



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

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- Mr Rupert Bravery (Chairman)
 - Mr Matthew Sommerville
- Other members of the Board will be advised later

MEMBERS OF ISCO COUNCIL AND NATIONAL REPRESENTATIVES

MEMBERS of COUNCIL are marked with an *

- Mr John McMurtrie, (Editor) * (UK)
- Dr Larissa Montas * (USA)
- Captain Bill Boyle * (UK)
- Mr Marc Shaye * (USA)
- Mr Michael Watson * (UK)
- Mr Kerem Kemerli * (USA)
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- Ms Jane Delgado * (USA)
- Mr Carlos Sagera * (Panama)
- Mr Ed Levine * (USA)
- Mr Wu Yue * (China)

NATIONAL REPRESENTATIVES - ISCO is currently in discussion with its National Representatives and some changes and additions will be advised later

- Mr Elkhan Mamedov (Azerbaijan)
- Mr Uri Philippin (Israel)
- Mr Sanjay Gandhi (Kenya)
- Mr Dennis van der Veen (Netherlands)
- Mrs Fatima B. Shaik (South Africa)
- Dr Ali Saeed Al Ameri (UAE)
- Mr Flavio P. de Andrade (Brazil)

PLEASE CLICK ON THE BANNER BELOW FOR MORE INFORMATION



CRITICAL NEGOTIATIONS ON PLASTIC POLLUTION TO BEGIN THIS WEEK

The world has a once-in-a-generation chance to profoundly change humanity's relationship with plastic. That is the message from officials ahead of "pivotal" talks next week on a legally binding global instrument to end plastic pollution.

Delegates from 174 countries are expected to gather in the Canadian capital of Ottawa for the latest round of discussions on the instrument. The gathering, formally known as the Fourth Session of the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee to develop an international legally binding instrument on plastic pollution, including in the marine environment (INC-4), will run from April 23 to 29. It is the penultimate meeting before negotiations are expected to conclude later this year. UNEP / [Read more](#) See also Fourth Session (INC-4) [Read more](#)

NEWS FROM IOPC FUNDS

2010 HNS CONVENTION

This document provides information about recent activities conducted by the 1992 Fund relating to outreach and technical assistance, HNS reporting and contributions, the drafting of a Claims Manual, and various other items related to the preparations for the entry into force of the 2010 HNS Convention.

A workshop on the 2010 HNS Convention, organised by the IOPC Funds in collaboration with the International Maritime Organization (IMO), will take place immediately after the April 2024 sessions of the IOPC Funds' governing bodies and will focus on reporting matters. [Read more](#)

DIRECTOR DELIVERS LECTURE TO IMLI STUDENTS



On 16 April 2024, IOPC Funds' Director, Gaute Sivertsen, delivered a lecture to participants of the International Maritime Law Institute's (IMLI) course on Maritime Protection and Ocean Governance. The lecture, delivered on the topic: "The Fund Conventions and their Contribution of Adequate Compensation in Case of Oil Pollution Incidents" [Read more](#)

INTERNATIONAL NEWS (CONTINUED)

NEW BIODIVERSITY FUND APPROVES PROJECT PREPARATION GRANTS

The Global Biodiversity Framework Fund (GBFF) has approved project preparation grants and set aside nearly \$40 million to support new proposed initiatives in Brazil, Gabon, and Mexico, providing a boost to international efforts to put nature on a path to recovery this decade.

The project preparation grants from the less than 1-year-old fund, housed at the Global Environment Facility, will support strategies to ensure long-term financing, improved management, and expansion of protected areas, in partnership with Indigenous Peoples and local communities GEF / [Read more](#)

REGIONAL NEWS

The latest News and Press Releases collated from websites of Regional Organisations on ISCO's checking list. To add a website to this list please send the link to john.mcmurtrie@spillcontrol.org If your website's News releases are not being kept up-to-date, you can send information directly to the Editor.

EUROPE: EU PLEDGES 3.5 BLN EUROS TO PROTECT THE OCEAN

April 17 - The European Union will spend 3.5 billion euros (\$3.71 billion) to protect the ocean and promote sustainability through a series of initiatives this year, the EU's top environment official said on Tuesday.

The EU's 40 commitments, announced during the annual "Our Ocean" conference held in Athens this week, range from fighting marine pollution to supporting sustainable fisheries and investments in the so-called blue economy – sustainable use of marine and freshwater resources for economic activity. Hellenic Shipping News / [Read more](#)

EUROPE: EU CALLS FOR GLOBAL BAN ON CERTAIN PLASTIC PRODUCTS TO COMBAT POLLUTION

MEMBERSHIP OF ISCO
[Benefits of Membership](#)
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YOU ARE INVITED TO JOIN THE ISCO DISCUSSION GROUP ON LINKED-IN

LinkedIn Click on the link below –
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ISCO'S FACEBOOK GROUP 
Click on the link -
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/388528312842431>

WHATSAPP GROUP FOR STUDENTS, TRAINEES & APPRENTICES
<https://spillcontrol.org/membership-application-form/>

ADVANCE YOUR CAREER BY GAINING PROFESSIONAL RECOGNITION
Professional recognition is a visible mark of quality, competence and commitment, and can give you a significant advantage in today's competitive environment. All who have the relevant qualifications and the required level of experience can apply for Professional Membership of ISCO. The organization offers independent validation and integrity. Each grade of membership reflects an individual's professional training, experience and qualifications. You can apply for MEMBERSHIP (MISCO) or FELLOWSHIP (FISCO)
[Professional Membership Application Form](#)

April 19 - With the global community being far from achieving its objective of ending plastic pollution unless more stringent and co-ordinated policies are implemented, the EU is calling for an agreement on rules that tackle plastic pollution at its source. More than 4,000 participants from governments, NGOs, industry, and civil society are expected in Canada to find a way to conclude negotiations of a new legally binding instrument to end plastic pollution by the end of 2024. Environment EC / [Read more](#)

ADRIATIC: ATRAC PARTICIPATED IN TRAINING COURSE AT CEDRE



April 18 - In the period from 8th to 12th of April 2024 ATRAC participated in a training course held at CEDRE in Brest. The training course was based on the IMO OPRC Level 2 program, and in addition to the theoretical part, the focus was on the practical part where Anja Pilepić mastered the skills of working with specialized equipment including booms and skimmers, and ways of cleaning the polluted shoreline in the pool area on the premises of CEDRE. The course was carried out within the framework of the Memorandum of Understanding, and this meeting was used to brainstorm future projects as part of the EU program. ATRAC / [Read more](#)

MEDITERRANEAN: PUBLICATION: PARLIAMENTARIAN'S GUIDE TO PROTECTING THE MEDITERRANEAN SEA AND COAST

April 19 - Members of parliaments play a pivotal role in transposing Multilateral Environmental Agreements (MEAs) into enforceable national law. The freshly published "Parliamentarian's guide to protecting the Mediterranean Sea and coast" is aimed at members of parliament serving in the Contracting Parties to the Convention for the protection of the marine environment and the coastal region of the Mediterranean (Barcelona Convention), namely 21 Mediterranean countries and the European Union. UNEP / [Read more](#)

USA: ISCO AT CLEAN WATERWAYS CONFERENCE & EXHIBITION



Photo: Left to Right - Mark Shepard (EMSI), Ed Levine (SS&C, LLC & ISCO Council), and ISCO member Jim Elliott (T & T Salvage) at the ISCO booth during the Clean Waterways conference in Cincinnati, OH.

ISCO Council Member, Ed Levine, welcomed visitors at our booth at the Clean Waterways Conference & Exhibition that took place at Cincinnati, Ohio. USA on 9th to 11th April 2024. Here is his report –

The Clean Waterways conference (<https://www.cleanwaterwaysevent.org/>) was held in Cincinnati, OH from April 9-11, 2024. The conference was attended by approximately 420 people representing regulatory agencies, response organizations, science and academics, industry, and non-governmental organizations.

The presentation sessions were designed around the following tracks:

- Welcome by Sector Ohio Valley and ORSANCO
- Keynote panel discussion on EPA's Proposed Rule on Clean Water Act Hazardous Substance Worst Case Discharge (WCD) Planning - Stakeholder Perspectives and What You Need to Know
- Inland Planning & Preparedness
- GIS Technology Wave
- Crisis Communications Best Practices
- Cross-Border and Interjurisdictional Planning
- Regional Planning
- Building Relationships in Emergency Response
- Working the Waterways
- Inland Response
- Managing Expectations in a Changing Response Landscape
- Batteries from Response to Clean-Up
- Marine Firefighting Issues and Case Studies
- Milepost 14 Incident Response Case Study
- Oil Behaving Badly
- Interagency Response on Inland Waterways

The Exhibition Hall housed 44 vendors and exhibitors. There was robust traffic through the hall during scheduled breaks. The exhibitors ranged from operational equipment, safety products, consultant services, waste management, storage and disposal, environmental monitoring, response OSROs, salvage, etc. The ISCO booth had a good amount of interest with about a dozen requests to be added to the newsletter distribution list and one new member from Oilkontrol introducing himself.

ISCO NEWS (CONTINUED)

The attendees to the conference showed a respectable representation of gender and age. Seeing the mix of men and women and younger and older individuals strolling the exhibition floor and attending presentations was hopeful for the future. The presentation sessions I attended were mostly well-presented, and interesting, and spurred good questions and audience involvement. Personally, I was able to reconnect with old colleagues, meet new responders, USCG personnel, and trade exhibitors, and get several new contacts and ideas for a few projects I am currently working on. Overall, this conference was worth attending for the inland aspects of response and the networking facilitated.

ZAL RUSTOM ELECTED AS NEW MEMBER OF ISCO COUNCIL

ISCO Chairman, Rupert Bravery, has announced that Zal Ruston has been elected as a new member of the ISCO Council.

Zal is Global Head of Response Operations with long time ISCO Corporate Member, Lamor Corporation Plc, Finland, providing support across all types of Risk, Crisis and Emergency Management, ensuring resilient response capabilities through Planning, Training, Mentoring, Exercising and Response Support. Zal is a Dynamic and results-driven Crisis Manager with international experience leading complex operations and developing performance-oriented crisis management and incident response teams. He has over thirty years in the energy and transport industries and has a wide range of skills and experiences. Working around the world has equipped him to use diplomacy and harness cultural diversity in business. Since 1988 he has been involved with the world's major oil companies, ship operators and governments at local & national level.

Rupert has commented – “Zal has offered up some of his time and his expertise to help us work on some of the initiatives currently underway and with the future development of ISCO. Particularly in building links with other organisations, helping provide input for the newsletter and proposed future e-zine”.

NEW ISCO WORKING GROUP ESTABLISHED TO BUILD THE BENEFITS OF ISCO MEMBERSHIP

ISCO has created a new Working Group (WG) with responsibility to further develop and improve the benefits provided to Members of the organisation.

NEWS FOR ISCO STUDENT MEMBERS

ISCO TO RAMP UP ITS SUPPORT FOR STUDENTS, TRAINEES AND APPRENTICES

As a starting point the ISCO Council has appointed Council Member, Larissa Montas, to work with Student Leader, Balogun Kayode (Peter), on this project.

ISCO Chairman, Rupert Bravery, commented “Larissa is the ideal candidate for this role. Not only did she come into ISCO through the programme, she is also a distinguished academic with her finger on the pulse of the world of further education.

We wish to significantly ramp up the programme to benefit members looking for employment in our world of response and those organisations looking for suitably educated talent to employ. This is a significant undertaking so, with that in mind, I would like to invite other Council members to volunteer to assist Larissa and Peter with this programme”.

NEWS FROM AROUND THE WORLD

FREE ADVERTISEMENT

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AUSTRALIA & CANADA: RESEARCH SHOWS UP TO 11 MILLION TONNES OF PLASTIC WASTE ON THE OCEAN

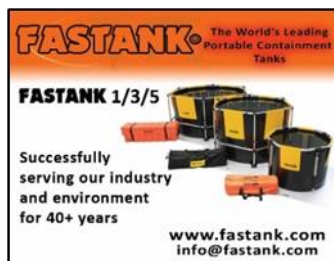
April 15 - The research was conducted by CSIRO, Australia's national science agency, and the University of Toronto. As much as 11 million tonnes of plastic pollution is sitting on the ocean floor, according to new research from CSIRO, Australia's national science agency, and Canada's University of Toronto (U of T).

Dr. Denise Hardesty, senior research scientist with CSIRO, said this is the first estimate of how much plastic waste ends up on the ocean floor, where it accumulates before being broken down into smaller pieces and mixed into ocean sediment. Canplastics.com / [Read more](#)

FRANCE: EMERGENCY RESPONSE REPORT MARCH 2024 FROM CEDRE'S DUTY TEAM:

- Interpretation of photos of suspected pollution by [MRCC Mediterranean](#) and [MRCC Corsen](#), showing, in particular, schools of Velella (By-the-wind sailors) observed in the Mediterranean, particularly early in the season.

NEWS FROM AROUND THE WORLD (CONTINUED)



- Mobilisation by [CD 22](#) following a diesel spill in the port of Loguivy-sur-Mer.
- Request by the [Eure-et-Loir fire brigade](#) for an opinion on the recommended actions following a nitrogen fertiliser leak into a ditch.
- Support for the [Ille-et-Vilaine authorities](#) in relation to the environmental impact of firewater following a blaze in two oyster farming buildings.
- The [Iroise Marine Nature Park](#) and [LPO](#) reported strandings of birds contaminated by a white/yellow product.
- Request from the [Nièvre authorities](#) on the clean-up technique to be implemented on an old spill of used engine oil.
- Request from [Lyon del Basell](#) in the context of a spill response exercise with bunker fuel in the port of La Pointe at Berre-l'Étang.
- Request from the [Syndicat d'assainissement collectif les Roselières](#) in the [Manche area](#) for advice relating to contamination of the wastewater system by home heating oil.
- Request from the land and maritime authorities (Finistère) after glass bottles containing a white powder, which turned out to be an antibiotic, washed up on the coast.
- Enquiry from [DDTM 80](#) on the clean-up of pebbles polluted by soot after a trawler on fire ran aground on the beach at Cayeux-sur-Mer.

TRAINING

- Training course on offshore wind farms: pollution risk management and spill response: 23-24 April at Cedre
- Standard IMO 3 level training course for MOIG: 22-25 April in Hammamet, Tunisia
- Remote training on behalf of IMT d'Alès for REM: 25 April, at Cedre

MAURITIUS JOINS THE IOPC FUNDS SUPPLEMENTARY FUND

April 19 - Mauritius will become the 33rd Member State of the Supplementary Fund following its accession to the Supplementary Fund Protocol earlier this month. The Director of the IOPC Funds, Gaute Sivertsen, has been notified of the development by the International Maritime Organization (IMO), which serves as the depositary of the Supplementary Fund Protocol.

Mauritius deposited an instrument of accession to the Supplementary Fund Protocol with the Secretary-General of IMO on 9 April 2024 and will officially become a Supplementary Fund Member State on 9 July 2024. IOPC Funds / [Read more](#)

TRINIDAD & TOBAGO: INCIDENT REPORT FROM IOPC FUNDS

April 17 – [Read this Report](#) - A very interesting report prepared for the 1992 Fund Executive Committee.

UK: MAJOR SPILL INCIDENT TRAINING FOR COASTAL AGENCIES



Photo courtesy of MCA

April 18 -A Norfolk beach was turned into a practical classroom for different agencies to learn how to prepare for oil and chemical spillages.

The training, run by the Maritime and Coastguard Agency (MCA) brought together the Broads Authority, the Environment Agency and port workers to learn how to deal with a potential major incident.

The MCA said the aim was to help authorities minimise damage.

JJ Potter from the Norfolk Resilience

Forum said: "The difference this training could make is paramount in terms of reacting to any potential chemical spill."

BBC / [Read more](#) [Editor – An interesting article and well worth a read]

USA: WITH THE HUDSON RIVER PCBS SUPERFUND SITE FIVE-YEAR REVIEW APPROACHING, CONGRESSIONAL LEADERS URGE EPA TO DETERMINE THAT THE CLEANUP HAS NOT BEEN PROTECTIVE OF HUMAN AND ECOLOGICAL HEALTH

April 16 - General Electric discharged more than a million pounds of toxic PCBs into the Hudson River over 3+ decades

Five-Year Reviews are issued by EPA to examine remediation efforts at EPA Superfund Sites to ensure cleanup is progressing; since large amounts of PCBs are still in Hudson, members of Congress are demanding further remediation

Letter to EPA includes signatures by 20 members of New York and New Jersey Congressional Delegations

WASHINGTON, DC – Today, congressional leaders wrote to Environmental Protection Agency Administrator Michael Regan, urging the EPA to follow the science and determine in its upcoming Five-Year Review (FYR) report that PCB cleanup of the Hudson River has not been protective of human and ecological health. An FYR report is issued by the EPA every five years to examine remediation efforts at EPA Superfund Sites, and to determine whether prescribed remedial actions are protective. River Keeper / [Read more](#)

USA: LATEST NEWS REPORTS FROM NOAA OR&R

April 22 – Please click on the links below to read the latest news.

[2023 Damage Assessment, Remediation, and Restoration Highlights: Over \\$92 Million to Restore Seven Polluted Waterways and Communities](#)

Oil spills and hazardous waste releases can close fisheries and beaches, kill wildlife, and adversely impact the coastal communities that rely on clean and productive waterways.

[NOAA Team Supports U.S. Coast Guard Full-Scale Oil Spill Exercise in Florida](#)



Photo: NOAA scientists participated in the USCG national PREP exercise in Jacksonville, Florida on April 16-17, 2024. Image credit: NOAA.

NOAA's Office of Response and Restoration (OR&R) teamed up with the NOAA National Weather Service (NWS) and NOAA National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) to participate in a tri-annual, full-scale national oil spill exercise as part of the [Preparedness for Response Exercise Program \(PREP\)](#)(link is external). The exercise, hosted by the U.S. Coast Guard (USCG) Sector Jacksonville in Jacksonville, Florida, was conducted on April 16-17.

[Special Funding Opportunity Announced under Nationwide Fishing Trap Removal, Assessment, and Prevention \(TRAP\) Program](#)

On April 15, the Virginia Institute of Marine Science, in partnership with the NOAA Marine Debris Program, announced a request for proposals under the Nationwide Fishing Trap Removal, Assessment, and Prevention (TRAP) Program. With funding from the NOAA Marine Debris Program provided by the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law, the Virginia Institute of Marine Science will award up to \$1,475,000 in grants to remove derelict fishing traps throughout coastal waterways of the United States while collecting data to prevent future gear loss.

[NOAA Participates in Global Standards for the Remediation and Assessment of Shipwrecks](#)

The past century of warfare and commerce has left a legacy of merchant and military shipwrecks across the world's ocean. These wrecks pose threats from oil, munitions, and other hazardous cargo, but are also historical resources, artificial reefs, recreational dive attractions, and many are war graves. An estimated 8,000 vessels were sunk in World War II alone and the major flag states, including the U.S., UK, Germany, and Japan, all have potentially polluting wrecks in their waters.

[Derelict Fishing Gear Processing Day 2024 at Stockton University Marine Field Station](#)

On April 8, the NOAA Marine Debris Program, within OR&R, participated in a derelict fishing gear processing day organized by Stockton University as part of their FY22/23 Inflation Reduction Act award. Participating in the gear processing event were Stockton University researchers and staff, roughly 20 undergraduate students, several commercial crabbers, and a member of Senator Cory Booker's staff. Marine Debris Program Deputy Director MaryLee Haughwout and Mid-Atlantic Regional Coordinator Katie Morgan

also participated.

OR&R Prepares for 2024 International Oil Spill Conference

In a few weeks time, spill response community professionals from around the nation and the world will gather at the 2024 International Oil Spill Conference ([IOSC 2024\(link is external\)](#)), to be held May 13-16 in New Orleans, Louisiana.

The Ocean Odyssey Marine Debris Awards For Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, Justice, And Accessibility (DEIJA) for Fiscal Year 2024 Announced

Following a competitive review process, the NOAA Marine Debris Program and National Marine Sanctuary Foundation are pleased to announce the 12 recipients of the Ocean Odyssey Fiscal Year 2024 Marine Debris Awards for Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, Justice, and Accessibility (DEIJA).

Emergency Restoration Protects Sea Turtles and Corals from a Drug Runner Semi-submersible Grounded in Mona Island, Puerto Rico

On August 31, 2023, while monitoring an active hawksbill and green sea turtle nesting beach, the [Puerto Rico Department of Natural and Environmental Resources\(link is external\)](#) (PRDNER) found and reported a 40-foot drug runner sailboat modified to operate as a semi-submersible (low profile vessel) [grounded on Mona Island, Puerto Rico](#).

Settlement Proposed for Oil Spill in Corpus Christi Bay, Texas

On April 8, 2024, the [U.S. Department of Justice proposed a settlement\(link is external\)](#) to restore natural resources impacted by the [Flint Hills Dock #5 oil spill](#). Per the consent decree, the responsible party will pay \$427,000 for restoration and future costs, plus \$162,213 of remaining trustee assessment costs, and a \$400,000 [Clean Water Act](#) civil penalty.

OR&R Presents at the 2024 National Hurricane Conference

On March 26, OR&R's Scientific Support and Regional Preparedness Coordinator William Whitmore shared emergency preparedness and response information during a presentation at the National Hurricane Conference in Orlando, Florida.

NOAA's Southeast Region Hosts Texas Trustee Summit on Natural Resource Damage Assessments

From April 2-3, Texas and federal trustees met at the South Texas Ecotourism Center in Laguna Vista, Texas for the bi-annual Natural Resource Damage Assessment (NRDA) Texas Trustee Summit. Trustees included members from NOAA, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, the Department of Interior, Texas Commission on Environmental Quality, Texas Office of Attorney General, Texas Parks and Wildlife Department, and Texas General Land Office.

OR&R Supports Microplastics Issue at 2023-2024 Great Lakes AquaHacking Challenge

From March 8-10, finalists of the 2023-2024 Great Lakes AquaHacking Challenge and its Water Issue Leaders convened in Traverse City, Michigan for a water innovation expedition. Haley Dalian, Great Lakes Regional Coordinator for the NOAA Marine Debris Program, within OR&R, serves as one of two Water Issue Leaders for the Microplastics topic.

USA: EPA TO EXPAND CLEAN WATER ACT SPILL RESPONSE PLANNING TO HAZARDOUS SUBSTANCES

April 26 - What Is Happening? The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) published a proposed rule requiring certain facilities to prepare Facility Response Plans (FRPs) for responding to worst case discharges of Clean Water Act (CWA) listed hazardous substances. The proposed rule is available for public comment through May 27, 2022. Who Is Impacted? Affected industries include oil and gas extraction, mining, manufacturing, textiles, warehousing and storage, gas stations, and waste management facilities, among others, that are located near navigable waters and can store any of the 296 CWA listed hazardous substances at or above threshold amounts. What Should I Do? Facility owners and operators, and related trade associations, potentially affected by the proposed rule should consider submitting public comments by the May 27, 2022 deadline.

The proposed rule seeks to expand the scope of facilities required to prepare FRPs, and the scope of substances to be addressed by FRPs, under the CWA. Currently, [CWA regulations](#) only require an owner or operator of a facility that could reasonably be expected to cause substantial harm to the environment by discharging oil into navigable waters to prepare and implement a FRP for responding to a worst case discharge of oil. The proposed regulations expand this to require facilities to evaluate harm caused by any of the 296 CWA listed [hazardous substances](#). Where, based on a facility's location, it is reasonably expected that there could be substantial harm to the environment through a discharge into navigable waters, the facility must prepare and implement a FRP for responding to a worst case discharge of CWA listed hazardous substances. The proposed rule includes criteria to determine the applicability of the rule and whether a facility can cause substantial harm. Consider submitting public comments by the May 27, 2022 deadline. National Law Review / [Read more](#)

PEOPLE IN THE NEWS

INTERNATIONAL SPILL ACCREDITATION SCHEME APPOINTS EXPERIENCED INLAND AUDITOR



The International Spill Accreditation Scheme (ISAS) is pleased to announce the appointment of Richard Sims as the new inland auditor effective from 1 April 2024.

Richard has a broad range of marine and inland spill experience as well as a strong record of training delivery. On leaving the British Army he moved into a spill response and later an auditing role for Shell in UK and abroad. Following that he has worked for a number of major UK based spill response organisations. His broad range of marine and inland spill response experience, particularly in auditing, set him apart from the other candidates who applied for this post.

Richard takes over from Steve Guy who has been a familiar industry figure having worked in spill response and training whilst at Briggs Marine. Steve is retiring to spend more time with his family.

Jon Burton, Board Director with responsibility for accreditation commented; ' We are sad to see Steve leave on retirement and thank him for his first class and enthusiastic service to our inland accredited members over the last four years. He has audited with humour, dedication and passion and many companies have learned a great deal through Steve's knowledge built during his long career in the industry. We wish him a long and happy retirement!'

We welcome Richard to the team and look forward to working alongside him in delivering our first-in-class accreditation scheme and his contribution in helping to build new modules and developing the scheme further.

Richard Sims commented; " I am looking forward to a new challenge that the Auditor role brings especially working with a variety of organisations assisting them as part of their continuous improvement and accreditation journey"

The ISAS inland scheme has 8 modules covering all aspects of Inland Spill Response. and companies are accredited if they can demonstrate competence and have the equipment to respond to and safely mitigate spills on hard standing, in watercourses, in open water, be they hydrocarbons, chemicals or other products harmful to the environment. The scheme is recognised as the primary recognition of competence by all UK regulators. For further information please contact: Mark J Orr, Executive Director, Inland Spill Accreditation Scheme. Mob: 07864 707408 Tel: 0333 444 1890 www.isasaccreditation.org



RECENT INTERESTING PEER-REVIEWED OIL SPILL PUBLICATIONS

A COLUMN CREATED BY DR. MERV FINGAS, Hon.FISCO, 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.

Dr Fingas' column has moved to the ISCO website. To read Dr Merv Fingas' weekly column, please click on –

<https://spillcontrol.org/interesting-peer-reviewed-oil-spill-publications-collated-by-dr-merv-fingas-member-of-isco-council-for-canada/>

SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY (

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

RESTORING THE ENVIRONMENT, ITS PROFESSOR INNOVATES BIOREMEDIATION AND PHYTOREMEDIATION TECHNOLOGY

The professor from the ITS Department of Environmental Engineering said that the management of natural resources that does not pay attention to environmental sustainability causes environmental pollution. Pollution in an environment shows that there is a decrease in the quality of the environment. Whereas the earth, water, and natural resources contained therein are controlled by the

state and used for the prosperity of the people. “Therefore, it is necessary to restore the quality of the environment,” said Harmin in her inaugural oration as ITS professor. [Its.ac.id / Read more](https://www.its.ac.id/)

HMDCS-UV: A CONCEPT STUDY OF HYBRID MONITORING, DETECTION AND CLEANING SYSTEM FOR UNMANNED VEHICLES

Incidents of hydraulic or oil spills in the oceans/seas or ports occur with some regularity during the exploitation, production and transportation of petroleum products. Immediate, safe, effective and environmentally friendly measures must be adopted to reduce the impact of the oil spill on marine life. Due to the difficulty to detect and clean these areas, semi-autonomous vehicles can make a significant contribution by implementing a cooperative and coordinated response. [Springer.com / Read more](https://www.springer.com/)

ROLE OF PLANTS AND MICROBES IN BIOREMEDIATION OF PETROLEUM HYDROCARBONS CONTAMINATED SOILS

In practice, plants and microbes have played a major role in microbial transformation and growth-linked mineralization of petroleum hydrocarbons in contaminated soils and/or sediments over the past years. Bioremediation strategies has been recognized as an environmental friendly and cost-effective alternative in comparison with the traditional physico-chemical approaches for the restoration and reclamation of contaminated sites. [Sciepub.com / Read more](https://www.sciencedirect.com/)

HIGHLY CITED RESEARCHER PROF. YONG SIK OK’S GROUNDBREAKING WORK IN SUSTAINABLE PLASTIC MANAGEMENT

Prof. Ok has collaborated with Prof. Sung Yeon Hwang of Kyung Hee University to assess the sustainability of biodegradable plastics in soils through large-scale field experiments and laboratory-based research. Their first outcome, accepted on March 20, 2024 in Soil Use and Management, a journal by the British Society of Soil Science, revealed the degradation rates of biodegradable plastics in soils and their impact on soil properties. This critical research sheds light on how soil biochemical properties are altered due to the degradation of biodegradable plastics under realistic conditions. [EurekaAlert / Read more](https://www.eurekaalert.com/)

CONTRIBUTED ARTICLE

HONDURAS - An article forwarded by Carlos Sagrera, MSc., IMO External Advisor, Hon. FISCO, ISCO Representative in Latin America and ISCO Council Member.



Carlos writes “I am attaching the second part of a new article for the ISCO Newsletter on the paradigmatic case of Honduras written by Dr. Juan Carlos Rivera, as it is the first country in the Central American region that has completed its legislation on oil and HNS spill control with a Regulation for the Prevention and Control of Marine Pollution by Spills and Dumping of Waste, Oil and HNS, as well as the Regulation for the qualification of OSROs in the marine waters of Honduras. The article develops the strategy and conformation of the legal pillars with which the Honduran Maritime Authority, together with its (<https://marinamercante.gob.hn/proteccion-del-medio-marino/plan-de-contingencias/>), managed to consolidate its prevention and response schemes for oil and HNS spill incidents in Honduras”. [Photo: Dr Juan Carlos Rivera supervising spill control operations in Honduras in Puerto Cortes with the assigned OSRO OPCH (Eng. Elvin Torres, GM & Chief of Operations Hector Cordova.

CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES IN MANAGING MARINE POLLUTION FROM OIL SPILLS AND HNS: THE CASE OF HONDURAS – PART TWO

Author: Dr. Juan Carlos Rivera, IMLI (Malta)

DGMM Decree 022/2015 stipulates that companies involved in the handling of oil and HNS must have the necessary equipment and continuously trained personnel. It also allows for the delegation of responsibilities to specialized organizations (OSROs) approved by the Maritime Authority. This approach marks a significant change from previous practices, where expectations were ambiguous and

did not specify the need for equipment adapted to the actual risk and underlines the evolution towards a more structured and coherent system for oil spill preparedness and response.

Certainly, the figure of the OSRO acquires greater relevance with the implementation of the new regulations, since its contracting is not only considered an option for the compliance of the terminals, but its intervention becomes a mandatory requirement for vessels. In this regard, agreement 22/2015 establishes that vessels arriving at Honduran ports must have required insurance and a "Certificate of Response Coverage" issued by certified Oil Spill Response Organizations (OSROs).

However, the lack of rigorous criteria for the accreditation of these entities previously compromised the efficient management of emergencies, allowing any organization to act as an OSRO without verifying its real capacity or competence. Agreement 023/2015 solves this problem by establishing clear criteria for the accreditation OSRO services in Honduras, demonstrating its effectiveness in multiple spills in Puerto Cortes.

Another point to take into consideration under the historical reality of Honduras is the fact that the "polluter pays" principle loses strength in the face of spills of unknown origin by virtue of the difficulties in assigning responsibilities. Faced with this challenge, the Maritime Authority has established, through Agreement DGMM-008/2017 (<https://marinamercante.gob.hn/wp-content/uploads/2019/02/Acuerto-008-2017.pdf>), the obligation for OSRO companies to contribute 12.5% of their monthly revenues to the Maritime Authority. The funds collected are intended to strengthen prevention and response actions in the event of spills whose origin cannot be determined. This innovative mechanism has led to a substantial evolution in the Marine

Environment Protection Department, broadening its scope of action to include comprehensive audits, detailed vessel reviews and water quality analysis, enriching its contribution to safeguarding the maritime environment.

Honduras has formulated a National Contingency Plan with technical assistance from the International Maritime Organization (IMO) and the Central American Maritime Transport Commission (COCATRAM). This plan is part of a comprehensive system that encompasses local emergency plans, national strategies, and the Central American Regional Emergency Plan, ensuring a unified approach to contingency management. However, despite the existence of this framework, the emergency response has exposed deficiencies in the coordination between local and national plans, underscoring the imperative to enhance coordination efforts.

To address these shortcomings, DGMM Agreement 123/2017 (<https://marinamercante.gob.hn/wp-content/uploads/2019/03/RESOLUCI%C3%93N-No.-DGMM-123-2017.pdf>) was approved, which introduces a Functional Guide for Local Contingency Plans intended for entities involved in the management of oil and HNS. This guide, which is aligned with international standards and previous experiences, including lessons from the Gulf of Mexico incident in 2010, seeks to optimize spill preparedness and response. It also stipulates the obligation to present annual drill plans, thus reinforcing the capacity to respond to possible emergencies. In addition, the first HNS spill drills with mobilization of equipment were carried out in the region.

In response to the inefficiencies highlighted by delayed reactions to marine spills due to contractual negotiations, Honduras adopted the RESPONSECON Spill Response Contract, mandated through DGMM Agreement 004/2018 (<https://marinamercante.gob.hn/wp-content/uploads/2019/01/Acuerto-003-2018-y-004-2018.pdf>). This initiative aims to streamline the management of marine pollution incidents by establishing a clear, standardized response protocol. By doing so, it significantly reduces the time lost in contractual disputes, enabling a faster, more coordinated approach to minimizing environmental damage. Moreover, RESPONSECON aligns Honduras' practices with international norms, enhancing global cooperation and ensuring a unified, effective response to maritime emergencies, thus improving overall effectiveness in handling spills and reducing their environmental impact (ISCO - <https://spillcontrol.org/response-contract/>).

In conclusion, on its path to effective marine pollution management, Honduras has moved forward with determination, overcoming challenges and seizing strategic opportunities. Local government participation has been key, aligning pollution management with global practices by adopting international standards and enacting significant legislation for the protection of marine resources. Although Honduras has yet to accede to key international conventions to strengthen its position in maritime governance, proactive initiatives under the "polluter pays" principle and the development of the OSRO scheme have marked notable progress toward reconciling economic development with environmental protection. Despite persistent challenges, such as the need for more rigorous enforcement of regulations and access to innovative technologies, the country is making significant institutional efforts, including the creation of funds dedicated to spill prevention and control.

There is still a long way to go, but Honduras remains firm in its commitment to the integrated management of marine pollution, demonstrating sustained progress towards the protection of the marine environment.

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 & WORLDWIDE – SIGMA ENVIRONMENTAL** <http://www.sigma-environmental.com>
- **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

TECHNICAL SUPPORT

USA: WORST CASE DISCHARGE SCENARIOS FOR OIL AND GAS OFFSHORE FACILITIES AND OIL SPILL RESPONSE EQUIPMENT CAPABILITIES

BSEE's Oil Spill Preparedness Division (OSPD) is responsible for developing and administering regulations (30 CFR part 254) that oversee the oil and gas industry's preparedness to contain, recover and remove oil discharges from offshore facilities operating seaward of the coastline. Current regulations require that operators of these offshore oil and gas facilities submit an Oil Spill Response Plan (OSRP) that identifies the procedures and contracted spill response resources necessary to respond, to the maximum extent practicable, to the facilities' worst case discharge (WCD).

In 2014, BSEE OSPD awarded a contract to Booz Allen Hamilton, who assembled a multi-faceted team of subject matter experts on oil spill modeling and response, to: 1) examine how the portfolio of worst case discharge scenarios contained within the OSRPs in each of the Outer Continental Shelf (OCS) Regions have changed over time; 2) analyze the oil spill response equipment capabilities that are currently available to respond to these discharges; and 3) provide subsequent recommendations on how the requirements for OSRPs may be improved. The two-volume study report, the Oil Spill Response Plan (OSRP) Equipment Capability Review, was completed in February 2016, and is available for download. BSEE / [Read more](#)

FROM IOPC FUNDS - GUIDE TO PERSISTENT AND CONTRIBUTING OILS

The terms 'oil' and 'contributing oil' are defined in Article 1 of both the 1992 Fund Convention and the Supplementary Fund Protocol. The provisions relating to the obligation for Member States to report receipts of contributing oil to the IOPC Funds are set out in Article 15 of the 1992 Fund Convention and Article 13 of the Supplementary Fund Protocol.

At its September 1981 session, the 1971 Fund Assembly agreed the text of a nontechnical guide to the nature and definition of persistent oil (the Guide), for the purpose of serving as a guide to the Director when dealing with claims made against the 1971 Fund (see document 71FUND/A.4/16, paragraph 14).

The Guide was not intended to provide an authoritative definitive list of all persistent and non-persistent oils, but rather a useful guidance document.

Since the contents of the Guide has not been reviewed for a number of years, the Director has engaged the services of external experts to review and propose further clarifications to the Guide to ensure it takes into account the latest oil products and other relevant developments. Following the results of that review, the Director is of the opinion that it is necessary to update the Guide.

An updated draft guide is set out at the Annex to this document. If the updated text of the Guide is endorsed by the governing bodies, it will be made available on the IOPC Funds and HNS Convention websites in English, French and Spanish.

IOPC Funds / [Read more](#)

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/>

APRIL 2024

- TUNISIA – MOIG TRAINING COURSE – IMO Level 3, 22-25 April 2024, South Hammamet
- UK – IOPC Funds Meeting of the Governing Bodies, IMO London. 29 April to 2 May
- WEBINAR from ALGA -Environment Impairment Liability Insurance – the Insurance you didn’t know you needed, Tuesday 30th April, 12.00pm to 1.00pm AEST

MAY 2024 Onwards

- GLOBAL WEBINAR – UNEP – Utilising UNEP’s Free Online Training Resources for Reducing Pollution Risks in the Upstream Oil and Gas Sector, Tuesday 7th May 2024 at 2.30 pm BST
- USA – International Oil Spill Conference & Exhibition, 13-16 May 2024, New Orleans, Louisiana
- AUSTRALIA – ALGA – Contaminated Land & Groundwater Conference, 16th – 17th May 2024, Perth
- UK – HAZMAT 2024 Forum for Hazmat Professionals, 22nd May 2024, Stratford-upon-Avon
- UK – UK & Ireland Spill Association – Marine Spill & Plastic Conference, 11th-12th June 2024, Southampton
- USA – AHMP – EHS HAZMAT SUMMIT, 14-17 July, 2024, Kansas City, Missouri
- CANADA – International Conference on Environmental Pollution & Remediation, Montreal, 5-6 August 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
- CHINA / ONLINE – WSH Asia Awards 2024, 5th September 2024
- UAE - SPE International Health, Safety, Environment, and Sustainability Conference and Exhibition 10–12 September 2024, Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates
- USA – Elastec River Spill Workshop, Carmi, Indiana, 8-10 October 2024
- UK – Water, Waste & Environmental Monitoring – 9-10 October 2024, NEC, Birmingham, UK
- CHINA – 8th East Asian Seas Congress, Xiamen, 6-8 November 2024
- UK – Seatrade Maritime Salvage & Wreck Conference, London, 11-12 December 2024

SOME OTHER INFORMATION

- 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=6a430f153
- 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](#)
- Gulf-Alaska Knowledge Exchange – A Workshop Series chaired by Ed Levine, Hon.FISCO – [More information](#)
- IG P&I Podcast - Exploring some of the topics discussed at the Seatrade Maritime Salvage & Wreck Conference - [Listen](#)

UPDATES FROM EVENT ORGANISERS

USA: THERE’S STILL TIME TO REGISTER FOR IOSC 2024

[International Oil Spill Conference \(IOSC\)](#) in New Orleans, May 13-16, 2024 Click on links for updated info – [LISTEN TO TESTIMONIALS](#) [LATEST UPDATED INFO](#) [EMERGING LEADERS PROGRAM](#) [EDUCATIONAL SPONSORSHIPS PROVIDE PRIME VISIBILITY AND IMPACT](#) [COMPLETE PROGRAM](#) [FILM FESTIVAL & PHOTOGRAPHY CONTEST](#)

Take your 2024 International Oil Spill Conference (IOSC) to the next level by adding access to our day 1 Short Courses* to your registration! Register today to secure your seat as these sessions will fill up quickly.

UPDATES FROM EVENT ORGANISERS (CONTINUED)

To qualify for a discounted registration rate, you MUST reserve a room at an [IOSC Hosted Hotel](#). Your room must be booked by the Hosted Hotel cutoff date to receive the discounted rate. Please note that each hotel has their own cutoff date. IOSC will perform an audit on the housing block on April 15. Those that have not booked within the block by the respective hotel cutoff date will have their registration rate changed to reflect the difference.

In order to make it as easy as possible for you to join nearly 2,000 members of the international oil spill response community, IOSC has put together a Justification Toolkit to help you illustrate the value of attending this conference. Use the tools in this kit to explain to your supervisor how attending IOSC will be a smart investment in both your personal career growth and the growth of your organization. [Download the Justification Kit](#)

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](#)

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

November 18-20, 2024 George R. Brown Convention Center | Houston, TX

PAPER SUBMISSION DEADLINE EXTENDED! THERE IS STILL TIME TO SUBMIT AN ABSTRACT FOR CLEAN GULF 2024 [MORE INFO](#)

Registration for the 2024 event will open in April and Exhibit and Sponsorships are already available! Contact Renie Mayfield at 720-289-7008 or rmayfield@accessintel.com to discuss how you can make an impact on buyers from oil & gas, maritime, rail, environmental companies and regulatory agencies with an Exhibit space or Sponsorship. [More info](#) Do you have real-world solutions for evolving environmental emergencies? Don't miss your chance to be heard at this year's CLEAN GULF Conference! Submit your abstract for review and your chance to take the stage this November

INDIA: OIL SPILL INDIA CONFERENCE & EXHIBITION, NEW DELHI, 11-12 SEPTEMBER 2024

In the backdrop of the recent oil spill incident, caused during cyclone Michaung in Chennai's Ennore Creek, it is with a sense of urgency and shared responsibility that we announce that the 7th edition of Oil Spill India (OSI 2024), the region's flagship conference & exhibition on the Oil Spill Prevention, Planning, Preparedness, Response & Restoration industry, will be organised during 11th & 12th September 2024 at Hotel JW Marriott, Aerocity, New Delhi, India. [View the OSI 2024 website](#)

EUROPE – INTERSPILL CONFERENCE & EXHIBITION – 8-10 APRIL 2025 – ExCeL, LONDON

This internationally respected triennial event (which connects global stakeholders involved in marine oil spill research, prevention, preparedness, response and restoration) will return on 8-10 April 2025 at ExCeL London.

<https://www.interspill.org/2025/> Preliminary Programme & Call for Papers - Closing deadline 4 June 2024 – [More info](#)
[PARTICIPATION UPDATE](#)

The Interspill conference is recognised for its excellence, focus on emerging research and depth of scientific content. It is organised by the Conference Committee that has new chairs Rob Holland and Richard Johnson, who were appointed at the Conference Committee Meeting held in London on 20 February 2024.

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.

LINKS FOR OTHER PUBLICATIONS

TO VIEW LINKS FOR DOWNLOADING AND READING OTHER PUBLICATIONS PLEASE CLICK ON <https://spillcontrol.org/2021/10/19/links-for-downloading-and-reading-other-publications/>

As a service to its Members ISCO provides a listing of publications that may be of interest to our community. This page provides details and links for downloading more than 40 publications most of which can be accessed at no cost. This page is managed by Mike Watson mike@mwadigital.com



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NEW PUBLICATIONS

IOPC FUNDS PUBLISHES ANNUAL REPORT 2023

[Access and Read the Annual Report](#)


FRANCE: CEDRE NEWSLETTER FOR MARCH 2024

In March, the 28th Cedre Information Day was held on the theme of chemical risks at sea. During the past month, many meetings and events also took place: in Taiwan, in France at the Maritime Prefecture of the Mediterranean, Axa France, DGSCGC, EMIZ Est, the wastewater treatment plant in the Port of Brest, Océanopolis, Technopôle Brest-Iroise, as well as for ongoing projects including TREASURE and ORDECH.

More details about these events are available on our website www.cedre.fr

EUPOPE: NEWSLETTER APRIL 2024

In the April edition of the EMSA newsletter, we bring you the latest on our webinar series on the extension of the EU Emissions Trading System (ETS) to the maritime sector. We have news on the Consultative Technical Group for Marine Pollution Preparedness and Response meeting in Malmö.

There's also an update on the latest CISE stakeholder meeting, and the European Coast Guard Functions Forum workshop on Maritime Situational Awareness, hosted by EMSA  [EMSA Newsletter April.pdf](#)

INCIDENT REPORTS

MEXICO: SPILL AT THE PORT OF ALTAMIRA DUE TO A CRANE INCIDENT THAT CATCHES FIRE AND COLLAPSES ON THE QUAY.

A report received from Carlos Sagrera, ISCO's Representative in Latin America. Your Editor apologises for a delay in printing.



On 27th March last, a serious incident was recorded on a cargo quay in the Port of Altamira (State of Tamaulipas, Mexico), due to the fire and subsequent collapse of a Liebherr mobile crane on the deck of the general cargo vessel TS Ajisai berthed at the quay of the Mexican Port Infrastructure Maritime Terminal (IPM). According to the Tamaulipas Volunteer Firefighters who intervened in the incident, the fire started due to an oil leak in the hydraulic system located at the base of the crane, which could not be contained. The crane was unloading coils of wire at the time of the incident. The port authority (ASIPONA Altamira) activated its fire-fighting procedures and indicated that there were no injuries. The company responsible IPM activated its OSRO Marterra (<https://www.marterra.mx/en>) which proceeded to the actions of control and cleaning of the oil spill on the quay, as well as prevention actions at sea by installing barriers to avoid eventual falls of oil into the sea.

Attached are links to news items from local Mexican newspapers and photos of the incident and clean-up actions.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=m-f9WwmM3f4>

<https://abcnoticias.mx/nacional/2024/3/28/grua-sufre-incendio-cae-sobre-barco-en-altamira-212853.html>

<https://www.elsoldetampico.com.mx/policiaca/se-activa-codigo-rojo-en-el-puerto-de-altamira-por-incendio-de-potente-grua-11666947.html>

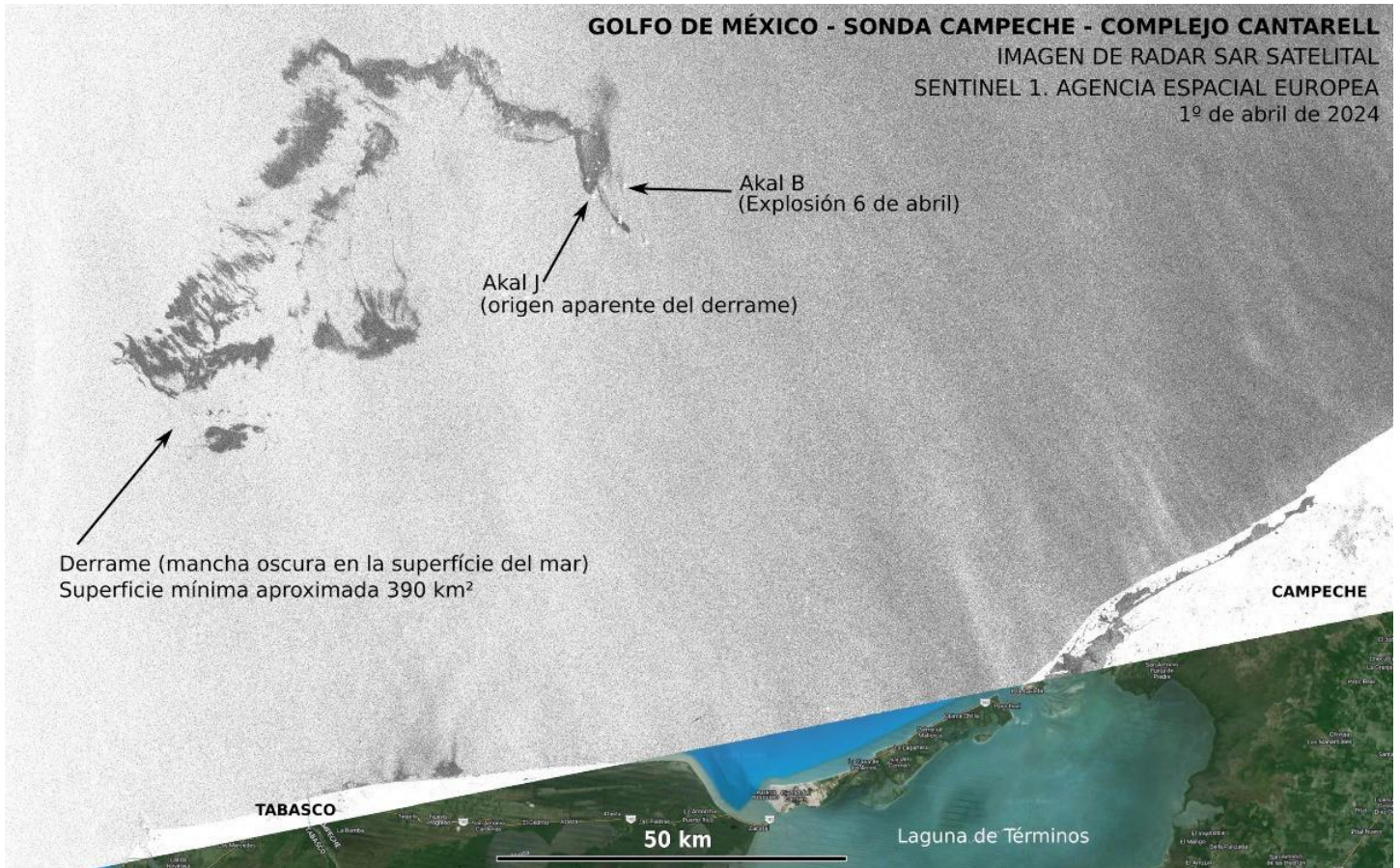
USA: KENTUCKY - CHEMICAL SPILL UPDATE AS TRAIN DERAILMENT SPARKS STATE OF EMERGENCY

April 17 - The governor of Kentucky declared a state of emergency on Wednesday, after a cargo train derailed in Rockcastle County, causing a fire with the potential to produce toxic emissions and prompting the evacuation of two nearby towns. MSN / [Read more](#)

USA: MISSISSIPPI: USCG INVESTIGATES NEAR MISS AS BULKER LOSSES CONTROL

April 18 - Moran tugboat company dispatcher Eric Agena highlighted the events on LinkedIn with an animation showing the 114,674 dwt bulker Anglo Marie Louise careening out of control on the river and heading for the Nashville Avenue wharf. The animation shows the UK-registered vessel managed by Anglo-Eastern which is 837 feet (255 meters) in length traveling at 9 knots as it comes to the bend in the river. It starts to slow, reportedly having lost power. The animation shows the bulker careening across the river, turning perpendicular, and heading toward the wharf. It slows to around 3 knots and appears close to an allision with the wharf or possibly some of the ships docked at Nashville Avenue when two tugs are seen rushing to intercept the bulker. She makes a 180-degree turn with the assistance of the tugs reportedly having lost power. The Maritime Executive / [Read more](#)

FIRE AND EXPLOSION OF PEMEX OFFSHORE PLATFORM AKAL-B - SATELLITE OBSERVATION OF SUBSEQUENT OIL SPILL.



April 17 – Update received from Carlos Sagrera – See also the article in last week’s newsletter

Photo above – Satellite image received from CIGom.

Carlos advises that he received a call from Mexico from Dr. Edward Peters of CIGoM informing me that CIGoM has just been contacted by PEMEX and has hired them to carry out the evaluation of this spill.

USA: MARYLAND - BALTIMORE OPENS THIRD CHANNEL AS PLANS SEQUENCE EFFORTS TO REFLOAT DALI

April 19 - Recovery efforts in Baltimore continue to make good progress Maryland Governor Wes Moore highlighted in a briefing on Friday afternoon, April 19, reporting that more than 1,300 tons of steel have now been removed from the waterway. While the priority remains on establishing a larger temporary channel to reopen Baltimore harbor, late today they also opened a third temporary channel while the teams are also beginning to converge on the Dali for the effort to refloat and remove the vessel.

Crews they reported have now removed 120 containers from the bow of the vessel and expect to move approximately 20 more in the coming days to clear a path for the salvage team to safely reach the debris resting on the vessel. Governor Moore reported that each of the laden containers weighs between 1.5 and 2.5 tons and that in addition, the salvage teams project that there are 3,000 to 4,000 tons of steel from the bridge sitting on the bow of the vessel. The Maritime Executive / [Read more](#)

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