text{g g}^{-1}$ lipid, $n = 9$, at day 25 of the uptake phase) compared to mussels from a control with no exposure to dilbit (average of $2.62 \pm 1.95 \mu\text{g g}^{-1}$ lipid; $\pm\text{SD}$, $n = 17$). This study demonstrates the importance of including alkylated PACs when assessing the impacts of an oil spill as the concentration of alkylated PACs in mussel tissue were an order of magnitude higher than their parent counterparts. However, metal accumulation in dilbit-exposed mussels did not exceed the unexposed controls, suggesting no excess metal accumulation by mussels from a 25-day dilbit exposure. From first-order one-compartment models, mean uptake rate constants (0.78–18.11 $\text{L g}^{-1} \text{day}^{-1}$, $n = 29$) and bioconcentration factors (log values from 4.02 to 5.92 L kg^{-1} , $n = 87$) for the 29 individual PACs that accumulated in mussels demonstrated that some alkylated PACs had greater bioaccumulation potential compared to their parent PAC counterpart but for the most part, alkylated and parent PACs had comparable BCF values. Results from this study also demonstrated that giant floater mussels could be used to biomonitor PAC contamination following oil spills as PACs accumulated in mussel tissue and some were still detectable following the 16-day depuration phase. This study provides the largest, most comprehensive set of toxicokinetic and bioaccumulation parameters for PACs and their alkylated counterparts (44 analytes) in freshwater mussels obtained to date.

223. Environmental DNA-based profiling of benthic bacterial and eukaryote communities along a crude oil spill gradient in a coral reef in the Persian Gulf

Oladi, M., Leontidou, K., Stoeck, T., Shokri, M.R.
(2022) *Marine Pollution Bulletin*, 184, art. no. 114143,
DOI: 10.1016/j.marpolbul.2022.114143

ABSTRACT: Coral reef ecosystems in the Persian Gulf are frequently exposed to crude oil spills. We investigated benthic bacterial and eukaryote community structures at such coral reef sites subjected to different degrees of polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbon (PAH) pollution using environmental DNA (eDNA) metabarcoding. Both bacterial and eukaryote communities responded with pronounced shifts to crude oil pollution and distinguished control sites, moderately and heavily impacted sites with significant confidentiality. The observed community patterns were predominantly driven by Alphaproteobacteria and metazoans. Among these, we identified individual genera that were previously linked to oil spill stress, but also taxa, for which a link to hydrocarbon still remains to be established. Considering the lack of an early-warning system for the environmental status of coral reef ecosystems exposed to frequent crude-oil spills, our results encourage further research towards the development of an eDNA-based biomonitoring tool that exploits benthic bacterial and eukaryote communities as bioindicators.

224. The association between oil spill cleanup-related total hydrocarbon exposure and diabetes

Jardel, H.V., Engel, L.S., Lawrence, K.G., Stewart, P.A., Stenzel, M.R., Curry, M.D., Kwok, R.K., Sandler, D.P.
(2022) *Environmental Research*, 212, art. no. 113591,
DOI: 10.1016/j.envres.2022.113591

ABSTRACT: Background: Although evidence suggests relationships between some crude oil components and glycemic dysregulation, no studies have examined oil spill-related chemical exposures in relation to type 2 diabetes mellitus (DM) risk. This study examined the relationship between total hydrocarbon (THC) exposure among workers involved in the 2010 Deepwater Horizon (DWH) oil spill and risk of DM up to 6 years afterward. Methods: Participants comprised 2660 oil-spill cleanup or response workers in the prospective Gulf Study who completed a clinical exam and had no self-reported DM diagnosis prior to the spill. Maximum THC exposure was estimated with a job-exposure matrix based on interview data and personal measurements taken during cleanup operations. We defined incident DM by self-reported physician diagnosis of DM, antidiabetic medication use, or a measured hemoglobin A1c value $\geq 6.5\%$. We used log binomial regression to estimate risk ratios (RRs) for DM across ordinal categories of THC exposure. The fully adjusted model controlled for age, sex, race/ethnicity, education, employment status, and health insurance status. We also stratified

RECENT INTERESTING PEER-REVIEWED OIL SPILL PUBLICATIONS (CONTINUED)

on clinical body mass index categories. Results: We observed an exposure-response relationship between maximum daily ordinal THC exposure level and incident DM, especially among overweight participants. RRs among overweight participants were 0.99 (95% CI: 0.37, 2.69), 1.46 (95% CI: 0.54, 3.92), and 2.11 (95% CI: 0.78, 5.74) for exposure categories 0.30–0.99 ppm, 1.00–2.99 ppm, and ≥ 3.00 ppm, respectively (ptrend = 0.03). Conclusion: We observed suggestively increasing DM risk with increasing THC exposure level among overweight participants, but not among normal weight or obese participants.

225 Chemical signatures of polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons in the emissions from in situ oil burns

Yin, F., Gao, C., Song, Z., Han, Y., He, Z., Zhang, L., Su, P., Feng, D., Yang, T., Fu, J.
(2022) Marine Pollution Bulletin, 184, art. no. 114194,
DOI: 10.1016/j.marpolbul.2022.114194

ABSTRACT: This study characterized the parent and alkylated polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs) in gaseous and particulate emissions from the in situ burning (ISB) of oils. The experimental results indicate that the burning of the heavy oil produced the most PAH emissions because of its longest burning time. In addition, the parent PAHs mainly exist in the particulate phase, while alkylated PAHs mostly accumulate in the gaseous phase. In particular, the diagnostic-ratios of PAHs with great stability in both gaseous and particulate emissions from ISB are identified by comparing the laboratory and field data. The presences of bell-, slope- and V-shaped distribution patterns of alkylated PAHs in the emissions precisely indicate their sources to be petrogenic and pyrogenic processes occurring during ISB. The formation of 2-methylanthracene during ISB is confirmed. The overall findings are expected to provide a prospective protocol to characterize PAH pollution from ISB emissions in case of oil spills.

TRAINING COURSES

USEFUL LINKS

- INTERNATIONAL – IMO E-LEARNING PLATFORM [e-learning platform](#)
- AUSTRALIA – AMOSC - <https://amosc.com.au/training/>
- AUSTRALIA & NEW ZEALAND – ALGA - <https://landandgroundwater.com>
- CHINA - <http://www.sioetc.com>
- EUROPE – EMSA Academy 2022. [Courses Catalogue](#)
- 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 <https://www.tamucc.edu/research/nscs/>
- USA – MPC, DETROIT - <https://marinepollutioncontrol.com/services/training-and-compliance>
- USA – ALLIANCE OF HAZARDOUS MATERIALS PROFESSIONALS - https://www.ahmpnet.org/events/event_list.asp

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

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Online, 12 weeks, Starts 15th March 2023 [Visit website for more info](#)

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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

NEWLY ADDED TO THE UPCOMING EVENTS PAGE

- IMO Marine Environment Protection Committee, London, 12-16 December 2022
- Webinar – Improving EPA’s Preparedness, Response & Assessment, 14th December, 2pm EST
- New Zealand – Webinar “Resource Management Reform” Thursday 15th December
- Norway – NOSCA Seminar 2023, Bodo, Norway, 20-24 March, 2023

UPCOMING EVENTS (CONTINUED)

- USA – Clean Waterways Conference & Exhibition, Denver CO, 11-13 April 2023
- European Maritime Day, Brest, France, 24-25 May, 2023
- Australia – SPILLCON 2023 Conference & Exhibition, 11-15 September 2023

RECENTLY ADDED TO THE UPCOMING EVENTS PAGE

- UK: Hazmat 2023 Conference, 24-25 May 2023

WHEN YOU OPEN THE UPCOMING EVENTS PAGE YOU WILL SEE MANY MORE UPCOMING EVENTS

MESSAGES FROM EVENT ORGANISERS

NORWAY: NOSCA SEMINAR 2023: MARCH 20-24, 2023

NOSCA will arrange the next NOSCA Seminar in week 12/23 (20-24.03.23) in Bodø/Norway. The seminar will focus on following topics:

Early warning, remote sensing technologies

Subsea dispersion

Experiences from recent incidents

Standardization project

Technology transfer: From traditional oil spill prevention to combat marine litter

Observation of OKEA's large scale exercise "Draugen".

Price: NOK 16.500 incl. hotel accommodations and all local transports. Please register by Dec 31, 2022 by using the link below (payment by Paypal) or send an email to info@nosca.no

Our main topic will be "Tomorrow's challenges and solutions within oil spill response". Beside of two conference days, the seminar participants will be able to observe the large scale exercise "D1H" which will be carried out by NOFO and OKEA. For more information and registration please read <https://www.nosca.no/nosca-seminar/>

USA: COLORADO - CLEAN WATERWAYS 2023: 11-13 APRIL, 2023

If you have leftover funds in your marketing budget from this year, use it to invest in your business for 2023 and secure participation at the CLEAN WATERWAYS Conference, April 11-13 in Denver, CO. We are accepting exhibit/ sponsorship applications and registration is open, with early bird discounts expiring at the end of January!

Clean Waterway takes place at the Hilton Denver City Center Hotel in Denver, CO, on April 11-13. [More News re conference & abstract submission](#) [Registration](#) [Introduction to the Planning Committee](#) [EXHIBIT SPACE AND SPONSORSHIPS ARE AVAILABLE](#) [Agenda](#).

CANADA: 45TH AMOP TECHNICAL SEMINAR ON ENVIRONMENTAL CONTAMINATION AND RESPONSE

The 45th AMOP Technical Seminar on Environmental Contamination and Response will take place from June 6 to 8, 2023 at the

Chateau Lacombe Hotel in Edmonton, Alberta, Canada. The Seminar provides a forum for professionals working in the field of oil and hazardous materials spills. The forum facilitates the transfer of scientific results and is intended to link research and the operational community. All submitted papers are peer-reviewed by scientific and technical experts.

The Technical Seminar features plenary sessions of 10- or 20-minute presentations on spill-related topics including Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear, and Explosives (CBRNE). Sessions will begin at 8:00 a.m. each day. The presentations are followed by a 5- or 10-minute question and answer period. Sessions may also conclude with Speaker's Corner presentations at which results of more recent research can be discussed without an associated paper. Government of Canada / [Seminar Information](#)

AUSTRALIA: BRISBANE - SPILLCON 2023: 11-15 SEPTEMBER 2023

Proudly organised by Australia's key government and industry agencies responsible for Australia's marine environmental protection arrangements, the Australian Institute of Petroleum (AIP) and the Australian Marine Oil Spill Centre (AMOSOC) invite you to attend the international oil spill conference for the Asia-Pacific region, Spillcon 2023. Spillcon 2023 will bring together local, regional and global environmental and shipping representatives across industry, government and non-government organisations to provide an avenue to discuss issues including causes and prevention, preparedness, response management and environmental issues.

Spillcon 2023 has been confirmed for 11 – 15 September 2023 at the Brisbane Convention and Exhibition Centre, Queensland, Australia. This website will be regularly updated with further information for sponsors, exhibitors and delegates.

<https://www.spillcon.com/>

CONTRACTS, TENDERS AND BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

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This is a subscription service. <https://www.tender247.com/keyword/oil+spill+tenders+global>

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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/archive/> and USA Federal Contracts Updates <https://clu-in.org/Federal-Contract-Opportunities> European Maritime Safety Agency invitations to tender are often posted in The EMSA Newsletter <https://www.emsa.europa.eu/newsroom/newsletters.html>

LINKS FOR DOWNLOADING AND READING OTHER PUBLICATIONS

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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. ISCO depends on regular receipt of updated URL links for listed publications. If these are not received, relevant entries will be discontinued.

NEW PUBLICATIONS



- First Coordination Meeting on the Mediterranean Strategy for the Prevention of, Preparedness, and Response to Marine Pollution from Ships
 - TPR Seminar Series: Oiled Wildlife Response
 - Congratulatory Message
 - Update of MOIG Brochure
 - Oil Spill Response Equipment Database
- [Download the November 2022 Newsletter](#)

INCIDENT REPORTS

USA: FLORIDA - COAST GUARD CONTINUES TO MONITOR OIL DISCHARGES FROM SUNKEN LIBERTY SHIP OFF FLORIDA

December 2 - The U.S. Coast Guard and Florida's Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) are continuing to monitor periodic oil discharges from the sunken Liberty Ship Thomas Heyward. The World War II-era vessel was sunk in 1977 to serve as an artificial reef approximately six miles southwest of Destin, Florida. Following Hurricane Sally in September 2020, the National Response Center (NRC) began receiving reports of pollution in the vicinity of the artificial reef. Coast Guard personnel conducted preliminary investigations with other government agencies including Florida's DEP, Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC), National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Army Corps of Engineers, United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and Okaloosa County's coastal resource manager. Since receiving initial reports of pollution, the Coast Guard, working with federal, state, and local stakeholders, continued to monitor the situation. gCaptain / [Read more](#)

VIETNAM: CARGO SHIP SINKING IN GULF OF TONKIN

December 4 - General cargo ship HOA LU 02 ran into trouble late Dec 4 in Gulf of Tonkin, off Nghe Tinh province coast, while en route from Cam Pha, sailing in southern direction. After main engine failure, the ship started taking on water and submerge. The ship is probably already resting on bottom, mainly above waterline. Maritime Bulletin / [Read more](#)

VENEZUELA: OIL SPILL COVERS MILES OF COASTLINE IN STATE OF ANZOATEGUI

December 8 - An oil spill covers miles of coastline in Venezuela's northeastern state of Anzoategui and has already killed marine species. Near the affected area is the Puerto la Cruz refinery, the third largest in Venezuela. The oil stains, which were observed earlier this week, have caused the death of marine species, denounced the mayor of Lecheria, Manuel Ferreira Gonzalez, on social networks, sharing a video of the oil pebbles covering the beaches of this city located on the shores of the Caribbean Sea, some 320 km from Caracas. Journal Marine Marchande / [Read more](#)

December 8— Reports received from Carlos Sagraera, ISCO Representative in Latin America Spanish Speaking

The coasts of Anzoategui (state in eastern Venezuela) have been affected this week by an oil spill of unknown origin. Indeed, the Mayor of the city of Lechería reported that three tourist beaches (Los Canales, Lido and Cangrejo) with a total of 4 km of coastline have been affected, which has led to their closure for several days for the purpose of proceeding to shoreline clean up. The origin and causes of the spill are unknown, with no official pronouncements in this regard, although there are refineries, crude oil upgraders and liquefied natural gas processors in that state, which belong to PDVSA. The Puerto La Cruz Refinery, with a production of 200,000



barrels per day, is located near the affected area. Some press versions indicate that the origin would be in activities of the state company in dock 6 of the Guaraguao Storage and Shipping Terminal; another cause handled is a possible spill from a tanker anchored off Lecheria; although no cause outlined has had official confirmation. PDVSA personnel carried out cleanup actions on the coast in the days after the spill.

December 9 - In relation to the Lechería spill, new information published today by independent observers (Universidad de Bolívar) and with satellite images reveal that there are already 5 km of contaminated coastline and that the origin of the spill is at the Puerto La Cruz Refinery, operated by the state company PDVSA. The news has been confirmed by the Department of Citizen Security of the Government of Anzoátegui, which has indicated that the spill was originated in the Ballast Lagoon Laguna of the PDVSA refinery in Puerto La Cruz. Parallel to the above, it has been confirmed that PDVSA crews are cleaning the affected beaches.

Photo on left: image of the spill (University of Bolivar).

<https://efectococuyo.com/la-humanidad/mancha-de-petroleo-en-playas-de-anzoategui-se-extiende-por-5-kilometros/>
<https://efectococuyo.com/la-humanidad/recoleccion-de-hidrocarburo-tras-derrame-de-petroleo-en-playas-de-lecheria/>

In relation to the Lecheria (Venezuela) spill, and the initial e-mail (08.12.2022) these are the Venezuelan news links:

<https://efectococuyo.com/la-humanidad/derrame-petrolero-afecta-playas-del-estado-anzoategui/>
<https://www.diariolasamericas.com/america-latina/derrame-petrolero-afecta-costas-el-oriente-venezuela-n5326312>
<https://elvigilanteweb.com/derrame-de-petroleo-lecheria-anzoategui/>
<https://www.rumbominero.com/peru/noticias/internacionales/derrame-petrolero-costas-oriente-venezuela/>

MAURITIUS: TAIWANESE TRAWLER LOADED WITH DIESEL AND FUEL OIL GROUNDS ON SAINT BRANDON

Photo: Mauritian National Coast Guard

December 9 - Taiwanese trawler has run aground in Saint-Brandon in the Indian Ocean with diesel and fuel oil on board.

A crisis committee was set up to avoid a disaster in the archipelago belonging to Mauritius, notably because the Yu Feng had a little more than 7 tons of fuel oil and 70 tons of diesel in its tanks.

It got stuck on the coral reefs in the Saint Brandon archipelago, located 415 km north-northwest of the island of Mauritius, in the Indian Ocean, earlier this week. gCaptain / [Read more](#)



USA: KANSAS – NEW OIL SPILL FROM KEYSTONE PIPELINE

December 8 - Keystone Pipeline Shut Down After 22nd Spill - The company said it had shut down the Keystone pipeline, which carries 622,000 barrels per day of crude oil, at about 8:00 pm after oil spilled into a creek near Washington, Kansas, a town of about 1,000 people. The spill took place about 20 miles south of a junction where the pipeline splits, with one segment carrying crude oil from tar sands in Canada to Illinois and another carrying it to the Gulf Coast. TruthOut / [Read more](#) [Thanks to John Wardrop]

December 9 - Keystone Pipeline shuts down after oil leak, halting flow of 600,000 barrels a day - The Keystone Pipeline has been shut down following a leak discovered near the border of Kansas and Nebraska. The shutdown of the major oil pipeline that carries crude from Canada triggered volatility in the energy market on Thursday, with oil prices briefly surging as much as 5% before retreating. Federal safety regulators are investigating the leak and have deployed to the site, a spokesperson for the Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration told CNN. Canada's TC Energy (TRP) said it launched an emergency shutdown of the Keystone Pipeline System at 9 p.m. ET on Wednesday after alarms were triggered and pressure dropped in the system. The company said the system remains shut as "our crews actively respond and work to contain and recover the oil." CNN Business / [Read more](#) [Thanks to Marc Shaye]

December 9 - Keystone pipeline leaks 14,000 barrels of oil into creek in biggest spill yet - An oil spill in a creek in north-eastern Kansas this week is the largest for an onshore crude pipeline in more than nine years and by far the biggest in the history of the Keystone pipeline, according to federal data. Canada-based TC Energy estimated the spill on the Keystone system at about 14,000 barrels and said the affected pipeline segment had been "isolated" and the oil contained. It did not say how the spill occurred. The Guardian / [Read more](#)

December 10 - Investigators, Cleanup Crews Begin Scouring Oil Pipeline Spill in Kansas - The effort to remove oil from the largest crude spill in the United States in nearly a decade will extend into next week, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency said Friday, making it likely that the Keystone pipeline shutdown will last for several more days. Reuters / [Read more](#)

Editor – There are a great many press reports – Many with excellent photos and videos of the response mobilisation.

Here is a selection –

December 9 - [Reuters](#) [Reuters](#) [Fortune](#) [Business Insider](#) [New York Times](#) [Nasdaq](#)

December 10 - [TVC News](#) [Reuters](#)

December 11 - [Reuters](#)

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