

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

ISCO EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

President, Secretary-General & Vice-Presidents

- Acting President - Interim Executive (IE)
- Mr Neil Marson, Secretary General (UK)
- Mr John McMurtrie, VP and Editor (UK)
- Ms Mary Ann Dalgleish, VP M'ship (USA)

Secretariat (Core Management Team)

Individuals marked with * are members of IE

- Mr Neil Marson * (UK)
- Mr John McMurtrie* (UK)
- Ms Mary Ann Dalgleish * (USA)
- Captain Bill Boyle (UK)
- Mr John Wardrop * (Australia)
- Mr Marc Shaye (USA)
- Mr Michael Watson (UK)

Other Executive Committee Members

- Mr Kerem Kemerli (Turkiye)
- Mr Dan Sheehan (USA)
- Mr Matthew Sommerville (UK)
- Ms Helena Rowland (USA)
- Dr Larissa Montas (USA)
- Capt. D C Sekhar (India)
- Dr Mervyn Fingas (Canada)
- Ms Jane Delgado (USA)
- Mr Carlos Sagrea (Panama)

COUNCIL (NATIONAL REPRESENTATIVES)

- Mr John Wardrop (Australia)
- Mr Elkhan Mamedov (Azerbaijan)
- Dr Merv Fingas (Canada)
- Captain D. C. Sekhar (India)
- Major Ben Benny (Israel)
- Mr Sanjay Gandhi (Kenya)
- Mr Dennis van der Veen (Netherlands)
- Mr Carlos Sagrea (Panama)
- Mrs Fatima B. Shaik (South Africa)
- Dr Ali Saeed Al Ameri (UAE)
- Dr Timothy Gunter (USA)
- Mr Flavio P. de Andrade (Brazil)
- Mr Kerem Kemerli (Turkiye)

HEADLINE INTERNATIONAL NEWS

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THE TOXIC LEGACY OF THE UKRAINE WAR

It has been one year since the Russian Federation's invasion of Ukraine. The war has killed tens of thousands of people, displaced millions and caused widespread environmental damage. A preliminary monitoring of the conflict in Ukraine undertaken last year by the UN Environment Programme (UNEP) and partners points to a toxic legacy for generations to come.

The full range and severity of consequences will require verification and assessment, although thousands of possible incidents of air, water and land pollution and the degradation of ecosystems, including risks to neighbouring countries, have already been identified.

UNEP, the environment authority within the UN system, is supporting the Government of Ukraine on [remote environmental impact monitoring](#) and is preparing to undertake field-level impact assessments – expected to be a colossal task given the scale and geographical spread of reported incidents.

“The mapping and initial screening of environmental hazards only serves to confirm that war is quite literally toxic,” said UNEP Executive Director Inger Andersen. “The first priority is for this senseless destruction to end now. The environment is about people: it’s about livelihoods, public health, clean air and water, and basic food systems. It’s about a safe future for Ukrainians and their neighbours, and further damage must not be done.”

“Ukraine will then need huge international support to assess, mitigate and remediate the damage across the country, and alleviate risks to the wider region,” she added.

According to UNEP and partner data, the conflict has seen damage across many regions of the country, with incidents at nuclear power plants and facilities, energy infrastructure, including oil storage tankers, oil refineries, drilling platforms and gas facilities and distribution pipelines, mines and industrial sites and agro-processing facilities. [UNEP / Read more](#)

ISCO AMBASSADORS

(Members with special responsibilities in specified geographical areas)

Carlos Sagrera Latin America (Spanish speaking)
Matthew Sommerville UK London
John Noble UK London & South'ton
Wu Yue China

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

The organization offers independent

INTERNATIONAL AND REGIONAL NEWS

INTERNATIONAL AGREEMENT TO EXTEND THE MANDATORY INSTALLATION OF EMERGENCY TOWAGE HARDWARE

February 15 -Last week the International Maritime Organization (IMO) reached the international agreement to extend the mandatory installation of emergency towage hardware from tankers of 20,000 dead weight tonnage and above, to all newly constructed vessels of 20,000 gross tonnage and above.

The change, co-sponsored and pushed by Australia in partnership with several other countries, reduces potential harm to seafarers and sensitive marine areas by facilitating more rapid and safe responses to vessels in distress. AMSA / [Read more](#)

PLACE OF REFUGE: LESSONS FROM THE MT PRESTIGE DISASTER

February 16 - A 'port of refuge' is a maritime safety principle as old as seafaring itself. Without it, a marine casualty can turn into a much larger problem, as illustrated by the notorious case of the tanker Prestige.

When a ship has suffered an incident, the best way of preventing damage or pollution from its progressive deterioration is to transfer its cargo and bunkers, and then to repair the casualty. Such an operation is best carried out in a place of refuge.

Greater principles of cooperation should be found between nations to assist ships in distress. As the Prestige incident proved, a failure to do so could have devastating environmental consequences for everyone involved. The Maritime Executive / [Read more](#)

DOES IT MAKE SENSE TO HAVE A NATIONAL EMERGENCY TOWING FLEET?

February 19 – Different nations take different approaches to emergency towing response services. [Editor – An interesting article in The Maritime Executive provides an overview of ETV resources — government owned or chartered — available to maritime nations like Canada, Australia, the United Kingdom, France, Norway, the United States, and others] [Read more](#)

THE FIRST YEAR OF THE INCLUSIVE CONSERVATION INITIATIVE (ICI): KICKING OFF A GLOBAL PARADIGM SHIFT, TOGETHER

January 24 - As we ring in 2023, we reflect on 2022, and how the newly launched Inclusive Conservation Initiative (ICI) is facilitating collective efforts to push for direct access to climate and biodiversity finance for Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities (IPs and LCs).

Funded by the Global Environment Facility (GEF) and supported by Conservation International and the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN), ICI is reimagining how to define and adopt an inclusive model for conservation in which IPs and LCs are recognized and empowered as decision-makers and leaders at all levels of conservation policy and action. ICI / [Read more](#)

SEA ALARM STARTS THE NEW YEAR WITH VISITS TO KEY STAKEHOLDERS

February 22 - In the beginning of February, the Sea Alarm team went to the UK to visit key stakeholders in the oiled wildlife response community. Sea Alarm aims to create a more professional and coordinated response to an oiled wildlife incident. An effective oiled wildlife response needs preparation and effective coordination between the different stakeholders – IOPC Funds, IMO and OSRL [Read more](#)

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2022 AGM MINUTES

The delayed 2022 ISCO AGM was held on Thursday 9th of February, 2023, in the form of a virtual meeting online. The AGM agenda and supporting documents, including the updated addendum, and voting form were circulated to members by email on 10th of January, 2023. A notice of the AGM and the link for joining the meeting was circulated prior in the ISCO newsletter on multiple occasions. The meeting duration was approximately 2 hours, 45 minutes.

Attendees - Mary Ann Dagleish (Vice-President Membership), John McMurtrie (Vice-President and Editor), Secretariat Members – Captain Bill Boyle and Mr. Michael Watson, Executive Committee Members – John Wardrop, Dan Sheehan, Matthew

Sommerville, Helena Roland, Dr. Merv Fingas (Canada), Captain Bill Boyle, Jane Delgado, Carlos Sagrera (Panama), and Dr. Larissa Montas. Other attendees included Rupert Bravery, Nigel Colinwood, CJ Beegle and Linda Cui. Please note that this list is not complete as names of some attendees who did not speak may not have been recorded.

Agenda Items Proceedings - Vice-President (Membership) Mary Ann Dagleish who hosted the meeting, declared the AGM open and welcomed everyone by thanking them for their support throughout the year.

1. Mary Ann introduced agenda item 1 (Introduction to the 2022 AGM)
2. The proposed resolution, agenda item 2, that Members retrospectively approve the holding of a remote 2022 AGM was approved. Mary Ann Dagleish mentioned ISCO we would continue with online AGM meetings until further notice.
3. The proposed resolution, agenda item 3, that the minutes of the AGM held on 9th December 2021, be accepted was approved by Bill Boyle, and seconded by Marc Shaye.
4. Agenda item 4 was presented by asking meeting participants to acknowledge having read ISCO Secretary-General's report, the main points of which included a recognition of past contributions to ISCO by its former president, the late David Usher, continuing work on implementing ISCO's Action plan, efforts towards increasing diversity and membership, and the success of the student programme while encouraging more students to join and benefit from the valuable resources available through ISCO professional members and fellow students. The Secretary-General's report also touched upon ongoing endeavours to modernize ISCO's communications via various platforms, and to liaise with external partners to ensure member's voices are heard and counted.
5. Agenda item 5, the financial report for the year ending 31st March 2022, was taken as received.
6. Appointments to the Executive Committee, Council and Ambassadors were presented with the introduction of agenda item 6. The recommended appointment of Flavio P. de Andrade as ISCO ambassador in Brazil was proposed by Bill Boyle and seconded by several other members.
7. Agenda item 7 comprised the implementation of the Action Plan, Constitution and Schedules. A significant amount of work has been completed by John Wardrop and others in developing the updated documentation the implementation of which has not yet been completed due to delays in the receipt of comments by members. During the coming weeks and months members of the Interim Executive, in consultation with the Executive Committee, will carry out the necessary work, some of which will be addressed by members of relevant working groups. John Wardrop agreed to prepare a series of short informational notes to clarify roles and responsibilities of ISCO officers and committees. He stressed the importance of keeping a good record of compliance with established policies and adhering to the revised constitution. In line with ISCO's position as an NGO with consultative status at the IMO, ISCO is required to give periodic reports to the IMO. It was agreed that Matthew Sommerville will lead on preparation of the 2022 report to the IMO, and help will be provided by John McMurtrie. Matthew Sommerville will continue to attend meetings in the IMO as required. Finally, Neil Marson has very recently advised that he will not be seeking re-election at the 2023 AGM. This creates a need for EC members and others to nominate potential candidates for Secretary General. John McMurtrie mentioned that he would like to see a broad pool of candidates. Any member in good standing can nominate a candidate.
8. Agenda item 8 informed of the intention to not recommend an increase in membership fees, and for fees to remain as per 2021-2022.
9. A very good and dynamic discussion took place focused on items 9 and 10 of the agenda, namely increasing membership and ISCO's communication with its members and wider readers through the website, LinkedIn and the weekly newsletter. Mike Watson is leading on ongoing work to further develop the website and provide a broad range of information that reflects ISCO's global operations. Both Mike, and Jane Delgado who administers the LinkedIn account, would welcome contributions from ISCO members. John McMurtrie, the current editor of the newsletter, after many years of making a major contribution and acting as a principal driving force within ISCO would like to take a step-back from producing the newsletter. All ISCO members to consider stepping-in to the role of newsletter editor. In terms of increasing membership, Bill Boyle raised issue about the need to get more members in Europe. CJ Beegle mentioned she would reach out to Norway members for interest in the Executive Committee. John Wardrop suggested that younger people should be involved in ISCO, and that more countries should be represented. He also suggested that ISCO would benefit from more regional press and communications.



ISCO NEWS (CONTINUED)

Other Items Discussed and Actions - Other topics were introduced and discussed. These are noted below. Action items are indicated in italics

1. ISCO's contribution to organizing a conference in Latin America later this year, which will involve novel case studies on the Wakashio oil spill and the Peru oil spill. *Carlos Sagrera and Matthew Sommerville have volunteered to progress this initiative.*
2. *Dr Larissa Montas volunteered to take charge of progressing ISCO's initiative in regard to the Nurdles matter.* Members of the Interim Executive (IE) have accepted her gracious offer. She will very much appreciate help and support from members and readers in fulfilling this role.
3. Mary Ann Dalgleish appealed to all attendees to participate regularly in the monthly meetings and being actively involved in developing ISCO.
4. *Captain Bill Boyle will speak to Al Briggs to get clarification on their membership preferences.*
5. *JMcM asked Rupert Bravery to help ISCO develop relationships with IPIECA and other organisations* where he has good contacts. Defining clear boundaries between the President and SG role. *John Wardrop committed to drafting job specs for these two roles.*
6. Widening ISCO's global footprint by increasing website content in other languages and increasing membership from more countries
7. Noting that oil spills are no longer in IMO's priority list- reducing carbon emissions is now at the top of the list.
8. Matthew Sommerville noted a proposal to have a delegate country propose a global/universal dispersant test, get traction on a paper and have ISCO contribute.

Close - No further topics were introduced, therefore the meeting host declared the meeting closed, and thanked everyone for their support.

MATTERS ON WHICH MEMBERS VOTED

MOTION	FOR	AGAINST
1. To approve the minutes of the 2021 AGM	100%	0%
2. To accept the Secretary-General's Report	100%	0%
3. To accept the Financial Report	100%	0%
4. To reappoint Kleinman Graham as Independent Auditors	100%	0%
5. Award of Hon.FISCO to Mary Ann Dalgleish, recognising her work over many years in Membership Management	100%	0%
6. Award of Hon.FISCO to Carlos Sagrera, in recognition of his work in promoting the work of isco in the Latin American Region	95%	5%
7. Award of Hon.FISCO to John Wardrop, in recognition of the very substantial amount of work done by him in the upgrading of ISCO's management system	100%	0%
8. Award of Hon.FISCO to Neil Marson, in recognition of his services as Secretary-General	95%	5%
9. To maintain the Membership Fees at the level set for 2021-2022	100%	0%

NEWS REPORTS FROM AROUND THE WORLD

AUSTRALIA: SAFER SEAS THANKS TO AUSTRALIAN PUSH FOR EMERGENCY TOWING GEAR

February 15 - International agreement to extend the mandatory installation of emergency towing hardware. The change, co-sponsored and pushed by Australia in partnership with several other countries, reduces potential harm to seafarers and sensitive marine areas by facilitating more rapid and safe responses to vessels in distress. AMSA / [Read more](#)

BRITISH VIRGIN ISLANDS: OIL SPILL RESPONDERS UPGRADE THEIR SKILLS

February 22 - Thirty-five persons have received training from Ambipar Response in best practices for managing oil spill events. The sessions were held on February 8 to 10 and February 13 to 16 and covered essentials of managing oil spill response including contingency planning, responder safety, spilled oil behaviour, oil containment and removal, and shoreline management. Government of the British Virgin Islands / [Read more](#)

GHANA: GPHA AND GHANA NAVY SIMULATE OIL SPILLAGE DRILL ON SEA

February 18 – The Marine Operations Unit of the Ghana Ports and Harbours Authority (GPHA) and the Ghana Navy have embarked on a joint simulation exercise to test their preparedness to respond to an oil spill on sea. Captain Francis Kwesi Micah, Harbour Master at the Tema Port explained that the simulation was staged for a level one oil spillage involving an illegal bunkering operation. Ghana Web / [Read more](#)



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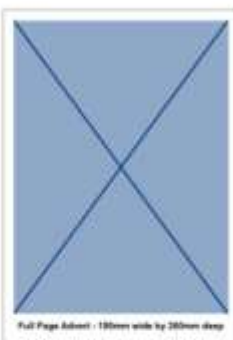
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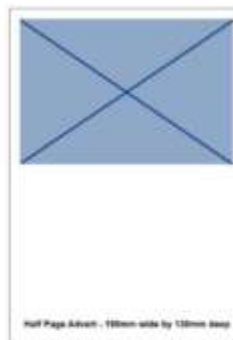
What is the ISCO Newsletter?

ISCO's weekly newsletter is focused in international, regional and national news that is of interest to professionals, companies and organisations involved in oil and chemical spill control and the emerging field of CBRN incident response.

Through the Newsletter and its other activities, ISCO is disseminating information on new developments – technical advances, legislation, events and other matters that affect the international spill response community.



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INDIA: COAST GUARD CONDUCTS MARITIME POLLUTION RESPONSE EXERCISE AT PORBANDAR



Photo courtesy of Indian Coast Guard

February 22 - Porbandar: Indian Coast Guard (ICG) conducted an Area Level Maritime Pollution Response Workshop and Exercise at Porbandar on 21 and 22 February 2023. The aim of this exercise was to check the response mechanism for combating marine oil spills and revalidate the District Oil Spill Disaster Contingency Plan of ICG.

The event was inaugurated by DIG SK Verghese, Commander, Coast Guard District Headquarters No. 1, Porbandar on Tuesday, 21 February 2023. Various stakeholder agencies including officials from GMB, Private Ports, Fisheries, Local Administration, Petrochemical Industries, Oil Handling Agencies and Scientists from International Centre for Ocean Information Services (INCOIS) delivered lectures and presentations during the workshop. Desh Gujarat / [Read more](#)

INDONESIA: STEMMING THE FLOW OF PLASTIC POLLUTION

February 19 - Indonesia is partnering with the Netherlands to scoop up waste from rivers before it reaches the ocean. The Maritime Executive / [Read more](#) under "Science & Technology" on Page 10.

USA: THE EPA STEPS IN TO TAKE OVER THE EAST PALESTINE TRAIN DERAILMENT CLEANUP

February 21 - The Environmental Protection Agency announced Tuesday that it would take control of the cleanup of a Norfolk Southern train derailment in Ohio earlier this month that released hazardous chemicals into the environment.

Crews are still working to respond to the freight disaster in East Palestine as community members worry about possible adverse health effects from the toxic materials released when dozens of cars derailed after a likely mechanical failure.

Under the legally binding order, Norfolk Southern must identify and clean up contaminated soil and water resources, pay for the costs of work performed by the EPA and reimburse the agency for additional cleaning services offered to residents and businesses.

The agency's move comes as the emergency response effort has now morphed into an environmental cleanup that is the responsibility of the railroad, EPA Administrator Michael Regan said during a Tuesday press conference. NPR / [Read more](#)

USA: LATEST NEWS FROM NOAA OR&R

February 27 - Please click on the link below to download and read the latest news from NOAA OR&R

[Engaging on Marine Debris at Alaska Forum on the Environment](#)

From Feb. 6-10, the NOAA Marine Debris Program, within the Office of Response and Restoration, attended and facilitated marine debris presentation and listening sessions at the Alaska Forum on the Environment.

CHILE: NEW LIAISON OFFICER OF THE ARGENTINE NAVAL PREFECTURE TAKES OFFICE

February 22 - After completing his period as Liaison Officer of the Argentine Naval Prefecture in the General Directorate of Maritime Territory and Merchant Marine, the Principal Prefect, José Cristián Abel Vigano, left his position as representative of the Trans-Andean Maritime Authority in our country, being relieved by the Principal Prefect, Mauricio Marcelo López.

The new Liaison Officer, Principal Prefect Mauricio López, will have the mission of continuing coordination between both institutions, all within the framework of the Cooperation Agreement between the General Directorate of Maritime Territory and Merchant Marine and the Argentine Naval Prefecture, signed in 2010 Armada de Chile Directemar / [Read more](#)

UK: VIRGINIA MCVEA APPOINTED CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER OF THE MARITIME AND COASTGUARD AGENCY



Photo courtesy of UK MCA

February 23 - Virginia McVea will become the new Chief Executive Officer of the Maritime and Coastguard Agency (MCA), overseeing the work of the agency as it responds to tens of thousands of incidents at sea every year, inspects thousands of UK-registered ships and protects over 11,000 miles of our coastline.

In her previous roles, Virginia was the CEO of the Human Rights Commission and most recently the Chief Electoral Officer of Northern Ireland – the largest single electoral administrative area for the UK

Her appointment comes at an important time for the MCA, as it continues working to ensure the UK is the world's best-performing coastal state and

takes a leading role in both the international and domestic maritime arenas.

Interim MCA Chief Executive Officer Damien Oliver said: "It's been the privilege of my life to lead this incredible organisation for the past several months". Gov. UK / [Read more](#)

AUSTRALIA: NATHAN YOUNG APPOINTED AS AMOSC MANAGER OPERATIONS

Nathan Young is the Manager Operations having joined AMOSC in early 2013 after 10 years experience in the oil industry.

Nathan commenced his career in the industry with Exxon Mobil as a mechanical technician in their UK based refinery, Fawley. During this time, Nathan picked up technical qualifications in mechanical operations and maintenance throughout the refinery. After this, Nathan moved into oil spill response with the Oil Spill Response Ltd based in Southampton. He worked mainly in the Operations and Projects team providing specialised services to clients.

Nathan has also worked in various spills throughout Europe, Africa, the Middle East, Asia and the USA. He also led and conducted training and advisory work in all of these locations.

AMOSC / [Read more](#)



BRAZIL: RODRIGO AGOSTINHO IS APPOINTED PRESIDENT OF IBAMA



February 24 - Biologist, environmentalist and lawyer Rodrigo Antonio de Agostinho Mendonça (45) was appointed on Friday (24/02) to the position of president of Ibama. Announced on 13/01 by Minister Marina Silva, the then parliamentarian decided to complete the mandate of federal deputy (PSB) by São Paulo, which would end on 31/01, before starting management at the Institute.

The inauguration will take place next Tuesday (28/02), during the inauguration of the Logistics and Support Center of the National Center for The Prevention and Fight of Forest Fires (Prevfogo) ibama, an event organized as part of the celebrations of the 34th anniversary of Ibama.

Agostinho graduated from the Law School of Bauru, with a postgraduate degree in: Strategic Management from the University of São Paulo (USP); Ecology and

Biodiversity by The Cândido Mendes University, in Brasília; Diplomacy, Public Policies and International Cooperation by the International University Center (Uninter), of São José do Rio Preto; Botany, Zoology and Climatology, the Metropolitan College of the State of São Paulo (Fameesp), in Ribeirão Preto (SP); and Environmental Law by the Renato Saraiva Teaching Complex (CERS), from Pernambuco. He also holds a Master's degree in Environmental Science and Technology with an emphasis on Conservation Ecology from Unisagrado, Bauru, and in Biological Sciences from the Metropolitan University of Santos. IBAMA / [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

FROM PETER CHENEY OF SLICKSLEUTH

“Oil spills are a significant environmental hazard that can cause harm to wildlife, aquatic ecosystems, and even human health. The traditional methods of oil spill detection, which involve physical contact with the spilled oil, can be dangerous and pose a risk to workers. In addition, these methods are often time-consuming and not very effective, making them unsuitable for early detection and response to oil spills. This is why there is a growing need for non-contact oil spill detection in oil storage facilities.

Oil storage facilities are crucial for the transportation and storage of large quantities of oil. However, due to the nature of the substance, these facilities are also susceptible to oil spills. A single spill can result in significant damage to the environment, as well as costly clean-up efforts. Moreover, if the spill goes undetected for a prolonged period, it can cause even more harm to the surrounding area.

Non-contact oil spill detection is a method of identifying oil spills without coming into direct contact with the spilled oil. This is achieved through the use of various sensing products from Slick Sleuth using fluorescence for remote sensing technique. Non-contact oil spill detection is not only safer for workers but also more effective in detecting oil spills at an early stage.

One of the most significant advantages of non-contact oil spill detection is its ability to detect spills in real-time. This enables workers to respond to spills quickly, reducing the amount of damage that is done to the environment. In addition, non-contact oil spill detection allows workers to monitor the spill remotely, reducing the need for workers to physically enter the spill area. Another advantage of non-contact oil spill detection is its ability to detect spills that are not visible to the naked eye. This is particularly useful in cases where spills are not easily detectable because they are hidden below the surface of the water or buried beneath the ground. Non-contact oil spill detection can detect even small spills, which can have a significant impact on the environment if left unaddressed.

In conclusion, the need for non-contact oil spill detection in oil storage facilities is critical for protecting the environment and ensuring the safety of workers. With its ability to detect spills in real-time and its effectiveness in detecting hidden spills, non-contact oil spill detection from Slick Sleuth is a necessary tool for ensuring the proper management of oil storage facilities and reducing the impact of oil spills on the environment”. Peter Cheney peterc@slicksleuth.eu

PHILIPPINE COAST GUARD SIGNS PACT WITH OSRL TO ENHANCE OIL SPILL RESPONSE

Photo courtesy of Philippine Coast Guard

February 21 - Adm. Artemio Abu, PCG commandant, and Oil Spill Response Limited (OSRL) Regional Director for Asia Pacific Darren Waterman signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) in Malate, Manila on Monday, Feb. 20.

Under the MoU, the PCG and OSRL have committed to share response planning information; conduct joint trainings; and develop protocols for mobilization, coordination and mutual assistance during oil spill operations. “The PCG is honored to begin its partnership with OSRL and we are confident that together, we can find and create sustainable solutions to mitigating the impacts



LARGE OPPORTUNITY FOR NORLENSE AT FISKEBØL



Photo courtesy of Aurora Borealis / NorLense

February 22 - NorLense was chosen as supplier after a long process, in which the Canadian customers visited two Norwegian and one Finnish supplier in the last round, and tested their respective oil spill protection equipment at sea.

This is one of many in a long line of orders for our innovative product line. The NorLense Oil Trawl is an innovative solution for collecting oil spills at sea, the Oil Trawl makes collection safer, faster, easier and more efficient.

High Speed - The Oil Trawl is a high-speed system that efficiently handles the recovery of oil at speeds up to 5 knots, while ordinary conventional oil trawls only handle speeds up to approx. 1 knot.

NEWS FROM ISCO MEMBERS (CONTINUED)

Designed for safety of the user - The Oil Trawl with all associated equipment is stored in a container, and can be set out directly from the container to sea. The Oil Trawl has automatic air filling, which means that only one person is needed to deploy the system out. The solution has been developed to have as safe a working environment as possible for operators. No people need to be on deck between the container and the sea during the operation.

Fully Integrated solution - The Oil Trawl is an in-line integrated continuous recovery solution, where it collects oil, separates the oil from water and stores the oil in a closed bag. The collection bag has an indicator that shows when it is full, and then the oil can be pumped back to the ship using a built-in pump mounted on the bag.

Tested in Ohmsett USA - The Oil Trawl is tested and certified in Ohmsett New Jersey USA, which is a leader in testing oil protection equipment. The test of the oil trawl was very successful with collection rates of up to 92%.

For more information contact: Kevin Bond- Senior Sales Manager Mobile: +44 77757 43130 / kevin@norlense.com
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NURDLES - PREVENTION, CLEAN-UP TECHNOLOGY AND ONGOING R&D WORK

The ISCO Executive Committee is looking into how our organisation can assist by co-operating with others in promulgating better prevention and response capabilities that can be adopted on a worldwide basis. Readers of the ISCO Newsletter are invited to contribute information that can be shared within our community and help to improve our capability to counter this pollution in more effective ways.

FROM YOUR EDITOR, OBSERVATIONS ON SOME CURRENT CLEAN-UP METHODS

Nurdles are lentil-sized plastic pellets that get washed up on shorelines following marine accidents, such as the loss overboard of containers loaded with palletised bags of nurdles. Containers often get damaged with resultant release of their contents. The small plastic pellets tend to get mixed with other beach materials and are difficult to separate and recover.

The most basic approach – Simple tools (shovels and hand-held sieves). A slow and very labour-intensive method. Sieves are used to shake out sand and capture plastic pellets together with some other inorganic and organic beach material.

Sucking up of nurdles deposits on shorelines – Vac systems ranging from small hand-held suction tools to towed or self-propelled systems are used to pick up nurdles together with other beach materials. Skilled operators can maximise the proportion of nurdles in the mixture being picked up.

Use of rotating sieves or other sieving systems - These are used to concentrate the quantity of nurdles in the recovered materials. Mesh sizes can be selected to (a) allow sand particles smaller than the pellets to be dropped out and (b) allow nurdles and similarly sized materials to be selectively separated from the mixture of recovered materials. Larger, almost completely nurdle-free material could be returned to the beach.

The end product will be quantities of a mixture of nurdles and some other, mainly inorganic, particles. Having seen photos of a warehouse full of large bags of this material, the next priority is safe disposal.

An ideal answer could be further processing to obtain plastics manufacturing feedstock that can be utilised for the original purpose of the lost nurdles. R&D work will be needed. One avenue might be use of solvent washing (with subsequent solvent recovery for re-use) to extract the plastic component.

Gravity Difference - Some types of plastic pellets may be light enough to float on the surface of water and, being heavier, sand will sink. This opens another possible route for separation of nurdles from heavier beach material using open top water tanks or man-made lagoons.

Another idea might be to carry out experimentation and testing to investigate possibility of other uses. One option might be incorporation in building materials such as bricks or concrete. There may well be other possibilities.

No doubt many scientists will be focusing on finding practical solutions to the problems and we will hope to publish information on the outcomes of these endeavours.

FROM A TRADE WINDS / GREEN SEAS ARTICLE

“There are a number of routes that IMO members could take to achieve this. Critically, if IMO members were to vote to legally classify pellets as marine pollutants, this would immediately trigger significant improvements in the way that pellets are packaged, labelled, stowed and transported around the world,” said Martin.

“We are also campaigning for national administrations, under the auspices of the IMO, to work together to develop standardised disaster response protocols to help with the containment and clean-up of large-scale spillages from ships.”

NURDLES - PREVENTION, CLEAN-UP TECHNOLOGY AND ONGOING R&D WORK (CONTINUED)

In an IMO correspondence group set up to tackle the problem, delegations have considered measures including amending the International Convention for the Prevention of Marine Pollution from Ships, or Marpol, to classify plastic pellets as a hazardous substance. That would trigger labelling and stowage rules.

Another option would be to classify nurdles as dangerous goods under another international law, the International Maritime Dangerous Goods (IMDG) Code, although this might take longer to make happen.

Also under consideration is adding a new chapter to Marpol focused specifically on plastic pellets, but this would take time and environmental groups warn that it would give insufficient recognition of the hazards of plastic pollution.

In the meantime, IMO officials are weighing a draft circular that would provide guidance on reducing plastic pellet pollution. After all, not all delegations are on board with adopting mandatory rules right away.

“We might consider an amendment to Marpol at the appropriate time,” said Argentina’s delegation in comments submitted in January. “At this stage, we would prefer a set of guidelines that could allow for a learning process that might pave the way for a future mandatory instrument.” [Link to download this article](#)

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/>

STEMMING THE FLOW OF INDONESIA'S PLASTIC POLLUTION

February 19 - Indonesia is partnering with the Netherlands to scoop up waste from rivers before it reaches the ocean



The success of Interceptor 001 in capturing plastic waste in Cengkareng Drain in Jakarta has prompted plans for a roll out to over 60 rivers in Indonesia (Image courtesy of : The Ocean Cleanup)

A curved boom, known as Interceptor 001, traps rubbish floating along a drainage canal in North Jakarta.

Discarded plastic bottles, food packaging and other debris are scooped up and moved along a conveyor belt into a boat. Once sorted, the plastics will be recycled.

The trial has been a success, triggering plans to deploy more Interceptors nationally.

The project is a partnership between the Indonesian and Dutch governments and Dutch non-profit the Ocean Cleanup. The Maritime Executive / [Read more](#)

SUCKING UP PLASTIC PELLETS – THE PORTBIN SHORE CLEANER



Trond Lindheim of Spilltech in Norway writes – “Interesting to see that more and more of the “oil spill community” are following the “marine littering path”. For us this has been our main focus internationally since we started [SpillTech](#), - with our [PortBinToolbox](#). (But we do continue the work with oilspill prevention in Norway)

In our [PortBin Toolbox](#) we have under development a new tool [PortBin ShoreCleaner](#) system that fit the challenge around nurdels. We are at the time being working on a 0-series production of the system. The goals are to make a very portable and efficient system.

Watch the PortBin Shore Cleaner in action at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=w8x3iS7mjfE>

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.

47. Isotopic and microbial evidence for biodegradation of diluted bitumen in the unsaturated zone

Mindorff, L.M., Mahmoudi, N., Hepditch, S.L.J., Langlois, V.S., Alam, S., Martel, R., Ahad, J.M.E. (2023) *Environmental Pollution*, 322, art. no. 121170, .
DOI: 10.1016/j.envpol.2023.121170

ABSTRACT: The oil sands region in Western Canada is one of the world's largest proven oil reserves. To facilitate pipeline transport, highly viscous oil sands bitumen is blended with lighter hydrocarbon fractions to produce diluted bitumen (dilbit). Anticipated increases in dilbit production and transport raise the risk of inland spills. To understand the behaviour of dilbit in the unsaturated or vadose zone following a surface spill, we ran parallel dilbit and conventional heavy crude exposures, along with an untreated control, using large soil-filled columns over 104 days. Phospholipid fatty acids (PLFAs), biomarkers for the active microbial population, were extracted from column soil cores. Stable carbon isotope contents ($\delta^{13}C$) of individual PLFAs and radiocarbon contents ($\Delta^{14}C$) of bulk PLFAs were characterized over the course of the experiment. The $\Delta^{14}C_{PLFA}$ values in soils impacted by dilbit (-221.1 to -54.7%) and conventional heavy crude (-259.4 to -97.9%) indicated similar levels of microbial uptake of fossil carbon. In contrast, $\Delta^{14}C_{PLFA}$ values in the control column (-46.1 to $+53.7\%$) reflected assimilation of more recently fixed organic carbon. Sequencing of 16S ribosomal RNA genes extracted from soil cores revealed a significant increase in the relative abundance of *Polaromonas*, a known hydrocarbon-degrader, following exposure to both types of oil. This study demonstrates that in the first several months following a surface spill, dilbit has a similar potential for biodegradation by a native shallow subsurface microbial community as conventional heavy crude oil.

48. Dynamic *cyp1a1* transcript responses in the caudal fin of coho salmon (*Oncorhynchus kisutch*) smolts to low sulfur marine diesel water accommodated fraction exposures and depuration

Thambirajah, A.A., Miliano, R.C., Abbott, E.A., Buday, C., Shang, D., Kwok, H., Helbing, C.C. (2023) *Aquatic Toxicology*, 256, art. no. 106412, .
DOI: 10.1016/j.aquatox.2023.106412

ABSTRACT: Oil spills that occur in high traffic coastal environments can have profound consequences for the health of marine ecosystems and the commercial and social interests that are dependent upon these habitats. Given that the global reliance on marine fuels is not abating, it is imperative to develop sensitive and robust tools to monitor oil contamination and remediation in a timely manner. Such tools are increasingly important for ascertaining the immediate and long-term effects of oil contamination on species of interest and local habitats as water-soluble components of oils, such as polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs), can

persist post-remediation. We previously demonstrated that 3-methylcholanthrene responsive cytochrome P450–1a (*cyp1a1*) transcript abundance in the liver and caudal fin of coho salmon smolts (*Onchorhynchus kisutch*) was sensitive to exposure to low sulfur marine diesel (LSMD) seawater accommodated fractions (seaWAF) in cold water. We expanded upon this paradigm by assessing the utility of the *cyp1a1* transcript to track both exposure to LSMD seaWAF and recovery from exposure by measuring *cyp1a1* abundance in coho smolts using quantitative polymerase chain reaction (qPCR). Smolts were exposed to either 100 mg/L LSMD seaWAF or clean seawater (control) for 4 days. Fish were then transferred to clean seawater for depuration and tissues sampled at 0, 1, 2, 4, and 8 days from both treatments. Livers and caudal fins were dissected from 40 smolts per group (ntotal = 400 smolts). The LSMD seaWAF-induced *cyp1a1* transcript levels significantly decreased one day after depuration in the liver and caudal fin in a sex-independent manner in genotyped females and males. After four days of depuration, *cyp1a1* transcript abundance decreased to baseline control levels, regardless of tissue or sex. The present study demonstrates the value of using the caudal fin as a reliable, sensitive, and non-lethal sampling and monitoring tool.

49. Impacts of microplastic–petroleum pollution on nutrient uptake, growth, and antioxidative activity of *Chlorella vulgaris*

Gao, L., Su, Y., Fan, H., Xie, Y., Mehmood, T., Liu, S., Bao, R., Peng, L.
(2023) *Aquatic Toxicology*, 255, art. no. 106395,
DOI: 10.1016/j.aquatox.2023.106395

ABSTRACT: As one of the emerging pollutants, microplastics (MPs; <5 mm) can interact with co-contaminants such as petroleum in marine aquatic systems, and their combined toxicity has not been fully investigated. Therefore, this study focused on pollutants such as micro-sized polyethylene (mPE) and petroleum, aiming to explore their single and combined toxicities to microalga *Chlorella vulgaris* in terms of the cell growth, antioxidative enzymes, and nutrients utilization. The results showed that the MPs alone (particle sizes (i.e., 13, 165, 550 μm), concentrations (i.e., 0.01, 0.1, and 1 g/L), and aging degrees (i.e., aged for 0 d and 90 d under UVA)), and petroleum alone (5% water accommodated fraction, WAF), and their combinations (i.e., 5% WAF + 165 μm –0.1 g/L–aged 0 d mPE, 5% WAF + 165 μm –0.1 g/L–aged 90 d mPE) all posed toxicities risk to *C. vulgaris*, following an increase in oxidative stress. The cellular utilization of elements such as Fe, Si, Ca, and Mg was inhibited, whereas the uptake of Mn, $\text{NO}_3\text{--N}$, and $\text{PO}_4\text{--P}$ increased as compared to the control experiments. Furthermore, the relationship between nutrients and growth indicators was analyzed using a structural equation model. The results indicated that Fe and Mn directly affected the indirect $\text{NO}_3\text{--N}$ absorption by *C. vulgaris*, which indirectly affected the dry cell weight (DCW) of the microalgae. The path coefficient of Fe and Mn affecting nitrate was 0.399 and 0.388, respectively. The absorption of N was the key step for *C. vulgaris* resist stress. This study provides a novel analysis of the effects of MPs on the growth of microalgae from the perspective of nutrient elements, thereby providing a useful basis for further exploration of the associated mechanisms.

50. Dissolved/dispersed polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbon spatial and temporal changes in the Western Gulf of Mexico

Gold-Bouchot, G., Arcega-Cabrera, F., Ceja-Moreno, V.
(2023) *Frontiers in Marine Science*, 9, art. no. 1069315,
DOI: 10.3389/fmars.2022.1069315

ABSTRACT: Oil extraction and transport activities in the Gulf of Mexico (GoM), along with major marine oil spills and riverine inputs, are exerting environmental pressure on this system by increasing the concentration of oil-related pollutants such as polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs). To fully identify these changes related to oil activities, current PAH levels should be established. Here, we present the PAH concentration and the low molecular weight/high molecular weight (LMW/HMW) ratios obtained in the Perdido Fold Belt area in surface and bottom water at four cruises from May 2016 to September 2017. The Perdido 1 (P1) cruise was conducted in May 2016, the Perdido 2 (P2) cruise in September–October 2016, the Perdido 3 (P3) cruise in June 2017, and the Perdido 4 (P4) cruise in September 2017. Samples were taken during each cruise at up to 3,500-m depth, the deepest ever recorded for the GoM. Results show that the highest concentrations of PAH, LMW PAHs, and HMW PAHs were found in the P4 cruise (1.15, 1.05, and 0.10 $\mu\text{g/L}$, respectively), well below the 300 $\mu\text{g/L}$ guideline for acute exposure. LMW/HMW ratios show that only the P1 cruise indicates pyrogenic hydrocarbons, while P2, P3, and P4 were petrogenic. The spatial distribution of total PAH, LMW, and HMW showed higher values in the southern and northeastern areas, except for P4, which showed high values related to riverine inputs. The complex hydrodynamic in the region was found to have a significant effect on PAH seasonal changes, river contributions, eddy circulation, and fronts to promote their dispersion.

51. Towards relevant ecological experiments and assessments of coastal oil spill effects: Insights from the 2010 Deepwater Horizon oil spill

RECENT INTERESTING PEER-REVIEWED OIL SPILL PUBLICATIONS (CONTINUED)

Martin, C.W., McDonald, A.M., Valentine, J.F., Roberts, B.J.

(2023) *Frontiers in Environmental Science*, 10, art. no. 1092097, <https://www.scopus.com/inward/record.uri?eid=2-s2.0-85146744249&doi=10.3389/fenvs.2022.1092097&partnerID=40&md5=f500d6173509c93e85e6dc939e2528c3>

DOI: 10.3389/fenvs.2022.1092097

INTRODUCTION: The health of coastal environments is at risk due to exploitation of economically valuable minerals, including oil and natural gas. Impacts to biota occur both directly (e.g., chemical toxicity, foraging/growth changes, behavioral alterations; McDonald et al., 2022) and indirectly (e.g., environmental conditions, cleanup/mitigation activities, food web alterations; McCann et al., 2017; Lewis et al., 2022). Despite acknowledgement of adverse effects, our understanding of oil spill impacts has been driven by unplanned disasters, including Exxon Valdez (Peterson et al., 2003), Ixtoc (Soto et al., 2014), Arthur Kill (Burger 1994), Falmouth Harbor (Reddy et al., 2002), and numerous smaller spills (Rozas et al., 2000; Roth and Baltz 2009). Smaller spills are frequent, with hundreds reported monthly in the United States (USCG National Response Center reports >20,000 calls per year) and many are sufficiently small enough to not initiate management response. In Louisiana (United States), oil spill response efforts are coordinated by the Louisiana Oil Spill Coordinator's Office (LOSCO) and in 2021, 90 spills triggered on-scene response activities by LOSCO (<https://data.losco.org/>)

On 20-April-2010, an explosion aboard the Deepwater Horizon (DwH) drilling platform off the Louisiana coast created fires resulting in the uncontrolled release of petroleum into the Gulf of Mexico (GoM). The depth, ~1500 m, was an obstacle preventing the immediate capping of the damaged wellhead, which leaked for 87 days. A significant portion of the five million+ barrels released (McNutt et al., 2012) inundated wetlands throughout Louisiana, Mississippi, Alabama, and Florida (Michel et al., 2013; Nixon et al., 2016). The volume, temporal and spatial heterogeneity in oil coverage, disproportionate weathering and unknown organism tolerances, plus unintended impacts from mitigation activities, all limited accurate damage assessments. To better understand DwH impacts, the Gulf of Mexico Research Initiative (GoMRI) was established and administered approximately \$500 M USD, largely for DwH research, data archival efforts, and outreach over a 10-year period (Shepherd et al., 2016).

Here, we draw on archived GOMRI studies of DwH impacts in nearshore, coastal ecosystems to: 1) highlight the volume and diversity of information obtained via funding, 2) discuss major uncertainties and variability in impact determinations, and 3) provide recommendations to improve future environmental assessments. Given continued and growing coastal development and exploitation of nearshore resources in GoM waters, unexpected disasters will likely reoccur, and discussion of major challenges will guide future experimental and empirical determinations.

52. Fingerprinting an oil spill event (August of 2021) in the oceanic Fernando de Noronha archipelago using biomarkers and stable carbon isotopes

Bastos, L.P.H., da Costa Cavalcante, D., Alferes, C.L.F., da Silva, D.B.N., de Oliveira Ferreira, L., Rodrigues, R., Pereira, E.

(2022) *Marine Pollution Bulletin*, 185, art. no. 114316,

DOI: 10.1016/j.marpolbul.2022.114316

ABSTRACT: After the most catastrophic oil spill event on the Brazilian coast (2019/2020), a new incident of unknown causes sent, in August of 2021, approximately 1.3 tons of plastics and oil to the Fernando de Noronha Archipelago (Brazil). The material was restricted to the area known as the windward coast, which receives the influence of the South Equatorial Current. On 18 August 2021, our research team collected samples from different oiled shoreline sites (Caieiras and Sueste beaches) to provide the chemical fingerprint of the spilled oil and to compare that with previous oil spill events and exploited oils. We combined $\delta^{13}C$ data from whole oil, saturated and aromatic fractions with the chromatographic signature revealing the first fingerprint of the spilled oil. The biomarker signature in association with the isotopic composition of the oils (~-26.5 ‰) undoubtedly excludes the correlation with the most extensive oil spill registered in Brazil (2019/2020). Fingerprints from the spilled oil in Fernando de Noronha suggest a potential correlation with source rocks deposited in a lacustrine setting (e.g., the east coast of Brazil and the west coast of Africa). Regardless, the chromatographic signature coupled with the isotopic data excludes a direct correlation with any specific Brazilian or African oil. In the case of a new oil spill event, the reported fingerprint will be critical to verify whether the oil is coming from the same source or a different source

TRAINING COURSES (

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USEFUL LINKS

- INTERNATIONAL – IMO E-LEARNING PLATFORM [e-learning platform](#)
- AUSTRALIA – AMOSC - <https://amosc.com.au/training/>

TRAINING COURSES (

- AUSTRALIA & NEW ZEALAND – ALGA - <https://landandgroundwater.com>
- CHINA - <http://www.sioetc.com>
- EUROPE – EMSA Academy 2022. Courses Catalogue
- FRANCE - CEDRE - <https://wwz.cedre.fr/Menu-secondaire/A-la-une/Le-calendrier-des-formations-2023-est-disponible>
- 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

CERTIFICATE IN MARINE POLLUTION & MANAGEMENT – LLOYD’S MARITIME ACADEMY

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

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FEBRUARY 2023

- Portugal – World Ocean Summit & Expo, February 27 – March 1, Lisbon, Portugal
- USA: Free NPETE US DOT PHMSA HMIT Grant HAZMAT Regulations Awareness Training Workshop, Las Vegas, Nevada, Feb 28-Mar 2. 2023

MARCH 2023

- WEBINAR – EM OSR KNOWLEDGE TRANSFER- “OIL SPILL ASSESSMENT AND CLEAN-UP THROUGH THE AGES”, DR ERICH GUNDLACH. 7TH MARCH
- USA: FREE NPETE US DOT PHMSA HMIT GRANT HAZMAT REGULATIONS AWARENESS TRAINING WORKSHOP
- 3/7/2023 » 3/9/2023 LOCATION: CLYDE, NORTH CAROLINA
- WEBINAR from UK & Ireland Spill Association – “Identifying and Operating Effective Equipment for Microplastic Recovery”, Wednesday 15th March, 1500 GMT
- NORWAY – NOSCA SEMINAR 2023, BODO, NORWAY, 20-24 MARCH, 2023
- FRANCE – CEDRE INFORMATION DAY – “Spill Response Training, Responses & Challenges” Tuesday 21st March 2023
- WEBINAR FROM ALGA – “MICROPLASTICS POLICIES & RESEARCH AROUND THE GLOBE”, THURSDAY 23 MARCH, 8.00AM – 9.30AM AEDT
- GABON – OSRL Technical Forum, 23 March 2023
- IRELAND – UK & Ireland Spill Association – Regional Networking Event – Belfast, 29th March 2023

APRIL 2023 & ONWARDS

- OSRL WEBINAR – “SUBSEA RESPONSE READINESS”, WEDNESDAY 5 APRIL, 1400 GMT
- WEBINAR FROM UK SPILL & IRELAND ASSOCIATION – “SUSTAINABLE SPILL RESPONSE”, WEDNESDAY 19 APRIL, 1500 BST
- CROATIA – ADRIASPILLCON Conference & Exhibition, Opatija, 16-18 May 2023
- CANADA – 45th Technical Seminar on Environmental Contamination & Response, Edmonton, Alberta, 4-6 June, 2023
- AUSTRALIA – University of NSW, “Bioremediation Symposium”, 7th June 2023
- USA – Clean Waterways Conference & Exhibition, Denver CO, 11-13 April 2023
- FRANCE - European Maritime Day, Brest, France, 24-25 May, 2023
- UK: Hazmat 2023 Conference, 24-25 May 2023

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SOME OTHER INFO AND UPCOMING EVENTS

Details of 7 more webinars from US EPA at <https://clu-in.org/techdirect/td022023.htm>

UPCOMING EVENTS (CONTINUED)

Australia – April 26 & 27 – PFAS Training & Workshop, University of Technology, Sydney – [More info](#)
USA: May 8, 2023 - APICOM GM Meeting, Santa Barbara, CA, Location - MSRC's facility at Carpinteria
Recordings of past EM OSR Knowledge Transfer Webinar Recordings – [Access and Download](#)

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, DENVER, 11-13 APRIL, 2023

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. Updated information received on 8th February](#)

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, complemented with an exhibition of relevant products and services, aims at providing a forum for exchange of experience and knowledge in the fields of prevention, preparedness for and response to accidental marine pollution by oil and other hazardous and noxious substances (HNS), among the participants from the Adriatic region and their counterparts from other parts of Europe and the Mediterranean.

All the relevant information is now available on the Conference website <https://adriaspillcon.com/>.

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/>

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

Time is running out for submission of abstracts - Deadline is 24th February. For more info and list of topics, click [HERE](#)

MESSAGES FROM EVENT ORGANISERS (CONTINUED)

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.

USA: IOSC 2024 CALL FOR PAPERS AND POSTERS REMINDER

The International Oil Spill Conference (IOSC) brings together the broadest range of global oil spill response professionals to discuss the latest research, technology, and resources impacting our community today. Submit a proposal to become a leader at our next convening in New Orleans, Louisiana, May 13 - 16, 2024.

Click on <https://ssl.linklings.net/conferences/IOSC/> to visit the submission site. Then, select the "Create an Account" tab at the top of the page to begin your submission. All submissions are due April 24, 2023

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

OTHER OPPORTUNITIES: USA & EUROPE

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EMSA HAS LAUNCHED A NEW PROCUREMENT PROCEDURE FOR SERVICE CONTRACT FOR EQUIPMENT ASSISTANCE SERVICE (EAS) IN THE BALTIC SEA AND THE NORTH SEA. [More info](#)

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NEW PUBLICATIONS

EMSA NEWSLETTER FOR FEBRUARY 2023



In this issue: New working arrangement signed with European Commission to ensure timely action in the face of maritime emergencies; 19th Inter-Secretariat meeting brings together representatives from regional agreements, European Commission and EMSA in London; ECGFF Cybersecurity Working Group hold workshop at EMSA; Mediterranean AIS Expert Working Group held in Rome; Supporting European Neighbourhood Countries' preparation for IMO Audit Scheme; EMSA has developed and released the Flag State Inspection functionality in RuleCheck.

On 2 February our Executive Director Maja Markovčić Kostelac, Deputy Director-General for Mobility and Transport (DG MOVE) Maja Bakran Marcich, and acting Director for European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations (DG ECHO) Julia Stewart-David signed a new working arrangement aimed at strengthening the maritime emergency response capacity in Europe and worldwide.

[Download the February 2023 Newsletter](#)

INCIDENT REPORTS

MARITIME ACCIDENT REPORTS FROM THE MARITIME BULLETIN www.maritimebulletin.net

In the Maritime Bulletin, Mikhail Voytenko regularly advises on vessel abandonments, groundings and sinkings – several every week

INCIDENT REPORTS (CONTINUED)

– but, unless there is an immediate and significant release of oil or chemicals, spillages are not reported. However, many of Mikhail's reports cover incidents that may have potential to cause pollution. To view all of his reports, visit <https://www.maritimebulletin.net/>

USA: OHIO – CONTINUATION OF REPORTS ON RAILROAD DERAILMENT

February 20 - EPA orders rail company to clean up toxic Ohio spill. Sun / [Read more](#)

February 23 - NTSB releases preliminary report on Ohio derailment that led to toxic chemical spill PBS / [Read more](#)

February 24 - Animal Deaths Calculated At 43,700 Following Train Derailment In East Palestine Yahoo / [Read more](#)

February 24 - Deer Park facility received half a million gallons of Ohio derailment's toxic runoff ABC / [Read more](#)

SPAIN DETAINS TANKER OVER MEDITERRANEAN OIL DISCHARGE

February 21 - Spain has detained and fined a Maltese-flagged oil tanker it says discharged oil in open waters near the northeastern port city of Tarragona, a transport ministry department said. Spanish authorities said they had intercepted the Lagertha after a discharge of hydrocarbons was detected by aircraft sensors and satellite radar on Feb. 11. gCaptain / [Read more](#)

BLACK SEA: CARGO SHIP BREAKS IN TWO AND SINKS IN STORM

February 21 - A small cargo ship registered in Comoros and operated by a Russian crew was caught in a fierce winter storm in the Black Sea causing it to break apart and sink. The Maritime Executive / [Read more](#)

USA: HAWAII - GROUNDED LUXURY YACHT SPILLS DIESEL IN MAUI'S HONOLUA BAY

February 22 - The U.S. Coast Guard is responding to a 94-foot luxury yacht that grounded on a reef on the north side of Honolua Bay in Maui on Monday. gCaptain / [Read more](#)

UAE: DUBAI - GLAMOROUS BEACH FOULED BY PLASTIC PELLETS

February 21 - Volunteers are helping to clean up what they estimate to be 1,000 tonnes of tiny white beads. Apparently, the bags of pellets fell from a container at sea. Luckily, most were still in bulk bags, so the spill was more easily contained.

The Maritime Executive / [Read more](#)

INDIAN OCEAN: BITUMEN TANKER AASHI UPDATE

February 22 - Bitumen is leaking, leak spread some 70 kilometers. Tanker seems to be total loss. Maritime Bulletin / [Read more](#)

COLOMBIA OIL PIPELINE OPERATOR CENIT WORKING TO CONTAIN DAMAGE FOLLOWING SPILL

February 21 - Colombian oil pipeline operator Cenit is working to contain damage from an oil spill from the Transandino pipeline (OTA), which was caused by an illegal valve used to siphon off crude, the company said in a statement on Tuesday.

Reuters / [Read more](#)

UK: TEAMS AT TENBURY WELLS DEALS WITH OIL SPILL IN RIVER

February 24 - OIL has been spotted spilling into a Worcestershire river as teams try to contain the spillage. Environment Agency Midlands have been trying to contain an oil spillage in the River Teme at Tenbury Wells with booms and oil absorbent pads.

Malvern Gazette / [Read more](#)

USA: MISSISSIPPI - CHEMICAL SPILL LEAKS INTO CREEK IN DESOTO COUNTY

February 26 - There has been a reported chemical spill in Hernando, Mississippi. The chemical spill resulted from a fire at Schultz Xtruded Products, a business located near MacCracken Road. DeSoto County officials confirm that the fire is due to a container that housed Hydrofluoric Acid that resulted in the chemical leaking into the Mussacuna Creek. Action News / [Read more](#)

STOP PRESS – BREAKING NEWS

FIVE STAFF MEMBERS OF ISCO CORPORATE MEMBER, CTEH RM. DIE IN AEROPLANE CRASH

February 26 – This very sad news has just been received from Matthew Sommerville in London.

Press reports state – “Five people were killed in a twin-engine plane crash in Little Rock, Arkansas, on Wednesday, officials said.

The twin-engine Beech BE20 crashed in a wooded area after taking off from Little Rock's Bill and Hillary Clinton National Airport. It was en route to John Glenn Columbus International Airport in Ohio. All five people were employees at Little Rock-based consulting firm CTEH.



Above: the 5 CTWH staff who died following the plane crash on 22nd February - Gunter Beaty, Kyle Bennett, Micah Kendrick, Sean Sweeney and Glenmarkus Walker.

Related Press Reports -

[5 killed in twin-engine plane crash in Little Rock - ABC News](#)

[Five killed in plane crash were environmental consultants on their way to metal factory explosion | Daily Mail Online](#)

[5 killed in Little Rock plane crash with no survivors - The Washington Post](#)

The ISCO team is shocked to hear this tragic news and sends its condolences to the families and colleagues of the victims of this dreadful accident.

Helen Dubach, Director, Environmental Response at CTEH. Helen Dubach was at ITOFF as a Senior Technical Advisor 2006-2010 before going with Ed Owens on Macondo and then stayed in USA with CTEH from 2017.

Matthew has written to Helen – “Helen - Tragic news about the team. Let's me know if I can help in any way and we can make space in ISCO newsletter if you want to message the wider community”, and has received the following reply -

“Thanks Matthew, we are all devastated. I think the best way ISCO could help would be to share the **gofundme** that we have set up for the victims’ families.

Perhaps you could post the following:

On Wednesday, February 22, 2023, CTEH tragically lost 5 members of our family: Gunter Beaty, Kyle Bennett, Micah Kendrick, Sean Sweeney and Glenmarkus Walker.

They were valuable members of our team and CTEH family. CTEH would like to thank everyone for their kind words and offer of support. In response to the overwhelming number of offers of support for the families of the CTEH members who lost their lives this week, Montrose and CTEH are providing the following options to allow our friends and industry partners to give directly to the families. The Montrose Community Foundation is a 501c-3 nonprofit organization. It is an entirely separate entity from Montrose and run by volunteers. Donations are confidential and tax deductible. You can donate directly to the foundation here: https://www.paypal.com/donate/?hosted_button_id=PBTVSD8LSG9SY

As an alternative, we’ve set up a separate CTEH Family Fund though GoFundMe here: <https://www.gofundme.com/f/the-cteh-family-we-recently-lost>

Donations to this fund are visible to others and are also tax deductible. Please choose either fund as you like. Both of these fundraising initiatives will run through the end of March and will be distributed evenly among the families at that time. Thank you so much for your support for CTEH and our hurting families during this difficult time”.

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