



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

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**A HAPPY NEW YEAR
TO ALL OUR READERS**



HEADLINE INTERNATIONAL NEWS

FSO SAFER OPERATION SHOULD BEGIN EARLY IN 2023

December 16 - The UN announced in November that the operation to unload the 'FSO Safer' of its 1.1m barrels of oil should begin in early 2023, and that the operation could take a total of 18 months.

The Saudi-backed Yemeni government and Iran-backed Houthi militias will later agree on the fate of the tanker after unloading it. The two sides will also agree on how to sell the crude oil on board.

The agreement to solve the problem of the FSO Safer and its oil, which has run since 2015, was achieved when it was agreed that the oil would be shifted to another, less decrepit, vessel, without any change to possession and ownership. The vessel is currently under the control of the Houthi rebel movement.

Emptying the supertanker is what primarily concerns the Maritime Affairs Authority and other concerned government agencies, such as the Public Authority for Environmental Protection. Clearing out the tanker will take place in the first few months of 2023
Insurance Marine News / [Read more](#)



Above: The FSO Safer, Photo courtesy of United Nations

PREVENTING A CATASTROPHIC OIL SPILL IN THE RED SEA

The US National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) has just released a short article about how its Office of Response and Restoration (OR&R) has been assisting the UN in its preparations to counter the threat posed by the FSO Safer. An excerpt follows –

January 6 - In July 2020, OR&R began providing technical support for an environmental and humanitarian threat in the Middle East—the floating storage and offloading facility (FSO) Safer (pronounced “saffer”). The decaying supertanker had been converted in 1987 to an FSO for oil, and is linked by pipeline to land-based oilfields. FSO Safer is moored

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HEADLINE INTERNATIONAL NEWS (CONTINUED)

about 4.8 nautical miles off the Red Sea coast of Yemen and holds an estimated 1.14 million barrels of light crude oil. Production, offloading, and maintenance operations on the Safer were suspended in 2015 because of the country's civil war. As a result, the Safer's structural integrity has significantly deteriorated and there is a risk that it could break apart, combust, or explode.

Within the international response community, many models have been run and reports written, including use of OR&R's GNOME suite of spill trajectory and weathering tools—however, an important contribution to the mitigation effort was the analysis and interpretation of those results and reports.

OR&R staff supported the analysis of the threat posed by the Safer by interpreting the science behind the modeling, so that decision-makers could thoroughly understand the risks described in those reports.

Staff provided a review and briefing on the FSO Safer modeling products, which was shared with the Department of State FSO Safer Working Group, the Yemen Affairs Unit, the United Nations, the Regional Organization for the Conservation of the Environment of the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden, and bilaterally with the Netherlands and United Kingdom.

OR&R's support to the Department of State in synthesizing the risk reports into meaningful decision-making information for the international committees was a critical component to prevent an environmental and humanitarian catastrophe.

Holding four times the amount of oil spilled by the Exxon Valdez—enough to make it the fifth largest oil spill from a tanker in history—a catastrophe with the Safer could have a devastating effect on marine life and marine-based economy in Yemen and nearby shores.

A massive spill from the Safer would destroy pristine reefs, coastal mangroves, and other sea life across the Red Sea, expose millions of people to highly polluted air, disrupt Yemen's Red Sea fisheries, threaten the clean-water supply by contaminating the desalination plants that line the coast, and cut off food, fuel, and other life-saving supplies to Yemen, where 17 million people already need aid. Other countries bordering the Red Sea would also incur the burden of the spill with port closures and disruptions to desalination plants.

OR&R / [Read the complete text of the article from OR&R](#)

ISCO NEWS

A SHORTER ISCO NEWSLETTER THIS WEEK

Because of the holiday period there weren't many new news releases published or received in the last few days.

It's possible that you may have missed several end-of-year reports published in the last ISCO Newsletter which was published on 2nd January 2023. You can check by clicking on the link - <https://spillcontrol.org/2022/12/31/isco-870-newsletter>

INTERNATIONAL & REGIONAL NEWS

NINE BIGGEST AND WORST OIL SPILLS OF ALL TIME

January 6 - What's the worst oil spill in history?

The answer to this is a toss-up between two of the most famous oil spills in recent history. These are the 2010 BP Deepwater Horizon oil spill and the 1991 Persian Gulf War oil spill.

The most significant oil spills in history have resulted in the release of tens of millions of gallons of oil, contaminated fisheries, dead and injured wildlife, and decreased tourism. To this end, here are some of the worst oil spills in history.

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INTERNATIONAL & REGIONAL NEWS (CONTINUED)

CHARTING PEMSEA’S COURSE TOWARDS 2030

January 4 - PEMSEA is pleased to announce the completion of the 2023-2027 Implementation Plan of the Sustainable Development Strategy for the Seas of East Asia (SDS-SEA). This document heralds the beginning of PEMSEA’s post-2020 journey towards implementing actionable steps and measures that achieve its vision of healthy ocean, healthy people and healthy economies that are anchored on effective governance.

The SDS-SEA IP 2023-2027 was formulated through 10 months of consultative and participatory process involving representatives from PEMSEA’s country and non-country partners. This process was guided by the EASPC’s Technical Session Chairs and Co-Chairs. The final plan was adopted at the 29th Expanded Executive Committee of the East Asian Seas Partnership Council (EASPC) on 29 November 2022. PEMSEA / [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.

BRAZIL: IBAMA PUBLISHES ORDINANCE NO. 164/2022, WHICH DEALS WITH THE INSTITUTE'S ACTIONS IN THE REMEDIATION OF CONTAMINATED AREAS

December 30 - The Brazilian Institute of the Environment and Renewable Natural Resources (IBAMA) published, in the Official Gazette (DOU) this Friday (30), Ordinance that establishes the thematic and conceptual scope of the Institute's action in the remediation of contaminated areas. IBAMA / [Read more](#)

INDIA: TAR BALLS POSE CHALLENGE ALONG INDIA’S WEST COAST

January 3 - Tar balls are the little, dark-coloured pieces of oil that can sometimes stick to your feet when you go to the beach. According to a Mongabay-India report, right after the monsoon spell, the coastlines of India’s western states, from Maharashtra, Gujarat, and Goa to Karnataka, are lined with dark, sticky balls. Gulf Today / [Read more](#)

NETHERLANDS: CONTINUES TO GROW ITS POOL OF BASIC OILED WILDLIFE RESPONDERS



Photo courtesy of Eurowa

December 22 - Four successful BASIC oiled wildlife responder courses were organised in the Netherlands by network member SON-Respons during the month of November.

Two courses were held in the North ([Vogelhospitaal Haarlem](#)) and two in the South ([Dierenambulance and Hospitaal Den Haag](#)). All were open to personnel and volunteers from rehabilitation centres who are affiliated to the SON-Respons network.

Eurowa / [Read more](#)

NIGERIA: BOOST FOR DELTA REGION AS COMMISSION REOPENS

January - The Nigerian government has reopened the Niger Delta Development Commission after a three-year hiatus. The

NEWS REPORTS FROM AROUND THE WORLD (CONTINUED)

commission was established in 2000 to develop the oil-rich Niger Delta region but numerous cases of corruption, mismanagement and the misuse of funds were reported after millions of dollars were sunk into development of the Niger Delta, which is rich in oil but which has left inhabitants poor. Numerous oil spills over the years, followed by lawsuits against oil giant Shell, have seen fishing villages destroyed and livelihoods of local fishers impacted. All Africa / [Read more](#)

UK: MCA UPDATE - COUNTER POLLUTION TRAINING COURSES

January 3 - Information on training courses from the Counter Pollution and Salvage team including who should attend, course content and objectives, and how to apply. MCA / [Read more](#)

USA: NAVY MOVES TOWARDS FINAL AGREEMENT ON RED HILL CLOSURE PLAN

January 3 - The U.S. Navy and environmental regulators are moving towards agreement on the final fate of the Red Hill Bulk Fuel Storage Facility near Pearl Harbor. The controversial underground tank farm spilled about 20,000 gallons of fuel in late 2021, contaminating the water supply for thousands of military servicemembers at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam. The Maritime Executive / [Read more](#)

USA: EPA RELEASES NEW PFAS ANALYTIC TOOLS

January 4 - EPA has published [its fifth Safe Drinking Water Act Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule](#) to expand on the initial drinking water data reporting that was conducted in 2013-2016. Beginning in 2023, this expansion will bring the number of drinking water PFAS samples collected by regulatory agencies into the millions. EPA also significantly expanded the [Toxics Release Inventory reporting requirements](#) in recent years to over 175 PFAS substances — and more information should be received in 2023. Additionally, EPA's [proposal to designate PFOA and PFOS as Hazardous Substances](#) would also improve data on spill or release incidents reported to the Emergency Response Notification System. These reporting enhancements will be incorporated into future versions of the interactive webpage. EPA will continue working toward the expansion of data sets in the PFAS Analytic Tools as a way to improve collective knowledge about PFAS occurrence in the environment. [See the new PFAS Analytic Tools](#).

USA: CSB CELEBRATES 25TH ANNIVERSARY

January 4 - Today, the U.S. Chemical Safety and Hazard Investigation Board (CSB) marks its 25th anniversary. Established by the Clean Air Act Amendments of 1990, the CSB began operations on January 4, 1998.

CSB Chairperson Steve Owens said, “The CSB is a small agency, but it has a very big – and very important – mission: to help ensure that chemical facilities are operated safely and that communities, workers and the environment are protected from chemical disasters. The CSB has made a huge difference over the last 25 years, but it has faced a number of challenges recently, including a long-standing backlog in investigations reports. We are working hard to rebuild and revitalize the CSB, and we are reducing the report backlog.” CSB / [Read more](#)

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

No news received from members this week

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/>

POLLUTION CLEANUP METHOD DESTROYS TOXIC “FOREVER CHEMICALS”

December 19 - Breakthrough process was developed for drinking water treatment and toxic site remediation.

An insidious category of carcinogenic pollutants known as “forever chemicals” may not be so permanent after all.

University of California, Riverside, chemical engineering and environmental scientists recently published new methods to chemically break up these harmful substances found in drinking water into smaller compounds that are essentially harmless.

The patent-pending process infuses contaminated water with hydrogen, then blasts the water with high-energy, short-wavelength ultraviolet light. The hydrogen polarizes water molecules to make them more reactive, while the light catalyzes chemical reactions that destroy the pollutants, known as PFAS or poly- and per-fluoroalkyl substances. ChemEurope.com / [Read more](#)



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.

5. Assessing risks from fuel contamination in Antarctica: Dynamics of diesel ageing in soil and toxicity to an endemic nematode

Brown, K.E., Wasley, J., King, C.K.
(2023) *Ecotoxicology and Environmental Safety*, 249, art. no. 114345,
DOI: 10.1016/j.ecoenv.2022.114345

ABSTRACT: Fuel spills are a major source of contamination in terrestrial environments in Antarctica. Little is known of the effects of hydrocarbon contaminants in fuels on Antarctic terrestrial biota, and how these change as fuel ages within soil. In this study we investigate the sensitivity of juveniles of the endemic Antarctic nematode *Plectus murrayi* to diesel-spiked soil. Toxicity tests were conducted on soil elutriates, and changes in concentrations of hydrocarbons, polar compounds and PAHs were assessed as the spiked soil was artificially aged at 3 °C over a 45-week period, representing multiple summer seasons of fuel degradation. Nematodes were most sensitive to elutriates made from freshly spiked soils (LC50 419 µg/L TPH and 156 µg/L TPH-SG), with a subsequent decline in toxicity observed in the first 6 weeks of laboratory ageing (LC50 2945 µg/L TPH and 694 µg/L TPH-SG). Effects were still evident up to 45 weeks (lowest observed effect concentration 2123 µg/L TPH) despite hydrocarbons being depleted from soils with ageing (84 % loss) and elutriates becoming dominated by polar metabolites (95 % polar). Nematode sensitivity throughout the ageing period showed evidence of a relationship between LC50 and the proportions of the lighter carbon range fraction of TPH in elutriates, the F2 fraction (C10–14). This study is the first to estimate the sensitivity of Antarctic terrestrial fauna to diesel and provides novel data on the dynamics of fuel chemistry under Antarctic conditions and how this influences toxicity. Findings contribute to predicting ecological risk at existing diesel fuel spill sites in Antarctica, to the derivation of site-specific remediation targets, and to environmental guidelines to assess ecosystem health.

6. Natural degradation of spilt fuel oil on seacoasts: Modelling, mapping, and spatial analysis

Léandre, F., Andrey, K., Nicolas, R., Paul, F.
(2023) *Regional Studies in Marine Science*, 58, art. no. 102782,
DOI: 10.1016/j.rsma.2022.102782

ABSTRACT: In recent decades, numerous oil spills have occurred worldwide and affected coastal environments. In the present paper, we analysed the results of long-term (up to 18 years) field and laboratory studies of temporal changes in the quantity and composition of oil slicks and tar balls in different geographical environments polluted by spilt fuel oil, including the Atlantic coasts of France and Spain, the coasts of the Sea of Azov and the Black Sea in Russia. The empirical statistical model developed in this research allowed us to identify the most significant environmental parameters during the oil pollution transformation process. We used these parameters to evaluate the potential rates of natural degradation of spilt oil stranded ashore and to develop a cartographic model. This is the first time a study offers quantitative maps of the potential of spilt oil natural transformation rates. These maps can be used to identify the most vulnerable seacoasts and to optimise the clean-up techniques.

7. Oil spill assessment maps of the central Salish Sea – Marine seafloor & coastal habitats of concern – A tool for oil spill mitigation within the San Juan Archipelago, Washington USA State.

Greene, H.G., Aschoff, J.
(2023) *Continental Shelf Research*, 253, art. no. 104880,
DOI: 10.1016/j.csr.2022.104880

ABSTRACT: The potential for oil spills within the San Juan Archipelago of the central Salish Sea of Washington State, USA, has been an increasing concern for some time. Within this region, the spectacular islands, coastline, and underwater environment has drawn tourists, fisher people, residents, and researchers from around the world to play, live, and study. The diverse biological resources of the region provide sustenance for many of the islanders and supports a valuable tourist industry for whale watching; salmon, crab, and shrimp fishing; and underwater diving – all of which can be adversely impacted by an oil spill. The present plans to ship more hydrocarbon products, including diluted bitumen (dilbit), from transfer sites located along the coastline of mainland British Columbia, Canada, has the potential to increase tanker vessel traffic seven-fold through the San Juan Archipelago (Seattle Times, June 22, 2019). This, along with other types of marine traffic such as cruise ships, tug-and-tow barges, articulated tank barges, bulk carriers, freighters, and general cargo shipping will increase the risk of a collision, grounding, or other events that may lead to a significant oil spill. To date, the central Salish Sea region is only marginally prepared for an oil spill tracking, containment, and recovery action. Thus, a need exists to stage equipment for the mitigation of an oil spill event if critical marine habitats are to be protected. We focus on some of these critical benthic habitats such as for rockfish (*Sebastes* spp.), lingcod (*Ophiodon elongatus*),

the forage fish Pacific sand lance (*Ammodytes Personatus*), eelgrass (*Zostera marina*) meadows that are recruitment habitat for herring (*Clupea herengus*), and kelp (*Nerocystis luetkeana*) forests. To strategically locate or assemble any mitigation apparatus for a rapid response to an oil spill, a map showing critical marine habitats is a necessity. Such a map should highlight the most critical habitats along the marine transportation corridors (primarily Rosario Strait, Haro Strait, and Guemes Channel) as well as the relatively isolated sounds and bays including Padilla Bay, Samish Bay, and Fidalgo Bay that could act as depotcenters for oil accumulation. This study addresses that need and usefulness for such a map, as no longer can it be said that what lies beneath the sea's surface is "out-of-sight", and thus "out-of-mind". This means that this study is critical to the development of realistic Natural Resources Damage Assessment (NRDA) settlements and can be used to inform developments of future Geographic Response Plans (GRPs) of the State of Washington. The process described here is not unique to the central Salish Sea and can be used as a template elsewhere for NRDA's and other protective measures after being modified to account for specific habitats deemed critical to those areas.

8. Fine particulate matter and incident coronary heart disease events up to 10 years of follow-up among Deepwater Horizon oil spill workers

Chen, D., Sandler, D.P., Keil, A.P., Heiss, G., Whitsel, E.A., Pratt, G.C., Stewart, P.A., Stenzel, M.R., Groth, C.P., Banerjee, S., Huynh, T.B., Edwards, J.K., Jackson, W.B., II, Engeda, J., Kwok, R.K., Werder, E.J., Lawrence, K.G., Engel, L.S.
(2023) *Environmental Research*, 217, art. no. 114841,
DOI: 10.1016/j.envres.2022.114841

ABSTRACT: Background: During the 2010 Deepwater Horizon (DWH) disaster, in-situ burning and flaring were conducted to remove oil from the water. Workers near combustion sites were potentially exposed to burning-related fine particulate matter (PM2.5). Exposure to PM2.5 has been linked to increased risk of coronary heart disease (CHD), but no study has examined the relationship among oil spill workers. Objectives: To investigate the association between estimated PM2.5 from burning/flaring of oil/gas and CHD risk among the DWH oil spill workers. Methods: We included workers who participated in response and cleanup activities on the water during the DWH disaster (N = 9091). PM2.5 exposures were estimated using a job-exposure matrix that linked modelled PM2.5 concentrations to detailed DWH spill work histories provided by participants. We ascertained CHD events as the first self-reported physician-diagnosed CHD or a fatal CHD event that occurred after each worker's last day of burning exposure. We estimated hazard ratios (HR) and 95% confidence intervals (95%CI) for the associations between categories of average or cumulative daily maximum PM2.5 exposure (versus a referent category of water workers not near controlled burning) and subsequent CHD. We assessed exposure-response trends by examining continuous exposure parameters in models. Results: We observed increased CHD hazard among workers with higher levels of average daily maximum exposure (low vs. referent: HR = 1.26, 95% CI: 0.93, 1.70; high vs. referent: HR = 2.11, 95% CI: 1.08, 4.12; per 10 µg/m³ increase: HR = 1.10, 95% CI: 1.02, 1.19). We also observed suggestively elevated HRs among workers with higher cumulative daily maximum exposure (low vs. referent: HR = 1.19, 95% CI: 0.68, 2.08; medium vs. referent: HR = 1.38, 95% CI: 0.88, 2.16; high vs. referent: HR = 1.44, 95% CI: 0.96, 2.14; per 100 µg/m³-d increase: HR = 1.03, 95% CI: 1.00, 1.05). Conclusions: Among oil spill workers, exposure to PM2.5 from flaring/burning of oil/gas was associated with increased risk of CHD.

9. Mixed polyaromatic hydrocarbon degradation by halotolerant bacterial strains from marine environment and its metabolic pathway

Muralidharan, M., Gayathri, K.V., Kumar, P.S., Preethi, D.S., Kavitha, R., Rajagopal, R., Rangasamy, G.
(2023) *Environmental Research*, 216, art. no. 114464,
DOI: 10.1016/j.envres.2022.114464

ABSTRACT: Accidents involving diesel oil spills are prevalent in sea- and coastal regions. Polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs) can be adsorbed in soil and constitute a persistent contaminant due to their poor water solubility and complex breakdown. PAHs pollution is a pervasive environmental concern that poses serious risks to human life and ecosystems. Thus, it is the need of the hour to degrade and decontaminate the toxic pollutant to save the environment. Among all the available techniques, microbial degradation of the PAHs is proving to be greatly beneficial and effective. Bioremediation overcomes the drawbacks of most physicochemical procedures by eliminating numerous organic pollutants at a lower cost in ambient circumstances and has therefore become a prominent remedial option for pollutant removal, including PAHs. In the present study, we have studied the degradation of Low molecular Weight and High Molecular Weight PAH in combination by bacterial strains isolated from a marine environment. Optimum pH, temperature, carbon, and nitrogen sources, NaCl concentrations were found for efficient degradation using the isolated bacterial strains. At 250 mg/L concentration of the PAH mixture an 89.5% degradation was observed. *Vibrio algiolyticus* strains were found to be potent halotolerant bacteria to degrade complex PAH into less toxic simple molecules. GC-MS and FTIR data were used to probe the pathway of degradation of PAH.

10. An experimental oil spill at a tidal freshwater wetland along the St. Lawrence River re-visited after 21 years

Schreiber, L., Fortin, N., Mazza, A., Maynard, C., Wasserscheid, J., Tremblay, J., Lee, K., Greer, C.W.
(2023) *Environmental Research*, 216, art. no. 114456,
DOI: 10.1016/j.envres.2022.114456

RECENT INTERESTING PEER-REVIEWED OIL SPILL PUBLICATIONS (CONTINUED)

ABSTRACT: In 1999, a tidal wetland located along the St. Lawrence River close to Ste. Croix de Lotbinière (Quebec, Eastern Canada) was the site of an experimental oil spill. Test plots were established and subjected to an experimental crude oil spill to evaluate natural attenuation, nutrient amendment and vegetation cropping as countermeasures. In 2020, this study re-visited the test plots to investigate residual oil and habitat recovery. Only concentrations of mid-chain length n-alkanes (C10–C36), but not of polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs), were significantly above detection limit, and were detected in both test plot and control sediments. Hydrocarbon, total organic carbon, nitrogen and phosphate contents did not differ significantly between test plot and control sediments. Microbial analyses did not detect significant differences in microbial load, microbial diversity or microbial community composition between test plot and control sediments. Key genes for the aerobic and anaerobic degradation of n-alkanes as well as for the aerobic degradation of PAHs were detected in all sediment samples. Associated gene abundances did not differ significantly between test plot and control sediments. This study shows that oil-exposed test plot sediments of the Ste. Croix wetland can be considered completely recovered after 21 years irrespective of the performed countermeasure.

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- CHINA - <http://www.sioetc.com>
- EUROPE – EMSA Academy 2022. [Courses Catalogue](#)
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- 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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NEWLY ADDED TO THE UPCOMING EVENTS PAGE

- Tiered Preparedness & Response (TPR) Seminar Series, “Environmental Impact Assessment”, 8.30 GMT, Wed. 11th January, Norman Ramos (30 min.)
- Tiered Preparedness & Response (TPR) Seminar Series, “Subsea Response Readiness”, Thur. 18th January, 1400 GMT, Andy Myers (60 min.)
- Tiered Preparedness & Response (TPR) Seminar Series, “Bridging Response to Research”, Tues. 24th January, 1400 GMT, Rob Holland & Rhea Shears, (60 min.)
- Webinar from ALGA – Consultation on Validation of PFAS Soil Treatment Technologies, 19th January 2023
- Canada – 45th Technical Seminar on Environmental Contamination & Response, Edmonton, Alberta, 4-6 June, 2023

UPCOMING EVENTS (CONTINUED)

RECENTLY ADDED TO THE UPCOMING EVENTS PAGE

- Norway – NOSCA Seminar 2023, Bodo, Norway, 20-24 March, 2023
- USA – Clean Waterways Conference & Exhibition, Denver CO, 11-13 April 2023
- European Maritime Day, Brest, France, 24-25 May, 2023
- UK: Hazmat 2023 Conference, 24-25 May 2023
- Australia – SPILLCON 2023 Conference & Exhibition, 11-15 September 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
- Observartion 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, DENVER, 11-13 APRIL, 2023

We hope you have had a wonderful Holiday season and are enjoying time with family and friends! If you`re back to work this week, it`s the perfect time to cross-off registering for the [CLEAN WATERWAYS 2023 Conference](#) and use any remaining budget leftover from this year. Prices increase at the end of January so this is a great way to secure your discount before the chaos of a New Year begins! 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](#).

CROATIA: ADRIASPILLCON 2023, OPATIJA, 16th - 18th MAY, 2023

ADRIASPILLCON 2023 will be held in Opatija, Croatia, between 16 and 18 May 2023 and is being organized by ATRAC - Adriatic training and education centre for accidental marine pollution preparedness and response, with the support of the Ministry of Maritime Affairs, Transport and Infrastructure. The Conference website is currently being finalized. Among the organizations that support the Conference (i.e. IMO, REMPEC, EMSA, IOPCF, ITOPIF, CEDRE, etc.). Watch this space for more information.

CANADA: 45TH AMOP TECHNICAL SEMINAR ON ENVIRONMENTAL CONTAMINATION AND RESPONSE: EDMONTON, 6-8 JUNE 2023

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

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/>

MESSAGES FROM EVENT ORGANISERS (CONTINUED)

USA: CLEAN GULF CONFERENCE & EXHIBITION – SAN ANTONIO, NOVEMBER 7-9, 2023

Now Accepting Reservations for Exhibit Space and Sponsorships for CLEAN GULF 2023 - Make an impact on buyers from oil & gas, maritime, rail, environmental companies and regulatory agencies with an exhibit space or sponsorship at the [CLEAN GULF Conference & Exhibition](#). Attendees at CLEAN GULF are looking for new products, services, and technologies to help them better prepare or respond to a hazardous spill or environmental emergency. With the end of the year quickly approaching, now is a great time to use any leftover marketing funds and invest in your business for 2023! Contact Renie Mayfield at 720-289-7008 or rmayfield@accessintel.com to secure your exhibit space or sponsorship.

USA: IOSC 2024 CALL FOR PAPERS AND POSTERS IS NOW OPEN

As an internationally recognized technical and policy forum, the International Oil Spill Conference (IOSC) is seeking thematically related papers and posters for its next convening in New Orleans, Louisiana, on May 13 - 16, 2024. Please visit <https://ssl.linklings.net/conferences/IOSC/> to begin working on your submission. If you have questions, please contact the IOSC Program Management Team at speakers.iosc.org.

CONTRACTS, TENDERS AND BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

INTERNATIONAL OPEN TENDER NOTIFICATIONS

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

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/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>

JOB VACANCY

USA: DIRECTOR, NATIONAL SPILL CONTROL SCHOOL

TAMU-CC is a dynamic university designated as both a Hispanic-Serving Institution (HSI) and Minority-Serving Institution (MSI) with approximately 11,000 students from 47 states and 54 foreign nations. We employ over 1,400 full-time and 2,000 part-time Islanders (including students/GAs). The University attracts highly talented faculty and staff and offers an array of undergraduate and graduate degrees, including doctoral programs. As a member of the Texas A&M University System, TAMU-CC benefits from a range of resources, increased visibility and influence, and opportunities to collaborate in mutually beneficial ways with peers across member institutions and associated agencies.

TAMU-CC's beautiful campus is located on a 240 acre island on Corpus Christi Bay and was ranked #1 College by the Sea by Best College Reviews. Our natural setting is enhanced by its modern, attractive, and state-of-the-art classroom buildings and support facilities. From our generous benefits package and professional development opportunities, to our retirement programs and our commitment to service excellence, the Island University is an engaging and rewarding place to work.

For more information and details on how to apply, please visit –

https://tamus.wd1.myworkdayjobs.com/en-US/TAMUCC_External/job/Corpus-Christi-TX/Director--National-Spill-Control-School_R-056071

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

CASE HISTORY

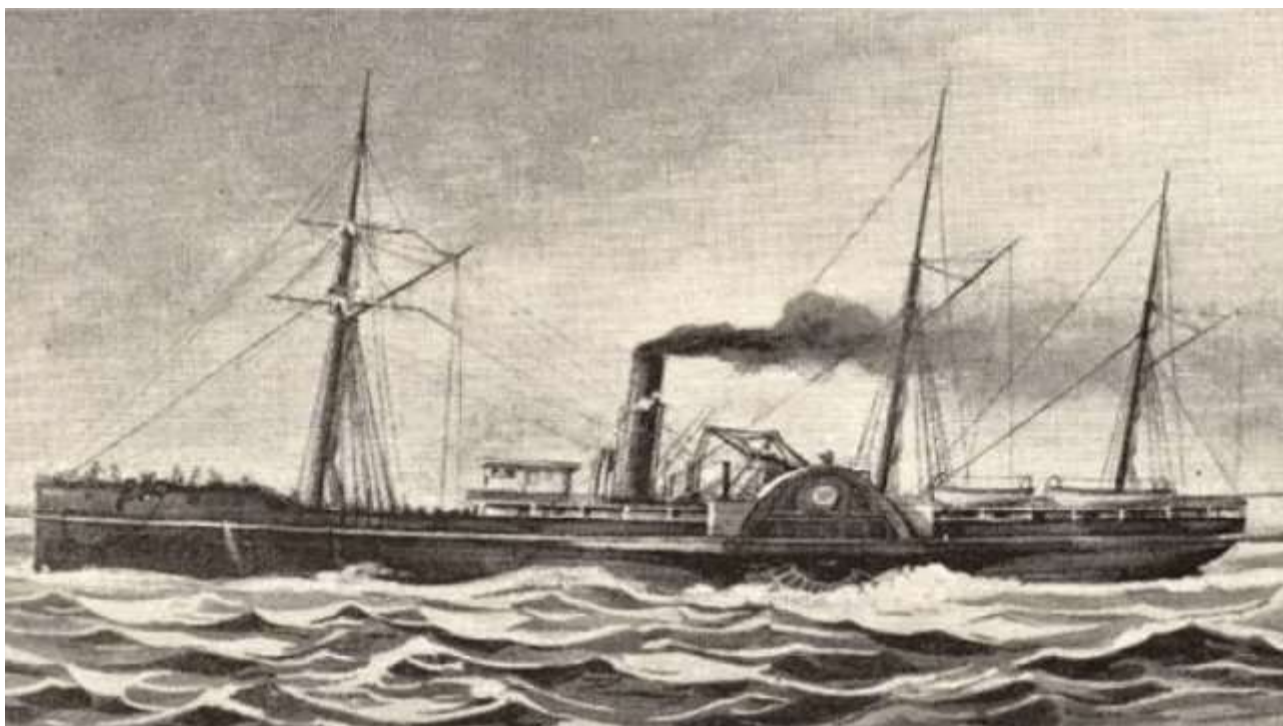
CASE STUDY – CONTAINERSHIP LOSES CONTAINERS OFF SYDNEY ON 24th MAY 2020

January 2 – A recent news article published in the ATSB speaks about the loss of containers from APL England 46 NM South East of Sydney, News South Wales on 24th May 2020. MFame / [Download and read this interesting Case History](#)

AN INTERESTING STORY

PRIVATE SEARCH TEAM FINDS LONG-LOST WRECK OF SIDEWHEELER SS PACIFIC

The oceangoing steamer is believed to have 200 pounds of gold in her holds



Above: Historical illustration of SS Pacific (Public domain)

December 12 - A team of private-sector explorers have discovered the wreck of the lost paddlewheel steamer SS Pacific, which went down near the entrance to the Strait of Juan de Fuca in 1875.

On November 4, 1875, SS Pacific got under way from Victoria, British Columbia, bound for San Francisco on a regular run with an estimated 275-400 people on board. She was carrying unticketed passengers, including children, and the precise count is not known. Among those aboard were a prominent timber baron, Sewell Moody, and Captain Otis Parsons, owner of a fleet of steamers on Canada's Fraser River. She also had an assortment of commercial cargo, including 200 pounds of gold from B.C.'s mining boom. The Maritime Executive / [Continue reading this interesting report.](#)

NEW PUBLICATIONS

MOIG NEWSLETTER – JANUARY 2023

A letter from Mahmoud Abdussaim Kamour, MOIG Chairman [Microsoft Word - Newsletter 056.01 \(medoilgroup.org\)](#)

OTHER NEWLY PUBLISHED NEWSLETTERS

Global Initiative Southeast Asia [GISEA Newsletter - Q4 2022](#)

Oil Companies International Marine Forum [Issue 118 \(ocimf.org\)](#)

INCIDENT REPORTS

USA: WEST VIRGINIA - CREWS RESPOND TO OIL SPILL IN ELK CREEK

December 30 - The West Virginia Department of Environmental Protection told 5 News they were notified of a release of a petroleum-based product from an outfall owned by Amsted Graphite Materials in Anmoore on December 29 and had staff onsite. AGM placed booms to help contain the material and an environmental contractor pumped out the system where the release occurred. WDTV.com / [Read more](#)

January 3 - An Anmoore company is being investigated in connection with a chemical spill on the Elk Creek on Thursday. The state Department of Environment Protection said in a Tuesday statement that it inspected an outflow structure at Amsted Graphite Material in Anmoore and found additional material leaking. Officials from the Clarksburg Water Board reported the spill was estimated to be 10 miles long. Unconfirmed reports indicate the chemical was flowing over booms as far as seven miles away. Metro News / [Read more](#)

THE BAHAMAS: FREIGHTER GOES DOWN OFF GREAT ABACO

January 2 - A freighter went down last week off the coast of Abaco, The Bahamas in foul weather, and salvors are working to reduce the risk of pollution. The Antigua and Barbuda-flagged Onego Traveller began taking on water in her ballast system off the southern end of the island of Great Abaco. The Maritime Executive / [Read more](#)

USA: MICHIGAN - LARGE TOXIC CHEMICAL PLUME FOUND IN WISCONSIN'S GREEN BAY

January 4 - A large plume of toxic chemicals produced by a plant that manufactures firefighting foam has seeped through groundwater to Lake Michigan's Green Bay, scientists said Tuesday. The chemicals belong to a family of compounds known as PFAS, or per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances. Fox News / [Read more](#)

GERMANY: KIEL CANAL REOPENS AFTER OIL SPILL

January 4 - On Tuesday, Germany's strategic Kiel Canal reopened after a weekslong closure caused by an oil spill. On December 21, a pipeline released an estimated 3,200 gallons of oil into the inner harbor at the port of Brunsbüttel, the North Sea/Elbe entrance to the canal. According to Tobias Goldschmidt, the state's environment minister, the oil slick spread over a stretch of water four miles in length. The Maritime Executive / [Read more](#)

USA: TEXAS - CHRISTMAS EVE OIL SPILL CLEANUP CONTINUES

January 4 - The response to a light crude oil spill in Corpus Christi Bay continues as workers deploy more than 17,000 feet of boom and 3,000 feet of absorbent pads in an attempt to contain discharge from the Flint Hills Resources crude oil terminal in Ingleside. A pipe failure caused the spill, according to the company. The U.S. Coast Guard received a report of the spill late Christmas Eve. CCBizNews News / [Read more](#)

USA: WISCONSIN - ATB TUG SINKS AT THE PIER AT PORT OF MILWAUKEE

January 4 - On Monday, an ATB tug partially sank at the Port of Milwaukee, prompting a pollution-control response. At about 1130 in the morning, the National Response Center - responsible for coordinating oil spill response efforts - notified the Coast Guard that the tug Michigan had partially sunk at its moorings. The vessel has at most 40,000 gallons of diesel aboard, but no pollution has been observed, according to the Coast Guard. Booms and sorbent material have been deployed as a precautionary measure. The Maritime Executive / [Read more](#)

USA: CALIFORNIA - CLEANING UP AN OIL SPILL FROM A WELL BUILT IN 1882



Photo: Toro Canyon Creek in Santa Barbara County. Photo courtesy of Santa Barbara County

January 5 - Santa Barbara County is cleaning up an oil spill from a well built more than a century ago. Fire personnel responded to a report of oil in the Toro Canyon Creek on the morning of January 1. The oil leaked from a seepage well built in 1882. Crews are using damming, absorbent pads and booms to clean it up. KCBX / [Read more](#)

INDIA: CONTAINER SHIP CAPSIZED IN MUNDRA PORT, INDIA VIDEO

January 7 - Container ship SEA XPRESS lost stability while undergoing cargo operations at Mundra Port, India, on Jan 7. The ship listed portside, then starboard side, and finally, rested on pier by starboard. Several containers fell overboard, exact number unknown. Some remained afloat, drifting. Maritime Bulletin / [Read more](#)

THAILAND: TUG SANK IN GULF OF SIAM, CREW RESCUED

January 7 - Tug PL ARTHENA sank in Gulf of Siam some 10-12 nm off Koh Phangan island, near Samui island, Surat Thani Province, Thailand, shortly after 1200 LT Jan 7. Nine crew went into life raft and were picked up by nearby tanker NAPAPA (IMO 8534069), all are safe. Rough weather is believed to be the cause of disaster. Maritime Bulletin / [Read more](#)

COLOMBIA: POST-PANAMAX CONTAINER SHIP AGROUND, SOUTH AMERICA

January 8 - Container ship MONTE PASCOAL aground at Cartagena approach since 1520 UTC Jan 7 – the ship strayed off fairway, while

INCIDENT REPORTS (CONTINUED)

approaching Cartagena Colombia on arrival from Brazil. Jan 7 1800 UTC UPDATE: In the same position, 4 tugs and patrol boat around. Jan 8 0450 UTC UPDATE: Was refloated at around 2000 UTC Jan 7, taken to Cartagena Anchorage, anchored. Maritime Bulletin / [Read more](#)

HISTORY

UK: BRAER: THE HUGE OIL SPILL THAT SHETLAND SURVIVED

January 5 - Twenty five years ago the Braer oil tanker ran aground off the Shetland Isles in hurricane-force winds, spilling almost 85,000 tonnes of crude oil.

The captain and crew of the vessel were airlifted to safety by helicopter after its engines failed and it became clear the disaster was imminent.

It hit rocks in Quendale Bay, just west of Sumburgh Head, on the south tip of Shetland, just before midday on 5 January 1993.

According to WWF Scotland, at least 1,500 birds died and up to a quarter of the local grey seal population was affected.

But the weather limited the full extent of the damage as much of the oil was swept out to sea.

The Gulfaks crude that the Braer was carrying was also lighter and more easily biodegradable than other North Sea crudes.

Jonathan Wills, a Shetland journalist who researched the disaster, told BBC Radio's Good Morning Scotland programme that everyone was "horrified" because The Braer was carrying twice as much crude oil as the Exxon Valdez, which had run aground off Alaska four years earlier. BBC News / [Read more](#)

A NEW YEAR RESOLUTION FOR YOU TO THINK ABOUT

If you're not already a member of ISCO, why don't you apply now ?

There are lots of positive advantages in joining this organisation which has a worldwide membership in over 60 countries –

Being part of a worldwide community of professionals who share a common interest + Receive rapid advice of emergency spill response supply requirements from governments, responsible parties and others arising from major spills and have the opportunity to offer support services, equipment and materials + Receiving ISCO's weekly newsletter keeping you up-to-date on events, developing technologies, new legislation and other matters of mutual interest + Access to a comprehensive online Technical and Reference facility for oil and HNS - spill response tools, guidelines, manuals and other information + Identifying opportunities for providing new products and services needed in domestic and overseas markets + Practical help in building incident response capacity and competence enhancement + Through ISCO, having a voice in the drafting of new legislation that will affect your area of interest + Opportunities to participate in ISCO work groups developing new ideas and projects + Through the International Offers of Assistance initiative opportunities to have a role in the response to major oil spill events + Networking with other members, sharing experiences, discussing problems and helping find good solutions + Free listing in ISCO's International Directory of Supplies and Services with your entry hyperlinked to your own website.

[Download the Joining Form](#)

You can also advance your career by gaining Professional Recognition - Professional recognition is a visible mark of quality, competence and commitment, and can give you a significant advantage in today's competitive environment. All who have the relevant qualifications and the required level of experience can apply for Professional Membership of ISCO.

The organization offers independent validation and integrity. Each grade of membership reflects an individual's professional training, experience and qualifications.

For more information about Professional Membership send an email to info@spillcontrol.org

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