

ISCO & THE ISCO NEWSLETTER

The International Spill Control Organisation, a not-for profit organisation dedicated to raising worldwide preparedness & co-operation in response to oil and chemical spills, marine & freshwater pollution by plastics. promoting technical development and professional competency, & to providing a focus for making the knowledge and experience of spill control professionals available to Intergovernmental, Governmental, NGO's and interested groups and individuals. ISCO holds consultative status at the International Maritime Organisation & Observer Status at the International Oil Pollution Compensation Funds

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NOVEMBER 18-20, 2024
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Incident Reports – Because these may be received close to time of sending out the newsletter, they are entered at the latest possible time on the last page/s.

IMO - GETTING READY FOR LOW SULPHUR SHIP FUEL OIL LIMITS IN THE MEDITERRANEAN

States in the Mediterranean Sea are preparing to implement, in 2025, global laws which will require ships plying the Sea to meet stringent requirements to limit harmful pollution by Sulphur Oxides (SOx).

To support the implementation of the new cleaner air rules, some 30 participants representing authorities/organizations responsible for the regulation of shipping in the Mediterranean, as well as authorities in charge of issues related to the marine environment, attended a regional workshop (22-23 May), held at the Regional Marine Pollution Emergency Response Centre for the Mediterranean Sea (REMPEC), in Malta. The workshop focused on familiarization with the requirements for air pollution prevention and promotion of energy efficiency under Annex VI to the International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships (MARPOL), including the 0.10% sulphur limit in the Mediterranean Sea Emission Control Area for Sulphur Oxides and Particulate Matter (Med SOx ECA).

IMO / [Read more](#)

PFA CONTAMINATION MAP SHOWS "FOREVER CHEMICAL" WATER HOTSPOTS WORLDWIDE

Dangerous concentrations of long-lingering "forever chemicals" have been found in surface and groundwater worldwide, according to a study released in April that showed Australia, the United States and Europe as hotspots.

A paper published in the journal Nature Geoscience analyzed data from 45,000 water samples globally and found a "substantial fraction" had levels of PFAS — per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances — above recommended levels.

Found in everyday products such as nonstick frying pans, food packaging and waterproof clothing, the substances have been linked to serious health conditions including cancer and birth defects. They have been found everywhere from turtle eggs to Antarctic snow, but the latest study showed they were prevalent in surface water and groundwater used by humans for drinking.

CBS News / [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 CORPORATE SUSTAINABILITY DUE DILIGENCE DIRECTIVE (CSDDD) PASSED BY EU PARLIAMENT: WHAT ARE THE IMPLICATIONS?

On 24 April 2024, the European Parliament voted to adopt the long-awaited EU Corporate Sustainability Due Diligence Directive (CSDDD or the Directive). The Directive will introduce a duty on certain companies to undertake human rights and environmental due diligence. As the latest and arguably most significant new law to be introduced requiring businesses to conduct such due diligence in their own operations and value chains, the Directive will harmonize existing requirements across the EU and is likely to serve as a benchmark for other countries looking to enact similar legislation. Mondaq / [Read more](#)

NORTH AMERICA: LSSU AND US, CANADIAN PARTNERS CELEBRATE ADVANCING OIL SPILL RESEARCH, RESPONSE TO PROTECT GREAT LAKES



Above - Cross-Border Collaboration Advances Oil Spill Research and Response: (right-left) U.S. Coast Guard Captain Justin Peters, Canadian Coast Guard Deputy Superintendent Amanda Greer, LCDR Kit Pace, U.S. Coast Guard Great Lakes Oil Spill Center of Expertise (GLCOE), LSSU's Interim President Dr. Lynn Gillette, Yani Messi, Director General, Natural Resources Canada; Dr. Ken Lee, Executive Director of the Canadian Centre for Offshore Oil, Gas and Energy Research, Algoma University President and Vice-Chancellor, Asima C. Vezina, Boumy Sayavong, Director, Photo courtesy of MPRI Natural Resources Canada. LSSU

Recent formation of the International Consortium of Oil Research - Our Waters of the North, along with the commissioning of the U.S. Coast Guard Great Lakes Center of Expertise, hosted at LSSU's Center for Freshwater Research and Education (CFRE), serves as a testament to the power of cross-border collaboration.

Lake Superior State University (LSSU) and its collaborative partners are commemorating a significant achievement in their shared mission to protect the Great Lakes. The recent formation of the International Consortium of Oil Research - Our Waters of the North (ICOR-OWN) between US and Canadian partners, along with the commissioning of the U.S. Coast Guard Great Lakes Center of Expertise, hosted at LSSU's Center for Freshwater Research and Education (CFRE), serves as a testament to the power of cross-border collaboration. This event underscores both national and international partnerships' critical role in preserving and protecting freshwater resources. Sooleader.com / [Read more](#)

AFRICA: TECHNICAL TRAINING ON THE INTERACTIVE AFRICA ENVIRONMENTAL INFORMATION SYSTEM (AFRICA EIS)

In cooperation with the UN Environment Programme in Africa, the Centre for Environment and Development for the Arab Region and Europe (CEDARE) – Africa Sustainability Programme (ASP), is organizing the Technical Training on the interactive Africa Environmental Information System (Africa EIS) in Cairo, Egypt, from 28 to 29 May 2024, attended by representatives of the national regional environmental agencies and statistical offices from eleven African countries: Côte d'Ivoire, Egypt, Eswatini, Gabon, Ghana, Nigeria, Sierra Leone, South Africa, South Sudan, Togo, Uganda. (Photo courtesy of CEDARE) CEDARE/ [Read more](#)

MEDITERRANEAN: REGIONAL WORKSHOP ON THE CONSISTENT IMPLEMENTATION OF IMO 2020 UNDER MARPOL ANNEX VI

The 79th Session of the International Maritime Organization (IMO)'s Marine Environment Protection Committee (MEPC 79) (London, UK, 12-16 December 2022) adopted amendments to Annex VI to the International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships (MARPOL) concerning the Mediterranean Sea Emission Control Area for Sulphur Oxides and Particulate Matter (Med SOx ECA), with an expected date of entry into effective application on 1 May 2025.

The Fifteenth Meeting of the Focal Points of the Regional Marine Pollution Emergency Response Centre for the Mediterranean Sea (REMPEC) (Malta, 13-15 June 2023) called upon the Secretariat (REMPEC) to provide support for the consistent implementation of the 0.10% sulphur limit under MARPOL Annex VI in the Med SOx ECA during the biennium 2024-2025.

In this context, REMPEC, in close cooperation with IMO, organised a Regional Workshop in Malta on 22-23 May 2024, which was financed by the IMO's Integrated Technical Cooperation Programme (ITCP) and the Mediterranean Trust Fund (MTF).

The Workshop agreed on conclusions and recommendations to be submitted to the Sixteenth Meeting of the Focal Points of REMPEC to be submitted to the Sixteenth Meeting of the Focal Points of REMPEC to be held in 2025. REMPEC / [Read more](#) (Photo courtesy of REMPEC)

AUSTRALIA: PROPOSED AUSTRALIAN ENVIRONMENTAL LAW REFORMS

May 30 - The Australian Federal Minister for the Environment and Water has tabled proposed laws before the Australian Parliament to establish new national environmental agencies, enhance their enforcement powers and establish the legal governance structures to collect and disseminate environmental data to inform better government decision-making. If passed, the proposed laws will provide the platform for substantive law reforms expected to see the light of day later in 2024, and which would have significant implications for anyone involved in developing projects or protecting the Australian environment. Lexology / [Read more](#)

CANADA: WORKSHOP ON AERIAL SURVEILLANCE DURING OIL POLLUTION INCIDENTS

On May 22nd and 23rd, 2024, Transport Canada and ITOPF co-hosted an engaging and informative workshop in Ottawa, Canada, on best practices in aerial surveillance related to oil pollution incidents. Participants included over 50 representatives from Canadian federal departments, the oil response industry, and ITOPF.

The workshop featured a dynamic mix of presentations and breakout sessions. Attendees shared insights on how the various organizations collect and use aerial surveillance data to monitor, prepare for and respond to marine oil spills. Key discussions focused on best practices and identifying areas for improvement. This collaborative event provided an excellent opportunity for partners to connect, share knowledge, and build effective relationships, enhancing their collective ability to manage and respond to oil spills in the future. (Thanks to Andreeanne Barnes, Transport Canada)

CANADA: MINISTER GUILBEAULT TO MAKE AN ANNOUNCEMENT ON WILDLIFE HABITAT PROTECTION AND RESTORATION

May 30 - The Honourable Steven Guilbeault, Minister of Environment and Climate Change, will make an announcement on wildlife habitat protection and restoration. He will be joined by Catherine Fournier, Mayor of Longueuil, Jean Martel, Mayor of Boucherville, and Pascal Bigras, Director General, Nature-Action Québec. Environment and Climate Change Canada / [Read more](#)

CHINA: THE LAW OF CHINA ON MARITIME ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION CAME INTO EFFECT ON JANUARY 1, 2024

A comprehensive summary for your guidance. (Thanks to Shanghai Highwoods Ship Co. Ltd.) Shorefacility.com / [Read more](#)

CHINA: COUNTY OFFICIALS SACKED FOR RIVER POLLUTION

May 30 - Party, environment chiefs removed after mass fish deaths in Yangtze tributary. The Party secretary, environmental protection chief and a leading official in charge of water resources in Quanjiao county, Anhui province, have been removed from their positions for river pollution that sparked widespread criticism. China Daily / [Read more](#)

INDIA: COAST GUARD CONDUCTS POLLUTION RESPONSE SEMINAR AND MOCK DRILL IN WEST BENGAL

May 24 - To address the major challenges in combating oil spills at sea, the Indian Coast Guard (ICG) held a pollution response seminar and mock drill in West Bengal, a PIB press release stated. The event was organized by the ICG at its headquarters coast guard district no. 8 (west Bengal) in Haldia on May 22-23, 2024. Th Print.in / [Read more](#)

ITALY: IOPC FUNDS PARTICIPATES IN 2024 RAMOGEPOL EXERCISE

May 30 - The IOPC Funds participated in the 2024 RAMOGEPOL exercise from 28 to 30 May in Viareggio, Italy. RAMOGEPOL, a regional emergency response plan set up by France, Italy, and Monaco to combat marine pollution accidents in the Mediterranean, is organised yearly by the three States.

This year's event included a simulation exercise at sea and onshore involving maritime response agencies from the three coastal States, the European Maritime Safety Agency and its personnel and vessels, national and local authorities, non-governmental organisations as well as other stakeholders. About 70 people attended the event together with observers from Croatia, Slovenia and Montenegro. Through these activities, the participating nations enhance their preparedness to respond to a major maritime incident and strengthen cooperation among themselves. IOPC Funds / [Read more](#)

ITALY: ON 28 AND 29 MAY THE RAMOGEPOL ANTI-POLLUTION EXERCISE TOOK PLACE OFF THE COAST OF VIAREGGIO

May 30 - Organized by MASE as part of the RAMOGE agreement with France and the Principality of Monaco. Pollution in the sea will be simulated with natural substances; involved satellites, drones, air-naval vehicles.

The Ministry of the Environment and Energy Security has organized an international anti-pollution exercise called RAMOGEPol “Versiliana 2024” off the coast of May 28 and 29, as part of the RAMOGE agreement between Italy, France and the Principality of Monaco. of Viareggio, in close collaboration with the Ramoge Secretariat and the Coast Guard. ISPPRA Ambiente / [Read more](#)

NORWAY: YOUNG NORWEGIAN POLITICIANS VISIT IOPC FUNDS



May 29 - The IOPC Funds welcomed a group of 12 young politicians representing the various political parties in Norway to its offices on 29 May 2024. The group was in London as part of a shipping-focused tour of the city organised by the Norwegian Shipowners' Association. Mr Sivertsen, a national of Norway, shared his background in maritime affairs and his role as the Member State's representative to the Legal Committee of IMO and at the meetings of the IOPC Funds' governing bodies for 30 years. IOPC Funds / [Read more](#)

PHILIPPINES: RETOS TOOL AND NATIONAL OIL SPILL CONTINGENCY PLAN (NOSCP) DELIVERED IN PHILIPPINES BY ITOPF

May 30 - ITOPF facilitated a four-day workshop in the Philippines with multiple stakeholders and authorities involved in the National Oil Spill Contingency Plan (NOSCP).

The workshop included a discussion and wash-up session of a recent oil spill in the region, focusing on how the incident was managed and identifying areas of relevance within the NOSCP. The outcomes of the session are shared with the Philippine Coast Guard's Marine Environmental Pollution Command (PCG MEPCOM) who were present and responsible for the NOSCP. Following the case review, ITOPF facilitated a national Readiness Evaluation Tool for Oil Spills (RETOS) workshop to assess the national preparedness for oil spills and identify areas of focus going forwards. ITOPF / [Read more](#)

TUNISIA: VISIT OF VIKOMA REPRESENTATIVE TO TUNISIA



May 23 - 20-22 May 2024, as a part of VIKOMA representative visit to Tunisia, several meetings were performed between the MOIG Director, Adam Jones from VIKOMA and Tunisian members such as : ETAP, Eni Tunisia, TOPIC, TRAPSA, APO, SEREPT, TPS, and STIR. VIKOMA is a MOIG member since 2018 The main purpose of the VIKOMA representative visit was to know the technical requirements of MOIG members related to OSR equipment, maintenance and training. During these meetings, VIKOMA representative affirmed the support to Tunisian Oil and Gas industry in regards to oil spill preparedness and response. MOIG / [Read more](#)

TURKIYE & AZERBAIJAN: TÜRKIYE'S ITU AND AZERBAIJAN'S ANAS ALLY IN INNOVATIVE PROJECT TO COMBAT OIL POLLUTION BEYOND TRADITIONAL SOLUTIONS

May 23 - Türkiye and Azerbaijan are backing a project, led by Istanbul Technical University (ITU), to develop an alternative method to clean up oil spills and leaks without harming the ecosystem.

Azerbaijan's state energy company SOCAR Energy Trade Inc. is backing a joint research project between the Scientific and Technological Research Council of Türkiye (TUBITAK) and Azerbaijan National Academy of Sciences (ANAS) that focuses on cleaning oil contamination from seawater and soil. The project, titled "Cleaning of Seawater and Soil Contaminated with Oil Wastes Using Nanotechnology-Enhanced Bioremediation with Core/Shell Type Magnetic Nanoparticles Loaded with Microorganisms," is being coordinated by Duygu Agaogullari, lecturer of Metallurgy and Materials Engineering at ITU, and Parvin Mammodv, a lecturer at ANAS' Additives Chemistry Institute. Aa.com.tr / [Read more](#)

USA: TOXIC 'FOREVER CHEMICALS' UBIQUITOUS IN GREAT LAKES BASIN, STUDY FINDS

May 18 - The first-of-its-kind, comprehensive picture of PFAS levels for the basin, which holds nearly 95% of the nation's freshwater, also reveals that precipitation is probably a major contributor to the lakes' contamination. "We didn't think the air and rain were significant sources of PFAS in the Great Lakes' environment, but it's not something that has been studied that much," said Marta Venier, a co-author with Indiana University. [The Guardian](#) / [Read more](#)

USA: LATEST NEWS REPORT FROM NOAA OR&R

May 28 – Please click on the link below to read the latest news

NOAA Participates in Global Ghost Gear Initiative Sixth Annual Member Meeting

This month, the NOAA Marine Debris Program (MDP) participated in the [Global Ghost Gear Initiative \(GGGI\)](#)([link is external](#)) 6th Annual Members Meeting in Honolulu, Hawai'i. The event brought together diverse sectors from multiple countries to learn about the latest efforts to combat lost and abandoned derelict fishing gear, strengthen opportunities for global collaboration, and connect with a diversity of sectors and voices.

OR&R Scientists Convene to Share Research and Advance Future Assessment and Restoration Work

The Assessment and Restoration Division (ARD) of NOAA's Office of Response and Restoration (OR&R) met in Gloucester, Massachusetts, to discuss recent updates and advances in [Natural Resource Damage Assessments](#) (NRDA). The division is responsible for evaluating and restoring coastal and estuarine habitats damaged by hazardous waste releases, oil spills, and vessel groundings.

NOAA Scientists Participate in International Oil Spill Conference



Above - Participants from across NOAA who participated in IOSC 2024, including multiple OR&R divisions and programs, as well as staff from the National Ocean Service; National Environmental Satellite, Data, and Information Service; National Marine Fisheries Service; and the Cooperative Institute for Great Lakes Research. Image credit: Coastal Response Research Center.

A group of NOAA scientists recently provided strong support at the [International Oil Spill Conference \(IOSC\)](#)([link is external](#)), held May 13-16 in New Orleans.

OR&R Promotes Disaster Preparedness during 38th Annual Florida Governor's Hurricane Conference

OR&R staff participated in the 38th annual Florida Governor's Hurricane Conference (GHC) in West Palm Beach, which took place May 12-17. The theme for this year's GHC, "From Forecast to Action," was reflected in the 34 training sessions, 56 workshops, and general sessions all held to better prepare the State of Florida for the impacts of hurricanes

OR&R Promotes Hurricane Preparedness and Response at NOAA Hurricane Awareness Tour

This month, staff from the Office of Response and Restoration (OR&R) attended NOAA's Hurricane Awareness Tour in Portland, Maine to meet with school-aged students and members of the public about hurricane preparedness and response. OR&R Chief Scott Lundgren joined team members from the NOAA Marine Debris Program, Disaster Preparedness Program, and Emergency Response Division, all within OR&R, for the event.

PEOPLE IN THE NEWS (

UK: NEW MARITIME AND COASTGUARD CHAIR APPOINTED



Lord Simon Stevens has been appointed as the new Non-Executive Chair of the Maritime and Coastguard Agency (MCA), by Transport Secretary Mark Harper. Lord Stevens will replace Christopher Rodrigues, who has taken up the position since 2021.

Lord Stevens of Birmingham Kt brings extensive experience as a senior leader in the public and private sectors in the UK and internationally. He is an independent member of the House of Lords. The Transport Secretary made the appointment following open competition and is the third appointment in the post since it was introduced in 2017. Lord Stevens takes up post on 24 May 2024. Gov.UK / [Read more](#)

NEWS FROM ISCO MEMBERS(



At the 2024 Petrochemical & Refining Congress earlier this month, NEUMAN & ESSER announced it has formed a strategic partnership with SurfCleaner to integrate our skimmer-separator hybrid technology into their product portfolio. This move will support their objectives to improve water treatment and sustainability across global industries.



Two energy giants - Equinor in Norway and TaiPower in Taiwan - have acquired new SurfCleaner systems in the first half of this year. These will provide the power plants with marked improvement in effluent water quality, plus the benefit of being able to reuse the oil that has been captured by the system.

Additionally, Orano DS has been exploring the use of SurfCleaner technology to collect and separate radioactive oily effluents at their La Hague facility.

To support our rapidly growing customer and distributor network, SurfCleaner is looking to hire a handful of people. Feel free to explore our open positions and share with your network.

[Surf Cleaner / Read more in the Surf Cleaner newsletter](#)

WORK OPPORTUNITIES IN PNG



PNG has a chronic shortage of suitably experienced and qualified seafarers, especially higher-ranking officers. The current shortfall is estimated at 30 percent and is predicted to worsen as vessel traffic increases to meet the logistics requirements of the imminent Papua LNG construction phase. The shortage of seafarers in PNG is both a 'supply' and a 'demand' problem. In terms of supply, not only is PNG not training and developing as many seafarers as the country requires, but a substantial number of its older, experienced seafarers have retired. Pacific Towing / [Read the entire text of this press release](#)

OSRL WEBINAR SERIES 2024 - "IMMEDIATE RESPONSE ACTIVITIES FOR OIL SPILL INCIDENTS"

Webinar 1: "Incident Occurs, Initial Assessment, and Raising the Alarm" 13th June 9am CST/2pm BST [More info](#)

- Understand scenarios that trigger oil spills
- Conduct quick and accurate initial assessments
- Master the steps for notifying emergency contacts and regulatory agencies
- Mobilize response resources efficiently

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/>

POLYGLYCEROL COATING OFFERS SAFER NANOPARTICLE ENVIRONMENTAL REMEDIATION

Nanoparticles (NPs) are often used to reduce environmental pollution by targeting harmful chemicals in soil and water that are released by industrial and agricultural activities.

These NPs are engineered to absorb, degrade, or neutralize these pollutants, providing a potential solution to environmental contamination. However, when released into the environment, they can be consumed by organisms and transferred through the food chain, resulting in widespread toxicity.

To address this issue, a research team led by Research Professor Masazumi Fujiwara and Assistant Professor Yajuan Zou from Okayama University in Japan has developed a polymer coating that can be applied to NPs to prevent ecotoxicity. [Phys.org / Read more](#)

EFFICIENT PHOTOCATALYTIC REMEDIATION OF PERSISTENT ORGANIC POLLUTANTS USING MAGNETICALLY RECOVERABLE SPINEL MANGANESE FERRITE NANOPARTICLES SUPPORTED ON ACTIVATED CARBON

Highlights - MFO dispersed on AC were prepared by simple gel combustion from low-cost precursors. + Paramagnetic MFC can be recovered from solution by applying an external magnet. + AC supports limited particle agglomeration and enhanced photocatalytic activity of MFO. + MFC (Eg = 2.02 eV) efficiently removed ≥90 % of PCP within 2.5 h under mild conditions. + Study on active species and degradation mechanism showed crucial roles of e⁻ and •OH. [Science Direct / Read more](#)

RAPID REMEDIATION OF NANOPLASTICS FROM WATER USING A NOVEL SUPERPARAMAGNETIC ABSORBENT

Highlights - A novel absorbent was developed for the efficient removal of nanoplastics. + The synthesis method offers invaluable insights into designing functional absorbents. + The absorbent exhibits excellent absorption capacity, and high removal efficiency. + The covalent-bonding functionalization strategy improves the stability of material. + The absorbent can be recycled through magnetic collection after application. [Science Direct / Read more](#)

EFFECTIVE STRATEGY FOR ALLEVIATION OF OIL CONTAMINATION IN MARINE VIA THE SUPERHYDROPHOBIC BIOCHAR: PERFORMANCES, MECHANISMS AND ENVIRONMENTAL RECALCITRANCE

Highlights - NiCo layered double hydroxides (LDH) improved the aromaticity of biochar (BC). + NiCo-LDH constructed a flower-like hierarchical architecture on BC. + LDH-BC composites modified by stearate (NCY) facilitates a superhydrophobic surface. + NCY showed higher performance for remediating oil polluted marine than pristine BC. + Environmental recalcitrance of BC was enhanced by NiCo-LDH. [Science Direct / Read more](#)

SUSTAINABLE TREATMENT SCHEME FOR IN-SITU REMEDIATION OF CONTAMINATED DRAINS USING ENGINEERED NATURAL SYSTEMS.

Research Highlights - A hybrid natural system for in-stream treatment of municipal wastewater is developed. + Biofilm treatment using locally available materials as attachment media is evaluated + The performance of aerated and non-aerated aerobic biofilm systems was compared. + Polishing treatment for ammonia-N removal by hydroponic floating wetlands + Proposed a modular and practical system for in-situ remediation of polluted drains. [Science Direct / Read more](#)

RECENT INTERESTING PEER-REVIEWED OIL SPILL PUBLICATIONS

A COLUMN CREATED BY DR. MERV FINGAS, Hon.FISCO, MEMBER OF ISCO COUNCIL



This is a weekly column which provides the references and abstracts of new peer-reviewed scientific publications on oil spills.

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/>

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/>

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/>

JUNE 2024 Onwards

- UK – UK & Ireland Spill Association – Marine Spill & Plastic Conference, 11th-12th June 2024, Southampton
- WEBINAR – From OSRL – “Immediate Response Activities for Oil Spill Incidents” 13th June 2024, 9am CST/2pm BST
- UK – SOCOTEC Summer Environmental Conference hosted in partnership with the UK & Ireland Spill Association, Burton on Trent, 20th June 2024
- 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](#)
- 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](#)

REMINDER: MARINE SPILL & PLASTIC POLLUTION CONFERENCE

Marine Spill and Plastic Pollution Conference 11 and 12 June 2024, National Oceanography Centre, Southampton, UK [More info](#)

UPDATES FROM EVENT ORGANISERS

USA: CLEAN GULF CONFERENCE & EXHIBITION 2024

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

The 2024 [CLEAN GULF Conference & Exhibition](#) is 6 months away but only 45 exhibit spaces remain! Book your space today and secure access to 1,500+ potential buyers from oil & gas, maritime, rail, environmental companies, and regulatory agencies. These buyers will be walking the exhibit hall, actively looking for practical solutions, emerging technologies, and services to help them better prepare, respond, or recover from, an environmental emergency.

Click on the links for updated information - [REGISTRATION](#) [SUBMISSION OF ABSTRACTS](#) [INTRODUCING THE PLANNING COMMITTEE](#) [LIST OF EXHIBITING COMPANIES](#) [SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES](#) [SPONSORS & PARTNERS](#)

Contact Renie Mayfield - 720-289-7008 or rmayfield@accessintel.com - to discuss the exhibiting and sponsorship opportunities available for this year's event!

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](#) [SPEAKER TALK SUBMISSION](#)

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](https://clu-in.org/products/tins/US%20Federal)

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

SAFETY BRIEFING

PUTTING METHANOL THROUGH ITS PACES WITH A FOCUS ON SAFETY

As a low flashpoint fuel, methanol does impose additional safety considerations in some instances e.g., during bunkering operation, which is the primary reason ABS decided to publish the first Technical Advisory on methanol bunkering providing guidance on the technical and operational challenges that must be overcome. The Maritime Executive / [Read more](#)

NEW PUBLICATIONS

Click on the links below -

[European Maritime Day Svendborg - Denmark – 2024 Newsletter](#)

[Navigate Response Newsletter – June 2024](#)

[Canada Ship Source Oil Pollution Fund Newsletter](#)

[Scottish Environment Protection Agency – SEPA May 2024 Update](#)

[PEMSEA May 2024 eBulletin](#)



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INCIDENTS

BAHAMAS: SCHOONER RUNNING ECO-CARGO SERVICE LOST OFF BAHAMAS WITH TWO MISSING



May 23 - One of the historic schooners used to operate an eco-cargo service crossing the Atlantic was reported lost with two of its eight crewmembers missing.

The survivors reported that the ship was sailing in good conditions with winds less than 10 knots and a good sea state on Tuesday, May 21. They are indicating that an “extremely sudden and violent” meteorological phenomenon overtook them while they were underway in otherwise mild conditions. The Maritime Executive / [Read more](#). (Photo courtesy of Blue Schooner)

USA: HAWAII - VIDEO: SALVORS WORK TO REFLOAT HARBOR CRUISE VESSEL OFF LAHAINA

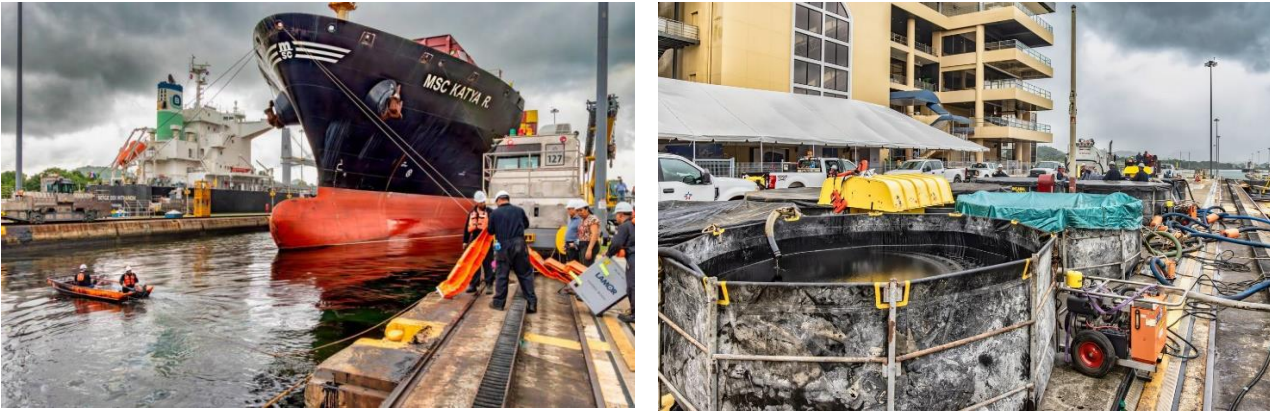
May 26 - Hawaiian state authorities are working to defuel and remove a harbor cruise boat that ran aground off the coast of Lahaina, the seaside town that was hit by a devastating fire last fall. Maui Princess had 2,500 gallons of diesel on board, and a contractor was hired to remove the potential pollutant threat with a rarely-used method, normally reserved for casualties in hard-to-access locations: repeated helicopter flights. The Maritime Executive / [Read more](#)

USA: NORTH CAROLINA - FUEL SPILL CREATES ALL-NIGHT SCRAMBLE ALONG CREEK BANKS AS 2,000 GALLONS ESCAPES INTO WATERWAYS

May 28 - Firefighters and emergency management staff battled rain, briars, water and mud, some for more than 24 hours straight, as they contained a diesel fuel spill that made its way into Jones Cove Creek over Memorial Day Weekend. [The Mountaineer](#)

PANAMA CANAL: OIL SPILL AT THE MIRAFLORES LOCK OF THE PANAMA CANAL

May 29 – A Report just received from Carlos Sagrera, ISCO Representative for Latin America, based in Panama



On Sunday, May 26, a collision occurred during transit at the Miraflores lock when the Liberian-flagged container vessel MSC Katya R. (https://www.marinetraffic.com/es/ais/details/ships/shipid:756298/mmsi:636016435/imo:9227302/vessel:MSC_KATYA_R_) was in transit at the Miraflores lock. The attached videos and photos show details of the impact against the walls of the lock, probably due to some maneuver with the locomotives that fix the position and pull the vessel in the lock during transit (<https://pancanal.com/en/design-of-the-locks/>). The transiting vessel always operates with two Panama Canal pilots on board.

The Panama Canal Authority issued a statement indicating that one of the lanes of the lock was closed due to the impact on the upper chamber and to date, the ACP Pollution Department is continuing with the cleaning operations and has requested quotes from local OSROs for the subsequent cleaning of walls and affected infrastructure. Undoubtedly, a wise decision by the Panama Canal Authority and its prioritization of the environment in its management, which by not opening the lock for the work inside, allows the spilled product not to impact downstream in the Port of Balboa and possibly the anchorage area in the Bay of Panama. The vessel remains inside the lock and will be released when the work is completed. Attached is a video of the moment of the impact and leakage of the product (<https://www.tiktok.com/@panamachannelvip/video/7373785201282960646>) and news from the local Panamanian press and photos of the cleanup work.

<https://www.laestrella.com.pa/panama/derrame-de-combustible-provoco-el-cierre-de-un-carril-de-las-esclusas-de-miraflores-JG7495830>

https://www.tvn-2.com/nacionales/canal-de-panama-transito-carril-miraflores-suspendido-derrame-combustible_1_2137701.html

<https://elsiglo.com.pa/panama/nacionales/derrame-afecto-transito-en-miraflores-BL7490605>

<https://ensegundos.com.pa/2024/05/28/mantienen-cierre-de-un-carril-de-esclusa-de-miraflores-por-derrame-de-combustible/>

<https://www.prensa.com/economia/un-carril-de-la-esclusa-de-miraflores-continua-cerrado-por-derrame-de-combustible/>

UPDATE May 30 - Opening of the Miraflores Lock and release of traffic in the lane affected by the spill.

On Wednesday 29th, the Panama Canal Authority (ACP) informed that the cleaning activities at the affected Miraflores Lock had been completed and the decision was taken to open the lock and allow the vessel to proceed to the Port of Balboa to carry out the necessary repairs and obtain the necessary permits from the AMP to continue its navigation

(<https://www.anpanama.com/Reanudacion-operaciones-por-carril-Este-de-las-esclusas-de-Miraflores-16640.note.aspx>).

It is estimated that the ACP made this decision after carrying out its NEBA (Net Environmental Benefit Analysis -

<https://www.api.org/oil-and-natural-gas/environment/clean-water/oil-spill-prevention-and-response/net-environmental-benefit-analysis>) and determining the best response options and possibilities of damage from the opening of the lock. It should be noted

that local OSROs (<https://grupo-opc.com/>) were contacted by the ACP to carry out clean-up work on possible vessels affected by the spill, in addition to the vessel MSC Katya R., which is carrying out hull cleaning work (<https://www.talleresindustriales.com/>).

PHILIPPINES: OIL SPILL WREAKS HAVOC IN AKLAN TOWN, AUTHORITIES RUSH TO CONTAIN DAMAGE

Mat 29 - Authorities deployed oil spill booms to contain a slick that has begun to affect local fishing communities, with reports of dead fish and oil-coated birds unable to fly, in a town in Aklan province on Monday, May 27. The spill, originating from a vessel at Metallica Shipyard in New Washington town, has resulted in serious environmental damage and the suspension of fishing activities in affected areas. [Rappier](#) / Registration required to read more

USA: DELAWARE - OIL LEAKED INTO THE DELAWARE RIVER WEDNESDAY

May 29 - On Wednesday, May 29, 2024, an oil release was detected on a barge at the Delaware City Refinery's (DCR) pier on the Delaware River. The mayor said the refinery's Oil Response Team, equipped with environmental remediation specialists were working to address the situation by halting the release and deploying equipment to contain and absorb the oil sheen around the refinery's piers and adjacent areas. First State Update / [Read more](#)

USA: TEXAS - BARGE HITS TEXAS BRIDGE, SPILLING OIL AND TRAPPING PEOPLE ON ISLAND

May 30 - The bridge that leads to Pelican Island, north of Galveston, was struck by the barge around 9:50 a.m. when a tugboat backing out of Texas International Terminals, a fuel storage operator located next to the bridge, lost control of two barges it was pushing, said David Flores, a bridge superintendent with the Galveston County Navigation District.

The tugboat was pushing what are called bunker barges, which are fuel barges for ships, Flores said. The collision sent oil spilling into the surrounding waters. The barge, which is owned by Martin Petroleum, has a 30,000-gallon capacity, but it's not clear how much leaked into the bay, said Galveston County spokesperson Spencer Lewis. Lewis said about 6.5 miles of the waterway were shut down because of the spill. The U.S. Coast Guard was determining the extent of the spill. They will also initiate the containment and cleanup process. [MSN.com / Read more](#)

USA: GEORGIA - CLEANUP & ABATEMENT UNDER WAY FOR BRUNSWICK'S FIVE-YEAR "MYSTERY SPILL"

May 30 - "It's an unknown source of weathered gasoline," Susan Inman, coastkeeper for environmental group Altamaha Riverkeeper, told the outlet in 2021. "We were first notified by [local workers] because the smell was so strong they said it was like their heads were in a gas tank."

Over the years, the adjacent property owners and the federal Environmental Protection Agency carried out multiple studies to find the source of the petroleum and figure out its composition. "The parties have been exploring means of containing and removing the product(s)," Georgia Environmental Protection Division spokeswoman Sara Lips told the outlet in 2023. As the problem carried on without a resolution, Altamaha Riverkeeper called for a comprehensive government response to the "mystery spill."

On Tuesday, the U.S. Coast Guard stood up a unified command in Brunswick to coordinate a response to the petroleum release. The command also includes salvor and marine contractor Resolve Marine, the U.S. EPA, NOAA, the Georgia Department of Natural Resources, and the City of Brunswick's first responders. [The Maritime Executive / Read more](#)

USA: MINNESOTA - LAKE SUPERIOR BARGE SPILLS HUNDREDS OF GALLONS OF DIESEL ALONG MINNESOTA'S NORTH SHORE

May 30 - The United States Coast Guard says hundreds of gallons of diesel fuel spilled into Lake Superior on Wednesday morning.

Northern News Now reports the spill happened near Silver Bay Marina amid a transfer of fuel between a privately-owned barge and a tug boat. The Coast Guard estimates the quantity of the spill to be around 300 gallons, and it is now contained. The clean-up effort is still in effect on Thursday, and it's unclear how long it will take. [CBS News / Read more](#)

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