



ISCO NEWSLETTER

The Newsletter of the International Spill Response Community

Issue 252 4th October, 2010

Email info@spillcontrol.org Web <http://www.spillcontrol.org>

North America's Largest Oil Spill Training Event & Exhibition
October 19-20 | Tampa Convention Center | Tampa, FL

Register Today

FLEMING GULF CONFERENCES
6th Annual HSE Forum in Oil, Gas & Petrochemicals
25th - 27th October 2010, Doha, Qatar

USA: STATEMENT FROM ADMIRAL ALLEN ON THE TRANSFER OF OVERSIGHT RESPONSIBILITIES ...



October 1, 2010 - "Today the National Incident Command is disestablished and I have transferred oversight of the BP oil spill response to Rear Admiral Paul Zukunft, the Unified Area Commander, in New Orleans. Response operations will continue under transition plans that have developed with our state and local partners. Unity of effort must continue to be our common goal. Our commitment to this response and the people of the Gulf of Mexico remains and I am pleased that Rear Admiral Zukunft will continue his dedicated service. This response has been unprecedented in its scope and complexity and we cannot forget the 11 crew members that lost their lives. As I transition to a new phase of my professional life, I want to thank the thousands of individuals from all levels of government, local communities and

organizations, and the private sector who worked tirelessly to contain the discharge, shut in the well, clean up the oil and mitigate the impacts of the spill. It has been my honor to have served with them."

... AND FROM SECRETARY NAPOLITANO

"I thank Admiral Thad Allen for his dedicated service to our country, and commend his strong leadership throughout the BP oil spill response as well as his exceptional service as Commandant of the U.S. Coast Guard, a key part of the Department of Homeland Security. The BP oil spill presented unique challenges and required an aggressive, all-of-government approach. As the National Incident Commander, Admiral Allen drew on his experience with major response efforts as well as his long career in the Coast Guard to help direct the aggressive efforts to stop the flow of oil from the Macondo well, mitigate the impacts of the spill on vital coastal areas, and hold the responsible party accountable. I wish him all the best in retirement and his next endeavors."

TURKEY: INTERNATIONAL BLACK SEA ACTION DAY – SPECIAL ACTIVITIES

This year International Black Sea Action Day will be celebrated with activities to be held on 31 October – 2 November in Trabzon, Turkey.

The Black Sea countries – Bulgaria, Georgia, Romania, the Russian Federation, Turkey and Ukraine, signed the Convention on the Protection of the Black Sea Against Pollution (Bucharest Convention) on 21 April 1992 and Black Sea Strategic Action Plan on 31 October 1996.

October 31 has been celebrated as the “International Black Sea Action Day” by the Black Sea countries every year since 1996. The event is a regional activity designed to raise public awareness of the need for regional co-operation necessary for protection of the Black Sea. It is celebrated in six riparian countries simultaneously.

This year the event will include several panels, the Black Sea Medal Award Ceremony, launch of the Black Sea Box education kit, photo exhibitions and other cultural activities.

ISCO will be represented at the event by M. Kerem Kemerli, Member of ISCO Council for Turkey. For more information about the activities please contact Mr. Mesut Senol by email at resilient.mesut@gmail.com

INDIA: MUMBAI INCIDENT – REPORT RECEIVED FROM ISCO MEMBER, BRIGGS ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES LTD. (BESL)



Saturday 7th of August 2010 the bulk cargo vessel MV Khalijia collided with the container vessel MSC Chitra off Mumbai India spilling an estimated 800 tonnes of oil and 400 containers into the sea.

SMIT has been awarded the salvage of the grounded MSC Chitra and Briggs Environmental has been contracted as oil spill technical advisors to SMIT. Captain Bill Boyle and George Ross of Briggs Environmental Services have flown out to Mumbai. Briggs has also despatched oil spill response equipment from their

Aberdeen base and specialised equipment from Norway.

In the picture: Captain Bill Boyle & George Ross working on the MSC Chitra Mumbai soon after their return from the Deepwater Horizon Incident in the Gulf of Mexico

Thanks to ISCO Member of Council, Captain Bill Boyle, for sending in this report.

The ISCO Newsletter welcomes news sent in by members of the organization. Stories should be sent to the Editor at john.mcmurtrie@spillcontrol.org



USA: URGENT NEED TO ENHANCE PREPAREDNESS FOR DOMESTIC DISASTERS

A panel of retired senior U.S. military officers, former members of Congress, National Guard generals and academics with expertise in responding to domestic disasters have completed a report for Congress and the secretary of defense that details how defense officials can better support the nation’s response to a major disaster on United States soil.

The congressionally mandated panel, supported by staff from the RAND Corp., told lawmakers and the secretary that the United States has an urgent need to implement changes in the way the Department of Defense plans for and would respond to a chemical, biological, radiological, nuclear or high-yield explosive (CBRNE) incident.

In all, the report provides more than 40 recommendations for the president, Congress, the secretary of defense, other federal cabinet secretaries and governors about how to overcome obstacles that complicate the nation’s ability to respond effectively to CBRNE incidents. Read more: http://ehstoday.com/fire_emergencyresponse/fire/urgent-need-enhance-preparedness-domestic-disasters-0654/

USA: OIL SPILL RESPONSE CHIEF CALLS FOR THIRD PARTY TO MANAGE FUTURE DISASTERS



Retired Coast Guard Adm. Thad Allen, the government's point man on the BP oil spill, testifies before a special commission looking into the disaster. (Hyungwon Kang, Reuters / September 28, 2010)

Retired Coast Guard [Adm. Thad Allen](#), commander of the federal response to the [BP oil spill](#) in the Gulf of Mexico, called Monday for creation of an independent third party to oversee containment and cleanup of future spills instead of leaving the job to the government.

Allen told members of President Obama's commission investigating the spill that the public mistrusted the way [BP](#) and the government handled the disaster and that an independent expert would reduce concerns about conflicts of interest.

He said his recommendation does not reflect a lack of confidence in the ability of the Coast Guard or other federal agencies to respond to such incidents.

In testimony to the National Commission on the BP Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill, Allen said he did not think BP had shirked its responsibilities. Yet despite the large scale of the cleanup effort and BP's pledges to make amends, the public largely believed the response system was broken.

"The reason, I believe, we may want to consider an independent, qualified individual is largely due to the perception of the American people and our political leaders that this is not working," Allen said. "And if the perception is that strong, we just [should] try to do something about it."

The Clean Water Act allows the federal government to clean up a spill on its own or have the responsible party, in this case BP, participate, said Joshua Force, an adjunct lecturer at Tulane University Law School and an attorney with Sher Garner Cahill Richter Klein & Hilbert.

But Force said that when the polluter plays a key role in the response, it inherently raises questions about a conflict of interest. "Are they doing it the best way or the cheapest way?" he said.

In his comments, Allen proposed an entity that "would represent the industry, oversee the response, have access to the resources, but basically would be firewalled from any fiduciary link back to the shareholders — almost putting the resources in trust and having them executed by an industry expert." Read more: <http://www.chicagotribune.com/news/nationworld/la-na-oil-spill-20100928,0,3026244.story>

QATAR: 6th ANNUAL HSE FORUM IN OIL, GAS AND PETROCHEMICALS

ISCO has responded positively to a recent request to give its support to this event and, by way of reciprocation, a 20% discount on the registration fee is being made available to ISCO members attending the forum which takes place in Doha over 25 to 27 October, 2010.

With recent oil spill incidents taking toll on environment, industry professionals should be more proactive than reactive towards such incident – the industry does not need a spill to happen to learn lessons from it. Creating a culture of preparedness/ prevention and learning from past incidents to gain a foothold in the future is what the industry should be striving for.

At 6th Annual HSE Forum in Oil, Gas & Petrochemicals, a panel composed of regional and international Oil Spill Response Experts will share their first hand experience in Oil Spill Prevention and Response with special spotlight on Fear, Facts & Realities

Panel members include : Matthew Sommerville, Aramco Overseas Company B.V., Regional Oil Spill Response Coordinator; Rajab Ali Askanani, Qatar Petroleum, Manager Oil Spill & Emergency Response Department; Captain Musaed Salman, Kuwait Petroleum Corporation Team Leader OSR, Environment & Oil Spill Response Department; Richard Sims, Oil Spill Response, Regional Manager and Eric Eaglin, Environmental Engineer/ Expert. For more information and to register for the conference, visit the website at <http://www.fleminggulf.com/featured-events/6th-annual-hse-forum-in-oil-gas-petrochemicals-welcome-to-6th-annual-hse-forum>

USA: INITIAL CLEANUP OF MICHIGAN OIL SPILL COMPLETED

Initial cleanup of southwestern Michigan waterways and riverbanks from a July oil spill has been completed and most of the 820,000 gallons that leaked from a ruptured pipeline recovered, officials said Thursday.

Crews continue removing contaminated sediments from the Kalamazoo River bottom and searching out isolated pockets of oil onshore. But the operation is shifting from mopping up oil to a long-range project to restore the area to its pre-spill condition.

"The ultimate goal is to remove all oil from the environment," said Mark Durno, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's deputy incident commander. But authorities are leaving some to degrade naturally in sensitive wetlands where cleanup efforts could do more harm than good, he said. Read the complete report at:

<http://www.google.com/hostednews/ap/article/ALeqM5hbazNv8HPBELUpCXxcRQmCxaO3DgD9IIHKJG1?docId=D9IIHKJG1>

UK: AT SEA WITH THE PARTICLE HUNTERS



BBC Scotland reporter Craig Anderson joined a team recovering radioactive particles flushed into the sea from the Dounreay nuclear site on the Caithness coast. It is the £800,000 underwater robot that's cleaning up the seabed around the Dounreay nuclear plant.

"I had expected to be met with something like a cute yellow submarine but this remotely operated vehicle (ROV) is far from that".

The purpose-built buggy runs on caterpillar tracks over the seabed beneath the Pentland Firth and bristles with high-tech cameras, lights, locator devices and the all-important radiation detectors. All of this crammed into a steel frame the size of a small van.

The task of the ROV and the 20 crew who live aboard the mothership barge, the LM Constructor, is to scour the seabed for radioactive hot spots and retrieve them. Much of the technology is derived from the North Sea oil industry and this is a round-the-clock exercise, according to marine supervisor Dave Brierley. He said: "The machine travels in straight lines up and down the seabed. Once you've detected a particle we locate the auger over the front of it and we turn the pumps on and that pumps all the sand including the particle up and into the tanks on the back."

The particles of Caesium 137 are filings from nuclear fuel rods reprocessed at Dounreay during the 1960s and 1970s. Read more: <http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-scotland-highlands-islands-11447084>

FREE LIVE WEBCAST – GULF OIL SPILL – REAL LESSONS LEARNED SO FAR

October 19, 2010, 9.00 am to 11.30 am EST. This webinar is free of charge thanks to the generous sponsorship from the Response Group. The webinar will be broadcasted live from the Clean Gulf Conference and Exhibition on October 19. For more information and registration, go to <http://video.webcasts.com/events/pmny001/viewer/index.jsp?eventid=36233>

USA: CLEAN GULF – KEYNOTE SPEAKERS ANNOUNCED

CLEAN GULF, the largest oil spill training event and exhibition in North America, announced today three new keynote speakers. Michael J. Utsler, COO, BP Gulf Coast Restoration Organization; Rear Admiral Mary E. Landry, US Coast Guard, and Walter D. Cruickshank, Ph.D., Deputy Director, Bureau of Ocean Energy Management, Regulation and Enforcement (BOEMRE), will deliver keynote presentations on Tuesday, October 19, 2010, at 8:00 – 9:00am. The 20th Annual CLEAN GULF is scheduled for October 19 – 20 at the Tampa Convention Center in Florida. More info and speaker profiles at: <http://www.businesswire.com/news/home/20100930006658/en/BP-Gulf-Coast-Restoration-Organization-COO-Michael>

EVTN TO SHOWCASE SUBMERSIBLE VORAXIAL® FOR EFFECTIVE OIL SPILL RECOVERY AT CLEAN GULF 2010

September 30 - Enviro Voraxial Technology, Inc. announced today that the Company will demonstrate its new Submersible Voraxial® Separator at the upcoming Clean Gulf Training and Exhibition on October 19-20 in Tampa, Florida. The Submersible Voraxial® is the core technology for a fleet of advanced oil skimmer/processor boats, envisioned by EVTN. The company claims that these Voraxial equipped vessels will have the capacity to effectively contain and clean major oil spills. This capability is not demonstrated by equipment currently available for responding to major oil spills.

During the two day event, EVTN will meet with major oil and gas companies, government agencies and oil spill response companies from around the globe. "Equipping a fleet of skimming vessels with the Submersible Voraxial will capture 10x more oil and increase oil skimming efficiency by 90% when compared to current methods. Clean Gulf 2010 provides us with an opportunity to meet with more customers and further demonstrate the advantages of the Voraxial," stated John A. Di Bella, COO for EVTN.

EVTN will display its Submersible Voraxial® 4000 Separator, the same model included in BP's RAT (Rapid Attack Team) Pack program for the Gulf oil spill. The RAT Pack is "a fleet of local commercial, shallow draft, nimble and fast moving vessels operating under the Vessels of Opportunity program" able to quickly respond to oil spills close to shore or in open seas. The Submersible Voraxial® design is the only oil-water separator that can operate in the water to treat oil slicks. Further, the Submersible Voraxial® can be lowered deep into the ocean to treat underwater oil spills and oil plumes. This technology is light weight, compact and energy efficient enabling skimming vessels to treat oil spills in open seas or close to shore, shallow waters. A fleet of skimming vessels equipped with the Submersible Voraxial can help protect against another major oil spill.

The company claims that Utilizing the Voraxial® Separator enables the skimming vessels to be 90% more efficient, capture 10 times more oil and clean the spill 10 times faster than conventional methods. As opposed to conventional oil spill recovery operations which require the skimmed oil/water mixture to be transferred from the ocean onto the vessel for oil-water separation, the Submersible Voraxial® performs oil-water separation in the ocean.

The Submersible Voraxial is available in different sizes. The largest model, the Voraxial 8000 Separator, processes up to 7,000,000 gallons per day. The Voraxial 2000 and Voraxial 4000 processes up to 70,000 and 700,000 GPD, respectively. Read more: <http://www.prnewswire.com/news-releases/evtn-to-showcase-submersible-voraxial-for-effective-oil-spill-recovery-at-clean-gulf-2010-104078568.html>

USA EPA: OCTOBER 2010 ISSUE OF TECHDIRECT

TechDirect's purpose is to identify new technical, policy and guidance resources related to the assessment and remediation of contaminated soil, sediments and ground water. You can download and read the latest issue at <http://www.clu-in.org:80/techdirect/td102010.htm>

SEACOR APPOINTS OIVIND LORENTZEN AS CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER WITH CHARLES FABRIKANT TO REMAIN EXECUTIVE CHAIRMAN

SEACOR Holdings Inc. has announced that its Board of Directors appointed Oivind Lorentzen as Chief Executive Officer with Charles Fabrikant to remain executive Chairman of the Board of Directors. Mr. Fabrikant, who will remain active in all aspects of the Company's business, said, "I am extremely pleased and excited to have the opportunity to share executive responsibilities with Oivind, whose vast experience and background in shipping and industrial businesses, particularly in South America, will enhance our vision and business opportunities worldwide. Oivind's experience will further enable SEACOR to capitalize on our diverse portfolio of businesses, strong balance sheet and global presence." Mr. Lorentzen has been the President of Northern Navigation America, Inc., an investment management and ship-owning agency company concentrating in specialized marine transportation and ship finance since 1990. He is Chairman of the Audit Committee of Genessee & Wyoming Inc., an owner and operator of short line and regional freight railroads, and a director of Blue Danube, Inc., an inland marine service provider. For more info visit: <http://www.seacorholdings.com>

Legal disclaimer: Whilst ISCO takes every care to ensure that information published in this Newsletter is accurate unintentional mistakes can occur. If an error is brought to our attention, a correction will be printed in the next issue of this Newsletter.