

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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CLEAN GULF
CONFERENCE & EXHIBITION
NOVEMBER 18-20, 2024
HOUSTON, TX

Prepare, Respond & Recover:
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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.

TAKING ON THE DARK TANKER FLEET, PART I: FLAG STATE RESPONSIBILITY SHOULD BE FLAG STATE LIABILITY

Want to make the seas safer? Time to put the "Dark Fleet" of aged and unsafe oil smuggling tankers out of business. And the best way to do that is to squeeze not just the ownership and managers of these dangerous and often uninsured vessels, but also the ship registries that support their sanctions-busting activities.

In many countries now, ship registration is a lucrative business, where public rights are appropriated for private gain. Our argument is that the states that register substandard ships should be liable for them, and that the owners and managers of private ship registries should be on the hook for the vessels they certify. Those who register and profit from dark fleet vessels should face liability if those vessels are uninsured and cause pollution.

It is only a matter of time before there is a major oil spill caused by the Dark Fleet, which will cost the unlucky taxpayers of some coastal state billions to remediate beaches and fishing grounds ravaged by thousands of tons of crude oil. Baird Marine / [Read more](#)

ESCAPE AND EVASION: THE DAMAGING ASPECT OF FLAGS OF CONVENIENCE

Editor – Recommended that you also read recent commentary from the highly respected columnist Michael Grey (formerly Editor of Lloyds List)

Creative accountants tell us that there is a subtle difference between avoidance, the legitimate use of every available legal means to minimise one's financial responsibilities to the state, and evasion, which is a polite term for thievery, and thus incurs criminal sanctions.

The long march towards better quality, capable administrations, proper responsibility, and improved maritime safety has been abruptly put into reverse by the emergence of the dark fleet and their improbable flag states. There will be no "implementation" of international rules, the ships may be unsafe and possibly uninsured, their AIS has been extinguished or faked at will, and their class

certificates are null and void. In effect, this is evasion on a global scale – evasion of sanctions, of regulation, of safety and all the other advances brought about by 70 years of regulatory improvement. Baird Marine / [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

WESTERN INDIAN OCEAN

A regional agreement aims to save a tropical paradise in trouble - A couple of years ago, in the turquoise waters off the coastal village of Mahébourg in Mauritius, a Japanese oil tanker ran aground. An estimated 1,000 metric tonnes of fuel leaked from the damaged vessel into a pristine lagoon, home to fish, turtles and myriad marine mammals. Mauritius, an island nation in Western Indian Ocean heavily dependent on the sea, declared a state of emergency as oil swamped beaches and killed wildlife. The accident put into stark relief just how fragile the Western Indian Ocean is and the environmental dangers it faces.

Buffeting 10 countries and stretching from eastern South Africa to the Arabian Gulf, the region is home to some 220 million people as well as diverse marine species such as silky sharks and sperm whales. In recent decades, this pristine stretch of tropical ocean that supports some of the most biodiverse ecosystems in the world has come under mounting pressure from climate change, biodiversity loss and pollution and waste. UNEP / [Read more](#)

EUROPE

Degraded ecosystems to be restored across Europe as Nature Restoration Law enters into force - The Regulation on Nature Restoration (Nature Restoration Law) came into effect on Sunday (18 August). Full implementation of the law is crucial to restore the EU's biodiversity and stop further biodiversity loss, to reach climate neutrality by 2050 and adapt to climate change, and to enhance food security for EU citizens. In doing so, the law will support the achievement of other European ambitions, such as water security.

It is also a key instrument to help the EU and its Member States meet international biodiversity commitments under the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework. The law sets in motion a process for continuous and sustained recovery of nature across the EU's land and sea while supporting more sustainable economic development and agricultural production and working hand in hand with the development of renewable energy. As an overall target to be reached at the EU level, Member States will put in place restoration measures in at least 20% of the EU's land areas and 20% of its sea areas by 2030. By 2050, such measures should be in place for all ecosystems that need restoration. Environment.ec / [Read more](#)

NEWS FROM AROUND THE WORLD

AUSTRALIA AND INDONESIA COOPERATE TO PREVENT TRANSBOUNDARY MARINE POLLUTION DUE TO OIL SPILLS

August 22: Indonesia's Directorate General of Sea Transportation of the Transportation Ministry and the [Australian](#) Maritime Safety Authority (AMSA) established cooperation to prevent transboundary marine pollution due to oil spills.

"The two countries strengthen mutually beneficial international cooperation in handling pollution due to marine [oil spills](#)," Secretary of the Directorate General of Sea Transportation, Lollan Panjaitan, noted in a statement from his office on Wednesday, August 21, 2024. Tempo.co / [Read more](#)

CANADA: CANADIAN COAST GUARD CELEBRATES THE LAUNCH OF THE NEW OFFSHORE OCEANOGRAPHIC SCIENCE VESSEL

August 17 - Today, the Honourable Carla Qualtrough, Minister of Sport and Physical Activity, and the Honourable Terry Beech, Minister of Citizens' Services, on behalf of the Honourable Diane LeBouthillier, Minister of Fisheries, Oceans and the Canadian Coast Guard, were at Vancouver Shipyards in British Columbia to celebrate the launch of the new Offshore Oceanographic Science Vessel. A launch ceremony represents the first time a newly constructed vessel is lowered into the water. Canada.ca / [Read more](#)

CANADA: STRENGTHENING THE MONT SAINT-HILAIRE BIOSPHERE AND THE ENTIRE UNESCO BIOSPHERE NETWORK ACROSS CANADA

August 21 - Today, the Honourable Steven Guilbeault, Minister of Environment and Climate Change, announced that, from 2023 to 2026, the Government of Canada will invest over \$11.7 million in funding for the Canadian Biosphere Regions Association and the 19 UNESCO biosphere regions of Canada. Canada.ca / [Read more](#)

CHINA: SHIP-SOURCE POLLUTION WORKSHOP ENHANCES KNOWLEDGE IN SPILL RESPONSE WITH SHANGHAI MARITIME SAFETY ADMINISTRATION

August 16 - TOPF spent time in China with the Shanghai Maritime Safety Administration (MSA), where it hosted a workshop on responding to incidents of ship-source pollution at-sea and on shorelines.



As part of the workshop, ITOPF delivered its interactive table-top spill exercise for Shanghai MSA participants, in which they were tasked with managing the response to a mock scenario pollution event, tackling resource management, applicable clean-up techniques, waste management among other aspects of a response. This included using its Virtual Reality (VR) aerial surveillance application, placing users in a virtual aircraft as they observe a pollution event.

Alex Hunt, David Campion and Marie Lee were on hand to deliver the workshop and ITOPF thanks the Shanghai MSA for its enthusiastic participation in this event.
ITOPF / [Read more](#)

EGYPT: MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT SELECTED AS A MEMBER OF THE GLOBAL FRAMEWORK FINANCING FUND FOR BIODIVERSITY AMONG 15 MEMBERS FROM DEVELOPING COUNTRIES

August 19 - The Ministry of Environment of China and the United Nations Environment Programme announced the selection of Dr. Yasmine Fouad as a member of the Executive Board of the Global Biodiversity Framework Financing Fund among 15 members from developing countries, during her participation in the "Endgame Facilitation" workshop for the preparations for the Biodiversity Conference in Canada. The Ministry of Environment of China and the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), as co-chairs of the Kunming Biodiversity Fund, have extended an invitation to Egypt to formally participate in the fund, and Dr. Yasmine Fouad, Minister of Environment, has been selected to represent Egypt in the membership of the fund, a new multi-partner trust fund established by China and the United Nations Environment Programme. [EEAA.gov](#) / [Read more](#)

GERMANY: IOPC FUNDS' DIRECTOR DELIVERS LECTURE AT IFLOS SUMMER ACADEMY



August 20 - On 19 August 2024, IOPC Funds' Director, Gaute Sivertsen, returned to the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea (ITLOS) in Hamburg, Germany, where he delivered a lecture to participants of the 2024 Summer Academy, organised by the International Foundation for the Law of the Sea (IFLOS).

The four-week course is dedicated to matters relating to both international law of the sea and maritime law, and attracts a range of participants, including diplomats, practitioners, and PhD students, amongst others. [IOPC Funds](#) / [Read more](#)

INDIA: DEFENCE MINISTER RAJNATH SINGH INAUGURATES REGIONAL MARINE POLLUTION RESPONSE CENTRE AT ICG HEADQUARTERS

August 18 - The Regional Marine Response Centre will facilitate coordination among countries within a region, ensuring a unified approach to oil spill response. It can mobilise a more effective response to oil spills and provide access to specialised equipment, trained personnel, and technological innovations that may be beyond the capabilities of individual countries.

[Newsonair.gov.in](#) / [Read more](#)

INDIA: HOW TO COMBAT OIL, CHEMICAL SPILLS AT SEA - INDIAN COAST GUARD TRAINS FOREIGN COUNTERPARTS

August 23 - The Indian Coast Guard is conducting a two-week International Maritime Organisation (IMO), Oil Preparedness Response and Cooperation (OPRC) course for India's Friendly Foreign Countries.

The course is being conducted for participants from seven ASEAN countries, with two officers each from Myanmar, Thailand, Vietnam, Philippines, Cambodia, Malaysia and Indonesia. [Wionews.com](#) / [Read more](#)

PHILIPPINES: INCIDENT IN THE PHILIPPINES – TERRA NOVA

August 19 - On 25 July 2024, the MT Terra Nova, carrying 1.4 million litres of industrial fuel, capsized and sank off the coast of Manila, the Philippines. The IOPC Funds understands that as a result, an oil slick was seen to spread from the location of the incident and that measures have been taken to prevent significant impact to the coastline and marine environment.

The Philippines is a 1992 Fund Member State. Therefore, the IOPC Funds has been liaising with the Member State and the ship's insurer, the Steamship Mutual P&I Club, to determine whether the 1992 Civil Liability Convention (1992 CLC) and the 1992 Fund Convention apply to this incident. At this stage, it is confirmed that the vessel is a tanker and that its cargo appears to be persistent oil. As such, the incident will be covered in the first instance by the 1992 CLC. IOPC Funds / [Read more](#)

UK: FENLAND DISTRICT COUNCIL'S MARINE TEAM UNDERTAKE COUNTER-POLLUTION EXERCISE IN RIVER NENE AT WISBECH

August 17 - A training exercise designed to test the response in the event of an oil spill was held in the River Nene in Wisbech this week. On Tuesday (13), the Marine Services Team from Fenland District Council's Port of Wisbech Harbour Authority conducted a Maritime and Coastguard Agency (MCA) marine oil pollution exercise to test their Oil Spill Contingency Plan.

FenlandCitizen.co.uk / [Read more](#)

USA: US TO PROVIDE OIL SPILL RESPONSE TRAINING FOR PHILIPPINES

August 17 - The United States government is providing an oil spill response training to the Philippines on top of its ongoing support in the Bataan recovery efforts. The US Agency for International Development (USAID) will fund the training slated October and November, which will be facilitated by the US National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Office of Response and Restoration (OR&R). The training will help build the capacity of the Department of Environment and Natural Resource-Biodiversity Management Bureau. PNA.gov.ph / [Read more](#)

USA: INDIANA - DOZENS OF VOLUNTEERS PITCH IN ON ANNUAL WHITE RIVER CLEANUP PROJECT IN ANDERSON

August 17 - Hoosiers from Madison County and around the state gathered Saturday to clean up the White River where it flows through Anderson. Sheryl Myers with the White River Watchers said the group rented 40 canoes from Canoe Country and was expecting 70 volunteers to help clean up debris from the river and along the banks. Since the start of the annual effort in 1997, the group has removed more than 9,000 tires from the river and its banks. Aol.com / [Read more](#)

USA: LATEST NEWS REPORTS FROM NOAA OR&R

August 19 – To read these reports click on the links below

[NOAA OR&R Supporting Oil Spill in Manila Bay, Philippines](#)

NOAA's Office of Response and Restoration (OR&R) is supporting an oil spill from the tanker *Terranova*, which capsized and sank in Manila Bay, Philippines on July 25, 2024. A Philippine-flagged oil tanker carrying 396,000 gallons of industrial fuel oil, the *Terranova* rests in approximately 130 feet of water off the coast of Bataan.

[OR&R Hosts Marine Debris Workshops for Educators in Guam and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands](#)

In July, staff from the NOAA Marine Debris Program, within the Office of Response and Restoration, traveled to the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI) and Guam to visit [project partners and sites](#). Concurrently, they hosted educator workshops for formal and informal educators to learn about marine debris in the classroom.

NO NEWS FROM YOUR PART OF THE WORLD ?

Members and other readers are invited to help rectify the balance of world news reporting. News stories from North America, UK, Australia, much more accessible than reports from other parts of the world and especially from non-English-speaking countries. If you come across a report that you think worth sharing with other members of the response community, why not send it to the editor at info@spillcontrol.org

NEWS FROM ISCO MEMBERS

Corporate Members of ISCO can by submitting news about new products and services in the “News from ISCO Members” section of the ISCO Newsletter. This is a free facility for Members. Given that the ISCO Newsletter has a large and highly targeted readership in over 60 countries, it's a cost-effective way to promote your company. If you have some news you would like to share with readers of

the ISCO Newsletter, send it to John.McMurtrie@spillcontrol.org Members who would like to place a regular advertisement in the ISCO Newsletter can also benefit from preferential discounted rates. For more info please contact Mike Watson at mike@mwadigital.com He will be happy to help you

T&T SALVAGE - REMOVAL OF CAPSIZED OIL BARGE OFF TOBAGO COMPLETED

The Ministry of Energy and Energy Industries said that the overturned barge "Gulfstream", which had been grounded since February 7, 2024 off the Coast of Cove, Tobago leading to an oil spill, was successfully re-floated on Monday.

The Ministry said re-float operations were conducted under the supervision of a team from an internationally recognized salvage company, T&T Salvage Inc. The Ministry said the team comprised of a senior salvage master, naval architect and a contingent of skilled salvors with the support of the technical staff at the Ministry of Energy and Energy Industries. LoopNews / [Read more](#)

RESOLVE MARINE MOBILIZES CRANE TO REMOVE \$3M YACHT FROM REEF OFF PUERTO RICO

Salvor Resolve Marine was hired to defuel and remove the vessel, and with assistance from a subcontractor, Resolve's team pumped out the bulk of the fuel from the yacht by the end of July. Resolve is mobilizing a 400-tonne floating shearlegs barge out of the port of Baltimore, and it plans to lift the vessel clear from the grounding site for removal - with a close eye on weather conditions. The Maritime Executive / [Read more](#)

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/>

SOME PLANTS CAN ABSORB AND NEUTRALIZE PLASTIC POLLUTION

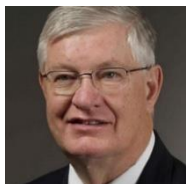
Leading the charge on this groundbreaking research is Dr. Yuyi Yang from the [Nanjing Institute of Environmental Sciences](#), MEE. Along with a dedicated group of individuals from the Hubei Key Laboratory of Wetland Evolution & Ecological Restoration, Dr. Yang has unearthed a unique approach to handle the [plastic pollution crisis](#). Power of plants to combat plastic pollution - So, what is phytoremediation? As it turns out, particular plants are capable of more than just soaking up sunlight. They have mastered the art of absorbing, neutralizing and converting harmful pollutants – including microplastics – from our surroundings. Earth.com / [Read more](#)

WHAT ARE THE POTENTIAL APPLICATIONS OF BIOGENIC NANOPARTICLES IN ENVIRONMENTAL REMEDIATION AND POLLUTION CONTROL?

Biogenic nanoparticles (NPs) have significant potential in environmental remediation and pollution control due to their eco-friendly synthesis and effective pollutant degradation capabilities. These nanoparticles, synthesized from biological materials such as plants and microorganisms, exhibit remarkable photocatalytic properties, enabling them to degrade various contaminants, including heavy metals, dyes, and organic pollutants. Typeset.io / [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/>

USA AHMP - Essentials of Hazardous Materials Management (EHMM) 11 Week Course September 11 – November 20, 2024 Wednesdays from 6:00 - 9:00 PM EDT/EST For the past several years, AHMP has hosted a virtual Essentials of Hazardous Materials Management course in the Fall. This will be presented (live) via the Zoom Platform with ability to interact with the instructors and fellow students. The course consists of topics divided into 11-3 hr segments which helps students to have less overload and more fully absorb the materials. AHMP / [Read more](#)

UPCOMING EVENTS

TO VIEW AN UPCOMING EVENT SELECT AN EVENT AND CLICK ON “MORE INFO”

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

SEPTEMBER 2024

- USA - WITT O'BRIEN'S - AMBIPAR RESPONSE COMPLIANCE WORKSHOP 2024 - September 10 - 12, 2024, at the DoubleTree Houston Hobby Hotel, 8181 Airport Blvd., Houston, TX 77061 [More info](#)
- UAE - SPE International Health, Safety, Environment, and Sustainability Conference and Exhibition 10–12 September 2024, Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates [More info](#)
- INDIA – Oil spill India Conference & Exhibition, New Delhi, September 11-12 [More info](#)
- URUGUAY - XX Jornada SLOM, Sep 11 - 13, Punta del Este [More info](#)
- INDIA: Oil Spill India, 11-12 September, New Delhi, [More info](#)
- URUGUAY - XX Jornada SLOM, Sep 11 - 13, Punta del Este [More info](#)
- ITALY - RemTech Europe, 18-20 September, Ferrara [More info](#)

OCTOBER TO DECEMBER 2024

- USA – Elastec River Spill Workshop, Carmi, Indiana, 8-10 October 2024 [More info](#)
- UK – Water, Waste & Environmental Monitoring – 9-10 October 2024, NEC, Birmingham, UK [More info](#)
- NORWAY – Marine Insurance Nordics – 16th October 2024, Oslo. [Registration](#) [More info](#)
- NEW ZEALAND - Land and Groundwater Conference, Auckland, 22-24 October 2024 [AND](#) [More info](#)
- CHINA – 8th East Asian Seas Congress, Xiamen, 6-8 November 2024 <https://eascongress2024.pemsea.org/>
- USA - Industry Technical Advisory Committee (ITAC) - Fort Lauderdale, FL, USA, 13-15 November 2024 [More info](#)
- UK – Seatrade Maritime Salvage & Wreck Conference, London, 11-12 December 2024 [More info](#)

JANUARY 2025 ONWARDS

- UK – Interspill 2025 Conference & Exhibition, London, April 8-10 [More info](#)
- EUROPE/ ONLINE - RemTech Europe, International Conference and Exhibition on land and water remediation markets and technologies, is scheduled for 16-20 September 2024. The first two days of the conference 16-17 September will be fully digital, and broadcasted in streaming. The other three days 18-20 September will be hybrid so in presence but also broadcasted online. [More info](#)
- To post an event here end details with web link to the editor. John.mcmurtrie@spillcontrol.org

SOME OTHER INFORMATION

- 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](#)
- Marine Insurance Events: Issue 18 of *The Marine Insurer*: 'Dali incident: Largest ever marine claim?'. [CLICK HERE](#)
Our next three live events will be: Marine Claims International, 25th-27th September, Malahide, Ireland [Click here](#) to register your interest. Marine Insurance Nordics, 16th October, Oslo, Norway [Click here](#) to register your interest. Energy Insurance Americas, 21st November, Houston, USA [Click here](#) to register your interest.

UPCOMING WEBINARS

- 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
- IOPC Funds Webinar Series – Full programme announced IOPC Funds / [Read more](#)
- Land & Groundwater - Women in Contaminated Land: Cleaning Up and Climbing Up - 5th September 2024 [More info](#)
- OSRL Webinar Series 2024 – Immediate Response Activities for Oil Spill Incidents
12 September 2024 2pm BST – Monitoring Response Effectiveness & Updating Key Stakeholders [More info](#)

Members can post Upcoming Webinars here. Send details with web link to the editor.

UPCOMING PODCASTS

- Salvage & Wreck Podcast from IGP&I - Welcome to the Group's podcast. In this series, we will be exploring some of the topics

discussed at the Seatrade Maritime Salvage & Wreck Conference. Our aim is to make these discussions accessible to everyone, even those unable to attend the event. We've invited some of the Club panellist that participated at the event.

Episode 4: In this episode, Ben Harris, Chair of the International Group's Salvage Committee and Head of Claims at Shipowners Club examines the significance of the Lloyd's Open Form, addressing concerns surrounding its potential decline and exploring actionable steps for ensuring a sustainable salvage industry. <https://www.igpandi.org/article/salvage-wreck-podcast/>

TECHNICAL SUPPORT

THE IMPORTANCE OF LINE WALKING SURVEYS FOR PIPELINE INTEGRITY

Among the various inspection methods, line walking surveys can detect issues that might not be apparent through other monitoring techniques. Here we outline the key points from UKOPA's latest [Good Practice Guide](#) for those undertaking such surveys.

UKOPA / [Read more](#)

UPDATES FROM EVENT ORGANISERS

Every week we add links for new updates as they are received

USA: CLEAN GULF CONFERENCE & EXHIBITION 2024

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

The 2024 [CLEAN GULF Conference & Exhibition](#) is just over 3 months away but only a few 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 - [CHARLIE JENKINS, INCOMING CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER, PORT OF HOUSTON AUTHORITY, TO DELIVER THE KEYNOTE](#) [DISCOUNTS UNTIL 8/24](#) [UPDATED EXHIBITOR LISTING & PARTIAL LIST OF ATTENDEES](#) [FRANCIS SCOTT KEY BRIDGE RESPONSE UNIFIED COMMAND SESSION](#) [EXHIBIT AT CLEAN GULF CONFERENCE PROGRAMME](#) [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!

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 – [NEW SPONSOR & PARTNER OPTIONS AVAILABLE](#) [NEW EXHIBITORS CONFIRMED](#) [CALL FOR PAPERS SUCCESS](#) [DELEGATE PASS UPDATE](#) [CALL FOR PAPERS EXTENSION AGREED TO 18 JUNE 2024](#) [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.

USA – CLEAN WATERWAYS, APRIL 23-25, 2025. DENVER MARRIOTT TECH CENTER, CO

CLEAN WATERWAYS is the event where the inland response community gathers to gain valuable insights on challenges specific to prevention, preparedness, and response in inland regions and waterways.

For information updates, click on the links - [ABSTRACT SUBMITTAL DEADLINE IS AUGUST 30TH.](#) [SUBMIT YOUR ABSTRACT](#)

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>

USA : PRE-SOLICITATION NOTICE_ W9128F24R0012 - \$249M IDIQ MATOC FOR ENVIRONMENTAL REMEDIATION SERVICES (ERS) - SMALL BUSINESS SET-ASIDE

<https://sam.gov/opp/fa71f32332c1427485c8c7da3aa44914/view>

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

NEW PUBLICATIONS

ITOPF HAS JUST PUBLISHED ITS ANNUAL HANDBOOK FOR 2024/25.

This contains a wealth of valuable information and guidance for those likely to be involved in spills of oil, chemicals or other cargo from ships. The new edition includes a new section on alternative fuels, updated oil spill statistics and staff information, as well as regular features on different types of marine spills, the fate and effects of oil, clean-up techniques and compensation. [More info](#)

THE MARITIME EXECUTIVE'S TRAINING & EDUCATION EDITION IS OUT, READ ONLINE

To read the latest edition of the magazine, go to The Maritime Executive [July/August 2024 Maritime Training and Education Edition](#). To subscribe to the magazine, please go to <https://www.maritime-executive.com/subscribe>.



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INCIDENTS

USA: NOAA OR&R INCIDENT RESPONSES FOR JULY 2024

Here is the complete list of July's incidents. Click on the links to find out more:

- [M/T Terra Nova Sinking and Oil Spill](#); Manila Bay, Philippines
- [Sunken F/V Two SS Three LS](#); offshore Corpus Christi, TX
- [Crescent Midstream Tank Overflow into Bayou Lafourche](#); Raceland, LA
- [Cargo Ship Hans Shulte Potential Hazmat Release](#); Gulf of Mexico
- [F/V Vicki Rae Sinking](#); Sand Point, AK

- [F/V All Star Grounding](#); St. Michael Island, AK
- [Catamaran Obsession Grounded](#), vicinity of Flamenco Beach; Culebra, Puerto Rico
- [Landing Craft My Marie Sunk](#); Port MacKenzie, AK
- [St Mary's River Unknown Sheen](#); Sault Ste. Marie, MI
- [Tug Miss Peggy Sunk](#); Houston Shipping Channel, TX
- [Fishing Vessel Bilge Discharge](#); South Padre Island, TX
- [Sunken Fishing Vessel Brizo](#); Chatham, MA
- [Platform Sheen](#); offshore Bolivar Peninsula, TX
- [Broken Wind Turbine Blade](#); Martha's Vineyard, MA
- [Pleasure Craft Sinks in Harris Harbor](#); Juneau, AK
- [Shoreside Diesel Spill into Whittier Harbor](#); Whittier, AK
- [Well Flowline Spill in Bayou Perot](#); Lafitte, LA
- [Hurricane Beryl](#); Yucatan Peninsula, Mexico
- [Mystery Spill in Threemile Slough](#); Rio Vista, CA

VENEZUELA OIL SPILL (CONTINUED)

August 18 - Third Spill From Venezuelan Refinery Contaminates Golfo Triste - The latest release from an aging refinery appears to have contaminated a large swathe of Venezuela's coastal waters and fouled beaches near a well-known nature reserve. The Maritime Executive / [Read more](#)

August 19 - Report received from Carlos Sagraera, ISCO Representative for South America, Member of ISCO Council.



Here following news of this spill and waiting for some communications from direct contacts in Venezuela, so this draft article can be modified in the next days if I get reliable information (not easy because the chavista regime always manipulates the information of these endemic disasters that happen due to management and maintenance issues). Attached is a current article and links, map of the place, as well as a satellite photo that we can publish and is very explicit and irrefutable.

New El Palito Refinery Spill - Carabobo State – Venezuela

Once again, and now in the midst of the political chaos in Venezuela, new oil spill has occurred off the coast of this country. On Saturday 17 August (the day of massive demonstrations worldwide against the fraud denounced in the recent Venezuelan elections) satellite images were made public of a huge oil spill of 87 square miles in the area of the Gulf of Triste (located between the states of Falcón and Carabobo), south of the Caribbean Sea (ISCO Newsletter N°951). Without official communication from PDVSA and, for the moment, with few public images of the impacts, it has once again been the reputed Venezuelan marine biologist Eduardo Klein who has published them, assigning the origin of the spill to the El Palito Refinery without providing further details, which endorses his repeated observations and denunciations over several years <https://elestimulo.com/venezuela/2020-08-21/eduardo-klein-la-refineria-el-palito-esta-todo-el-tiempo-derramando-hidrocarburos/>

The complaint indicates that beaches in the Morrocoy National Park, which are very popular with tourists and have sensitive areas with mangroves and ecology that are very sensitive to these impacts, are being affected. Significant effects are expected in the coming days and the regime cannot ignore what has happened, so official communications are expected, which will surely indicate the response in progress, although without indicating further details about the causes and investigations, which in the current regime are never made public and transparent, as happened in a similar case in the times of the pandemic <https://www.bbc.com/mundo/noticias-america-latina-53779454> Attached are links to the Venezuelan press and NGOs, map, as well as the satellite photo. <https://www.lapatilla.com/2024/08/18/derrame-de-crudo-procedente-de-la-refineria-el-palito-afecto-al-menos-a-cinco-kilometros-de-costa/> www.noticialminuto.com/tres-grandes-manchas-reuters-reportan-derrame-de-petroleo-en-la-refineria-el-palito/

August 20 - Addendum to Carlos' report - 'Almost a week after the denouncement and confirmation of the oil spill at the El Palito Refinery, the silence of the PDVSA authorities responsible for the management of these facilities continues, as well as that of the government authorities of the Maduro regime. NGO reports and images of the impacts on the coast are increasing, with the beaches of Bocas de Aroa being the most affected, with more than 5 km polluted up to 22 August and growing daily, as there is no containment and recovery at sea. Images have also been shared of contamination on the beaches of Tucacas, with threats to the

Morrocoy National Park imminent and inevitable in the coming days. Venezuelan NGOs indicate that although the political crisis has paralysed the government, its inaction in the face of this disaster that affects the health and environment of Venezuelans is not justified and, in any case, is a reflection of a regime that has no capacity to manage and respond to this crisis and that is losing credibility and thus control of the country day by day. Attached are the latest Venezuelan links received on the subject’.

<https://correodelcaroni.com/sociedad/ambiente/el-derrame-petrolero-equivalente-a-37-mil-canchas-de-futbol-que-afecta-a-carabobo-y-falcon/>

<https://clima21.net/noticias/derrames-otro-desastre-bajo-la-crisis/>

<https://www.elnacional.com/venezuela/reportan-derrame-petrolero-en-costas-de-puerto-cabello-y-falcon/>

<https://puntodecorte.org/derrame-de-la-refineria-el-palito-amenaza-las-costas-de-falcon/>

<https://www.analitica.com/actualidad/actualidad-nacional/refineria-el-palito-sufre-nuevo-derrame-petrolero/>

CHINA: AGING SOVIET CARRIER CATCHES FIRE ON YANGTZE

August 18 - An aging Soviet aircraft carrier caught fire in a lagoon on the Yangtze River last week, and the blaze may have put her fully out of commission at last. The Maritime Executive / [Read more](#)

SOUTH AFRICA: CMA CGM VESSEL ON MV LOSSES 99 CONTAINERS DURING STORM

August 18 -- The South Africa Maritime Safety Authority received a report from the containership that it has lost as many as 99 containers off the east coast of South Africa. The incident happened on Thursday, August 15, with SAMSA saying it had also been informed there was a “significant stowage collapse,” and that the vessel was seeking a port of refuge.

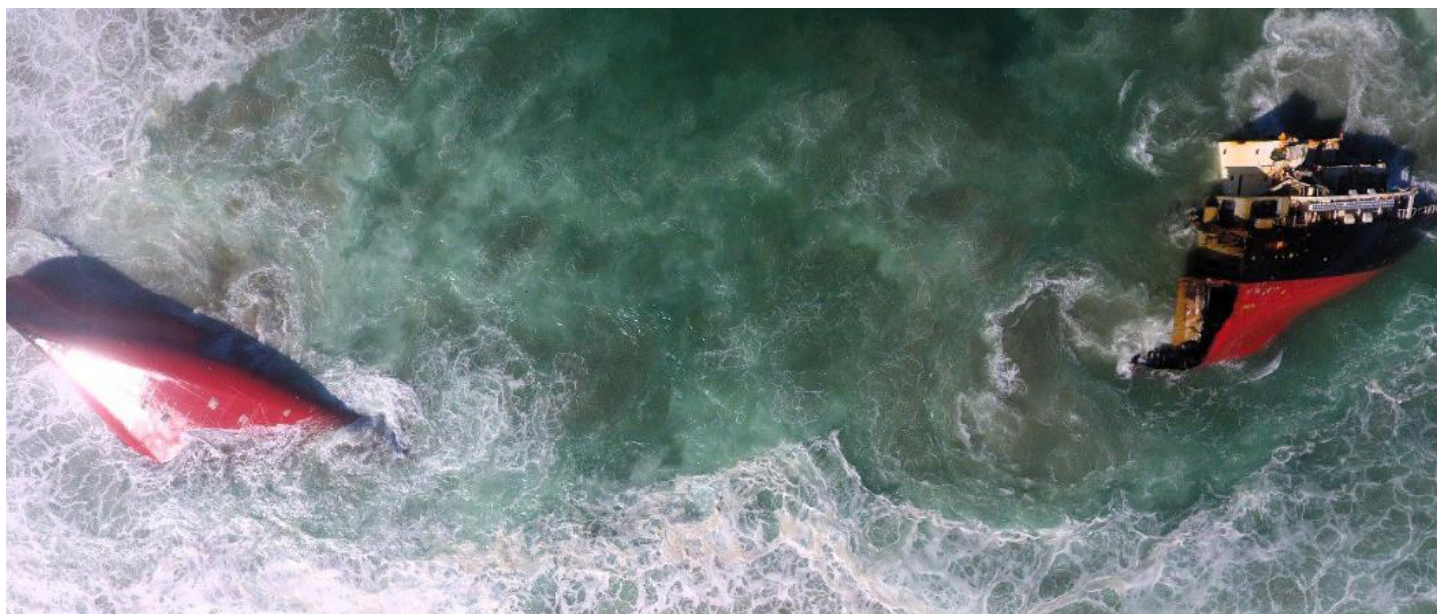
The Maritime Executive / [Read more](#)

UK: CANAL CHARITY MAKES FUNDS PLEA AFTER TOXIC SPILL

August 19 - A charity that is leading the clean-up after a canal was devastated by a major spill of sodium cyanide, has launched a £10,000 crowdfunder to pay for the work. BBC News / [Read more](#)

August 20 - Mystery donor pledges £10k for Walsall cyanide canal clear up. The waterways charity set up a crowdfunding page to raise £10,000 to help the damaged wildlife. Now an anonymous donor has pledged the whole amount, meaning the crowdfunding page has reached £13,000 in around 24 hours. ITV.com / [Read more](#)

SOUTH AFRICA: OIL SPILL CLEAN-UP INTENSIFIES IN SOUTH AFRICA AFTER ‘ULTRA GALAXY’ WRECK BREAKS APART



Above - An aerial view of the grounded MV Ultra Galaxy on South Africa's west coast after the weekend weather caused the wreck to break up further. Photo taken August 19, 2024. Photo courtesy of SAMSA

August 20 – Authorities are intensifying efforts to clean up oil from the grounded MV Ultra Galaxy cargo vessel on South Africa's west coast after severe weather that cause the wreck to break up further. The South African Maritime Safety Authority (SAMSA) said over 200 personnel are being mobilized to ramp up the clean-up of oil after recent stormy weather further damaged the vessel, causing the release of additional oil. gCaptain / [Read more](#)

August 20 - Officials said it is too early to determine how much oil has been released or how much is still in the tanks of the vessel. Oil recovery teams had already been working along the coastline and South Africa is recruiting additional residents to participate in the cleanup efforts. The Maritime Executive / [Read more](#)

TRINIDAD & TOBAGO: OIL SPILL BARGE 'GULFSTREAM' RE-FLOATED, WILL BE TOWED TO TRINIDAD

August 21 - The Ministry of Energy and Energy Industries said that the overturned barge "Gulfstream", which had been grounded since February 7, 2024 off the Coast of Cove, Tobago leading to an oil spill, was successfully re-floated on Monday. The Ministry said re-float operations were conducted under the supervision of a team from an internationally recognized salvage company, T&T Salvage Inc.

The Ministry said the team comprised of a senior salvage master, naval architect and a contingent of skilled salvors with the support of the technical staff at the Ministry of Energy and Energy Industries. The Ministry said the Gulfstream is currently stationed approximately three nautical miles away from its original resting place and is now afloat holding station in waters 60 metres deep off the coast of Cove, secured and supported by tugs. [Tt.LoopNews / Read more](#)

August 21 - T&T launched a containment and remediation effort requesting international assistance. The barge had a capacity of approximately 85,000 barrels. As of April, the teams reported that over 32,000 barrels had been recovered from the barge. A nine-mile section of the coastline was also covered with the oil while there had been fears it might also wash toward neighboring countries. The salvage team had to postpone the planned removal operation which had been set for August 5 and 6. It was delayed by the rough surf and conditions created by tropical storm (later hurricane) Ernesto. The Maritime Executive / [Read more](#)

PHILIPPINES: COAST GUARD MAKES PROGRESS ON TANKER WRECK CLEANUP

August 20 - The Philippine Coast Guard and a local salvage contractor are making slow but steady progress on removing oil from the sunken tanker Terra Nova, which went down in severe weather off Bataan last month. Terra Nova sank during Typhoon Gaemi on July 25, and it is resting in the shallow waters of Manila Bay off the town of Limay. The vessel had an estimated 370,000 gallons of petroleum on board, and an unknown quantity of oil spilled out of its holds and into the water. As of August 19, salvor Harbor Star had removed about 11,000 liters of fuel oil from the vessel's tanks using hot-tapping methods, including 2,500 liters on Monday alone.

Salvage operations also continue for two smaller tankers, the Jason Bradley and the Mirola 1, which went down shortly after the Terra Nova. The work currently focuses on plugging tanks and voids to prevent further release of petroleum. The Maritime Executive / [Read more](#)

LIBYA: TWO OIL LEAKS THREATENING MARINE ENVIRONMENT NEAR MISRATA AND BENGHAZI

August 20 - The Libyan Center for Remote Sensing and Space Sciences has announced the recording of new marine pollution in Libyan territorial waters, due to an oil spill from a ship on August 16 off the coast of the city of Misrata, with an area estimated at 25 square kilometers. This is the second leak in just two weeks, on August 6 and 7, a larger oil spill was recorded near the city of Benghazi, with an area estimated at 273.5 square kilometers. Libya Observer / [Read more](#)

RED SEA: POTENTIAL FOR AN IMMINENT MAJOR OIL SPILL

August 22 - The Sounion, which is carrying 150,000 tonnes of crude oil, was first hit by gunfire from two small boats which approached it 77 nautical miles (143km) west of the Yemeni port of Hudaydah, the UK Maritime Trade Operations (UKMTO) office said. Later, the ship was struck by three unidentified projectiles, which sparked a fire and left it without engine power, it added. BBC News / [Read more](#)

August 23 - Houthis Set Sounion Tanker Ablaze Causing Potential Environmental Disaster - The Houthis militants released video late on Friday showing explosions aboard the laden Greek tanker Sounion setting the stage for what experts believe will be one of the world's worst environmental disasters. The vessel is fully laden with approximately 150,000 tonnes (more than 900,000 barrels) of crude loaded in Iraq. The Maritime Executive / [Read more](#)

August 24 - Delta Tankers has released a statement acknowledging the attack but refrained from providing specific details due to ongoing security concerns. "Delta Tankers is doing everything it can to move the vessel and cargo," the statement read, but the company did not disclose further information on recovery efforts or plans for the damaged tanker. EU today / [Read more](#)

August 25 - The United States warned Saturday of a potential environmental disaster in the Red Sea after Houthi rebels struck an oil tanker off the Yemeni coast. GlobalNation / [Read more](#)

UKRAINE: RUSSIAN KERCH STRAIT FERRY DESTROYED BY FIRE AFTER UKRAINIAN ATTACK

August 22 - Social media is widely showing pictures of a blazing inferno on a strategic Russian railway Ro-Ro ferry while docked today in Kavkaz port in Crimea. Russian media quickly blamed Ukraine which has frequently attacked the port and damaged the same ferry about 12 weeks ago. Black smoking was billowing over the region and government officials on Telegram reported the vessel later sank at its pier. They were working to limit environmental damage. The Maritime Executive / [Read more](#)

MALAYSIA: OFFLOADING OF HAFNIA NILE UNDERWAY 35 DAYS AFTER INCIDENT WITH CHINESE VLCC; INCIDENT INVESTIGATION ONGOING

August 23 - The offloading of the naphtha cargo that was aboard the Hafnia Nile when the vessel made contact with the VLCC Ceres I in Malaysian waters approximately five weeks ago is underway. The investigation into the incident also continues being led by Malaysian authorities and monitored by Singapore as the flag state of the product tanker.

A fire ensued aboard both vessels and the Hafnia Nile was abandoned by its crew. A portion of the crew of the Ceres I also left the vessel while others remained behind to assist in the firefight. The fires were extinguished with significant damage to the Hafnia vessel but limited pollution.

The Hafnia Nile was underway near the eastern side of the Singapore Strait when it made contact with the VLCC crude oil tanker Ceres I registered in São Tomé and Príncipe. According to S&P Global, investigators are continuing to explore it as an allision in which the Hafnia Nile struck Ceres I, which was believed to be at anchor. Among the points to be explored, however, is if the vessel was broadcasting an accurate AIS signal and was at anchor as alleged.

The mystery deepened when the Ceres I which was reported to be part of the shadow fleet was missing the following day from the collision scene. Malaysian authorities initially accused the vessel of fleeing but later said the tanker might have drifted because it was without power and initially only being assisted by two smaller tugs. The VLCC was located and directed into an anchorage east of the Malaysian peninsular where it remains.

Reports traced the Ceres I to the Iranian oil trade. It was initially feared it was still laden but images confirmed that it only had ballast when it was struck on July 19. TankerTrackers.com and the NGO UANI both linked the vessel to the operations hiding Iranian oil and reported that it was in a known area used for illicit ship-to-ship transfers. The vessel is also reported to have a history of falsifying its AIS signal location and going dark. Ownership also remains clouded with it being registered likely to a shell company in Hong Kong that has not provided statements since the incident. The Maritime Executive / [Read more](#)

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