



ISCO & THE ISCO NEWSLETTER

The International Spill Control Organization, a not-for profit organization dedicated to raising worldwide preparedness & co-operation in response to oil and chemical spills, marine & freshwater pollution by plastics, promoting technical development and professional competency, & 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 & Observer Status at the International Oil Pollution Compensation Funds

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INTERNATIONAL NEWS

IMO SECRETARY-GENERAL ANNOUNCES NEW SENIOR TEAM

The Secretary-General of the International Maritime Organization (IMO) has announced his leadership team, one week after taking up his new position.

Mr. Arsenio Dominguez, who took up office as the 10th elected Secretary-General of IMO on 1 January, named the Senior Management Committee members on 8 January. IMO / [Read more](#)

STATEMENT ON THE ADOPTION OF UN SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTION 2722 (2024) ON RED SEA



IMO Secretary-General Arsenio Dominguez said:

"I welcome and support the United Nations Security Council's resolution affirming the exercise of navigational rights and freedom by merchant vessels, in accordance with international law, must be respected.

IMO will continue to enhance the safety and secure transit of vessels of all States through the Red Sea and will closely monitor the situation, in collaboration with Member States and partners from the industry." IMO / [Read more](#)

REGIONAL NEWS

EU LAWMAKERS CONSIDER STRONGER PLASTIC POLLUTION LAW AFTER SPILL HITS SPAIN

Some European Union lawmakers are pushing to strengthen a planned law on microplastics pollution, after millions of plastic pellets washed up on the coast of Spain's northwestern Galicia region. The EU is developing a law to prevent spillages of pellets, 176,000 metric tons of which are accidentally released each year, according to the European Chemicals Agency. Reuters / [Read more](#)

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<https://www.facebook.com/groups/388528312842431>

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<https://chat.whatsapp.com/KMxdW7IEal79namyNibVqg>

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ISCO NEWS

ISCO TRANSITION PROCESS

The ISCO Executive Committee (EC) continues to work on the ISCO transition process. This is being led by John Wardrop Hon. FISCO.

The 40th anniversary of the founding of ISCO takes place this year and it has been recognised that this is a good time to accelerate the ongoing radical overhaul of the ways that ISCO is organised and managed in order to ensure a more secure foundation for our continuing forward development.

Work is being progressed via a series of remote online EC meetings and discussions are being conducted on the EC page of our communications platform.

A detailed report for the benefit of our members will soon be circulated and published in the ISCO Newsletter but we can confirm that members' rights and privileges will be fully preserved.

The EC is also looking at new initiatives for projects and activities for addition to the range of services and support being provided for the benefit of ISCO members.

NEWS FROM AROUND THE WORLD

AUSTRALIA: AMSA BOARD TO COMMENCE SEARCH FOR NEW CEO

December 18 - The Australian Maritime Safety Authority (AMSA) Board confirmed today it will conduct a search for AMSA's next Chief Executive Officer (CEO).

AMSA CEO Mr Kinley recently informed the Board and staff that he will finish his role at the end of his current term. AMSA Board Chair accepted Mr Kinley's decision and confirmed a search for Mr Kinley's successor will commence early in the new year.

"On behalf of the entire AMSA Board and staff, I want to thank Mr Kinley for his dedicated service," AMSA's Board Chair said. AMSA / [Read more](#)

CHINA: COMMENT FROM WU YUE, MEMBER OF ISCO EC

January 9 - The impact of climate change has led to more frequent and severe environmental disasters, such as oil spills, chemical leaks, and plastic pollution. As a result, SAR organisations are increasingly called upon to assist in environmental cleanup missions.

Logistical Support: SAR organisations may find themselves providing logistical support in cleanup operations, such as transporting equipment and personnel to

affected areas.

Environmental Monitoring: Post-cleanup, SAR units might be involved in environmental monitoring to ensure that the affected areas have been properly remediated and to watch for any residual effects of the pollution. SAR teams may need access to specialised protective gear and equipment, such as hazmat suits, containment booms, skimmers, and other devices used to contain and clean up pollutants. Training: SAR personnel may require training in the handling and containment of hazardous materials to ensure that they can safely participate in cleanup operations. Increased Operational Risks: Environmental cleanup operations often involve working with toxic substances, which can pose significant health risks to SAR personnel. Collaboration with Environmental Agencies: SAR organisations might need to collaborate closely with environmental agencies and organisations that specialise in dealing with pollution to effectively coordinate cleanup efforts.

The increased responsibility for environmental cleanup missions signifies an expansion of the traditional role of SAR organisations. SAR organisations traditionally focused on saving lives may need to adapt to the broader mission of protecting the environment, which is intrinsically linked to community well-being. This shift necessitates new strategies, additional resources, and a more integrated approach to emergency response that includes environmental protection as a key component

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INDIA: ENNORE OIL SPILL EXPOSES ABSENCE OF PRIVATE CLEANING AGENCIES IN CHENNAI: COAST GUARD OFFICER

January 12 - Recalling how the Indian Coast Guard was involved in the detection and clean-up of the oil spill in Ennore and surrounding areas, a senior officer on board ICGS SHAURYA on Friday, January 12, 2024, underlined the absence of private companies that specialised in cleaning up oil spills in this part of the country. The Hindu / [Read more](#)

INDIA: COAST GUARD TO DEVELOP CAPABILITY TO TACKLE CHEMICAL POLLUTION AT SEA: INSPECTOR GENERAL

January 12 - Though the ICG has its fleet for pollution control, it is looking at gaining expertise in addressing chemical pollution at sea, he said.

The NST of the Japan Coast Guard is a group of marine disaster prevention specialists providing on-site guidance and advice on how to recover oil or noxious liquid substances that spilled into the sea. Deviscourse / [Read more](#)

INDIA: OIL SPILLAGE: ACCIDENT OR SABOTAGE - THE PEOPLE'S CHRONICLE

January 13 - With the incident of reported leakage of furnace oil from the defunct Power Station at Leimakhong occurring at a time when the aggression of armed Kuki-Chin people on the Meitei/Meetei villagers has been intensified, the first reaction of the latter was that it could not be an accidental leak but a sabotage. E-pa.net / [Read more](#)

IRAN GRABS TANKER IN RETALIATION FOR US OIL SEIZURE IN 2023

January 11 - In an act of retaliation, Iranian forces this morning seized the crude oil tanker St Nikolas (158,573 dwt) after last year's incident in which the United States seized a cargo of Iranian oil from the vessel. Iranian media is reporting that they boarded the vessel under a court order and that it is being taken to Iran. The Maritime Executive / [Read more](#)

IRAQ: CONFLICT POLLUTION HOTSPOTS IN IRAQ

January 6 - Successive conflicts in Iraq were characterized by tactics to damage its oil and industrial assets that not only led to huge economic loss, but pollution of environmental resources (air, land, and water) on an unprecedented scale.

The Damage and Needs Assessment (DNA) carried out by the World Bank Group (WBG) in 2017, estimated damages to the environmental resources at IQD85 billion (US73 dollars million) and sectoral losses because of the conflict at IQD3.5 trillion (US3 dollars billion). MENA FN / [Read more](#)

JAPAN: PAJ OIL SPILL WORKSHOP 2024

This year's theme - "Oil Spill Prevention during a Civil War, Recent Oil Spill Response and Effective Public Relations"

Date : February 15th Thursday 2024

Venue : International Convention Hall, 2nd Floor, Keidanren Kaikan, 1-3-2, Ohtemachi, Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo 100-0004

Format: Virtual on line with limited physical attendance pcs gr ip / [Read more](#)

PERU: TWO YEARS SINCE MAJOR OIL SPILL – FROM CARLOS SAGRERA

January 9 - This January 15 marks 2 years since the Peru spill, which can be considered the worst in this 21st century in Latin America. A month ago I was in Peru updating myself on the subject with the main actors and they are all unanimous in recognizing that there is a legal dispute ahead that will take a long time to reach an agreement: first the P&I with the oil company and then both actors with the Government of Peru, which has sued them for 4.5 billion USD, a record figure for Latin America. In this context, some of these actors have asked me for support and it is understood in Peru that no one has yet written a public article, at least with some objectivity, about everything that happened there.

On the occasion of the Two Years of the Peru Spill ISCO will publish a complete article on this incident reviewing its possible causes (active and latent errors), the role of the main actors in it, the organization and response stages, the applied capabilities (IPIECA

criteria) and a series of conclusions that will allow the reader to update themselves and understand the essence of this complex incident that has remained a reference for the industry in Latin America: <https://spillcontrol.org/latin-america-spanish-language/> On the basis of this article Carlos Sagrera will present a conference at IOSC 2024 with the title: "The Tier II - Tier III Dilemma in Latin America - The State and the Oil Industry: The Peruvian Case" [Thanks to Carlos Sagrera, ISCO Representative for Latin America]

TURKIYE: NEW POLLUTION FINE TARRIFS FOR THE YEAR 2024 IN TURKISH WATERS

January 8 - We would like to inform you of the new pollution fine tariffs applicable as of 1st January 2024. The new tariff has been published on 25 November 2023 in the Official Gazette and fine rates has been increased by 58,46%. Pollution fines are divided in four categories: A, B, C and D. Mondaq / [Read more](#)

TURKMENISTAN: HAS ACCEDED TO THE CONVENTION ON CIVIL LIABILITY FOR DAMAGE FROM FUEL POLLUTION

January 5 - Turkmenistan has officially acceded to the international Convention on Civil Liability for Damage from Fuel Pollution. The text of the relevant law, signed by the President of Turkmenistan Serdar Berdimuhamedov, was published today in the official Turkmen press.

The international convention obliges registered shipowners of participating countries to insure and provide other financial security to cover their liability for pollution damage. A vessel insured in this way receives a corresponding certificate. Mondaq / [Read more](#)

UK: MSN 1914 (M) THE CARRIAGE OF DANGEROUS GOODS AND MARINE POLLUTANTS: AMENDMENTS TO INTERNATIONAL STANDARDS

January 5 – This MSN explains recent amendments to international codes related to the carriage by sea of dangerous goods and the dates when voluntary and mandatory use are required. Maritime & Coastguard Agency / [Read more](#)

UK: ESG IS A WAY TO HELP BIRDS AND THE NATURAL WORLD

January 9 - The British Trust for Ornithology's chief executive Juliet Vickery outlines how corporate improvements in Environmental, social, and corporate governance (ESG) practices can help protect the natural world. Edie / [Read more](#)

USA: KEY DEVELOPMENTS IN ENVIRONMENTAL LAW AND POLICY IN 2023, AND WHAT'S AHEAD IN 2024 (PODCAST)

January 4 - On this episode of the Bracewell Environmental Law Monitor, we look back at the significant developments in environmental and natural resources law and policy in 2023, as well as look ahead to what's to come in 2024. Co-hosts [Daniel Pope](#) and [Taylor Stuart](#) talk with [Ann Navaro](#) and [Tim Wilkins](#), partners in Bracewell's [environment, lands and resources](#) practice, about a range of topics, such as climate and environmental justice, renewable energy advancements, regulatory developments and much more. Mondaq / [Read more](#)

USA: LATEST NEWS REPORTS FROM NOAA OR&R

January 8 – Please click on the links below to read the latest news

OR&R Proudly Presents 2023 Accomplishments

In December of 2023, OR&R released its [2023 Accomplishments Report](#). The report highlights key accomplishments by OR&R during the fiscal year 2023, with a focus on the Office's four mission focus areas: oil and chemical emergency response, natural resource restoration, marine debris, and disaster preparedness.

Maui Wildfire Mission Assignment for Lahaina Harbor Completed



When declared disasters and other emergencies occur, Emergency Support Functions (ESFs) provide the structure for coordinating federal interagency support for a federal response to an incident. Following the devastating August 8, 2023 wildfires on the Hawaiian island of Maui, the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) issued the United States Coast Guard (USCG) a Mission Assignment under an ESF 10 to assess and remove incident-generated pollution, hazardous materials, damaged and sunken vessels, and associated debris in and around Lahaina Harbor.

How We Count Counts: A NOAA Publication on Marine Debris Detection

In early January, a new NOAA publication, [How we count counts: Examining influences on detection during shoreline surveys of marine debris](#)(link is external), was published in the journal *Marine Pollution Bulletin*

Regulatory Updates Released in Latest CAMEO Data Manager and Tier2 Submit

Recently, NOAA and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) jointly released their annual updates for [CAMEO Data Manager](#) and [Tier2 Submit™](#), two programs that aid users in meeting regulatory filing and emergency response planning efforts under the Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act (EPCRA).

USA: NEW DOI NRDA RULE ISSUED TODAY

January 10 - Today, the U.S. Department of the Interior (DOI) Office of Restoration and Damage Assessment issued a notice of proposed rulemaking to revise its existing natural resource damage assessment (NRDA) regulations to provide simplified NRDA procedures at certain contaminated sites. While DOI's existing NRDA regulations do provide simplified NRDA procedures (called the Type A Rule), these are currently available in extremely limited circumstances and have, as a matter of practice, rarely been used. The new Type A Rule would greatly expand the circumstances in which simplified procedures are available to include significantly more contaminated sites. In addition, the new Type A Rule modernizes the approach to simplified assessment to adopt procedures advocated by industry that regulators have found to result in fair and efficient resolution of natural resource damage (NRD) cases. Mondaq / [Read more](#)

USA: ILLINOIS - EPA TO DECIDE IF FOUL-SMELLING, TOXIC SOUTHWEST SIDE CHICAGO WATERWAY NEEDS CLEANUP — AND WHO WOULD DO IT

January 10 - Little Village group wants the EPA to force action taken on a heavily polluted channel off the Chicago Sanitary and Ship Canal. In the next month, the federal Environmental Protection Agency is expected to make a determination of the threat to the community and who — if anyone — must clean up the water. The agency, asked to make a decision by a Little Village community group in a petition filed almost a year ago, is required under its rules to respond by early February. Chicago Sun-Times / [Read more](#)

USA: MISSISSIPPI TRUSTEES RELEASE FOURTH RESTORATION PLAN

January 11 - The Mississippi Trustee Implementation Group has released its fourth restoration plan. This plan includes projects to partially restore injuries to wetlands, coastal, and nearshore habitats; reduce nutrient pollution (nonpoint source); and provide and enhance recreational opportunities to compensate for lost recreational use in the Mississippi Restoration Area as a result of the *Deepwater Horizon* oil spill.

Learn more and view the restoration plan at the [Mississippi Trustee Implementation Group's latest Gulf Spill Restoration news update >>](#) [Thanks to John Wardrop Hon.FISCO, Member of Executive Co0mmittee]

PEOPLE IN THE NEWS

JOHAN GRÖN APPOINTED AS CEO OF LAMOR CORPORATION PLC



Lamor Corporation Plc's Board of Directors has appointed D.Sc. (Chem.Eng.) Johan Grön as the CEO of the company as of today. Grön has acted as Lamor's COO and as a member of the management team since May 2022. Grön has, in particular, had a key role in progressing Lamor's large projects and developed the company's offering and project delivery processes. In addition, he has been leading Lamor's initiative for the chemical recycling of plastics.

Johan Grön has more than 30 years of international management experience. Before joining Lamor, Grön held director and management positions at Gasum, Outotec, Kemira and Xylem Inc, among others. "Johan Grön has demonstrated strong business and leadership skills, and his experience makes him an excellent choice to lead Lamor in the company's next growth phase. Johan Grön's main tasks as CEO will be to drive the company's ambitious growth strategy and to lead the company towards its long-term financial targets. In addition, Grön's appointment will bring continuity and stability to

the company's operations", states the Chair of Lamor's Board of Directors Mika Ståhlberg.

"I am excited to have this opportunity to lead Lamor into the next growth phase. Lamor has unique expertise which makes the company well positioned to solve global environmental issues", comments Johan Grön. "Together we can create added shareholder value by implementing Lamor's strategy as a provider of comprehensive environmental solutions and by acting as a strong forerunner

PEOPLE IN THE NEWS (CONTINUED)

in sustainable development. I am convinced that we have good capabilities for future growth and my goal is to ensure that we deliver on our promises to customers, employees, shareholders and other stakeholders."

"On behalf of the entire Board of Directors, I would like to thank Mika Pirneskoski for his achievements at Lamor, especially during the past four years as the CEO. Under his leadership, Lamor has made a significant growth leap, expanded strategically, and transformed from a family-owned company to a main list company. We wish Mika all the best in his future endeavours", comments the Chair of Lamor's Board of Directors Mika Ståhlberg. LAMOR / [Read more](#)

NEWS FROM ISCO MEMBERS



At the end of 2023 and beginning of a new year, Capt. D. C. Sekhar has some very positive reports from India on AlphaMERS activities.

- We are undertaking the largest river clean up in the world, in the state of Goa. Bit delayed but happening now with all the NOCs in place.
- We won the 'Top Innovator - MSME from the 'The Economic Times'. in Dec'23. After the 'Best Start Up' Award for Beta Tank Robotics in Feb'23, this was another shot in the arm.
- We are developing skimmers for skimming nurdles. We should have a working model in 4 months time. I believe Sri Lanka has the maximum exposure to box trips sailing on its coast and one incident did happen in 2021. There is no answer for nurdles as yet.
- We are soon launching our Crude tank robot, ready and undergoing safety rating surveys. We have incorporated superior functional features in our robot. Almost the entire oil industry is in touch, for this solution. <https://alphamers.com/>

RECENT INTERESTING PEER-REVIEWED OIL SPILL PUBLICATIONS

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



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. A fast energized dispersive guided extraction of polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons for risk-based seafood monitoring after an oil spill,

1. A fast energized dispersive guided extraction of polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons for risk-based seafood monitoring after an oil spill

de Melo A.P.Z., Molognoni L., Daguer H., de Oliveira T., Hoff R.B., Barreto P.L.M.
(2024) Microchemical Journal, 196, art. no. 109714,
DOI: 10.1016/j.microc.2023.109714

ABSTRACT: After the 2019 oil spill disaster on the Brazilian coast, the demand for polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAH) analysis in seafood samples increased. The aim of this study was to develop an advanced method of energized dispersive guided extraction (EDGE) and quantification of PAH by liquid chromatography coupled to tandem mass spectrometry with atmospheric-pressure chemical ionization source (LC-APCI-MS/MS). The developed method was validated in terms of selectivity, working range (1.25 – 20.0 $\mu\text{g kg}^{-1}$), matrix effect (relative errors > 20%, precision (CV < 30%), accuracy (77 – 128%), limits of detection (0.9 – 1.25 $\mu\text{g kg}^{-1}$) and quantification (1.25 – 5.00 $\mu\text{g kg}^{-1}$), and decision limit (2.9 – 7.8 $\mu\text{g kg}^{-1}$). This method was applied to 238 samples to consolidate the first official Brazilian monitoring of PAH in seafood. PAH were quantified in 15% of samples, with concentrations up to 69.3 $\mu\text{g kg}^{-1}$. The carcinogenic compound B[a]P was present in 4% of samples, with concentrations up to 42.7 $\mu\text{g kg}^{-1}$. The health risk of seafood consumers was assessed using the margin of exposure (MOE) approach. Despite this, the risk assessment indicated that the disaster was of low concern to human health (MOE > 10.000). This new method increased laboratory throughput and was successfully applied to different types of samples, supporting monitoring of seafood after the disaster.

2. Effects of meteo-oceanographic conditions on the weathering processes of oil spills in northeastern Brazil

Varona H.L., Noriega C., Calzada A.E., Medeiros C., Lobaina A., Rodriguez A., Chang D., Reyes D., Araujo J., Silva M., das Chagas Moura M., Araujo M.

(2024) *Marine Pollution Bulletin*, 198, art. no. 115828,

DOI: 10.1016/j.marpolbul.2023.115828

ABSTRACT: This paper presents the graphical results of the Lagrangian-model and the weathering processes associated with oil spills in the tropical South Atlantic, taking into account the meteorological and oceanographic conditions of the study region. The scenarios were created in the Brazilian-NE waters adjacent, with simulation times of 670 h, and densities of 35, 25, and 15API with volume of 1590 m³ were considered. The main results showed that the meteo-oceanographic characteristics of the study region influence the trajectories and weathering processes in the oil spill. The trajectories varied for each launch point and reached the continent severely in January and October. The associated weathering processes showed higher rates in September and lower rates in April, indicative of the influence of phenomena such as Intertropical Convergence Zone and warm pool in the South Atlantic region. Sea surface temperature and wind speed are key factors that correlate positively with these months.

3. Numerical and experimental study of oil boom motion response and oil-stopping effect under wave-current action

Hou T., Sun H., Jiao B., Wang G., Lin H., Liu H., Gao B.

(2024) *Ocean Engineering*, 291, art. no. 116439,

DOI: 10.1016/j.oceaneng.2023.116439

ABSTRACT: Little research has been done on the failure of oil booms when wave-current coupling is present. This study investigates the motion response and oil-stopping failure of the oil containment boom experimentally and numerically. The oil containment effect under wave-current and the motion response of the oil containment boom were investigated through experiments. Using CFD software FLUENT for simulation, the study established a multiphase flow analysis model to simulate the oil containment of an oil containment boom and used the volume of fluid method (VOF) to track the oil-water interface. The study compares the experimental and numerical results, which are coincident with each other, and validates the validity of the numerical model. Numerical methods are used to analyze the effects of various working conditions (water flow rate, wave parameter, wave reversal, skirt height, and initial oil spill volume) on the oil containment effect of the oil containment boom. The results show that the presence of waves accelerates the oil containment failure; compared to the wave-current flowing in the same direction, wave-current reversal is better for oil containment, and the initial oil spill volume primarily affects the thickening of the oil layer, which provides an important reference for the design of an effective oil containment boom.

4. Lagrangian modelling of oil concentrations at sea: A sensitivity analysis to the grid resolution and number of Lagrangian elements

Martínez A., Abascal A.J., García A., Aragón G., Medina R.

(2024) *Marine Pollution Bulletin*, 198, art. no. 115787,

DOI: 10.1016/j.marpolbul.2023.115787

ABSTRACT: This paper presents a novel method to select the optimal combination of grid resolution and number of Lagrangian elements (LEs) required in numerical modelling of oil concentrations at sea. A sensitivity analysis in terms of grid resolution and the number of LEs, was carried out to understand the uncertainty that these user-dependent parameters introduce in the numerical results. A dataset of 211,200 simulations performed under 400 metocean patterns, 6 initial volumes, 11 grid resolutions, and different numbers of LEs (100 to 500,000), was used to analyze the sensitivity of the model along different Thresholds of Concern. Results show the importance of a correct selection of the number of LEs and the grid resolution in Lagrangian modelling of surface oil concentrations. The method proposed will allow selecting the optimal combination of these parameters to find an optimal balance between the accuracy and the computational cost of the simulation.

5. A CFD Model to Evaluate Near-Surface Oil Spill from a Broken Loading Pipe in Shallow Coastal Waters

Felix P., Leon L., Gay D., Salon S., Azamathulla H.

(2024) *Fluid Dynamics and Materials Processing*, 20 (1), pp. 59 - 77,

DOI: 10.32604/fdmp.2023.028031

ABSTRACT: Oil spills continue to generate various issues and concerns regarding their effect and behavior in the marine environment, owing to the related potential for detrimental environmental, economic and social implications. It is essential to have a solid understanding of the ways in which oil interacts with the water and the coastal ecosystems that are located nearby. This study proposes a simplified model for predicting the plume-like transport behavior of heavy Bunker C fuel oil discharging downward from

RECENT INTERESTING PEER-REVIEWED OIL SPILL PUBLICATIONS (CONTINUED)

an acutely-angled broken pipeline located on the water surface. The results show that the spill overall profile is articulated in three major flow areas. The first, is the source field, i.e., a region near the origin of the initial jet, followed by the intermediate or transport field, namely, the region where the jet oil flow transitions into an underwater oil plume flow and starts to move horizontally, and finally, the far-field, where the oil re-surface and spreads onto the shore at a significant distance from the spill site. The behavior of the oil in the intermediate field is investigated using a simplified injection-type oil spill model capable of mimicking the undersea trapping and lateral migration of an oil plume originating from a negatively buoyant jet spill. A rectangular domain with proper boundary conditions is used to implement the model. The Projection approach is used to discretize a modified version of the Navier-Stokes equations in two dimensions. A benchmark fluid flow issue is used to verify the model and the results indicate a reasonable relationship between specific gravity and depth as well as agreement with the aerial data and a vertical temperature profile plot.

6. Forecasting marine spill risk along the U.S. Pacific coasts

Fernández-Macho J.

(2024) Marine Pollution Bulletin, 198, art. no. 115826,

DOI: 10.1016/j.marpolbul.2023.115826

ABSTRACT: This study analyzes historical trends and forecasts of spill risks in coastal counties along the U.S. Pacific, including Alaska and Hawaii. The method calculates spill impact, which rises with size but diminishes with age and distance from the coast. Over the past two decades, spill risks in California and Washington have increased significantly. Coastal counties in Puget Sound and San Francisco Bay have seen the highest increases, surpassing 2000 levels by 79 % and 39 %, respectively. Alaska experienced a moderate rise, while Oregon and Hawaii had smaller but noteworthy increases. Ocean currents may reduce risk by 38 % on average. Most counties are expected to experience increasing spill risks, particularly in Southern California and Southwest Washington, which could see nearly a 50 % increase by 2033 compared to present levels. These findings can help coastal zone monitoring and inform policies for protecting coastal regions, regulating marine transportation and reducing spill vulnerability.

7. Numerical Simulation of Crude Oil Leakage from Damaged Submarine-Buried Pipeline

Zhao H.J., Zhang D., Lv X.F., Song L.L., Li J.W., Chen F., Xie X.Q.

(2024) Journal of Applied Fluid Mechanics, 17 (1), pp. 75 - 88,

DOI: 10.47176/jafm.17.1.2061

ABSTRACT: Oil spill accidents in damaged submarine-buried pipelines cause tremendous economic losses and serious environmental pollution. The accurate prediction of oil spills from subsea pipelines is important for emergency response. In this study, the volume-of-fluid model, realizable $k-\epsilon$ turbulence model, and porous-medium model were employed to describe the process of an oil spill from a submarine pipeline to the sea surface. The effects of seawater density, seawater velocity, and pipeline buried depth on the transverse diffusion distance of crude oil and the time at which crude oil reaches the sea surface were obtained through numerical calculations. The calculation results show that, with a decrease in seawater density and an increase in seawater velocity and pipeline depth, the diffusion rate of crude oil decreases significantly, the maximum transverse diffusion distance increases and crude oil takes a long time to reach the sea surface. In particular, compared with a sea density of 1045 kg/m³, the transverse distance of a sea density of 1025 kg/m³ is increased by 0.091 m. When the seawater velocity is greater than 1.5 m/s, the diffusion of crude oil in seawater is significantly affected, the seawater velocity increases to 0.35 m/s, and the transverse diffusion distance of oil to the sea surface increases to 12.693 m. When the buried depth of the pipeline reaches 0.7 and 1.3 m compared to 0.1 m, the diffusion widths of crude oil in sea mud rise by 20% and 32.5%, respectively. The time required for crude oil to reach the sea surface and the transverse diffusion distance of crude oil migrating to the sea surface were analyzed using multiple regression, and the fitting formulas were obtained. The results provide theoretical support for accurately predicting the leakage range of submarine-buried pipelines and provide valuable guidance for submarine-buried pipeline leakage accident treatment schemes.

SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY (

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A REVIEW OF MICROPLASTIC POLLUTION: HARMFUL EFFECT ON ENVIRONMENT AND ANIMALS, REMEDIATION STRATEGIES

Microplastics are so widely dispersed and abundant throughout the globe that many scientists consider them to be important markers of the recent and current time, which is known as The Plasticene. The effects of microplastics are still not fully known, though. Because microplastics are multiple stressors with a variety of physical-chemical characteristics, understanding their impact is quite complicated. If toxic chemicals are transported by microplastics in ecosystems, acting as vectors of transport. Also, many dangerous

chemicals are added during polymer production to enhance their properties and lengthen their life and these chemicals must have detrimental effect. To date, many significant studies have done, making a good progress to understand the effect of the key plastic additives on the environment. At the end of the day, these additives are thrown into our environment and, hence become a source of many health issues, especially, when are coupled with micro-plastics. The current study will review thoroughly the most toxic and dangerous chemicals used in the plastic industry, elaborating the effects on organism health. Also, it provides information about the works that explored their abundance on microplastics. Jeeng.net / [Read more](#)

DISCOVERING HOW MICROPLASTICS ENDANGER HEALTH AND SOIL

Researchers from Zhejiang Shuren University and China Agricultural University revealed the mechanisms and effects of plastic pollution on antibiotic resistance and soil health. The study was published in Eco-Environment & Health on October 13th, 2023. AZO Cleantech / [Read more](#)

UNLOCKING SUSTAINABLE WATER TREATMENT: THE POTENTIAL OF PIEZOELECTRIC-ACTIVATED PERSULFATE

In a recent [study](#) published in Volume 18 of the journal *Environmental Science and Ecotechnology*, scientists from Jinan University discuss a new, eco-friendly way to clean water. They've discovered a method called "piezoelectric activation of PS." This technique uses special materials that create piezoelectricity when they are squeezed or pressed, thereby cleaning the water. What's really cool is that this squeezing can come from natural things like wind, ocean waves, or river currents. So, it doesn't need extra energy, making it a very green and efficient way to make water safe. EurekaAlert / [Read more](#)

ENVIRONMENTAL POLLUTANTS REMEDIATION USING PHYTO-NANOPARTICLES: AN OVERVIEW ON SYNTHESIS, CHARACTERIZATION, AND REMEDIATION POTENTIAL

Accumulation of environmental pollution has created a misbalance between the environment and human health. Industrialization, incomplete fuel combustion, use of fertilizers, unsafe disposal of pollutants directly into the atmosphere contributes to their buildup in the environment. Progress in the development of remediation techniques has led the way to employ green synthesized nanoparticles. Phyto-nanoparticles are an improvement in the field of bioremediation in eco-friendly, non-toxic, and cost-effective ways. Nanoparticles adhered to phytocompounds are explored for their potential to remediate pollutants like heavy metals, dyes, pharmaceutical residues, polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons, biocides, etc. Nanoparticle's size, morphology, and properties are optimized by regulating factors like pH, temperature, light exposure, agitation, etc. For example, Iron nanoparticles synthesized from plants like tea are used to biodegrade heavy metals like chromium, arsenic in contaminated water. This chapter aims to recapitulate the process of bioremediation via emerging Phyto-nanoparticles, their synthesis from easily available plants, techniques used to characterize synthesized nanoparticles, and to investigate remediation potential to act on environmental pollutants and control environmental pollutants matrices in the atmosphere. Researchgate / [Read more](#)

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-ems-training-catalogue-2019.html>
- **FRANCE - CEDRE** - https://wwz.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 & WORLDWIDE – AMBIPAR GROUP** <https://ambipar.com/uk/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
- **CANADA - CONTAMINATED SITES HEALTH & SAFETY REFRESHER (8-HOUR HAZWOPER) – FROM ECONEXT –** [MORE INFO](#)
- **ONLINE – LLOYDS MARITIME ACADEMY – CERTIFICATE IN ENVIRONMENTAL MARITIME MANAGEMENT.** Starts on 24th January <https://informaconnect.com/certificate-in-maritime-environmental-management/>

TRAINING COURSES (CONTINUED)

- **ONLINE - LLOYDS MARITIME ACADEMY – CERTIFICATE IN MARINE POLLUTION PREVENTION & MANAGEMENT. Starts on 14th March 2024 - <https://email.informaconnect.com/q/12ErXbQNGaNK08lQrkPeg62v/wv>**

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

In 2024, invest in your team's success and elevate your skills with industry leading training courses by OSRL!



UKCS Responder Refresher: OPEP Level 3 & 4 - 27th February | 1 Day - Aberdeen, Scotland

This training course provides you with revalidation of the OPEP Level 3 and OPEP Level 4 certification by attending this comprehensive refresher for Onshore Emergency Responders in accordance with UK training requirements. Refresher training must be completed within 3 months of the original certificate expiry (valid for 36 months). Failure to do so will require full re-certification by completing the entire training course. Using a realistic scenario covering all aspects of a spill response, delegates apply their knowledge and refresh their ability to develop a spill response strategy and communicate with relevant government agencies. [Book now](#)

- For details of other OSRL courses visit <https://www.oilspillresponse.com/training/courses/>

UPCOMING EVENTS

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

The listings below give only very basic details – To get access to all information visit <https://spillcontrol.org/upcoming-events/>

UPCOMING EVENTS (CONTINUED)

JANUARY 2024 & ONWARDS

- WEBINAR - Australian Laboratory for Emerging Contaminants (ALEC) - Microplastics Research Projects - The Hidden Hazards Thursday, February 1, 2024 12:00pm - 1:00pm AEDT
- JAPAN and ONLINE - PAJ Oil Spill Workshop 2024 - "Oil Spill Prevention during a Civil War, Recent Oil Spill Response and Effective Public Relations" - February 15th Thursday 2024, International Convention Hall, 2nd Floor, Keidanren Kaikan, 1-3-2, Ohtemachi, Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo 100-0004. Virtual on line with limited physical attendance
- UAE – International Conference on Environmental Pollution & Remediation, (ICEPR), Dubai, 15-16 February
- WEBINAR - EXXONMOBIL OIL SPILL RESPONSE KNOWLEDGE TRANSFER WEBINAR SERIES – WEBINAR 23. - THE FINAL SEGMENT OF THE OIL IN THE SEA IV WEBINAR SERIES, WHICH WE STARTED IN JUNE 2023. FEBRUARY 13, 2024. PANEL DISCUSSION
- AUSTRALIA – Alga – "Chlorinated Hydrocarbons Groundwater Fate & Transport Symposium", Adelaide, 22-23 February 2024
- PORTUGAL – Economist – "11th Annual World Ocean Summit & Expo", Lisbon, 11-13 March 2024
- GERMANY – "14th International Conference on Environmental Pollution & Remediation", Berlin, August 25-27, 2024
- SPAIN & ONLINE – "14th International Conference on Environmental Pollution & Remediation, Barcelona, August 25-27. 2024

SOME OTHER INFO –

IOPC Funds has released a calendar of its upcoming events – to view, click on <https://iopcfunds.org/news-events/events/>

Econext has released a programme of upcoming courses and webinars. This can be viewed at https://econext.myvirtualcampus.co/product-category/webinars/?orderby=date&mc_cid=9c2c758fcd&mc_eid=6a430f1539

Recordings of past ExxonMobil OSR Knowledge Transfer Webinar Recordings – [Access and Download](#)

UK & Ireland Spill Association Alternative Marine Fuels and their Implications For Spill Response Webinar is [available to watch on YouTube](#).

All six of UK & Ireland Spill Association's Webinar Series on the Wakashio Spill are also available to watch. [More info](#)

UPDATES FROM EVENT ORGANISERS

USA: CLEAN WATERWAYS 2024 – REGISTRATION NOW OPEN - CLICK ON LINKS BELOW

If you have leftover funds in your marketing budget from last year, use it to invest in your business for 2024 and secure participation at the [CLEAN WATERWAYS Conference](#), April 9-11 in Cincinnati, OH. We are accepting exhibit/ sponsorship applications and registration is open, with early bird discounts expiring at the end of January!

[TRACK PLANNING & PREPAREDNESS](#) [PRELIMINARY AGENDA ANNOUNCED](#) [2024 PRELIMINARY SESSION LINE-UP](#)

Registration has officially opened for the 2024 CLEAN WATERWAYS Conference, taking place at the Duke Energy Convention Center in Cincinnati, OH, April 9-11. [Registration information](#) April 9-11, 2024, Cincinnati, OH – "Incident Prevention & Response for Inland Regions & Waterways" [View the website](#)

The CLEAN WATERWAYS program is developed by a government/industry-based committee of approximately 50 professionals, and the committee is looking for leaders to help shape the conference. All abstracts submitted are reviewed for content and relevance by the committee and are selected by consensus

USA: REGISTRATION NOW OPEN FOR IOSC 2024

[International Oil Spill Conference \(IOSC\)](#) in New Orleans, May 13-16, 2024

Registration has officially opened for the International Oil Spill Conference (IOSC), May 13-16, 2024 at the New Orleans Convention Center in New Orleans, LA USA.

Meet Dr. Leonard Marcus, IOSC 2024 Keynote Speaker. Join us, May 13 - 16, 2024 in New Orleans, LA for the 2024 International Oil Spill Conference (IOSC) and be inspired by our opening keynote speaker, Dr. Leonard Marcus. [Read about Dr. Marcus](#)

[Why are Sponsorships at IOSC So Valuable?](#) Click to read more

IOSC provides a vital forum for professionals from the international response community, private sector, government, and non-governmental organizations to come together to tackle the greatest challenges facing us with sound science, practical innovation, social engineering and imagination.

Mark your calendars and start planning your trip to join over 1,500 attendees from over 50 countries, representing government agencies, contractors, researchers, industry, and other stakeholders as they exchange ideas and lessons learned from actual spill responses and research around the world.

Learn More about IOSC 2024 Be sure to follow IOSC on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), and [LinkedIn](#) for updates and announcements about #IOSC2024. Please contact registration@iosc.org for questions or additional information. Interested in exhibiting or sponsorship? Please reach out to: exhibits@iosc.org

USA: CLEAN GULF CONFERENCE & EXHIBITION 2024



The graphic features the event logo on the left, which includes a stylized blue water drop icon above the text "CLEAN GULF CONFERENCE & EXHIBITION". To the right, the dates "NOVEMBER 18-20, 2024" and the location "George R. Brown Convention Center HOUSTON, TX" are displayed. A dark blue banner at the bottom contains the tagline "Prepare, Respond & Recover: Real-World Solutions for Evolving Environmental Emergencies". The background is decorated with abstract geometric shapes in shades of blue, green, and white.

[Click Here for More information](#)

CONTRIBUTED ARTICLE

SIOETC PROVIDES FUNDING FOR SMVC STUDENT'S OCEAN-THEMED MURAL FESTIVAL WITH ISCO SUPPORTING

Shandong International Ocean Engineering Training Center (SIOETC) has extended its support to Shandong Maritime Vocational College (SMVC) by providing funds for the student-led ocean-themed mural festival. Mr. WuYue, CEO of SIOETC and Council member of ISCO, believes that this event can enhance the understanding and awareness of marine environmental protection among the students of the maritime college. This initiative lays a solid foundation for them to develop environmental consciousness as they embark on their professional careers. By immersing themselves in the creation and appreciation of ocean-themed artwork, students not only showcase their artistic talents but also learn about the importance of preserving and conserving our oceans. This event serves as an educational platform, fostering a sense of responsibility and promoting a sustainable mindset among the young talents. Furthermore, Mr. WuYue emphasizes that by supporting this initiative, SIOETC aims to inspire the students to become advocates and ambassadors for marine conservation, ensuring a brighter and more sustainable future for our oceans.

The initiative aims to promote awareness and appreciation for the ocean and its diverse ecosystem among students and the broader community. This unique event showcases the artistic talents of SMVC students and encourages them to explore marine themes in their creations.

The festival, held within the SMVC campus, has attracted attention from both students and local residents, drawing them to the campus and fostering a greater sense of pride within the college. Visitors can witness firsthand the dedication and artistic skills of SMVC students as they turn dull, ordinary walls into captivating underwater scenes.

The successful completion of this ocean-themed mural festival highlights the positive impact that collaboration between educational institutions and industry can have on shaping the minds of future generations. SIOETC and ISCO's support has allowed the SMVC students to make a lasting contribution to the college and community, reminding us all of the beauty and significance of the world's oceans.



ISCO thanks Wu Yue, Member of ISCO Council for China, for submitting the above article and photos. ISCO supports this project which reminding us all of the beauty and significance of the world's oceans.

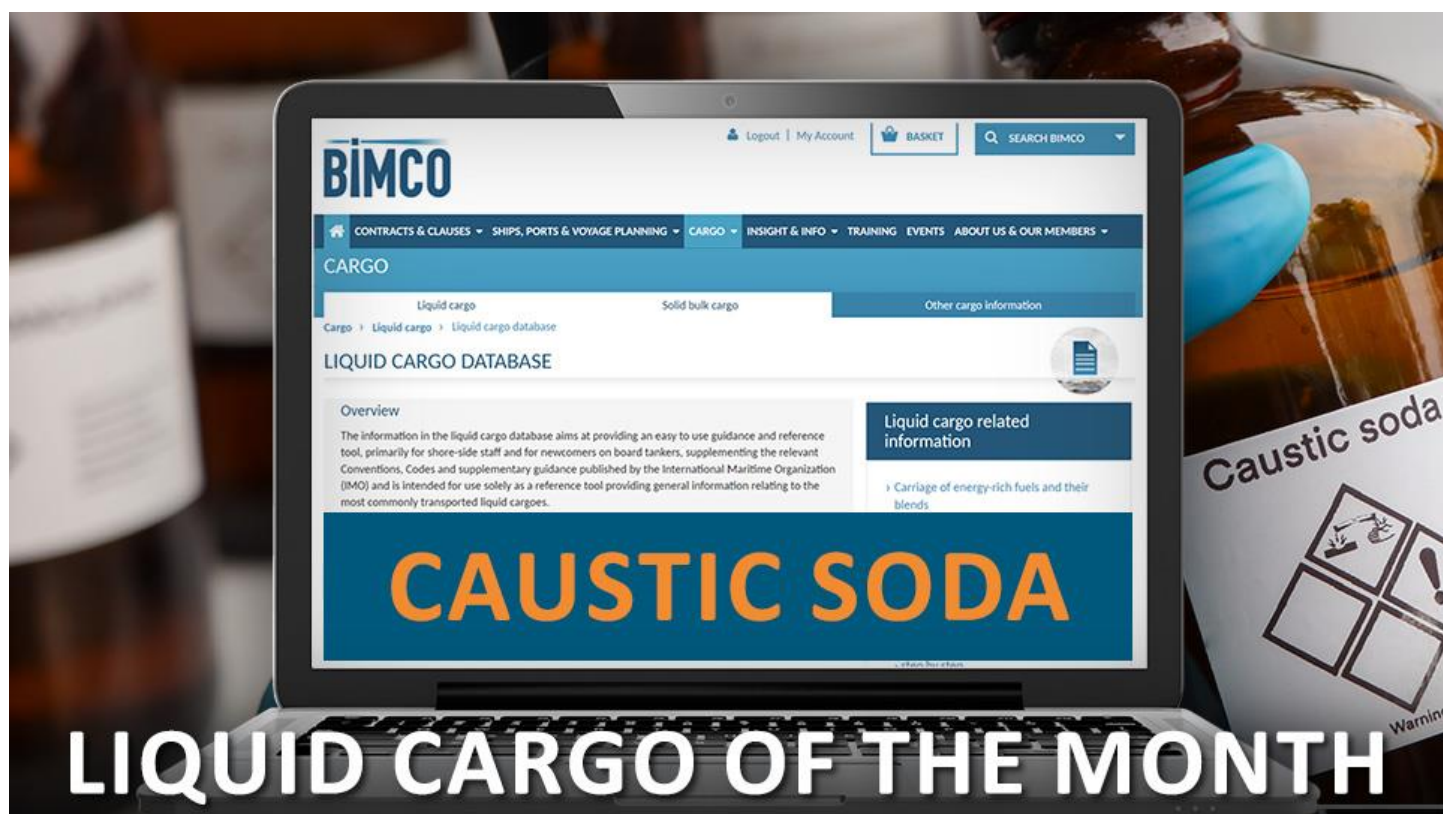
TECHNICAL SUPPORT

BREAKAWAY COUPLINGS: IDEAL FOR OFFSHORE CHEMICAL TRANSFERS

Chemical transfer in the offshore industry is of utmost importance, including petrochemicals and hazardous chemicals, each with their own distinct properties and risks. Marine breakaway couplings (MBCs) have become an indispensable asset to mitigate these risks and prevent pull-away incidents.

In this article we explore the hazards of petrochemical and hazardous chemical transfer. Also, the suitability of MBCs to these offshore chemical fluid transfers. Daily Bionews / [Read more](#)

LIQUID CARGO OF THE MONTH DECEMBER 2023 – CAUSTIC SODA (SODIUM HYDROXIDE SOLUTION)



The BIMCO Liquid Cargo database is intended for use by shore-side staff and to some extent for newcomers on board tankers and should only be used as a reference tool providing brief information regarding the about 315 of the commonly transported liquid cargoes including Sodium Hydroxide Solution. BIMCO / [Read more](#)

AKER BP HIRES CONTRACTOR FOR NEW OIL SPILL DETECTION SOLUTION

Aker BP has contracted technology supplier Vissim to implement an upgraded oil spill detection solution at the operator's fixed and floating installations on the Norwegian continental shelf. Aker BP will equip installations Valhall, Ula, Edvard Grieg, Ivar Aasen, Alvheim and Skarv with the new and upgraded oil spill detection solution. The upgraded, radar-based oil spill detection system uses image processing technology that enables much higher sensitivity, which allows it to detect even smaller oil spills, according to Aker BP. "The new solution has resulted in higher sensitivity, which means that smaller spills will be detected but less false alarms. It also re-uses hardware that is already installed offshore and onshore, thereby keeping capital investments to a minimum. It is a win-win for everyone involved," said Håvard Odden, director of Vissim's North Sea operations. The system also capitalizes on machine learning to classify detected phenomena, thus preventing that the system generates false alarms which has traditionally been a concern in radar-based oil spill detection systems. The two-in-one solution from Vissim allows both vessel tracking and oil spill detection through the same radar. A higher degree of sensitivity in image processing makes the new system less susceptible to false alarms caused by heavy rain, vessel wake and other phenomena. Last autumn, Aker BP appointed Vissim to develop an expanded digital platform (dashboard)

TECHNICAL SUPPORT (CONTINUED)

for oil spill monitoring and detection. This solution integrates input from several detection sources, including radars, satellites, sensors on subsea production equipment, and combine them into one, complete and easy-to-understand visual overview. The new oil spill detection solution will become an integrated part of Aker BP's digital platform for oil spill monitoring and detection. Offshore Engineer / [Read more](#) [Thanks to Dan Sheehan, Hon.FISCO, Member of ISCO Executive Committee]

JOB VACANCIES

APPOINTMENT OF AN INLAND ASSESSOR FOR INTERNATIONAL SPILL ACCREDITATION SCHEME (ISAS)

Due to a forthcoming retirement, a vacancy will exist within a few months for an Assessor to manage the accreditation of Inland Spill Response companies and the accreditation of spill response courses provided by training companies.

ISAS has a well-developed and functional accreditation scheme for the assessment of companies involved in Inland Spill Response.

Assessors manage a rewarding process as companies grow in confidence and professionalism during the accreditation process. The assessor builds on his/her knowledge and develops a close bond with the company knowing that what the assessor is doing will make a difference.

Assessors are sub contractors and are experienced professional with experience of attending and managing spill response incidents who may have worked for a spill response organisation, environment agency, emergency service with an understanding of response, mitigation techniques and have the ability to liaise with external stakeholders.

More details at: <https://ukeirespill.org/appointment-of-an-inland-assessor-for-international-spill-accreditation-scheme-isas/>

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 Federal Contract Opportunities are posted at <https://clu-in.org/Federal-Contract-Opportunities>

European Maritime Safety Agency invitations to tender are often posted in The EMSA Newsletter at -

<https://www.emsa.europa.eu/newsroom/newsletters.html> ISCO Members can post requests for submission of invitations to tender for supplies / services in this section. The ISCO Newsletter is circulated to nearly 3,000 registered subscribers in 60 countries worldwide and represents a well targeted audience for sourcing invitations to tender. Send requests to the Editor – john.mcmurtrie@spillcontrol.org

LINKS FOR OTHER PUBLICATIONS

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<https://spillcontrol.org/2021/10/19/links-for-downloading-and-reading-other-publications/> As a service to its Members ISCO provides a listing of publications that may be of interest to our community. This page provides details and links for downloading more than 40 publications most of which can be accessed at no cost. This page is managed by Mike Watson mike@mwadigital.com

NEW PUBLICATIONS

EMSA NEWSLETTER JANUARY 2024

The latest EMSA newsletter has now been published, with updates on the extension of the ETS to maritime and the resources and information available for maritime stakeholders on the changes. Also in this month's edition, we've got updates on the 9th Automated Behaviour Monitoring (ABM) and Advanced Analytics workshop, and the final seminar in the ten-year accident investigation training cycle! Plus, all the latest on our new Greening Award Initiative, held jointly with the European Fisheries Control Agency (EFCA), and the European Border and Coast Guard Agency (Frontex)

https://emsa.europa.eu/index.php?option=com_flexicontent&view=item&cid=2&id=5107:newsletter-january-2024&Itemid=2&idU=1



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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/>

USA: 261 BARRELS OF CRUDE OIL REMOVED FROM TEXAS CITY DITCH AFTER SPILL DETECTED ON CHRISTMAS

January 2 - The spill was first detected on Christmas Day near an oil pumping station on the city's west side when people who live nearby complained about a strong oil odor.

According to the Texas City Emergency Management, 261 barrels of sweet crude oil, which is approximately 11,000 gallons, have been collected so far from Moses Bayou, a drainage ditch (Ditch No. 6) that flows into Galveston Bay. The waterway reportedly does not intersect or flow into the Gulf Coast Water Authority's nearby freshwater supply canals. ABC13 / [Read more](#)

NIGERIA: OIL SPILL IN NIGERIA’S K-DERE COMMUNITY: A CALL FOR URGENT INVESTIGATION AND ACCOUNTABILITY

January 8 - On January 3, 2024, in the K-Dere community of Gokana Local Government Area, Rivers State, Nigeria, an oil spill originated from a rupture in the pipeline of the Pipeline and Product Marketing Company (PPMC). This line is responsible for pumping crude oil to the Port Harcourt Refinery, a vital artery in the nation’s energy infrastructure. BNN breaking / [Read more](#)

January 11 - Foropa, a fishing community along the Atlantic coastline in Southern Ijaw Local Government Area of Bayelsa has raised the alarm concerning a ‘mystery’ oil spill that has left the coastline polluted. This Day / [Read more](#)

SPAIN: NORTHERN SPAIN ON ALERT AS PLASTIC PELLETS FROM CARGO SPILL WASH UP ON BEACHES



Photo: Possibly millions of nurdles are coming ashore after a container went overboard from a ship under charter to Maersk (photo courtesy of Greenpeace)

January 9 - Officials in northern Spain have issued alerts after millions of tiny plastic pellets spilled by a cargo ship off Portugal last month washed up on beaches, raising fears of environmental damage and triggering a political row. The emergency began on 8 December after the *Toconao*, a Liberia-registered vessel chartered by the shipping firm Maersk, lost six containers while sailing about 50 miles (80km) off the coast of northern Portugal. One container held 1,000 25kg sacks of the tiny balls, which are used in

the manufacture of plastic products. In the weeks since the spill, millions of the pellets have washed up on beaches in north-west Spain, prompting a clean-up operation by regional workers and volunteers. [The Guardian / Read more](#)

January 9 - Container Lost off Maersk Ship Spills Raw Plastic on Spain's Beaches - Nearly a month after environmentalists and local officials began calling attention to plastic nurdles washing up on Spain's beaches, the federal government is opening a formal investigation. The source of the small plastic balls used in the manufacture of plastic water bottles and similar food packing has been traced to a containership operating under charter to Maersk

Read related report at – <https://bnnbreaking.com/breaking-news/accidents/asturias-declares-marine-pollution-emergency-basque-country-on-alert/>

USA: NEVADA - ENVIRONMENTAL DISASTER AVERTED AFTER VOLUNTEERS CLEAN UP 100,000 PLASTIC BEADS RELEASED INTO LAKE TAHOE

January 10 - In a shocking environmental incident, a floating dock has released an estimated one hundred thousand or more plastic styrofoam beads onto the pristine beaches of Ski Beach and Incline Beach in Incline Village, Nevada. The floating dock, believed to have come from the northeast shore of Lake Tahoe, broke free during the high wind event that occurred on Saturday, January 6th, causing the unintended release of plastic beads along a large section of the Incline Village shoreline.

Members of the IVGID Parks and Recreation team removed the dock early on the morning of January 8th. Following the removal of the dock, Clean Up The Lake's entire staff and 25-30 volunteers from their organization and groups like IVGID, Diamond Peak Ski Resort, and the local Rotary Club all worked together to clean up the beach. [Snowbrains / Read more](#)

SOUTH KOREA: PYEONGTAEK ISOLATES TOXIC CHEMICALS AFTER SPILL INTO LOCAL STREAM

January 11 - The city government and fire authorities of Pyeongtaek, Gyeonggi, said on Thursday that they took immediate action to isolate chemicals that leaked into a local stream following an industrial fire in a neighboring town.

After a facility storing flammable chemicals in Hwaseong, Gyeonggi caught fire on Tuesday, chemicals mixed with the water used to extinguish the flames entered the nearby stream. To contain the contamination, authorities have constructed barriers around the leaked chemicals. According to the authorities, approximately 7.4 kilometers (4.5 miles) of the stream passing through Cheongbuk-eup in Pyeongtaek has been polluted. [Korea JoongAng Daily / Read more](#)

Legal disclaimer: Whilst ISCO takes every care to ensure that information published in this newsletter is accurate unintentional mistakes can occur. No liability for consequences of errors is accepted but, if an error is brought to our attention, a correction will be printed in a following issue of this newsletter. Products and services featured in the ISCO Newsletter and/or the ISCO website, including the International Directory of Spill Response Supplies and Services, have not been tested, approved or endorsed by ISCO. Any claims made by suppliers of products or services are solely those of the suppliers and ISCO does not accept any liability for their accuracy. It should not be assumed that views and opinions expressed in linked reports, articles and other content reflect the views of the organization. Subscription is subject to acceptance of ISCO's Terms and Conditions as published on the website www.spillcontrol.org and your acceptance of ISCO's Data Protection and Privacy Policy.
