



## 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

- 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)
- Ms Helena Rowland (USA)
- Mr Dan Sheehan (USA)
- Capt. D C Sekhar (India)
- Dr Mervyn Fingas (Canada)
- Ms Jane Delgado (USA)
- Mr Carlos Sagrera (Panama)
- Mr Ed Levine (USA)
- Mr Wu Yue (China)
- Mr Zal Rustom (UK)

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

**PLEASE CLICK ON THE BANNERS BELOW FOR MORE INFORMATION**



## IPIECA MEETING AND WORKSHOP

At Ipieca Week (22-26 April), the Marine Spill Group met to discuss topics including:

- Developing a network of subject matter experts for spill preparedness and response
- Sensitivity mapping and maintaining sensitivity datasets
- The ongoing Corexit dispersant situation
- Recent marine spill exercises
- Responding to 'green' fuel spills
- CO2 release case studies

We also held our first annual workshop on alternative fuels and products spill preparedness and response. We were delighted to hear from the Secretary of State's Representative for Maritime Salvage and Intervention (SOSREP) and distinguished speakers from the IMO, IOPC Funds, Cedre, ITOPF, Lloyd's Register Maritime Decarbonisation Hub, SMIT Salvage and Ambipar.



A wide range of topics were covered: how different chemicals behave when spilled, how to respond to spilled chemicals, and the regulatory framework in which we will be responding. ITOPF also presented a selection of chemical spill case studies. The day allowed for plenty of time for group discussion on the next steps the Ipieca task force can take to better prepare for future marine spills. The workshop was considered such a success that the Marine Spill Group Chair announced that it was the first annual workshop of its kind.

What's next for the Ipieca Marine Spill Group? - We are planning a Marine Spill Group and Global Initiative for South East Asia (GISEA) meeting on the 7th of June in Singapore (coinciding with the OSRL AGM). If you would like to attend, please [click here](#) to register your interest.

And we will shortly publish our series of fact sheets on responding to alternative fuels and products spills, comprising:

## INTERNATIONAL NEWS (CONTINUED)

### MEMBERSHIP OF ISCO

[Benefits of Membership](#)

[Online Membership Application Form](#)

YOU ARE INVITED TO JOIN THE ISCO DISCUSSION GROUP ON LINKED-IN

 Click on the link below – <https://www.linkedin.com/groups/4016064/>

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](#)

1. Oil characterisation
2. Condensates
3. Biomass-based diesel fuels
4. Very low and ultra low sulphur fuel oils
5. Non-floating oils

[Click here](#) to find out more about Ipieca's work on marine spill preparedness and response.

### NEGOTIATIONS ON A GLOBAL PLASTICS TREATY CLOSE IN OTTAWA

April 29 - 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), concluded today in Ottawa with an advanced draft text of the instrument and agreement on intersessional work ahead of the fifth session (INC-5) in November.

More than 2,500 delegates participated in INC-4, representing 170 Members and over 480 Observer organizations including - non-governmental organizations, intergovernmental organizations, and UN entities. INC-4 marked the Committee's largest and most inclusive gathering to date, with Observer participation increasing by almost fifty per cent. UNEP / [Read more](#)

### ITOPF ANNOUNCES WINNER OF ITS 2024 RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT AWARD

May 1 - ITOPF is pleased to announce the winner of its 2024 Research and Development (R&D) award as the NurdleTrack project, submitted by SINTEF and the Norwegian Coastal Administration.

The NurdleTrack project will develop and validate an analytical toolbox for source identification and hazard assessment of plastic pellets spilled at sea, with a further goal of developing a fast way to evaluate the toxicological hazards of plastic pellets, in order to assist decision-makers when selecting appropriate actions during a response to a spill. ITOPF / [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](mailto: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: EUROPEAN MARITIME DAY

The 2024 edition of the European Maritime Day will take place in Svendborg, Denmark, on 30-31 May as a physical event, at the SIMAC Academy- Svendborg International Maritime Academy (Address: Nordre Kajgade 9A, 5700 Svendborg)

The European Maritime Day (EMD) is the annual two-day event during which Europe's maritime community meet to network, discuss and outline joint action on maritime affairs and sustainable blue economy. Maritime Day / [Read more](#)

### EAST ASIA: FROM PEMSEA - HAPPY EARTH MONTH AND WELCOME TO THE APRIL 2024 E-BULLETIN !

This month, PEMSEA has organized a series of activities to mark Earth Month. Our main focus has been on the sustainable management of the Earth for future generations. The highlight of our events was the EAS Youth Forum 2024, which brought together 19 young leaders from 10 countries in the East Asian Seas region. This forum served as a pre-EAS Congress platform for building knowledge, forging friendships, and solidifying actions to shape the ocean we need for the future we want. Additionally, we held a Marine Plastics Learning Exchange aimed at enhancing local capacity in the Philippines and Timor-Leste. Furthermore, the UNDP/GEF/ASEAN Integrated River Basin Management (IRBM) project conducted a regional workshop, bringing representatives from six ASEAN countries to improve the monitoring and measurement of select Southeast Asian priority river basins. PEMSEA / [Read more](#)

## REGIONAL NEWS (CONTINUED)

### BALTIC: HELCOM 50TH ANNIVERSARY EVENT: PHOTOS AND THE OPENING FILM NOW AVAILABLE

We are delighted to announce that a [photo gallery](#) as well as the [opening film, Motion](#), are now published from the [50th anniversary event](#) of HELCOM which was held in Riga, Latvia on 25 April 2024. Latvia, currently holding the Chairmanship of HELCOM, hosted the celebration on the occasion of 50 years since the signing of the Helsinki Convention, preceded by a [Ministerial Meeting](#) of the Contracting Parties in the morning of the same day. HELCOM / [Read more](#)



### MEDITERRANEAN: TRAINING COURSE ON IMO LEVEL 3 - OIL SPILL RESPONSE



22-25 April 2024, the training course on IMO Level 3 - Oil Spill Response was held, at The Royal Hammamet Hotel in South Hammamet-Tunisia in cooperation with the Center for Documentation, Research and Experimentation on Accidental Water Pollution (Cedre). The training was animated by Arnaud Guéna, Deputy Director and Production Manager of Cedre. This event was sponsored by SAS ASAGAO-Lamor France and the Environmental Assessment and Management (EAM).

The event gathered 33 delegates from MOIG members, relevant Tunisian stakeholders and oil and gas Libyan companies such as: APO, Azzawia Oil Refining Company, EAM, Eni Tunisia, ETAP, General Secretariat of Marine Affairs, Lamor Algeria, Ministry of National Defense, Ministry of Transports, NOC, ONPC, SAS ASAGAO-Lamor France, SEREPT, Sirte Oil Company, TANKMED, TOPIC, TRAPSA and TPS MOIG / [Read more in the April 2024 MOIG Newsletter](#)

## ISCO NEWS

### ISCO MEMBERS GIVING PRESENTATIONS AT THE IOPC CONFERENCE IN NEW ORLEANS, USA

Here are details of a few of the ISCO Members and Partners presenting papers and posters at IOPC 2024.

#### PAPERS

**WILLIAM HAZEL**, VP Marine Services, Marine Pollution Control. Wednesday May15, 8.00am to 8.20am CDT – “Leveraging Advanced Information Technologies and Artificial Intelligence Applications to Enhance Situational Awareness: New and Future Models for Oil Spill Prevention, Preparedness and Response “

**CARLOS SAGRERA**, Carlos Sagrera - ISCO Latin America Representative, “Tier II - Tier III Dilemma State and Oil Industry in Latin America: The Peruvian Case” Wednesday, Date : May 15th - 1.30 PM to 3.00 PM

**JUAN CARLOS RIVERA** - ISCO Member Title: “The Construction of a Paradigm in Latin America: The Honduras Model of Oil Pollution and HNS Control”, Date: Tuesday, May 14th - 1.30 PM to 3.00 PM

**MERV FINGAS** - Member ISCO Council Title: Smoke Reduction for In-situ Burning Date: Thursday, May 16th - 10.00 AM to 11.30 AM Abstract: “Reducing of smoke emission from large scale hydrocarbon burning is possible using ferrocene as a catalyst additive”

**PATRICIA CHARLEBOIS**. IMO. - ISCO Partner, Title: “Back to Basics: Revisiting the International Convention on Oil Pollution Preparedness, Response and Co-operation (OPRC 90)” Date: Wednesday, May 15th - 1.30 PM to 3.00 PM



## ISCO NEWS (CONTINUED)

**PAUL SCHULER**, (OSRL) - ISCO Partner Title: "Assessment of the Wider Caribbean Region's Oil Spill Preparedness and Response Capacity" Date: Tuesday, May 14th - 1.30 PM to 3.00 PM

**ADRIANO RAINERI, PEDRO MARTINS & PEDRO PERES** (Team EnvironPact of OceanPact) - ISCO Corporate Member Title: "Vessels of Opportunity Pionner Project in Brazil: A 5-year Critical Review and Lessons Learned" Date: Wednesday, May 15th - 3.30 PM to 5.00 PM

**ED LEVINE**, Member of ISCO Council. Special Session - "Oil in the Sea IV Update" Date Tuesday, May 14th – 3.30 PM to 5.00 PM - ISCO Council member, Ed Levine, will be both Facilitator and presenter on a Special Session at IOSC 2024 discussing the updated Oil in the Sea (OITS) IV report.

### POSTER SESSIONS

**WILLIAM HAZEL**, VP Marine Services, Marine Pollution Control. "Environmental Remediation Methodologies, Techniques and Best Practices for Land-based Wind Tower Generation Installations".

**IZUCHUKWU CALLISTUS UCHE**, Student Member of ISCO, University of Nigeria Nsukka, Hydrocarbon Pollution Remediation Project. "Lessons Learned from Large-scale Mangrove Restoration Planting following remediation in Eastern Niger Delta, Nigeria", Session "Meet the Poster Editors", Time: 5-6pm, Exhibit Hall G.

### Note from Editor:

Thanks to Carlos Sagrera, Ed Levine, Jane Delgado and Larissa Montas for providing the above information. The list is not complete - Other ISCO Members will be giving presentations and they are invited to send me details for addition to this document.

**Special Session and Abstracts of Papers:** Ed Levine and Carlos Sagrera have kindly provided abstracts of papers and photos, and with some help from Mike Watson, they are now available for you to view at -

<https://spillcontrol.org/2024/05/03/isco-speakers-at-iosc/>

## NEWS FOR ISCO STUDENT MEMBERS

### STUDENTS LOOK INTO THE FUTURE OF AI IN DISASTER RESPONSE

Students from upstate New York gathered this month at the University of Albany's College of Emergency Preparedness, Homeland Security and Cybersecurity to share visions of artificial intelligence in emergency response. Many are curious about the role of artificial intelligence in the future of emergency management response, and that was the impetus for a "sandpit" exercise at the University of Albany in New York this month, a competition among students to produce concepts for possible AI emergency response. GovTech / [Read more](#)

### STUDENT MEMBERS AT THE IOSC CONFERENCE

ISCO Council Member, Larissa Montas, has advised that several Student Members have confirmed that they will be attending IOSC but at this time there is no news of an ISCO Meeting having been arranged. However, do please visit the ISCO Booth #633 in the Exhibition Hall and make yourself known to one of the ISCO Council Members in attendance.

One Student Member is presenting at the Poster Session – See above under "ISCO News".

## NEWS FROM AROUND THE WORLD

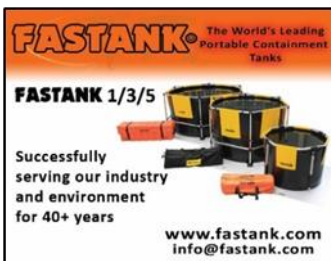
### FREE ADVERTISEMENT

Corporate Members can place a free website-linked ad here. Contact Mike Watson for details  
[spillcontrol@mwadigital.com](mailto:spillcontrol@mwadigital.com)

World News is collated from websites located at <https://spillcontrol.org/national-organizations/>. On request we can add websites to our checking list but we are also planning to remove sites that fail to provide interesting up-to-date news and press releases appropriate for inclusion in your weekly newsletter. Readers will no longer be given Links for viewing these sites.

### AUSTRALIA: AMSA ANNUAL INSPECTIONS REPORT PROVIDES SAFETY SNAPSHOT OF DOMESTIC AND INTERNATIONAL VESSELS

April 24 - The Australian Maritime Safety Authority (AMSA) has released its Inspections Annual Report, highlighting a significant increase in maritime safety regulatory activity. The Inspections Annual Report covers AMSA's inspection activities on domestic commercial vessels (DCVs) such as fishing boats and ferries, as well as regulated Australian vessels and foreign-flagged shipping vessels under port State control. AMSA / [Read more](#)



### BANGLADESH: POLLUTION TAKING TOLL ON RIVER KARNAPHULI

April 30 - Uncontrolled pollution and encroachment continue to grip the river Karnaphuli in Chittagong, posing a serious threat to environment and aquatic life. Daily Sun / [Read more](#)

### BRAZIL: IBAMA PARTICIPATES IN TRAINING ON ACCIDENTS WITH DANGEROUS PRODUCTS IN THE FEDERAL DISTRICT

May 2 - Employees of the Brazilian Institute of the Environment and Renewable Natural Resources (Ibama) participated, on April 24, in training on accidents with dangerous products, in Brasília/DF. The accident simulation, which had representatives assigned to the General Coordination of Environmental Emergencies (Cgema), allowed for better integration and coordination of emergency response teams. The event was promoted by the District Commission of the National Plan for the Prevention, Preparedness and Rapid Response to Environmental Emergencies with Hazardous Chemicals (CD-P2R2). IBAMA / [Read more](#)



### COLOMBIA: THE COUNTDOWN TO BIODIVERSITY COP16 IN CALI HAS BEGUN

April 19 - In February, Gustavo Petro, the President of the Republic of Colombia announced that Cali will be the host city for the sixteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD COP16) to be held from Oct. 21 to Nov. 1, 2024. The GEF / [Read more](#)



### CROATIA: 5TH COORDINATION OF COCS

April 26 - For the fifth time, ATRAC brought together the County Operations Centres (COCs) of Coastal counties and the Ministry of the Sea, Transport and Infrastructure at the Coordination of COCs. This year's Coordination was held in cooperation with the Dubrovnik-Neretva County in the city of Hvar from 23 to 24 April 2024. ATRAC / [Read more](#)

### GAMBIA: GMA VALIDATES ANTI-POLLUTION DOCUMENT

May 3 - Mr. Karamo Janneh, Director General of the Gambia Maritime Association, described the document as "fulfilment of the country's obligation." "The national validation workshop of the draft National Oil Spill Contingency and Response Plan is a momentous occasion, but I will call you again to give you a final blessing on this important national document, the first of its kind through which the Gambia will fulfil one of its international obligations under the international convention on oil pollution preparedness response and corporation. When this document is finalised, its effective implementation will put Gambia in a state of readiness against oil pollution incidents and thus mitigate the risk of oil pollution and damage in the Gambia," Voice / [Read more](#)

### GERMANY: A GENERAL INTRODUCTION TO ENVIRONMENT AND CLIMATE CHANGE LAW

March 1 - Under the Basic Law for the Federal Republic of Germany (GG), the protection of the natural foundations of life and animals is a fundamental state objective. Mindful also of its responsibility towards future generations, the state shall protect the natural foundations of life and animals through legislation and, in accordance with law and justice, by executive and judicial action (Article 20a GG). Although this principle was embedded in the German Constitution no earlier than in 1994, the German state and German federal states have had a long tradition of environmental protection. This is particularly the case regarding the prevention of harmful effects of industrial installations on air, water and soil; the remediation of contamination; and the use, storage, transport and disposal of hazardous substances. Lexology / [Continue reading](#)

### IRELAND: EPA WATER CONFERENCE 2024 - WEDNESDAY 12 AND THURSDAY 13 JUNE, GALWAY AND ONLINE

May 2 - The 2024 EPA Water Conference is in Galway on 12 and 13 June.

You can attend register to attend in person or online.

Speakers will share their knowledge on how to protect & improve water quality in Ireland and showcase case studies from around Ireland. You will learn about the state of Ireland's waters, European and national policy, the development of plans and work at national, regional and local scale. EPA.ie / [Read more](#)

### **NIGERIA: HYPREP TRAINS 5000 WOMEN, YOUTH ON CLEANUP OF OGONI LAND**

April 26 - The Project Coordinator disclosed this while briefing the press at the 17th Meeting of the National Council on Environment (NCE), in Abuja, stating that apart from the cleaning up of the oil spillage in Ogoni Land, HYPREP has also trained about 5000 Youths and Women from the Area for a sustainable development livelihoods. The Nation / [Read more](#)

### **RUSSIA: REPORT: SOVCOMFLOT IS RENAMING AND TRANSFERRING FLAGS ON TANKERS**

April 30 - Russian shipping company Sovcomflot has reportedly resumed the practice of shuffling around sanctioned tankers in an effort to protect the business. According to a new analysis by Bloomberg, at least four of the tankers have changed names and flags as part of the effort after the recent U.S. sanctions in the enforcement effort of the G7 Price Cap on Russian oil. Sovcomflot has regularly used overseas holding companies that make it difficult to track its fleet. The Maritime Executive / [Read more](#)

### **SAMOA: CALL FOR LEGAL OBLIGATIONS TO CURB PLASTIC POLLUTION**

April 28 - Samoa has called for the plastics treaty to include legally binding obligations that cover the full lifecycle of plastics including addressing legacy plastic already in the marine environment. Katenia Rasch, of Samoa, who delivered the statement, said for Small Island Developing States (SIDS), the instrument must include a mechanism for the remediation of existing plastic pollution in the marine environment, including in areas beyond national jurisdiction which was the original impetus for INC.

Samoa Observer / [Read more](#)

### **SINGAPORE: IOPC FUNDS - SINGAPORE SUBMITS RELEVANT NATIONAL LEGISLATION FOR ONLINE COUNTRY PROFILE**

April 26 - On 8 April 2024, Singapore submitted to the Secretariat a copy of its national legislation relevant to the IOPC Funds. The legislation is now available via the Member State's profile under the Membership section of the IOPC Funds' website.

IOPC Funds / [Read more](#)

### **TRINIDAD & TOBAGO:**

April 24 - The Maraval river winds its way through Port of Spain, the capital of Trinidad & Tobago, reaching the sea at Invaders Bay, the evocative name of the site where British troops landed in the late Eighteenth Century. Today, the area is heavily built up, and construction has begun on a large-scale project that is expected to see hotels, housing and shops spring up on the oceanfront.

Another by-product of development is plastic pollution; on the day that UN News went to the Maraval River, a steady stream of waste could be seen floating downstream, including water bottles, detergent containers and even a discarded yoga ball aimlessly bobbing around. Countries like Trinidad are extremely vulnerable to the impacts of plastic pollution. UN News / [Read more](#)

### **UK: SCOTLAND - SEPA SETS ITS FOCUS FOR THE NEXT 12 MONTHS**

April 30 - While the Corporate Plan outlines our long-term goals, strategies and initiatives, highlighting the direction and vision for the organisation, the Annual Operating Plan (AOP) details specific actions and targets for core duties and focussed projects over the coming year – translating the high-level vision into actionable and reportable steps. SEPA / [Read more](#)

### **UK: ITOPF WELCOMES UK SECRETARY OF STATE REPRESENTATIVE (SOSREP) FOR MARITIME SALVAGE AND INTERVENTION AT THE MARITIME AND COASTGUARD AGENCY**

April 30 - ITOPF welcomed Stephan Hennig to its London office for an afternoon catch-up and knowledge-sharing session. The session focused on his role as Secretary of State Representative (SOSREP) for Maritime Salvage and Intervention at the Maritime and Coastguard Agency. ITOPF / [Read more](#)

### **USA: DISASTER RESPONSE CENTER HOSTS SCIENCE OF CHEMICAL RELEASES CLASS FOR SPILL RESPONDERS**

March 18 - OR&R's [Science of Chemical Releases \(SOCR\) classes](#) are back at the NOAA Disaster Response Center (DRC) in Mobile, Alabama. After being held virtually for several years after the COVID-19 pandemic, SOCR classes returned to in-person in 2023 with a class at USCG Sector Jacksonville in Jacksonville, Florida. The OR&R training team, comprised of Brita Berry, Adam Davis, Charlie Henry, Dalina Thrift-Viveros, Savannah Turner, Bob Bradley, and Al Valerioti, facilitated the most recent SOCR in-person class from March 12-15, 2024.

## NEWS FROM AROUND THE WORLD (CONTINUED)



Photo; Students studying case studies during the March 2024 Science of Chemical Releases Class in Mobile, AL.

SOCR is a four-day intensive training designed to help spill responders and planners increase their understanding of chemical spill science when preparing for and analyzing chemical spills, and making risk-based decisions to protect public health, safety, and the environment.

A second in-person SOCR class will be held in Seattle this year. This course will take place from May 6-10, 2024. Learn more about OR&R's training available in 2024 on [our website](#).

### USA: NEW EPA RULES WILL FORCE FOSSIL FUEL POWER PLANTS TO CUT POLLUTION

April 25 - The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency on Thursday released a sweeping set of rules aimed at cutting air, water and land pollution from fossil fuel-fired power plants. Environmental and clean energy groups celebrated the announcement as long overdue, particularly for coal-burning power plants, which have saddled hundreds of communities across the country with dirty air and hundreds of millions of tons of toxic coal ash waste. Coyote Gulch / [Read more](#)

### USA: EPA - DRAFT NATIONAL STRATEGY TO PREVENT PLASTIC POLLUTION

April 26 - The "Draft National Strategy to Prevent Plastic Pollution," builds upon EPA's National Recycling Strategy and focuses on actions to reduce, reuse, collect, and capture plastic waste. EPA / [Read more](#)

### USA: EPA ISSUES NEW CIVIL AND CRIMINAL ENVIRONMENTAL ENFORCEMENT POLICY

April 26 - On April 17, 2024, the Assistant Administrator for U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) Office of Enforcement and Compliance Assurance (OECA) issued a new Strategic Civil-Criminal Enforcement Policy (the Policy). The Policy requires enhanced civil and criminal enforcement coordination, both on a case-by-case basis and through regular institutional measures. EPA is now requiring civil and criminal coordination during the entire lifespan of a case. The Policy became effective immediately. Mondaq / [Read more](#)

### USA: LATEST NEWS FROM NOAA OR&R

April 29 – Please click on the links below to read the latest news

#### Hurricane Response Marine Debris Removal Fund 2024 Request for Proposals

On April 23, the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF), in partnership with the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Marine Debris Program, announced a request for proposals under the Hurricane Response Marine Debris Removal Fund.

#### OR&R Trains Emergency Response Agencies On Oil Spill Shoreline Cleanup

During an early April Nor'easter, team members from OR&R's Emergency Response Division hosted two dozen students at a [Shoreline Cleanup Assessment Technique \(SCAT\)](#) training in Gloucester, Massachusetts.

#### NOAA Presents on Dangers of Plastic Pollution at Pfizer Earth Week Seminar Series

On April 23, Nancy Wallace, director of the NOAA Marine Debris Program within the Office of Response and Restoration, spoke about the dangers of plastic pollution to an audience of Pfizer employees as a part of its company-wide Earth Week seminar series.

## NEWS FROM ISCO MEMBERS

### VIKOMA INTERNATIONAL, OIL RECOVERY AND ENVIRONMENT PROTECTION

We are delighted to announce that Vikoma has been selected as a "Highly Commended" business for the 2024 Made in the UK, Sold to the World Awards for Manufacturing, Advanced Manufacturing & Construction category by the Department for Business and Trade of Business and Trade. This recognises the world class product we design and manufacture from our UK factory on the Isle of Wight and have been exporting to all parts of the world for over 50 years. <https://www.vikoma.com/>

### AQUA-GUARD UNVEILS NEW OIL SPILL RECOVERY TECHNOLOGY AT IOSC

The highlight of Aqua-Guard's exhibition will be the introduction of the RBS TRITON 10 & RBS TRITON 20 state-of-the-art lightweight skimmers with ultra-high recovery capacities. These skimmers have been rigorously tested to ASTM standards and were specifically



## NEWS FROM ISCO MEMBERS (CONTINUED)

designed for the Canadian Coast Guard. These skimmers include the ability to recover spilled oil in sheltered and constrained locations, including within stricken vessels and installations with minimal draft. Additionally, Aqua-Guard will showcase a poster featuring its latest technological breakthrough that has propelled the company to the final stage of the \$2.0M Oil Spill Response Challenge. This prestigious competition, hosted by IMPACT Canada and the National Research Council of Canada, recognizes significant innovations in oil spill response technologies. Aqua-Guard / [Read more](#)

## SURERESPONSE – NEW ENVIRONMENTAL RESPONSE DIVISION LAUNCHED BY GLOBAL INDUSTRIAL CLEANING COMPANY



Industrial cleaning specialists, Sureclean, is today (Wednesday, May 1st) announcing the launch of a new sub-brand, Sureresponse, a dedicated environmental response division signalling a renewed commitment to environmental sustainability and waste reduction.

Building on a legacy of Seacor through NRC and its oil spill expertise, equipment and experience gained, including a remarkable track record of becoming the second largest commercial oil spill response provider in the world, Sureresponse is well positioned to continue to carry the mantle of global oil spill response.

Sureresponse is headed up by Mark Shepherd, as Environmental Response Director, who brings over 25 years' experience in managing global emergency and spill responses.



*Photo: Mark Shepherd and Simon Gibb*

Mark, who is also chairman of the UK Spill Response Association responsible for guiding the industry in anticipating and addressing future and emerging risks, said the sub-division comes at the right time for a rapidly transitioning energy sector.

“Sureresponse is being driven by a changing market during a time when the global energy industry needs companies who lead with advancement and transformation at the core, as well as those willing to take affirmative action to reinforce a commitment to environmental sustainability. “Sureresponse has been branded to position the company to offer a Prevention, Preparedness and Response service by tapping into our years of combined experience which stands as a testament to our preparedness in the event of a

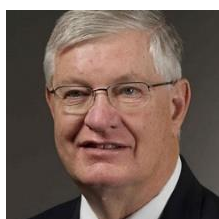
major incident. “As a team, we are passionate about protecting the planet with premium industrial cleaning and now with an additional environmental response emergency support service as Sureresponse. With many decades of operational experience, this specialist service is bolstered by the largest fleet of industrial, oil spill and emergency response assets.” Sureresponse has in-house capability to support local, national, and global environmental incident responses.

Simon Gibb, Sureclean CEO, commented on today's unveiling of the specialist division, “Sureclean is focused on advancing environmental sustainability and reducing waste and are hence promoting industry capabilities for efficient environmental response.

“It's an exciting step forward for Sureclean as we launch a sub-brand to level up our capabilities to underline our position as industry leaders in specialist industrial cleaning. Strengthened by a deep understanding of the environmental response sector, combined with a broad network of specialists and response providers across the globe, our additional goal is to become the industry go-to service whenever and wherever in the world spillage of hazardous materials occur.” With operational bases in the UK, UAE, Trinidad and Kurdistan, the Sureresponse news follows a period of sustained growth for Sureclean. In September 2023, the company announced the opening of its 1.25 million-pound 3-acre NORM decontamination facility at its Oldmeldrum headquarters in Aberdeenshire. For more information, visit <https://sureclean.com/services-oil-spill-response/>

## 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.*

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/>

## TRAINING COURSES

### WORLD-LEADING TRAINING COURSE PROVIDERS

Click on this link below to get details and links for Training Course Providers – Worldwide and in Europe, Australia, China, France, UK and USA - <https://spillcontrol.org/training-courses/>

## TECHNICAL SUPPORT

### BIMCO'S LIQUID CARGO DATABASE

The information in the liquid cargo database aims at providing an easy to use guidance and reference tool, primarily for shore-side staff and for newcomers on board tankers, supplementing the relevant Conventions, Codes and supplementary guidance published by the International Maritime Organization (IMO) and is intended for use solely as a reference tool providing general information relating to the most commonly transported liquid cargoes. <https://www.bimco.org/cargo/liquid-cargo/liquid-cargo-database>

## 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](mailto: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 AND MAY 2024

- GLOBAL WEBINAR – UNEP – Utilising UNEP’s Free Online Training Resources for Reducing Pollution Risks in the Upstream Oil and Gas Sector, Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> May 2024 at 2.30 pm BST
- WEBINAR – “Understand your obligations for the transport of dangerous goods under the ADR” 7 May 2024 0900 BST
- USA – International Oil Spill Conference & Exhibition, 13-16 May 2024, New Orleans, Louisiana
- AUSTRALIA – ALGA – Contaminated Land & Groundwater Conference, 16<sup>th</sup> – 17<sup>th</sup> May 2024, Perth
- UK – HAZMAT 2024 Forum for Hazmat Professionals, 22nd May 2024, Stratford-upon-Avon
- WEBINAR – from Exxon Oil Spill Response Knowledge Transfer – “Inland Spill Response: Coordination Challenges and Lessons Learned”, Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> May at 10am Eastern Time

#### JUNE 2024 Onwards

- UK – UK & Ireland Spill Association – Marine Spill & Plastic Conference, 11<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> 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 – “14<sup>th</sup> International Conference on Environmental Pollution & Remediation”, Berlin, August 25-27, 2024
- SPAIN & ONLINE – “14<sup>th</sup> International Conference on Environmental Pollution & Remediation, Barcelona, August 25-27, 2024
- CHINA / ONLINE – WSH Asia Awards 2024, 5<sup>th</sup> 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 – 8<sup>th</sup> 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](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: FINAL CHANCE TO ATTEND IOSC 2024

[International Oil Spill Conference \(IOSC\)](#) in New Orleans, May 13-16, 2024 Click on links for updated info – [OPENING PLENARY SESSION](#) [JUSTIFY YOUR ATTENDANCE AT IOSC 2024](#) [EMERGING LEADERS PROGRAM](#) [SHORT COURSES](#) [EDUCATIONAL SPONSORSHIPS PROVIDE PRIME VISIBILITY AND IMPACT](#) [COMPLETE PROGRAM](#) [FILM FESTIVAL & PHOTOGRAPHY CONTEST](#)

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.

**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](mailto:registration@iosc.org) for questions or additional information. Interested in exhibiting or sponsorship? Please reach out to: [exhibits@iosc.org](mailto:exhibits@iosc.org)

### USA: CLEAN GULF CONFERENCE & EXHIBITION 2024

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

Click on the links for update information - [REGISTRATION](#) [SUBMISSION OF ABSTRACTS](#) [INTRODUCING THE PLANNING COMMITTEE](#)

### 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>

For information updates, click on the links -

[PRELIMINARY PROGRAMME AND CALL FOR PAPERS](#) [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.

### USCG - BROAD AGENCY ANNOUNCEMENT FRESHWATER OIL SPILL PREPAREDNESS, RESPONSE, AND SCIENCE RESEARCH PART III [More info](#)

## 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](mailto:mike@mwadigital.com)



**Marine Pollution Control**  
**Worldwide Problem Solvers**  
**Since 1968**

<b>PLAN</b> Tactical Response Planning	<b>PROTECT</b> Monitoring and Plan Improvement
<b>PREPARE</b> Training, Drills and Exercises	<b>RESPOND</b> On Land and Sea

**Marine Pollution Control**  
+1 (313) 849-2333 - 24/hour  
[www.MarinePollutionControl.com](http://www.MarinePollutionControl.com)

**MPC IS OSRO #003**



**[CLICK ON THE ABOVE ADVERTISEMENT FOR MORE INFORMATION](#)**

## NEW PUBLICATIONS

### PEMSEA EBULLETIN, APRIL 2024

<https://mailchi.mp/pemsea/ebulletin-april-2024?e=01b49c8a29>

### MEDITERRANEAN OIL INDUSTRY GROUP (MOIG) NEWSLETTER

[https://medoilgroup.org/newsletters/Newsletter\\_Issue\\_64.pdf](https://medoilgroup.org/newsletters/Newsletter_Issue_64.pdf)

## INCIDENT REPORTS

### USA: NOAA OR&R INCIDENT RESPONSES FOR MARCH 2024

During March, OR&R provided response support for 26 incidents, including 19 new incidents in twelve states. The 19 new incidents included twelve actual or potential oil spills, two chemical incidents, and five other incidents, including two involving dead whales. Here is the complete list of March's incidents. Click on the links to find out more:

- [Diesel Spill on Ice at Nanushuk Operations Pad](#); North Slope, AK
- [Request for Whale Carcass Drift Analysis](#) off the North Carolina Coast
- [In Situ Burn of Oil Spill at Whitney Oil & Gas](#), Lake Hatch B-42; Houma, LA
- [Sheen Report](#); off Huntington Beach, CA
- [Liquid Nitrogen Release](#); Red Oak, IA
- [Pipeline Spill of Bilge Slops](#); Naval Base Bangor, WA
- [Midstream Pipeline Mississippi River Spill](#); Buras-Triumph, LA
- [Fire aboard the M/V Cuyahoga](#); Port of Ashtabula, OH



- [Diesel Spill from U.S. Coast Guard Cutter \*Alder\*](#); WNW of Fort Bragg, CA
- [Mystery Oil Spill](#); Breton Sound, LA
- [NOAA Ship \*Thomas Jefferson\*](#); Norfolk, VA
- [Horsepen Bayou Crude Oil and Produced Water Discharge](#); Houston, TX
- [Francis Scott Key Bridge Major Marine Casualty](#); Baltimore, MD
- [Pierside Grounding of M/V \*Burns Harbour\*](#); Superior, WI
- [Pierside Grounding of M/V \*American Courage\*](#), Lake Shore Blvd, Marquette, MI
- [Release from Old Landfill on JBER Property](#); Anchorage, AK
- [Grounded F/V \*Westerly\*](#); Point Reyes, CA
- [M/V \*American Mariner\* Aid-to-Navigation Allision](#); Raber, MI
- [Right Whale Carcass off](#) Virginia Coast

### DENMARK: SHADOW-FLEET OIL TANKER THAT CRASHED HAD VOID WESTERN INSURANCE

April 28 - A [shadow-fleet oil tanker](#) that crashed in [Denmark's](#) vital straits produced a set of insurance documents that weren't valid, a stark example of how there's little clarity about who would pay the bill if such a ship had a major disaster. gCaptain / [Read more](#)

### RED SEA: HOUTHİ FORCES CONFIRM ATTACKS ON AMERICAN DRONE AND DARK FLEET TANKER

April 28 - On Saturday, Houthi forces confirmed a missile strike on a merchant tanker and an American drone aircraft over the Red Sea, demonstrating the continued menace the terrorist group still poses after months of allied counterstrikes. Overnight Friday, the Royal Navy monitoring operation UK Maritime Trade Operations (UKMTO) reported an incident involving the tanker *Andromeda Star* at a position about 14 nautical miles southwest of Al Mukha, Yemen. This area is at the north end of the Bab el-Mandeb strait, where Houthi forces have attacked Western shipping many times. The Maritime Executive / [Read more](#)

### USA: PUERTO RICO - COAST GUARD OVERSEES OIL CLEAN-UP EFFORTS OFF PIER 9 IN SAN JUAN HARBOR

May 1 - Coast Guard Sector San Juan Incident Management personnel continue oil clean-up oversight efforts, Wednesday, for an unknown discharge source that is affecting San Juan Harbor's Pier 9 and the nearby land-based storm drainage system.

Coast Guard Incident Management Division personnel are monitoring the oil discharged within the storm drainage system, which is being contained and recovered periodically by contracted oil recovery crews.

"The discharged oil is being contained and recovered," said Lt. Cmdr. Ray Lopez, Sector San Juan Incident Management Division Chief. "We suspect this spill may be tied to an unidentified inactive historical source that for years has resulted in a series of mystery spills along the Old San Juan waterfront. We are coordinating with the necessary local government and federal partner agencies and industry specialists to conduct research and apply technologies to identify and contain the source of the spill to protect public health and the environment from further impacts." USCG / [Read more](#)

### SPAIN: CRACK IN TANKER'S HULL CAUSES LARGEST OIL SPILL IN CEUTA PORT HISTORY

May 2 - Spanish authorities at the port of Ceuta on the southern side of the Strait of Gibraltar declared contained what they believe was the largest oil spill in the port's history. The spill came from a crack in the hull of a Turkish-owned product tanker that is now being detained and facing stiff fines. The port captain for Ceuta, one of only two Spanish ports in Africa and a vital link in Mediterranean traffic, told reporters they received a report of an oil leak from the product tanker *K Onset* (12,900 dwt) on Tuesday evening, April 30, and they immediately mobilized a containment effort. Within about two hours he said the leak had been contained. They deployed two containment booms and one absorbent boom. The Maritime Executive / [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](http://www.spillcontrol.org) and your acceptance of ISCO's Data Protection and Privacy Policy.

---