

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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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 II: WHO PROFITS FROM THESE SANCTIONS-BUSTING SHIPS?

Editor – Your editor strongly supports this campaign by Alex Baird and the accompanying comments made by Michael Grey. This is a matter that urgently needs to be addressed. In case you missed it, please read the article “Taking on the dark tanker fleet, Part I : Flag state responsibility should be flag state liability” on Page 1 of last week’s ISCO newsletter. We hope this campaign will prompt action by the UN and IMO and will aim to keep you informed on progress.

Alex Baird has now published the 2nd part of this initiative and you can read this by clicking on the link –

<https://www.bairdmaritime.com/security/incidents/piracy/column-taking-on-the-dark-tanker-fleet-part-ii-who-profits-from-these-sanctions-busting-ships-offshore-accounts>

STATEMENT BY IMO SECRETARY-GENERAL ON THE MV SOUNION

Following the recent attack on the MV Sounion in the Red Sea Mr. Arsenio Dominguez, Secretary-General of the International Maritime Organization (IMO) said:

“I am extremely concerned about the situation regarding the tanker MV Sounion which was targeted while transiting the Southern Red Sea. The tanker is carrying some 150,000 tonnes of oil on board, that is approximately one million barrels of crude oil. This is yet another unacceptable attack on international shipping,



putting the lives of innocent seafarers at risk. I am grateful to all those involved in the rescue efforts for ensuring the seafarers have now all been safely evacuated.

The risk of an oil spill, posing an extremely serious environmental hazard, remains high and there is widespread concern about the damage such a spill would cause within the region. IMO is in communication with national, regional and UN

entities, as well as other stakeholders regarding the ongoing incident, and we are ready to offer support. IMO / [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

BALTIC SEA: MAJOR INTL OIL SPILL RESPONSE EXERCISE KICKS OF IN THE BALTIC SEA

Balex Delta, the largest international oil spill response exercise, has started in the Baltic Sea and will be open for the public to observe."The largest pollution response exercise in the Baltic Sea this year has started today, which is special in the sense that it is taking place in Lithuania and the Lithuanian Naval Forces (Navy) is dedicating its search and rescue and pollution response vessel Sakiai," Giedrius Premeneckas, commander of Lithuania's Navy, was quoted as saying in the army's statement on Monday. [BalticTimes.com](https://www.baltictimes.com/) / [Read more](#)

SOUTH-EAST ASIA: LEVELS OF OIL SPILL PREPAREDNESS AND RESPONSE CAPABILITY

Geographically, Southeast Asia lies between the Indian and Pacific Oceans – south of China, east of India, west of Papua New Guinea and north of Australia. Politically, Southeast Asia consists eleven sovereign states. These are Brunei, Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, Timor-Leste and Viet Nam.

The level of oil spill preparedness varies and is summarised below. GISEA / [Continue reading](#)

ISCO NEWS

This week's newsletter contains articles received from three members of the ISCO Council – Dan Sheehan, Ed Levine and Carlos Sagreera.

NEWS FOR ISCO STUDENT MEMBERS

Brasil's IBAMA opens paid internship process for high school and higher education students. IBAMA / [Read more](#)

NEWS FROM AROUND THE WORLD

Availability of news is mostly based on news content and press releases received from websites of national environment agencies. If info is not posted on monitored website, it can be sent to the editor at info@spillcontrol.org

FINLAND: FINNISH VESSEL LOUHI JOINS OIL SPILL EXERCISE IN BALTIC SEA



August 27 - The Coastal Fleet's multipurpose vessel Louhi is taking part in the multinational Balex Delta 2024 environmental response exercise in the Baltic Sea from August 26 to August 29, said Finnish Defence Forces in a press release on Monday. The exercise is organized in Lithuania, in the port of Klaipeda and on the coast. Daily Finland / [Read more](#) [Photo courtesy of Finnish Defence Forces]

FINLAND: STATUS ASSESSMENT OF THE MARINE ENVIRONMENT: MINOR IMPROVEMENTS IN THE STATE OF SEA AREAS IN FINLAND, OVERALL PICTURE REMAINS POOR

August 28 - Finnish Environment Institute, Ministry of the Environment and Southwest Finland Centre for Economic Development, Transport and the Environment report about a new online publication: The status of the Baltic Sea remains predominantly poor. The effects of eutrophication in all sea areas disrupt biodiversity and the functioning of the food network. However, the harmful development may be reversing. [Stinfo.fi](https://stinfo.fi/) / [Read more](#)

GUYANA: WORKSHOP ON OIL SPILL CONTINGENCY PLANNING UNDERWAY



August 28 - A four-day workshop on oil spill contingency planning began yesterday, according to the Department of Public Information (DPI). The workshop, being held at the Guyana Police Force Headquarters, is being conducted by the Regional Activity Centre/Regional Marine Pollution Emergency, Information, and Training Centre for the Wider Caribbean Region (RAC/REMPEITC-Caribe). stabroeknews.com / [Read more](#) [Photo courtesy of Guyana Police]

LITHUANIA: ANNUAL OIL SPILL RESPONSE EXERCISE SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETED IN KLAIPEDA

August 29 - The annual HELCOM oil spill response exercise, BALEX DELTA 2024, reached its final day today in Klaipeda, Lithuania, the country which also holds the current Chairmanship of HELCOM from 1 July 2024 until June 2026. Three successful days of various rehearsals at sea, on the shore and at port have been completed in fine weather. Specially equipped ships and crews from Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Lithuania, Poland and Sweden took part in the drill at sea. [Helcom.fi](https://helcom.fi/) / [Read more](#)

LEBANON ENHANCES ITS READINESS FOR OIL SPILLS

August 24 - The International Maritime Organization (IMO) has reported that Lebanon's ability to tackle oil spills received a significant boost through a virtual IMO training event. The training focused on the critical importance of rapid response to oil pollution incidents. Held from 13 to 15 August, the OPRC Level 3 course brought together 21 senior managers and administrators who are key to Lebanon's oil spill response efforts. The course was organised by the Regional Marine Pollution Emergency Response Centre for the Mediterranean Sea (REMPEC), through IMO's Integrated Technical Cooperation Programme (ITCP). [Port Technology](#) / [Read more](#)

MEXICO: MEX30X30 PROJECT LAUNCHES WITH \$18.5 MILLION FOR BIODIVERSITY CONSERVATION

August 28 - The launch of a new \$18.5 million investment from the Global Environment Facility, the MEx30x30: Conserving Mexican Biodiversity Through Communities and Their Protected Areas project, will advance biodiversity conservation across Mexico. MEx30x30 aims to strengthen established protected areas and other conservation lands that are home to Indigenous Peoples and local communities to conserve, restore, and sustainably manage territories. Funded by the Global Biodiversity Framework Fund, the project is led by the National Commission of Natural Protected Areas (CONANP, in Spanish), in partnership with Conservation International and the Mexican Fund for the Conservation of Nature (FMCN, in Spanish). The GEF / [Read more](#)

MICRONESIA: EFFORT UNDERWAY TO REMOVE OIL FROM SUNKEN WWII SHIPS IN CHUUK LAGOON

August 29 - The US State Department has confirmed that work is ongoing to remove oil that had been leaking from sunken World War II-era ships in Chuuk Lagoon in the Federated States of Micronesia (FSM). The US State Department has confirmed that work is

ongoing to remove oil that had been leaking from sunken World War II-era ships in Chuuk Lagoon in the Federated States of Micronesia (FSM). The lagoon, then known as Truk, was once the site of a vital naval base that was in operation during the Japanese occupation of Micronesia. The base became a target of a two-day campaign of bombing raids by US Navy carrier-based aircraft in February 1944, which resulted in the sinking of 44 Japanese naval and merchant vessels. Baird Maritime / [Read more](#)

NIGERIA: HYREP PLANTS 810,000 SEEDLINGS TO RESTORE MANGROVE IN OGOINLAND

August 28 – According to a statement released by the Project, the mangrove restoration is still ongoing, with nine contractors currently engaged in planting efforts in Bomu, Gokana LGA. Guardian.ng / [Read more](#)

NORWAY: EQUINOR TO ESTABLISH NEW EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS SYSTEM IN BARENTS SEA

August 27 - [Equinor](#), in collaboration with Vår Energi, is set to implement a new area-wide emergency preparedness system for the southwestern [Barents Sea](#), scheduled to be operational starting on the first of next year. The initiative, approved by the Norwegian Ocean Industry Authority, aims to enhance safety and emergency response capabilities in the region. The new system will complement the existing emergency preparedness measures established by Vår Energi for the [Goliat](#) field, located in the Norwegian sector of the Barents Sea. It is designed to address the unique challenges of the region, including long distances, harsh weather conditions, and important natural resources. gCaptain / [Read more](#)

PALAU FLAG SUSPENDS RUSSIAN LNG ‘SHADOW’ FLEET SHIPS

August 27 - The Republic of Palau, an island nation in the Western Pacific, has temporarily suspended the registration of three liquefied natural gas carriers that were recently sanctioned by the US over [links to Russian gas exports](#). Authorities on the island, about 500 miles east of the Philippines, are investigating whether vessels violated sanctions through deceptive practices, the Palau International Ship Registry said in a statement Tuesday. The vessels — [Asya Energy](#), [Everest Energy](#) and [Pioneer](#) were [sanctioned](#) by the US Treasury’s Office of Foreign Assets Control on August 23. gCaptain / [Read more](#)

UK: AERIAL DISPERSANT SPRAY SERVICE - AUGUST UPDATE

August 26 - This update explains what stage the Aerial Dispersant Spray project is at and engagement activity that has been achieved to date. The selection questionnaire has now been released, more information is contained in the update. GovUK / [Read more](#)

UK: NEW FULL-FIBRE NETWORK ‘ENHANCING ABILITY TO RESPOND TO EMERGENCIES’



August 27 - A new communications network connecting 163 remote radio sites is now operational, ensuring HM Coastguard’s effective emergency response continues across the UK.

The first installations began in December 2020, with Bingley, Lee-on-the-Solent, Crystal Palace, Humber, Bridlington and Brighton Marina among the first sites switched to the new network. Stretching from the Shetland Islands to the Isles of Scilly, the updated infrastructure is now complete.

MCA / [Read more](#) [Photo courtesy of MCA]

USA: BIDEN-HARRIS ADMINISTRATION ANNOUNCES \$3.48 MILLION FOR TRIBES TO BUILD ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION CAPACITY

August 28 - Today, Aug. 26, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency announced the availability of approximately \$3.48 million for two, five-year cooperative agreements to build the capacity of Tribal governments to restore land for productive use and healthy communities, reduce waste, prevent environmental contamination and prepare for and respond to environmental emergencies in Indian country. EPA / [Read more](#)

USA: COAST GUARD URGES PREPAREDNESS FOR REMAINDER OF 2024 ATLANTIC HURRICANE SEASON

August 26 - The Coast Guard reminds mariners and residents of South Carolina, Georgia, Florida, Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands to remain vigilant and prepared for the remainder of the 2024 hurricane season. The Atlantic hurricane season runs from June 1 to Nov. 30, with the peak occurring between mid-August and late October. USCG / [Read more](#)

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.

NEW - POND, LAKE & RIVER PROTECTION - ENVIRO SKIMMER FROM VIKOMA

The Vikoma Enviro Skimmer is a weir skimmer working alongside a filtration system designed to recover floating nurdles, plastics as well as weed and grasses from shorelines, rivers, canals and ponds. Plastics pollution such as spilt nurdles are becoming an increasing global problem, as is duckweed and water fern growth. They can cover the entire surface of the water if not managed properly, blocking out light to submerged aquatic plants and reducing levels of oxygen in water which is a problem for fish and other wildlife. Vikona / [Read more](#)

INDIA'S LARGEST COMMERCIAL PORT OPERATOR CHOOSES LAMOR TO DESIGN AND DELIVER OIL SPILL RESPONSE TECHNOLOGY TO ITS LARGEST PORT

Adani Ports and SEZ Limited (APSEZ), India's largest commercial port operator, has partnered with Lamor to design and deliver oil spill response technology to its newest and largest port in Vizhinjam, Kerala, India. Stinfo / [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/>

REMOVAL OF ENVIRONMENTAL POLLUTANTS USING BIOCHAR: CURRENT STATUS AND EMERGING OPPORTUNITIES

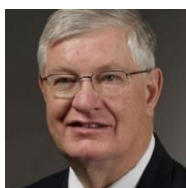
In recent times, biochar has emerged as a novel approach for environmental remediation due to its exceptional adsorption capacity, attributed to its porous structure formed by the pyrolysis of biomass at elevated temperatures in oxygen-restricted conditions. This characteristic has driven its widespread use in environmental remediation to remove pollutants. Researchgate / [Read more](#)

HYBRID GRAPHENIC AND IRON OXIDE PHOTOCATALYSTS FOR THE DECOMPOSITION OF SYNTHETIC CHEMICALS

Per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) are a group of synthetic chemicals that resist degradation, posing a significant environmental and health risk. Current methods for removing PFAS from water are often complex and costly. Here we report a simple, cost-effective method to synthesize an iron oxide/graphenic carbon (Fe/g-C) hybrid photocatalyst for PFAS degradation. Nature .com / [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/>

INTERESTING ARTICLES

IS SHIPPING READY TO DEAL WITH AN ALTERNATIVE FUEL VESSEL ACCIDENT?

An article from Seatrade Maritime News, authored by Marcus Hand and forwarded to your editor by Dan Sheehan, member of ISCO Council.

“These were some of the issues that speakers grappled with at the Nautical Institute (Singapore) Conference 2024 on Wednesday highlighting the differences in responding to an alternative fuelled casualty and the many unknowns in dealing with such types of incidents.

The recent spate of casualties with fires, explosions, collisions, and oil spills, have brought into focus the question of what would have happened if these incidents had involved alternative fuels.

Take the tragic incident in March this year where the container ship Dali lost power while sailing from the Port of Baltimore and collided with the Baltimore Key Bridge destroying it in seconds and leaving six dead. “If you think ships don’t lose power in today’s world you’re living in a fool’s paradise – ship’s lose power all the time,” said Mark Cameron, Managing Director (Asia) for Ardmore Shipping. “And that means in a future world where when we’re talking about a nice sustainable environment and everything is good and cosy, it’s great when things are going well, but when things go wrong what are we going to do?”

Responding to a hazardous spill - Responding to an alternative fuel spill will be very different to dealing with an oil spill both in terms of modus operandi and the equipment required.

David Campion, Senior Technical Advisor and Head of Singapore Office for ITOPF, said that dealing with an oil spill involves tried and tested equipment that has not changed much in 50 years, however, handling an alternative fuel spill would have much more in common with tackling one involving Hazardous Noxious Substances (HNS). “If you have an HNS spill, obviously, the capabilities are different. The equipment that people require is a lot more expensive. It needs a lot more testing in order to ensure that it’s still up to spec and ready to go into the environment. And the people that are using that equipment need to know how to use it properly and also understand the risks they’re walking into and make sure they have the right equipment for the potential pollutant. That’s not cheap, and that’s not easy to it to put in place,” Campion explained.

Capt Jeroen Mooji, Master Mariner and Operations Manager with SMIT APAC, said the company would still need the warehouses of equipment that they have today for handling a casualty involving an oil spill, but the equipment would be different for an alternative fuel spill. He said salvors would have to make a lot of additional investments in equipment and training.

Ammonia concerns - Ammonia given its high toxicity and future use as a fuel, as well as being carried as cargo, was both a focus and a source of contention in discussions. “On a personal level I will say I am not supporter of ammonia,” stated Cameron. “I know that ammonia is a big part of the conversation, but you’re talking about seafarer interests and seafarer safety, I myself cannot resign myself to understand that this is the solution. I absolutely understand its part of the mix and we’re going to be moving more ammonia around the world and we’re going to be burning more, but to me it’s the devil in disguise.”

Taking a different standpoint was **Ros Blazejczyk**, CEO of Solis Marine, said, “From our point of view at the moment we are of the opinion that ammonia is the only really valid option as a zero-carbon fuel for long haul [shipping has been involved on the design work for ammonia-fuel test vessel the **GREEN PIONEER** for Australian mining company Fortescue, however, **Blazejczyk** was clear that the company was “fuel agnostic” and working on projects for all types of alternative fuels.

Whatever individuals’ views are on ammonia-fuelled vessels were there was no argument that they are coming, and that leaves the question of how to respond to a casualty involving such a vessel.

Danger to human life -Whereas when responding to an oil spill the primary concern is to limit environmental damage, the nature of casualty involving ammonia, or another HNS type substance, is very different. The environmental impact is likely to be very short-lived, but the potential danger to human life is much higher. “With spills from alternative fuels and other HNS that changes the risk there is to human health and that is the foremost priority, and that’s really where the focus needs to be,” said ITOPF’s Campion.

The risk to human health changes how responders and salvors would approach a casualty involving an alternative a fuel such as ammonia. “If one of these alternative fuel cargoes escapes, they are extremely volatile, they’re going to be gone in a very, very short period of time, and it’s just about understanding what those consequences are going to be and trying to minimise the overall damage. I think what we need to be prepared to do in event of future incidents is ready to stand back and be able to watch it. And look at the scale of it and understand at what point it’s then safe to re-enter and try and ensure the stability of the situation,” Campion explained.

Speaking about responding to a casualty that had involved an ammonia cargo **Anuj Sahai**, Managing Director of T&T Salvage Asia, said it had taken around two weeks for salvage teams to board the vessel. Solis’ **Blazejczyk**, said, “I think it potentially changes the whole way we respond to casualties because that risk to the environment has largely disappeared, potentially, even by the time you’ve arrived at the vessel. You might end up with some highly localised effects on sea life but that’s probably the worst effect, aside from the potential risk to human life if you’re in the vicinity of populated areas.”

The latter issue of the impact alternative fuel spills close to shore in the vicinity of populated areas was not an issue that was really addressed during the conference. The question was asked from the audience what would have happened if the 14 June collision between dredger **VOX MAXIMA** and bunker tanker **MARINA HONOUR** at Pasir Panjang Terminal, Singapore resulting a 400-tonne bunker spill had involved an ammonia bunker tanker, but went it largely unanswered. The location of the collision is close to populated areas.

While there are huge unknowns around an alternative fuel casualty much of what we are seeing at the moment in terms of planning for alternative fuels and safety relates to tests around equipment and bunkering procedures rather than a major casualty event. “I think most of the risk assessments right now are, ‘What if a hose bursts?’ or ‘What if a pump fails?’, but what

if there's a bulbous bow sticking through your bunker room? Those are the scenarios, those are the risks that I think are not being addressed," commented Mooji from SMIT. **Source : Seatrade Maritime News**

WORKSHOP 1: GULF-ALASKA KNOWLEDGE EXCHANGE: EVALUATING SOCIO-ECONOMIC IMPACTS OF OIL SPILLS, ADVANCING TRANSFORMATIVE RECOVERY, AND ENHANCING PROACTIVE PREPAREDNESS

An article contributed by Ed Levine, Member of ISCO Council

The Gulf-Alaska Knowledge Exchange Workshop series will hold its first of three workshops in Anchorage on October 8th and 9th in the William A. Egan Civic and Convention Center. The workshop will focus on understanding the socio-economic impacts of oil spills for the fishing industry, the need for community-driven science, and ways to increase proactive preparedness for future disasters by building community capacity in these regions. A diversity of speakers representing science, community organizations, agencies, and Tribes will provide context for the rich discussion by all participants in the workshop. Participation is open to all interested parties, and there will be a virtual attendance option. Following panel discussions by invited speakers, all interested parties are welcome to participate in breakout group discussions.

Workshop Objectives:

1. Generate avenues for the exchange of ideas and experiences between various groups of people (i.e., community members, academics, government officials, resource managers, etc.) in the Gulf of Mexico and Gulf of Alaska regions.
2. Share lessons learned and remaining knowledge gaps around oil spill response, recovery, and preparation for vulnerable regions based on experience gained from the Exxon Valdez and Deepwater Horizon oil spills.
3. Foster relationships between community members in the Gulf of Mexico and Alaska regions to bolster community resilience and be better prepared for future oil spills, climate change, and/or other disasters.

Upcoming Workshop Details:

- Workshop #2: Thibodaux, LA in December 2024
- Workshop #3: Washington, D.C. in February 2025

Additional information and registration may be found at the NASEM website: https://www.nationalacademies.org/event/43490_10-2024_workshop-1-gulf-alaska-knowledge-exchange-evaluating-socio-economic-impacts-of-oil-spills-advancing-transformative-recovery-and-enhancing-proactive-preparedness

ISCO'S PARTICIPATION AS SUPPORTING ORGANISATION IN THE XX MARITIME OIL AND MONOBUOY TERMINAL OPERATORS' CONFERENCE. SLOM: CELEBRATING 20 YEARS OF SUCCESSFUL INTEGRATION IN THE OIL INDUSTRY

An article forwarded by Carolos Sagrea, ISCO Representative in Latin America and Member of ISCO Council



The Latin American Society of Marine Oil and Monobuoy Terminal Operators- SLOM, is once again organising in Latin America the XX Conference of Marine Oil and Monobuoy Terminal Operators, which will take place on 11,12 and 13 September 2024, at the Hotel Enjoy Punta del Este – Uruguay (<https://www.jornadaoperadores.slom.co/en>). The ISCO Representation in Latin America supports this event with SLOM in the framework of the MOU signed in 2023 during the XIX SLOM Conference in Rio de Janeiro (ISCO Newsletter N°903 - October 2023) and it is considered one of the most prestigious in the region due to the quality and level of the participants.

Read the complete text of this article by Captain José Perdomo at <https://spillcontrol.org/2024/08/30/iscos-participation-as-supporting-organisation-in-the-xx-maritime-oil-and-monobuoy-terminal-operators-conference-slom-celebrating-20-years-of-successful-integration-in-the-oil-industry/>. The article is also published in the Spanish-Portuguese Section of the ISCO webpage <https://spillcontrol.org/latin-america-spanish-portuguese-languages/>.

INTERESTING NEW PRODUCT

THIS STARTUP FLOATS A BIOMIMETIC SOLUTION TO MICROPLASTIC POLLUTION

PolyGone Systems has developed the world's first portable, affordable, low-maintenance microplastic collection device — aiming to help restore the health of waterways and marine life worldwide. Liu and Banks developed the Plastic Hunter — a modular, affordable flotation frame that monitors, collects and removes microplastic debris from rivers and lakes. It uses arrays of biomimetic artificial root filters, made from hydrophobic silicone fibers that mimic aquatic plant roots, to effectively trap microplastics without disturbing ecosystems. Sustainabilitybrands.com / [Read more](#)

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](#)
- USA – National Academies - Gulf-Alaska Knowledge Exchange Workshop, October 8-9 2024, Anchorage, Alaska. [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 [More info](#)
- ITALY - ECOMONDO Conference and Exhibition, Rimini, 5-8 November 2024 [More info](#)
- CHINA – 8th East Asian Seas Congress, Xiamen, 6-8 November 2024 <https://eascongress2024.pemsea.org/>
- TURKIYE – Regional Workshop – “Oil Spill Preparedness and Response – Commitment and Synergy”, being held in co-operation with ISCO Member, MEKE Marine, in Istanbul from 12-14 November 2024. [More info](#)
- USA - Industry Technical Advisory Committee (ITAC) - Fort Lauderdale, FL, USA, 13-15 November 2024 [More info](#)
- USA – Clean Gulf Conference & Exhibition – 18-20 November 2024 Houston, TX – [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 send 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](#)
- ExxonMobil Oil Spill Response Knowledge Transfer Webinar Series – Webinar 25 - “Learnings from API's Dispersant Workshop” September 25th from 10am to 11:30am Eastern Time. For more details, the agenda and how to join please send an email to – Kelly.m.mcfarlin@exxonmobil.com

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/>

UPDATES FROM EVENT ORGANISERS

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

USA: CLEAN GULF CONFERENCE & EXHIBITION 2024NS

November 18-20, 2024 George R. Brown Convention Center | 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 –** [RECENT CONFERENCE REGISTRATIONS](#) [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

PEMSEA E-BULLETIN <https://mailchi.mp/pemsea/ebulletin-august?e=196100a0ff>

IIPECA SUSTAINABILITY ROUND-UP <https://mailchi.mp/iipeca/sustainability-article-round-up-august-2024?e=95ec356fd3>



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RED SEA (CONTINUED)

August 25 - Burning Tanker in Red Sea Threatens Disaster Worse Than Exxon Valdez - The Maritime Executive / [Read more](#)



Above: Three simultaneous detonations occur at evenly-spaced locations on Sounion's main deck (Courtesy Houthi Military Media)

August 26 - Red Sea, Aspides: active fires on the Sounion, so far no sign of an oil spill – Agenzianova / [Read more](#)

August 26 - Stricken suezmax off Yemen now an 'imminent' environmental hazard – Splash247 / [Read more](#)

August 27 - Pentagon: Sounion Appears to Be Leaking After Houthis Threatened Salvors – The Maritime Executive / [Read more](#)

August 28 - Update: Houthis to Permit Salvage Attempt for Tanker Burning in Red Sea – The Maritime Executive / [Read more](#)

August 29 - Houthis to allow access to stricken Red Sea tanker amid fears of huge oil spill – The Guardian / [Read more](#)

August 30 - Houthis Release Propaganda Video Showing Multiple Attacks on Sounion – The Maritime Executive / [Read more](#)



Above - Screen shot from Houthi propaganda video (With acknowledgement to The Maritime Executive)

August 30 – Red Sea oil spill fears recede after Houthis allow salvage of Greek tanker. Hellenic Shipping News / [Read more](#)

August 30 - Race to Prevent Disastrous Spill From Burning Red Sea Tanker. Asia Financial / [Read more](#)

August 30 - Salvage of Stricken Oil Tanker in Red Sea Expected in Coming Days, Sources Say. Insurance Journal / [Read more](#)

THAILAND: OIL SPILL CONTAMINATES THREE SATTAHIP BEACHES, AUTHORITIES RESPOND SWIFTLY

August 25 - Reports indicate that Hat Yao Thung Prong Beach has been contaminated by tar balls over a 200-meter stretch. Bang Saray Beach has been affected over a smaller area of 50 meters, while Sai Kaew Beach has experienced the most extensive impact, with oil stains and tar balls detected along a 450-meter stretch. Pattayamail / [Read more](#)

SOUTH AFRICA: 'ULTRA GALAXY' SALVAGE IN SOUTH AFRICA MOVES TO WRECK REMOVAL

August 27 - The South African Maritime Safety Authority (SAMSA) has reported that the salvage operation for the Panama-flagged general cargo ship, MV Ultra Galaxy, grounded on South Africa's west coast, has shifted to removing the wreck as soon as possible. gCaptain / [Read more](#)

August 26 - South Africa Winds Down Cleanup Opening Tender to Remove Ultra Galaxy Wreck - The cleanup operation to remove oil and debris from the grounded bulker Ultra Galaxy is winding down while a tender was issued for the removal of the remains of the vessel. The Maritime Executive / [Read more](#)

UK: STRETCHES OF CANAL AFFECTED BY CYANIDE SPILL REOPEN AFTER SAFETY TESTS

August 27 - More than 11 miles of a canal network which was closed after a major chemical spill has reopened after testing showed water quality is within safety guidelines. MSN / [Read more](#)

CHINA: HONG KONG – BUNKERING OPERATION ON CONTAINERSHIP CAUSES OIL SPILL

August 26 – Parts of Hong Kong's Kwai Tsing Container Terminals remain closed for clean-up operations after an oil spillage occurred on the night of 20th August, reports Container News. Mfame.guru / [Read more](#)

VENEZUELA (CONTINUED)

August 29 – Updates received from Carlos Sagrera, ISCO Representative for Latin America



Above – Satellite Photo and other photos showing impacts

Unfortunately there is still no reaction from the authorities in Venezuela and PDVSA regarding this ongoing spill. The silence of the Venezuelan government and PDVSA on the ongoing oil spill off the coasts of Carabobo and Falcón state continues. Two weeks after the first reports of the PDVSA spill at the El Palitorefinary in Puerto Cabello, which has affected the Gulf of Triste and the Morrocoy National Park (ISCO Newsletters N° 951 & 952– August 2024), the silence and inaction of the authorities continues and it is only possible to obtain records from NGOs and those affected through social media alerting about the situation. They indicate that the spill would have occurred exactly in a Canal of Planta Centro in Morón, although all without official confirmation and the bad news does not serve the regime and adds more rejection. In the midst of the political turmoil that exists in Venezuela, ministerial changes have been made at the level of those responsible for the oil industry in the Chavista regime, and this surely prevents decisions from being taken to control the spill, which at this point is inexplicable and, due to its environmental and socio-economic effects, is even more irresponsible. Attached are Venezuelan links taken from social media and photos of impacts

<https://www.lapatilla.com/2024/08/25/derrame-de-crudo-se-expande-mas-alla-de-playas-de-choroni-en-aragua-alerta-experto/>
<https://www.vozdeamerica.com/a/las-secuelas-del-derrame-de-petroleo-en-una-zona-costera-de-venezuela/7759750.html>
<https://correodelcaroni.com/sociedad/ambiente/ambientalistas-exigen-a-pdvsa-responder-por-derrame-petroleo-en-boca-de-aroa/>

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