

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 the International Oil Pollution Compensation Funds

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HEADLINE INTERNATIONAL NEWS

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FSO SAFER: CALL FOR EQUIPMENT FOR OIL SPILL RESPONSE PREPAREDNESS



April 24 - IMO is urging Member States to contribute equipment to help UN-led efforts to prevent a possible catastrophic oil spill from the FSO SAFER, an ageing and rapidly decaying floating storage offshore (FSO) unit moored 4.8 nautical miles off the Red Sea coast of Yemen. IMO is providing expertise in oil spill preparedness and response as part of the contingency planning for a possible oil spill from the FSO SAFER, in line with its mandate set out in the International Convention on Oil Pollution Preparedness, Response and Co-operation (OPRC).

A converted super tanker, the FSO SAFER contains an estimated 150,000 metric tonnes (approximately 1.1 million barrels) of crude oil, four times the amount spilled during the Exxon Valdez incident in 1989. It has been moored at Ras Isa since 1988 where it had been receiving, storing and exporting crude oil flowing from the Marib oil fields. But in 2015, due to the war in Yemen, production, offloading and maintenance operations on the FSO SAFER were suspended.

FSO SAFER has not been inspected since then, but all assessments of its structural integrity suggest it has now deteriorated to the extent that it is beyond repair, and at

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HEADLINE INTERNATIONAL NEWS (CONTINUED)

imminent risk of breaking up or exploding. The danger is of a significant oil spill that would surpass Yemen's capacity and resources to effectively respond.

On 9 March, the UN Development Programme (UNDP) signed an agreement to purchase a very large crude carrier (VLCC), the Nautica, to take on the oil from the FSO SAFER by emergency ship-to-ship transfer. Such operations are complex and inherently risky.

The Nautica left Zhousha in China on 6 April and is expected to arrive in the Red Sea in early May.

Contingency planning for the transfer operation is, therefore, intensifying. One critical gap identified in Yemen's preparedness to respond to an oil spill is the lack of specialized equipment within the country.

Because of lengthy lead times for the manufacture and acquisition of oil spill response equipment, IMO is seeking contributions of used or near end-of-life spill response equipment that can be transported to the region within weeks.

An indicative list of the required equipment annexed to [Circular Letter No.4714](#) includes items for the containment and recovery and the resource protection aspects of the operation, such as booms to contain any spill and oil skimmer brushes, as well as oil dispersants and rapid erection, self-standing storage tanks.

Information on who to contact with expressions of interest, or for additional information, can be found [here](#).

An oil spill from the FSO SAFER would be a major humanitarian and environmental disaster likely to heavily impact the north-western coastline of Yemen, including the Yemeni Islands in the Red Sea, and Kamaran Island in particular - an area that encompasses vulnerable ecosystems. There is also potential for oil to drift and impact neighbouring countries, including Djibouti, Eritrea and Saudi Arabia.

Many Yemeni coastal communities that could be affected already rely on humanitarian aid to meet their basic needs, and a significant oil spill would seriously impact on the health and livelihoods of the people relying on resources from the sea. It could also severely disrupt operations at Yemen's Hudaydah port, the point of entry for essential imported food, fuel and life-saving supplies. UNDP estimates the cost of clean-up alone would be \$20 billion. IMO / [Press Release](#)

Other related reports can be found at – <https://maritime-executive.com/article/imo-critical-gap-in-safer-salvage-plan-needs-spill-response-equipment> and at <https://safety4sea.com/imo-calls-for-equipment-to-prevent-oil-spill-from-the-fso-safer/>

INTERNATIONAL & REGIONAL NEWS

INVENTORY OF NATIONAL POLICIES REGARDING THE USE OF OIL SPILL DISPERSANTS IN THE EU MEMBER STATES 2022

April 26 – EMSA / [Read more](#)

SUPPORTING COUNTRIES TO ADDRESS MARINE PLASTIC LITTER

April 27 - The latest guidance on national planning and implementation issued by the [GloLitter Partnerships](#) project has been published. The two newly launched guides are designed to help countries in their efforts to prevent and reduce sea-based marine plastic litter (SBMPL). IMO / [Read more](#)

IPIECA: SUSTAINABILITY ARTICLE ROUND-UP: APRIL 2023

April 27 - The Ipieca sustainability article round-up showcases recent sustainability-related achievements, projects and news from Ipieca members, demonstrating their support for the Ipieca Principles around advancing environmental and social performance across the energy transition. We also highlight initiatives from our partner organizations and share insights from key United Nations meetings. IPIECA / [Read more](#)

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ISCO-OCEANPACT BRAZIL INTERNATIONAL SEMINAR – MARITIME POLLUTION AND 21ST CENTURY OIL SPILLS: “LESSONS LEARNED FOR BRAZIL & LATIN AMERICA PREPAREDNESS, RESPONSE AND CRISIS MANAGEMENT – CASE STUDIES”

From Carlos Sagrera, Hon. FISCO - ISCO Representative for Latin America Spanish Speaking, ISCO Exec. Committee Member & Council Member (www.spillcontrol.org)

With the initial initiative and the international support of ISCO experts, the local organization of the ISCO Corporate Member OceanPact (<https://oceanpact.com/en/home/>) this Case Study Seminar will be held on October 27, 2023 in Rio de Janeiro Brazil. The Program includes three recent specific important cases from this third decade of the 21st century and which are considered to have been paradigmatic due to their causes and consequences, not only in terms of environmental impacts, but also in legal, technical and economic aspects:

- Case Study 1.- The Volcano, Tsunami and the Refineria La Pampilla & Mare Doricum Tanker, Peru 2022
- Case Study 2.- LSFO, Covid 19 and the La Pampilla Refinery & Bulk Carrier Wakashio, Mauritius 2021
- Case Study 3.- VLSO, Scuttled Validation, MV Stellar Banner, Brazil 2020

The theme and characteristics of the Seminar are a novelty for Latin America, which does not have regularity and with this type of approaches with the industry in cases of incidents and oil spills. Unlike other international industry events (IOSC, Interspill, Clean Gulf, etc.) at this ISCO-OceanPact Seminar, longer presentations will be made in order to be able to deal with the cases in greater depth. In all cases, these are experts who have directly participated in the operations and advising authorities, which will allow them to be viewed in all their implications. Organizations such as CEDRE (2 Speakers) and ITOPF (Speaker to be designated) have confirmed their participation as speakers, as well as the initial interest of IMO and perhaps an eventual participation, conditioned by its priority operations with the FSO SAFER in Yemen, which could coincide in their dates with the Seminar.



The idea of the event arises from the meeting in the last Clean Gulf (New Orleans) of ISCO (Carlos Sagrera, Spanish Speaking Latin America ISCO Representative – Dr. Larissa Montas and Helena Rowland in charge of Stand ISCO) and Flavio P. de Andrade (CEO of OceanPact) and member of the ISCO Council representing Brazil, together with the OceanPact Staff (Erik Cunha – Bernardo Assis – Marcelo Cortes – Joao Serra – Anna Gomide). It was observed there that some of the last major oil spill events in the world involved tankers and bulk cargo ships with origin and destination in Brazil and that there were no international events for the oil and maritime community in Latin America in which these incidents could be reviewed objectively and with the participation of actors from organizations directly involved in investigations and support for authorities and companies involved in spill incidents. Given this circumstance, ISCO presented the possibility that some of its members and professionals with direct activity in these incidents could present the different cases chosen and also manage the participation of some of the main world organizations with recognized activity in our sector. The final result was the organization of the Seminar with the three selected cases and the attached Program, which is being adjusted as the international Speakers and the organizations represented at the Brazilian level are confirmed. Local Brazilian experts from Vale (www.vale.com) and Aiuka (www.aiuka.com.br) have confirmed their participation as

Speakers and other interventions and qualified assistance from environmental, maritime and Brazilian oil industry authorities are expected.

The initial location of the event has been scheduled in the main auditorium of the OceanPact company (Rua da Glória, 122 - Auditório térreo (ground floor - Glória, Rio de Janeiro/RJ – Brazil) and is expected an important local attendance of the industry and the Brazilian authorities is expected, as well as a specialized Latin American specialized public, since in the previous days (October 24

to 26) the OTC Brazil will take place in Rio de Janeiro (<https://otcbrasil.org>). See Program in English on ISCO website (www.spillcontrol.org).

For more general information about the Seminar: Portuguese Brazil – Bernardo Assis (Bernardo.assis@oceanpact.com). Tel. +55 21 98893-8011; English – Matthew Sommerville (matthewsommerville@spectrumspill.com). Tel. +44 7834 556989; Spanish Latin America – Carlos Sagrera (carlos.sagrera@mtcconsult.org) Tel. +598 91 230654.- Focal point of the organization: Anna Gomide (anna.gomide@oceanpact.com). Tel. + 55 21 3950-7544 - + 55 21 98864-3194. Open Forms for Interested in <https://oceanpact.com/en/home/>

NEWS REPORTS FROM AROUND THE WORLD

AUSTRALIA: FROM AMSA - PROGRESS TOWARDS PREVENTING MARINE PLASTIC LITTER

April 28 - We are pleased to see progress on measures to address shipping's contribution to the global issue of marine plastic litter at this week's meeting of the International Maritime Organization (IMO) Pollution Prevention and Response (PPR) Sub-Committee.

Australia chaired the working group established at PPR to progress:

- ways to regulate the transportation of plastic pellets by ships
- what lost and/or discharged fishing gear should be reported so that we can begin to understand the scope of these discharges as a contributor to the global issue of marine plastic litter.

As Australia's representative at the IMO, AMSA will continue to work hard through the IMO and in Australia to develop international and domestic measures to address the global issue of marine plastic litter. Learn more about AMSA's [international collaboration](#).

BRAZIL: ITOPF SIGNS MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING WITH DIRECTORATE OF PORTS AND COASTS OF MARINHA DO BRASIL

April 27 – ITOPF has entered a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Directorate of Ports and Coasts of Marinha do Brasil to formalise and strengthen our cooperation in promoting effective spill response in the marine environment. This partnership signifies our commitment to the dissemination of best practices regarding response to spills of oil, chemicals, and other substances in the marine environment and the establishment, implementation, and sustainability of regional, national, and international cooperative mechanisms to deal with spills of oil or other hazardous substances. ITOPF / [Read more](#)

CANADA: SIMULATED OIL SPILL OFF SOUTHERN VANCOUVER ISLAND TESTS MARINE RESPONSE

April 26 - All hands were on deck as Canada's only oil spill response organization on the West Coast simulated a spill of 2,500 tonnes of heavy bunker fuel near the busy shipping lanes just off southern Vancouver Island.

On Wednesday (April 26), crews with the Western Canada Marine Response Corporation (WCMRC) took to the waters outside Esquimalt Harbour to conduct the exercise involving 12 vessels from all six of its bases along the B.C. South Coast. Victoria News / [Read more and watch video with commentary](#)

CHINA: THE CIN HELD 2023 CHINA MARITIME SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY INNOVATION SYMPOSIUM

April 26 - In order to accelerate the maritime science and technology innovation, promote the high-quality development in shipping industry, better serve the construction of a new development pattern, and guide each unit on the declaration and evaluation of maritime science and technology awards, the China Institute of Navigation held the 2023 China Maritime Science and Technology Innovation Symposium on March 25. CIN / [Read more](#)

CROATIA: WORKSHOP FOR CHILDREN "RAISING AWARENESS OF THE IMPORTANCE OF THE SEA"

April 19 - On April 13th, 2023, ATRAC held a workshop for children "Raising awareness of the importance of the sea" as part of the CASCADE project. The workshop was attended by elementary and secondary school students from the area of Rijeka who are part of the association Center for the Culture of Dialogue in Rijeka. ATRAC / [Read more](#)

ISRAEL: ITOPF DELIVERS RETOS WORKSHOP IN ISRAEL

April 25 - Technical Team Manager, Franck Laruelle and Technical Adviser, Angela Pinzón Espinosa facilitated a two-day RETOS workshop in Israel as part of the National Workshops on Oil Spill Response Planning and Readiness Assessment in the Adriatic. ITOPF / [Read more](#)

MADAGASCAR: HOW SMALL GRANTS ARE HELPING TO RESCUE MARINE HABITATS AROUND THE WORLD

April 21 - In recent years, fishing communities in Madagascar have seen their catches dwindle, a byproduct of chronic overfishing, especially in sensitive coastal habitats like seagrass meadows. But in some communities, fish stocks have started to rebound, thanks in part to the work of the marine conservation group Blue Ventures. Blue Ventures has worked with national and local governments to establish locally managed marine areas, protected zones that have become a haven for undersea life. UNEP / [Read more](#)

PHILIPPINES: WEBINAR ON SHIP-SOURCED MARINE POLLUTION FOR THE PHILIPPINES

April 27 - On 24 April 2023, the IOPC Funds participated in a webinar on 'Ship-Sourced Marine Pollution: Policies and Challenges' co-organised by EcoWaste Coalition, Greenpeace Philippines, Oceana Philippines and the International Pollutants Elimination Network-Southeast and East Asia. IOPC Funds / [Read more](#)

SINGAPORE HOLDS TABLETOP EXERCISE FOR METHANOL SPILL SCENARIO

April 26 - The exercise in Singapore allows participants to learn about the specific hazards of methanol, possible safety measures that could be adopted when handling the fuel, effective measures to detect and put out a methanol fire on board a vessel, and the training of seafarers, operators, and engineers to reduce the risks of methanol handling. Lloyds List / [Read more](#)

TIMOR-LESTE: GOVERNMENT COMMITS TO A SUSTAINABLE FUTURE WITH THE ADOPTION OF A NATIONAL OCEANS POLICY

April 24 - Timor-Leste has taken a significant step towards furthering its sustainable ocean management with the adoption of its National Oceans Policy (NOP) by the Council of Ministers on 12 April 2023. The NOP outlines the government's long-term approach to the development of its coastal and ocean territory. It formulates an integrated and whole-government approach, working across government agencies to address overarching ocean challenges such as marine pollution and climate change. PEMSEA / [Read more](#)

UAE: ABU DHABI LEADS DRIVE TO REVIVE UNDERWATER ECOSYSTEMS

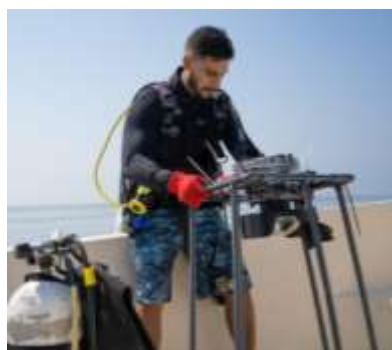


Photo: Hamad Al Jailani, a scientist with the Abu Dhabi Environment Agency, prepares to survey coral in the emirate's coastal waters. Photo Credit: UNEP/ Christine Redmond

April 18 - The coral rehabilitation project launched in 2021 is part of multifaceted restoration efforts by the Abu Dhabi Environment Agency that also encompasses steps to rebuild fish stocks as well as the coastal ecosystems that sustain them.

The initiative has been recognized as an inaugural World Restoration Flagship under the UN Decade on Ecosystem Restoration, a global push to halt and reverse environmental degradation and encourage human activities that nurture and enhance nature.

UNEP / [Read more](#)

UK: OIL POLLUTION RESPONSE TO BE TESTED IN EAST LOTHIAN

April 25 - An emergency response safety exercise, which simulates an oil spill in the Firth of Forth, will take place on Tuesday 2 May 2023 in the vicinity of Longniddry.

Clearwater Forth - the oil pollution preparedness, response and cooperation plan - is tested annually by Forth Ports, the statutory harbour authority for the Firth of Forth, and requires the close involvement of local agencies and estuary users. East Lothian Council will partner with Forth Ports for the exercise this year and it is likely that the exercise will result in some activity around the Longniddry beach area. East Lothian Council / [Read more](#)

UK: DALGETY BAY: BEACH RADIATION CLEAN-UP TO CONCLUDE THIS SUMMER

April 26 - The Ministry of Defence (MoD) told local councillors today (Wednesday) that remediation works will be complete by late summer. Stephen Ritchie, a spokesman for MoD said: "We are continuing to support the Scottish Environment Protection Agency (SEPA) for corrective action at Dalgety Bay. We are confident that by late summer this year we will be completing the works and taking down fences." Dunfermline Press / [Read more](#)

USA: LATEST NEWS REPORTS FROM NOAA OR&R

May 1 – Please click on the links below to download and read the latest news from NOAA OR&R

Biden-Harris Administration Celebrates NOAA Investment to Make Communities Resilient to Climate Impacts

On April 21, Vice President Harris **announced** that the Department of Commerce recommended \$562 million in funding to make

NEWS REPORTS FROM AROUND THE WORLD (CONTINUED)

communities and the economy more resilient to climate change through 149 projects in 30 states and territories, as part of the Biden-Harris Administration's Investing in America agenda.

CAMEO Presents at Emergency Planner Conference, Showcasing Upcoming Software Release

Recently, NOAA gave a presentation on the [CAMEO® software suite](#)—as well as a sneak peek at an upcoming software program redesign—to emergency planners from across the country at the annual National Association of SARA Title III Program Officials (NASTTPO) conference.

OR&R Participates in Single-use to Reuse Earth Day Event

On April 21, the Office of Response and Restoration participated in an Earth Day event at The Anthem in Washington, D.C. Hosted by Upstream and the World Wildlife Fund, the event brought together stakeholders for a discussion about the importance of reuse to curb plastic pollution and to showcase reuse systems that reduce single-use plastic waste.

Settlement Proposed from MC209 Pipeline Spill in Gulf of Mexico Federal Waters

On April 19, 2023, the U.S. Department of Justice announced a [proposed settlement\(link is external\)](#) with LLOG Exploration Offshore, LLC, valued at \$3.1 million, to resolve their liability for natural resource injuries resulting from a [pipeline spill](#) that discharged oil into the deep waters of the Gulf of Mexico

Publication on Impacts of Oil on Sand Beaches

This month, the Assessment and Restoration Division's Bryand Duke and his co-authors published their work on PAH (polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons) uptake by talitrids via habitat (sand) and food (kelp) exposure.

NOAA Provides Marine Debris Science Update to Teachers

On April 20, the NOAA Marine Debris Program's education specialist, Alexandria Gillen, presented at the [National Science Teaching Association Science Update\(link is external\)](#) webinar series.

OR&R Staff Participate in Marine Salvage Response Course

The week of March 20, 2023, NOAA Office of Response and Restoration (OR&R) staff attended and presented at the American Salvage Association Marine Salvage Response Course in Alameda, California. OR&R was represented by the California regional coordinator for the Marine Debris Program, Christy Kehoe, and scientific support coordinator (SSC) with the Emergency Response Division, Cmdr. Faith Knighton.

NOAA Marine Debris Program Awards Funding to 14 New Projects Under the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law

On April 21, the NOAA Marine Debris Program announced the 14 recommended recipients of our NOAA Marine Debris Removal awards for Fiscal Years 2022 and 2023, totaling over \$69 million in federal funding for marine debris removal. Funding for this opportunity was provided through the [Bipartisan Infrastructure](#) Law and leveraged funds from the Inflation Reduction Act.

Proposed Bankruptcy Settlement Includes \$80M for Passaic River, New Jersey

A [proposed bankruptcy settlement](#) for Maxus Energy Corp. was filed on April 7, 2023. The proposed settlement includes approximately \$80 million to NOAA and the U.S. Department of the Interior related to natural resource damages claims in connection with the Diamond Alkali Superfund Site ([Lower Passaic River, New Jersey](#)).

NOAA Joins Conservation Partnership Celebration at Santa Barbara Zoo

On April 14, the NOAA Marine Debris Program California regional coordinator, Christy Kehoe, joined the "Help the Kelp" marine debris art exhibit unveiling, led by [California State University Channel Islands \(CSUCI\)\(link is external\)](#) and the [Santa Barbara Zoo\(link is external\)](#). The exhibit unveiling was a part of the "[Conservation Partnership Celebration\(link is external\)](#)" event, which highlighted growing initiatives in support of the local environment.

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.

ISCO Committee Member, Dr Larissa Montas, is now a regular contributor to this section in the ISCO Newsletter.

The innate toxicity of plastic pellets (nurdles) in the marine environment currently under debate may depend on the angle and magnitude of the lens used to focus on the issue. Diverging opinions aside, although plastics in general are considered to be a biochemically inert material, science based studies confirm plastic pellets have a tendency to adsorb toxic chemicals including persistent organic pollutants, and trace metals. Plastic pellets differ from other marine debris that accumulate pollutants, with

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

regards to their chemical composition and chemical additives incorporated during the manufacturing process. Confounding factors associated with assessing the potential harm of plastic pellets, are multiplied when the pellets are spilled together with recognized harmful substances. A better understanding is needed to inform spill response and waste disposal operations, among others. In the coming weeks we endeavour to inform our readers about new developments regarding this issue.

Plastic pellets and microplastics were collected Sarakkuwa beach, Sri Lanka, prior to and after the MV X-Press Pearl maritime accident. Pre disaster sand samples were contaminated with fragmented microplastics. Post disaster sand collected up to 2 meters deep, in some locations, was highly contaminated with plastic pellets and partially burned microplastics. Sand collected after the maritime accident showed notable contamination with Molybdenum and Chromium than that of the pre disaster sand. More details available here:

<https://www.researchgate.net/publication/363503900> Contamination and distribution of buried microplastics in Sarakkuwa beach ensuing the MV X-Press Pearl maritime disaster in Sri Lankan sea

Usually, studies have assessed the environmental effects of marine microplastic pollution. In recent years, a few studies have focused on the transport and fate of plastic pellets. Scientists used data gathered during the 2017 Durban Harbour plastic pellet spill in South Africa to model pellet dispersion. The study considered dispersion processes including wind, ocean currents, and waves. It was found that the pellets remained in specific sections of the coast for long periods, and that sporadic wind events were required to move them into new coastal areas. The results underscore that pollution of the ocean is not a localized activity. Matter discharged at one point will disperse over a wide area, significantly further away than the area of recovery operations. The full text of the study and more details available here:

<https://www.researchgate.net/publication/333448323> Nurdle drifters around South Africa as indicators of ocean structures and dispersion AUTHORS EMAIL DATES EDITOR

As exemplified by the two articles above, plastic pollution by pellet spills affect the marine environment, the livelihoods of local communities and the economy long into the future. Pellets spills have the potential to do widespread damage well beyond the boundary of a single country. For example, pellets spilled in the 2017 South Africa incident, spread thousands of kilometers to the coastline of western Australia. Our final contribution to this issue, is a report published by the prestigious Nicholas Institute for Energy, Environment & Sustainability. The Nicholas Institute is part of Duke University and its wider community of world-class scholars. Plastic pollution in the ocean is a global problem that requires cooperation from a wide range of groups: governments, producers, consumers, researchers, and civil society. Governments have a particular role to play in helping to solve this problem, by virtue of their core regulatory powers. This study aims to synthesize the policy response of governments to the global plastic pollution problem, as a basis for more rigorous monitoring of progress (as called for in Resolution 4/6 of the 2019 United Nations Environment Assembly (UNEA) meeting) and to inform future public policies. More information and the full report are available here: <https://nicholasinstitute.duke.edu/publications/20-years-government-responses-global-plastic-pollution-problem>

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.

101. Post-Formation of Oil Particle Aggregates: Breakup and Biodegradation

Ji, W., Abou-Khalil, C., Parameswarappa Jayalakshamma, M., Boufadel, M., Lee, K.
(2023) Environmental Science and Technology, 57 (6), pp. 2341-2350.
DOI: 10.1021/acs.est.2c05866

ABSTRACT: Spilled oil slicks are likely to break into droplets in the subtidal and intertidal zones of seashores due to wave energy. The nonliving suspended fine particles in coastal ecosystems can interact with the dispersed oil droplets, resulting in the formation of Oil Particle Aggregates (OPAs). Many investigations assumed that these aggregates will settle due to the particles' high density. Recent studies, however, reported that some particles penetrate the oil droplets, which results in further breakup while forming smaller OPAs that remain suspended in the water column. Here, we investigated the interaction of crude oil droplets with intertidal and subtidal sediments, as well as artificial pure kaolinite, in natural seawater. Results showed that the interaction between oil droplets and intertidal sediments was not particularly stable, with an Oil Trapping Efficiency (OTE) < 25%. When using subtidal sediments, OTE reached 56%. With artificial kaolinite, OPA formation and breakup were more significant (OTE reaching up to 67%) and occurred faster (within 12 h). Oil chemistry analysis showed that the biodegradation of oil in seawater (half-life of 485 h) was significantly enhanced with the addition of sediments, with half-lives of 305, 265, and 150 h when adding intertidal sediments, subtidal sediments, and pure kaolinite, respectively. Such results reveal how the sediments' shape and size affect the various oil-sediment interaction mechanisms, and the subsequent impact on the microbial degradation of petroleum hydrocarbons. Future studies should consider investigating

the application of fine (several microns) and sharp (elongated-sheeted) sediments as a nondestructive and nontoxic technique for dispersing marine oil spills.

102. Numerical modelling of oil containment process under current and waves

Xing, J., Chen, S., Stagonas, D., Yang, L.
(2023) *Ocean Engineering*, 278, art. no. 114356,
DOI: 10.1016/j.oceaneng.2023.114356

ABSTRACT: This study presents a novel three-phase Fluid–Structure Interaction (FSI) model for simulating the containment of oil spills. The model uses Level Sets to capture the evolution of multiple interfaces and incorporates spring forces on the structure under hybrid wave–current boundary conditions. The implementation of spring forces has been validated through simple harmonic motion models and a wedge falling simulation demonstrates the model's ability to handle multi-phase deformation. The study compares numerical results with experimental data to study the response of oil spills to wave–current hybrid conditions. Our simulations reveal that when the current exceeds 0.2 m/s, the movement of the boom is dominated by the current and not by the waves or their inertia, providing important information for the design of effective oil spill containment systems.

103. Severe ecological impacts caused by one of the worst orphan oil spills worldwide

Soares, M.O., Rabelo, E.F.
(2023) *Marine Environmental Research*, 187, art. no. 105936,
DOI: 10.1016/j.marenvres.2023.105936

ABSTRACT: Orphan oil spills pose a severe risk to ocean sustainability; however, they are understudied. We provide the first synthetic assessment of short-term ecological impacts of the most extensive oil spill in tropical oceans, which affected 2900 km of Brazil's coastline in 2019. Oil ingestion, changes in sex ratio and size of animals, morphological abnormalities of larvae and eggs, mutagenic, behavioral, and morphological alterations, contamination by polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons, and mortality were detected. A decrease in species richness and abundance of oil-sensitive animals, an increase in opportunistic and oil-tolerant organisms, and simplification of communities was observed. The impacts were observed in sponges, corals, mollusks, crustaceans, polychaetes, echinoderms, turtles, birds, fish, and mammals. The majority of studies were conducted on bioindicator substrate-associated organisms, with 68.4% of the studies examining the benthos, 21.2% the nekton, and 10.4% the plankton. Moreover, most of the current short-term impacts assessment studies were focused on the species level (66.7%), with fewer studies on the community level (19%), and even fewer on oil-affected ecosystems (14.3%). Oil-related impacts were detected in five sensitive habitats, including blue-carbon ecosystems (e.g., mangroves and seagrass beds) and coastal reefs. These results call for the development of new ocean-basin observation systems for orphan spills. Finally, we discuss how these mysterious oil spills from unknown sources pose a risk to sustainable development goals and ocean-based actions to tackle global climate change.

104. Uptake of polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons via high-energy water accommodated fraction (HEWAF) by beach hoppers (Amphipoda, Talitridae) using different sandy beach exposure pathways

Duke, B.M., Emery, K.A., Dugan, J.E., Hubbard, D.M., Joab, B.M.
(2023) *Marine Pollution Bulletin*, 190, art. no. 114835, .
DOI: 10.1016/j.marpolbul.2023.114835

ABSTRACT: Sandy beach ecosystems are highly dynamic coastal environments subject to a variety of anthropogenic pressures and impacts. Pollution from oil spills can damage beach ecosystems through the toxic effects of hydrocarbons on organisms and the disruptive nature of large-scale clean-up practices. On temperate sandy beaches, intertidal talitrid amphipods are primary consumers of macrophyte wrack subsidies and serve as prey for higher trophic level consumers, such as birds and fish. These integral organisms of the beach food web can be exposed to hydrocarbons by direct contact with oiled sand through burrowing and by the consumption of oiled wrack. We experimentally evaluated the primary polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbon (PAH) exposure pathway via high-energy water accommodated fraction (HEWAF) for a species of talitrid amphipod (*Megalorchestia pugettensis*). Our results indicated that tissue PAH concentrations in talitrids were six-fold higher in treatments that included oiled sand compared to those with only oiled kelp and the controls.

105. Oil trajectory analysis for oil spill surveillance by SAR in the Mediterranean Sea

Ciappa, A.C.
(2023) *Marine Pollution Bulletin*, 190, art. no. 114825,
DOI: 10.1016/j.marpolbul.2023.114825

ABSTRACT: Oil trajectory analysis (OTA) provides statistics of direction and distance of provenience of oil spills reaching specific coastal sites. Applied to marine protected areas (MPA), this information could be used to introduce priority criteria in satellite oil spill surveillance. OTA in the Mediterranean Sea was based on 10-days oil trajectories tracked backward-in-time for five years (2015–2019) and aggregated on monthly basis. On average, travel time increases from 12 h at 5 km from the coast to 1.5 days at 10 km and 2 days at 15 km. The beaching probability decreases from 25 % at 5 km to 8 % at 10 km and 5 % at 15 km. Locally, the oil transport is influenced by persistent winds and/or energetic current systems in the area. Using an attention threshold of 5 % of beaching probability around MPA, several offshore areas of the Mediterranean Sea deserving high monitoring priority in summer and winter have been identified.

106. Crude oil exposure of early life stages of Atlantic haddock suggests threshold levels for developmental toxicity as low as 0.1 µg total polyaromatic hydrocarbon (TPAH)/L

Sørhus, E., Sørensen, L., Grøsvik, B.E., Le Goff, J., Incardona, J.P., Linbo, T.L., Baldwin, D.H., Karlsen, Ø., Nordtug, T., Hansen, B.H., Thorsen, A., Donald, C.E., van der Meeren, T., Robson, W., Rowland, S.J., Rasinger, J.D., Vikebø, F.B., Meier, S.
(2023) Marine Pollution Bulletin, 190, art. no. 114843,
DOI: 10.1016/j.marpolbul.2023.114843

ABSTRACT: Atlantic haddock (*Melanogrammus aeglefinus*) embryos bind dispersed crude oil droplets to the eggshell and are consequently highly susceptible to toxicity from spilled oil. We established thresholds for developmental toxicity and identified any potential long-term or latent adverse effects that could impair the growth and survival of individuals. Embryos were exposed to oil for eight days (10, 80 and 300 µg oil/L, equivalent to 0.1, 0.8 and 3.0 µg TPAH/L). Acute and delayed mortality were observed at embryonic, larval, and juvenile stages with IC50 = 2.2, 0.39, and 0.27 µg TPAH/L, respectively. Exposure to 0.1 µg TPAH/L had no negative effect on growth or survival. However, yolk sac larvae showed significant reduction in the outgrowth (ballooning) of the cardiac ventricle in the absence of other extracardiac morphological defects. Due to this propensity for latent sublethal developmental toxicity, we recommend an effect threshold of 0.1 µg TPAH/L for risk assessment models.

107. Forecasting marine debris spill accumulation patterns in the south-eastern Australia water: an intercomparison between global ocean forecast models

Liao, F., Wang, X.H., Fredj, E.
(2023) Ocean Dynamics, 73 (2), pp. 91-106.
DOI: 10.1007/s10236-023-01539-x

ABSTRACT: Forecasting transport and fates of marine debris spilled from lost ship containers is increasingly important. This paper builds a forecast framework by forcing a state-of-the-art particle-tracking model with operational oceanic and atmospheric forecasts, and compares simulations with the spotted debris from an actual maritime container spill in the south-eastern Australia water. In coastal areas, patterns of the spotted debris can be approximately simulated when applying surface current forecasts of an eddy-resolving resolution, along with the horizontal dispersion, Stokes drift and windage. The strengths and shortcomings of various forecast datasets varied. Therefore, a thorough analysis of various forcing datasets might be required when performing a marine debris forecast. The horizontal dispersion coefficient can be used to parameterize the unresolved small-scale processes. Stokes drift and windage, especially the latter one, can be important for the debris movements. This study suggests that some global forecast models can be used with certain confidence to forecast debris movement, however, not all are equivalent and cautions are warranted.

108. Exploring quantitative structure–property relationship models for environmental fate assessment of petroleum hydrocarbons

Ghosh, S., Chhabria, M.T., Roy, K.
(2023) Environmental Science and Pollution Research, 30 (10), pp. 26218-26233.
DOI: 10.1007/s11356-022-23904-x

ABSTRACT: The rate and extent of biodegradation of petroleum hydrocarbons in the different aquatic environments is an important element to address. The major avenue for removing petroleum hydrocarbons from the environment is thought to be biodegradation. The present study involves the development of predictive quantitative structure–property relationship (QSPR) models for the primary biodegradation half-life of petroleum hydrocarbons that may be used to forecast the biodegradation half-life of untested petroleum hydrocarbons within the established models' applicability domain. These models use easily computable two-dimensional (2D) descriptors to investigate important structural characteristics needed for the biodegradation of petroleum hydrocarbons in freshwater (dataset 1), temperate seawater (dataset 2), and arctic seawater (dataset 3). All the developed models follow OECD guidelines. We have used double cross-validation, best subset selection, and partial least squares tools for model development. In addition, the small dataset modeler tool has been successfully used for the dataset with very few compounds (dataset 3 with 17 compounds), where dataset division was not possible. The resultant models are robust, predictive, and mechanistically interpretable based on both internal and external validation metrics (R² range of 0.605–0.959. Q²(Loo) range of 0.509–0.904, and Q²F1 range of 0.526–0.959). The intelligent consensus predictor tool has been used for the improvement of the prediction quality for test set compounds which provided superior outcomes to those from individual partial least squares models based on several metrics (Q²F1 = 0.808 and Q²F2 = 0.805 for dataset 1 in freshwater). Molecular size and hydrophilic factor for freshwater, frequency of two carbon atoms at topological distance 4 for temperate seawater, and electronegative atom count relative to size for arctic seawater were found to be the most significant descriptors responsible for the regulation of biodegradation half-life of petroleum hydrocarbons.

109. Source and composition analysis of petroleum hydrocarbons in the refinery circulating water

Ma, G., Xiao, H., Wei, X., Xiao, A., Sun, X., Gao, X.
(2023) Environmental Science and Pollution Research, 30 (9), pp. 24470-24478.
DOI: 10.1007/s11356-022-23922-9

ABSTRACT: Oil leakage from water coolers in refinery circulating water occurs from time to time, which affects the long-term and stable operation of refinery units. So far, workers in the refineries still adopt manual check methods, opening water coolers one by

RECENT INTERESTING PEER-REVIEWED OIL SPILL PUBLICATIONS (CONTINUED)

one and checking the water's smell and color to find out the spilled water coolers. In this study, a more rapid method of source appointment of oil spill in the circulating water by combining chemical fingerprinting with model recognition was developed. Firstly, chemical fingerprints including benzene/naphthalene series, and light hydrocarbon (C3-C5) in oil samples from all water coolers in the refinery fluid catalytic cracking (FCC) unit were analyzed by gas chromatography-mass spectrometry (GC/MS). Gasoline, diesel, and poor oil could be distinguished in terms of benzene and naphthalene distribution. The three similar types of gasolines could be distinguished by the volatile hydrocarbons especially C3-C4. The classification model for the spill of gasoline, diesel, and poor oil in circulating water was constructed by the partial least squares discriminant analysis algorithm with a 100% correct classification rate at the concentration more than 10 ppm. The gasoline spills in the circulating backwater of the refinery were successfully recognized by the classification model. This method enables the rapid prediction of oil spill type in refinery circulating water, and a similar method by installing online instrument and software potentially can be used for monitoring the circulating water in real time.

TRAINING COURSES (

Training Course Providers – Please check entries below and advise editor on any necessary updates.

USEFUL LINKS

- INTERNATIONAL – IMO E-LEARNING PLATFORM [e-learning platform](#)
- AUSTRALIA – AMOSC - <https://amosc.com.au/training/>
- AUSTRALIA & NEW ZEALAND – ALGA - <https://landandgroundwater.com>
- CHINA - <http://www.sioetc.com>
- EUROPE – <https://www.emsa.europa.eu/newsroom/latest-news/item/3609-emsa-training-catalogue-2019.html>
- FRANCE - CEDRE - https://www.cedre.fr/en/content/download/10912/file/CalendrierFormation2023_EN.pdf
- 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 ALTERNATIVE FUELS – LLOYDS MARITIME ACADEMY

Online, Starting 25 April 2023 Delivered by digital learning over 14 weeks. [Visit website for more info](#)

USA: Elastec Fall Workshop, New Harmony, Indiana, 3-5 October 2023. [More Info](#)

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TO VIEW UPCOMING EVENTS CLICK ON [HTTPS://SPILLCONTROL.ORG/UPCOMING-EVENTS/](https://spillcontrol.org/upcoming-events/)

To see ALL of the posted events you will need to click on “LOAD MORE” at the foot of each opened “upcoming events” page. Event organisers are requested to notify ISCO immediately if a listed event is cancelled or postponed. Your Editor does his best to keep the listing up-to-date but it should not be assumed that listed events have not been cancelled or postponed. It is recommended that you check with event organisers before finalising your attendance plans. Please advise the Editor if any of the entries require correction or updating. If you are holding an event you would like to be featured here, please send details to John.mcmurtrie@spillcontrol.org

MAY 2023

- WEBINAR – ExxonMobil Oil Spill Response Knowledge Transfer – “Why Science Matters: How Decision Makers use Science during Spill Response, Hosted by Ed Levine, 2nd May 2023
- CROATIA – ADRIASPILLCON Conference & Exhibition, Opatija, 16-18 May 2023

JUNE 2023 & ONWARDS

- CANADA – 45th Technical Seminar on Environmental Contamination & Response, Edmonton, Alberta, 4-6 June, 2023
- AUSTRALIA – University of NSW, “Bioremediation Symposium”, 7th June 2023
- TUNISIA – Regional Workshop on Waste Management & Water Treatment, 9-10 May 2023
- FRANCE - European Maritime Day, Brest, France, 24-25 May, 2023
- UK: Hazmat 2023 Conference, 24-25 May 2023
- AUSTRALIA – Risk Assessment Symposium, Adelaide, 22 June 2023
- USA – Elastec Fall Workshop. New Harmony. Indiana, 3-4 October 2023
- UK – Seatrade Maritime Salvage & Wreck Conference, 6-7 December 2023

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UPCOMING EVENTS (CONTINUED)

SOME OTHER INFO AND UPCOMING EVENTS

USA: May 8, 2023 - APICOM GM Meeting, Santa Barbara, CA, Location - MSRC's facility at Carpinteria
Recordings of past ExxonMobil OSR Knowledge Transfer Webinar Recordings – [Access and Download](#)

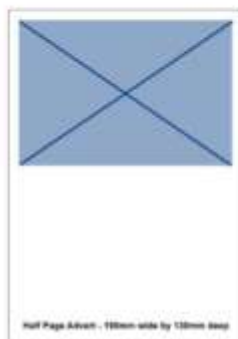
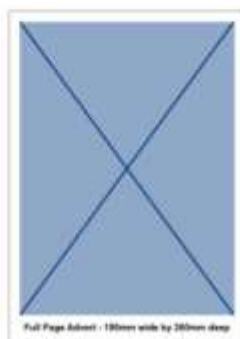
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MESSAGES FROM EVENT ORGANISERS

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

MESSAGES FROM EVENT ORGANISERS (CONTINUED)

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 (AMOSC) 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

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. Clean Gulf Conference & Exhibition | November 7-9, 2023 | <https://ssl.linklings.net/conferences/IOSC/> Henry B. Gonzalez Convention Center | San Antonio, TX [Registration Now Open for CLEAN GULF 2023 + Sessions Announced!](#)

USA: IOSC 2024 CALL FOR PAPERS AND POSTERS

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. The IOSC is looking for technical and policy papers and posters under five general categories: Preparedness, Prevention, Remediation, Response, Restoration. [More info](#)

The Deadline to Complete Your #IOSC24 Submission has Been Extended. Paper and poster submissions are now due Friday, May 12, 2023.

CONTRACTS, TENDERS AND BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

INTERNATIONAL OPEN TENDER NOTIFICATIONS

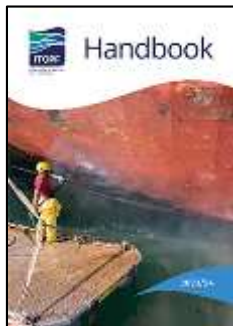
This is a subscription service. <https://www.tender247.com/keyword/oil+spill+tenders+global>

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>

NEW PUBLICATIONS

ITOPF HANDBOOK 2023 JUST PUBLISHED



ITOPF has just published its annual Handbook for 2023/24. This contains a wealth of valuable information and guidance for those likely to be involved in spills of oil, chemicals or other cargo from ships.

The new edition includes updated oil spill statistics and staff information, as well as regular features on ITOPF's services; different types of marine spills, the fate and effects of oil; clean-up techniques; and pollution liability and compensation.

The Handbook is currently being sent out to ITOPF Members and contacts. If you would like to be added to our mailing list (for a printed or electronic copy), please email us. A PDF version can be downloaded from our Publications page or click on [Download the 2023 Handbook](#)

LINKS FOR DOWNLOADING AND READING OTHER PUBLICATIONS

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Thanks to ISCO Executive Committee Member, Mike Watson, this ISCO member facility has been revised and is now re-introduced.

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

INCIDENT REPORTS

MARITIME ACCIDENT REPORTS FROM THE MARITIME BULLETIN

In the Maritime Bulletin, Mikhail Voytenko regularly advises on vessel abandonments, groundings and sinkings – several every week – but, unless there is an immediate and significant release of oil or chemicals, spillages are not reported. However, many of Mikhail's reports cover incidents that may have potential to cause pollution. To view all of his reports, visit <https://www.maritimebulletin.net/>

PHILIPPINES: MT PRINCESS EMPRESS OIL SPILL UPDATES

Apr 25 <https://mb.com.ph/2023/4/25/insurance-firm-commits-to-retrieve-remaining-oil-inside-sunken-mt-princess-empress-doj>

Apr 21 <https://iopcfunds.org/news/princess-empress-incident-claims-process-continues-with-establishment-of-new-collection-centre-and-mobile-claims-team/>

Apr 27 <https://www.gmanetwork.com/news/topstories/regions/868286/oil-spill-shoreline-cleanup-in-pola-80-done-najuan-at-74/story/>

SOUTH AFRICA: DEAD WILDLIFE AFTER FUEL SPILL FROM ASTRON ENERGY OIL REFINERY IN MILNERTON

April 25 - The smell of diesel lingered in the air after a fuel spill from the Astron Energy oil refinery in Milnerton. The spill reached Table Bay Nature Reserve's sensitive waterways and has been deadly for some wildlife at the reserve with four oiled birds now dead. IOL / [Read more](#)

ICELAND: COAST GUARD PLACES BOOM AROUND STUCK CARGO SHIP TO PREVENT OIL SPILL

April 25 - Icelandic Coast Guard has been conducting an operation since last week to salvage the cargo ship Wilson Skaw that ran aground at Ennishöfði in Húnaflói on April 18th. The Coast Guard's divers examined the condition of the cargo ship and reported that most of it had been stuck. They immediately put a boom around the ship to prevent any oil spills. The ship appears to require lightening before it can be salvaged at it transported around 2000 tons of salt and 195 tons of oil. MFAME / [Read more](#)

GULF OF OMAN: IRAN "CONFISCATES" SUEZMAX TANKER ACCUSED OF COLLISION

April 27 - Iranian forces boarded a tanker outbound in the Gulf of Oman today, April 27, and have directed it into Iranian waters where Iran reports it was "confiscated" under a court order. The U.S. Naval Forces Central Command for the U.S. Fifth Fleet earlier issued a brief statement reporting that Iran's Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps Navy (IRGCN) took control of the vessel early this afternoon local time after the vessel had transited the Strait of Hormuz. The Maritime Executive / [Read more](#)

April 27 - Turkish Suezmax tanker seized by Iranian military in Gulf of Oman - Suezmax crude oil tanker ADVANTAGE SWEET was seized by Iranian forces in Gulf of Oman on Apr 27, according to Iran military statement. Tanker is accused of hitting Iranian boat, with several men on board being injured, two reported missing. Boat wasn't identified. Tanker is en route from Kuwait to Houston USA, apparently in load, she was seized in waters halfway between Iranian and Oman coast. US Navy operating in the region demand release of Turkish owned and operated ship, claiming that tanker, at the time of seizure, was in international waters. Tanker indeed, was in international waters, last AIS position received at 0930 UTC Apr 27. Iranian forces are taking tanker to Iran "for investigation", they say. Maritime Bulletin / [Read more](#)

BLACK SEA: RUSSIA VOWS TO INVESTIGATE SUSPECTED BLACK SEA OIL SPILL

April 28 - Russian authorities have finally promised to open an investigation into a suspected oil spill near the Black Sea port of Novorossiysk that was spotted by residents on Monday, but had been causing a bad smell for weeks. A prosecutor's office at the Krasnodar region where the port is located said it is "checking the compliance with the requirements of environmental legislation in the implementation of port [loading] activities".

After tip-offs from residents, Russia's environmental protection agency, Rosprirodnadzor, said it had found "an iridescent spot of about 40 thousand square metres on the surface of the sea" that may have been a spill of oil and products. However, Rosprirodnadzor has not directly linked the findings with the operations of the oil loading jetties at Novorossiysk, stating that the pollution was seen closer to a ship-container loading terminal. Upstream / [Read more](#)

BELGIUM: MAJOR OIL SPILL IN BRUGES CANALS INTERRUPTS NAVIGATION

April 28 - A loop of canals surrounding the city of Bruges have been closed to shipping on Friday due to a major oil spill discovered late

INCIDENT REPORTS (CONTINUED)

on Thursday evening, the local Environment Councillor said. Protective dikes are being used to absorb and contain the oil. The origin of the leak has not yet been identified. The Brussels Times / [Read more](#)

NIGERIA: SPILL FROM HEOSL CRUDE TRUNK LINE, DESTROYS AQUATIC LIVES IN DELTA

April 28 - A spill from OML30 Crude Trunk line, being operated by Heritage Energy Operational Services Limited, HEOSL, has reportedly destroyed aquatic lives and other riverine economic activities at Egbokodo Community in Warri South Local Government of Delta State, Fresh Angle International can report. The OML30 Crude Trunk line, connects the Trans-Forcados Pipeline.

Our Principal Correspondent who was at the scene Friday April 28, gathered that the spill which started four days earlier, from a neighbouring community, has polluted the water line in Egbokodo and extended beyond the Itsekiri community, allegedly without any control by the management of Heritage Energy Operational Services Limited. Fresh Angle / [Read more](#)

PHILIPPINES: 2 DEAD, 3 MISSING IN TANKER-DREDGER SHIP COLLISION



Photo: The dredging vessel MV Hong Hai 189 floats belly up in waters off Corregidor Island on Saturday morning, after it capsized following a collision with the bigger chemical-petrol tanker MT Petite Soeur the night before. Two crew members of the dredger died and three others are missing. The rest of its 20-man crew were rescued. The Petite Soeur did not sustain any damage and all its 21 crew members are safe. (Photo from the Philippine Coast Guard)

April 30 - Balilo said the Petite Soeur carried 100,000 to 150,000 liters of chemical or petrol. The PCG has not ruled out any possibility of an oil or chemical spill from the tanker, which sustained no damage. The ship has not been allowed to leave Philippine waters and was anchored at the Mariveles port on Saturday. Inquirer / [Read more](#)

STOP PRESS – BREAKING NEWS

IMO PPR 10 SUB-COMMITTEE REPORT

April 30 – From your Editor - Thanks to Executive Committee member, Dan Sheehan, Hon.FISCO, I received an excellent Summary Report prepared by Lloyds Register. Unfortunately due to imposed restrictions I was unable to send our readers a valid link for accessing this report but, after a quick search I found another good report on the IMO Pollution Prevention & Response (PPR 10) meeting provided by Bureau Veritas. You can read this report by clicking on the link below

https://marine-offshore.bureauveritas.com/sites/g/files/zyfnx136/files/media/document/UB8HFXDRLQIUHL1V8ESL_BV-Summary-PPR-10-.pdf

MESSAGE JUST RECEIVED FROM STEWART ELLIS, EDITOR OF “THE LITTLE BLACK BOOK”

April 30 - Dear Cleanupoil.com subscriber; The edits and revisions for the upcoming 9th Edition of the Little Black Book of oil spill contractors are coming along nicely. I have individually reviewed contractor listings from A-G, however I need your help checking my work ! Please visit <https://www.cleanupoil.com/listings/>

If you find a mistake, please let me know, what you see is what will be printed. Revisions can be sent to stewart@cleanupoil.com
Thank you for your support, Regards, Stewart Ellis, Editor

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