ISCO NEWSLETTER

The Newsletter of the International Spill Response Community

Issue 290, 27 June 2011

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ISCO aims to raise worldwide preparedness and co-operation in response to oil and chemical spills, to promote technical development and professional competency, and to provide a focus for making the knowledge and experience of spill control professionals available to IMO, UNEP, EC and other organisations.

Application Form

News

RUSSIA'S PUTIN WANTS OFFSHORE OIL SPILL FUNDS

June 22 - Russian Prime Minister Vladimir Putin gave his backing on Wednesday to a bill that would require oil companies seeking offshore exploration licences to set aside financial reserves that would be used in event of an oil spill.

Putin told a government meeting that the bill, if approved by the parliament, would only allow those companies with "sufficient resources and (financial) reserves" to work on the shelf.

Russia is one of many oil producing countries looking to tighten safety regulation in the aftermath of last year's disaster at BP's (BP.L) deep-water Macondo well when 5 million barrels of oil spilled into the Gulf of Mexico.

The law will apply to all offshore zones on Russia's continental shelf including Arctic waters, which hold Russia's largest untapped oil and gas reserves.

Only state-controlled energy companies Rosneft (ROSN.MM) and Gazprom (GAZP.MM) can obtain Arctic shelf licenses, but because neither company has sufficient technological expertise or offshore experience to develop complex offshore projects, they are in partnership talks with foreign companies. Read more

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USA: 75 PERCENT OF NUKE SITES HAVE LEAKED TRITIUM

Radioactive tritium has leaked from three-quarters of U.S. commercial nuclear power sites, often into groundwater from corroded, buried piping, an Associated Press investigation shows.

The number and severity of the leaks has been escalating, even as federal regulators extend the licenses of more and more reactors across the nation.

Tritium, which is a radioactive form of hydrogen, has leaked from at least 48 of 65 sites, according to U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission records reviewed as part of the AP's yearlong examination of safety issues at aging nuclear power plants. Leaks from at least 37 of those facilities contained concentrations exceeding the federal drinking water standard - sometimes at hundreds of times the limit.

While most leaks have been found within plant boundaries, some have migrated offsite. But none is known to have reached public water supplies. Read more

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MACONDO WELL INCIDENT: TRANSOCEAN INTERNAL INVESTIGATION

Transocean has released a two volume report on its internal investigation into the Macondo Oil Well incident. You can access the complete report or individual chapters, also the appendices, video summaries and references. Access report

A related article in the New York Times of June 23 comments - Transocean, the Swiss company that owned the rig lost in last year's oil spill in the Gulf of Mexico, issued an extensive report on the disaster on Wednesday that largely blames BP the well's owner

The conclusions of the 854-page, two-volume report may not be particularly surprising, considering the enormous liability in civil lawsuits and possible federal criminal charges.

The report does attribute some errors to Transocean, but the “incident,” it states, was caused by “a succession of interrelated well design, construction and temporary abandonment decisions that compromised the integrity of the well and compounded the risk of failure.”

Temporary abandonment is the process of plugging the well after the initial drilling so that new equipment can be brought in to complete the well in order for production to begin; the report states that BP engineers produced at least five such plans for the well from April 12 to April 20, the day of the blast.

All of those decisions, “many made by the operator, BP, in the two weeks leading up to the incident,” were “driven by BP’s knowledge that the geological window for safe drilling was becoming increasingly narrow.” Halliburton, which was in charge of the operation to seal off the well, did not properly test the cement used in that process, and BP did not verify the results, according to the Transocean report.

The report stated it did not “represent the legal position of Transocean, nor does it attempt to assign legal responsibility or fault,” a statement that was greeted with seeming incredulity by a spokesman for BP. Read more

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JAPAN: PANEL WON'T SEEK BLAME IN NUCLEAR ACCIDENT

The Japanese scholar leading the probe into the Fukushima Daiichi nuclear power-plant crisis said he would focus on fact-finding and prevention rather than on laying blame for the accident, and dismissed criticism that the effort lacked teeth.

"Everyone makes mistakes," wrote Yotaro Hatamura, who heads the new government-appointed committee investigating the continuing disaster, in a guest book for the Japan National Press Club, where he then held a news conference Wednesday. His note was read by the conference moderator. "We must caution ourselves against making mistakes but we also have to be generous with people about their mistakes." Read more (subscription required)

CANADA MOVES TO BLOCK LISTING OF ASBESTOS AS 'HAZARDOUS'

Claude Lortie, a supervisor at the site of Mine Jeffrey Inc., looks at the 2.5 kilometre-wide asbestos mining pit, in the town of Asbestos, Que., in April 2010. The Canadian government has signalled Wednesday that it intends to oppose limits to chrysotile asbestos export. Photograph by: Dario Ayala, Montreal Gazette

June 22 - Canada told the world Wednesday it opposes placing limits on the export of chrysotile asbestos — a "bombshell" expected to derail international efforts to list the mineral as hazardous.

The head of the Canadian delegation at a United Nations summit in Geneva made the statement late Wednesday after a consensus was emerging to label the known carcinogen mined in Quebec as hazardous.

If chrysotile asbestos is listed on Annex III of the United Nations' Rotterdam Convention, "Prior Informed Consent" would be required before countries could export the mineral. After being informed of the hazards, developing countries that import asbestos could refuse to accept the potentially cancer-causing material if they believe they could not handle it safely.

Until Wednesday's declaration, the Canadian delegation had remained silent — fuelling speculation from anti-asbestos campaigners that Canada was letting a handful of other countries do its "dirty work."

The stunning development — confirmed by the UN Environment Program and characterized by the Montreal-based Chrysotile Institute as a "bombshell" — appeared to contradict statements made by Natural Resources Minister Joe Oliver just a day earlier, when he told reporters in Ottawa that the question of Canada's position was "moot" because four other countries — Vietnam, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan and Ukraine — had already spoken up against the listing. Under convention protocol, unless consensus among countries is achieved, chrysotile asbestos remains off Annex III. The UN meeting ends Friday. Read more

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FINLAND: SÖKÖ II PROJECT COMPLETED, SHORELINE CLEAN-UP MANUAL PUBLISHED

ISCO Member, Melinda Pascale of the Kymenlaakso University of Applied Sciences has written to advise "we have reached all the goals for our SÖKÖ II project, and have published a 750 page manual". (Currently available in Finnish language only).

The SOKO project is a joint development program for shoreline response to worst case oil spill.

The SOKO project is led by a university of applied sciences research team that develops regionally tailored on-shore oil recovery operations. The results of the project are presented in regional guidebooks achieved as a joint effort between oil combating authorities, educational institutes, civic organisations and businesses. The SOKO action plan is a complementary study to the regional and national statutory contingency plans for the worst case oil spill scenario (30 000 tons in the Gulf of Finland). The main result, comprehensive guidebooks, are a collection of studies undertaken mainly by further education students and specialists under the supervision of the project steering group composed of oil combating authorities. The guidebooks are used as action plans and manuals for the response commander as well as for training both authorities and volunteers. The first guidebook was accomplished in 2007 for the eastern Regional Rescue Service of Finland (Kymenlaakso). Three new guidebooks are to be produced by the year 2011 including regional updates and new topics.

GHANA: GCLME COUNTRIES SEEK REGIONAL POLICY ON USE OF OIL DISPERSANTS

Accra, **22** June – Reach back momentarily to 1989 and the Exxon Valdez tanker oil spill. The disaster alerted the world to possible future accidents of this nature. Since then there have been many more, the most recent and significant of which was the 2010 Deepwater Horizon accident in the Gulf of Mexico.

These spills attracted extensive worldwide media attention, no doubt partly due of their shock value. Not so the long-time scourge of oil pollution in Nigeria's Niger Delta, a vast network of creeks and mangroves that forms part of the Guinea Current Large Marine Ecosystem. Residents in the Delta's labyrinth of creeks have been enduring the effects of oil spills for decades. Their plight has attracted far less glaring media attention, and then usually only riding on the back of stories about the armed rebellion and kidnapping of oil workers in the area.

The Niger Delta, Angola's Cabinda Province and Port Gentil, Gabon's second city, host some of Africa's largest oil field and are prone to sill. Some oil spills in the Niger Delta have been accidental; others have been due to the illegal tapping of pipelines. This has turned vast areas of once near-pristine land into vast fields of sludge, destroying marine life, coastal habitats and livelihoods.

Now, with growing oil exploration in new concessions along the West and Central African coast, realization of the increased probability of spills has heightened. In the Guinea Current region Côte d'Ivoire, Guinea-Bissau, Sierra Leone, Liberia, as well as Sao Tome and Principe are exploring and hope to join Angola, Equatorial Guinea, Ghana and Nigeria as major producers. Correspondingly with this increased activity, there exists a greater possibility of more oil spills. The ability to prevent such disasters and manage them if they do occur is a major preoccupation of scientists and individual governments in the region.

However, the response to any transboundary oil spill would require collective action. One measure is the use of dispersants in managing oil spills, for which a regional policy is being sought. This was the subject of a regional workshop on dispersants use policies in West and Central Africa held in Accra, Ghana, on 22-24 June.

"Your presence at this workshop underscores the seriousness of your countries readiness and willingness to our joint mission of ensuring a clean and friendly marine environment in our sub-region," Dr Stephen Maxwell Donkor, Executive Secretary of the Interim Guinea Current Commission and Regional Coordinator of the Guinea Current Large Marine Ecosystem (GCLME) project, said when opening and welcoming delegates to the workshop. Read more

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USA: GULF RESTORATION TASK FORCE TO MEET

June 25 - A panel set up to look at how to restore the Gulf of Mexico from last year's massive BP oil spill is meeting in Texas on Monday for the lastest of a series of meetings it has held on the Gulf Coast.

The Gulf Coast Ecosystem Restoration Task Force will meet in Galveston and will feature Environmental Protection Agency Administrator Lisa P. Jackson and Department of the Interior Secretary Ken Salazar.

The White House panel will recommend how to use the fines BP will likely have to pay for the worst offshore oil spill in U.S. history. The plan is to use the money — which could potentially run to the billions of dollars — on projects to restore beaches, marshes, water quality and wildlife. Source article

People in the news

JASON BENNETT JOINS TITAN AS COMMERCIAL DIRECTOR

Jason Bennett has joined TITAN Salvage as commercial director, reporting to company Vice President Rich Habib. He is domiciled in TITAN's United Kingdom (UK) facility at Newhaven, East Sussex.

As a member of the company's senior management team, Bennett will help shape strategic, operational and commercial business initiatives particularly as they relate to securing salvage, wreck removal and emergency response work for TITAN around the world. In addition, he will provide business development support for Crowley Maritime Corporation's newly formed solutions group.

Prior to joining TITAN, Bennett spent 14 years at sea with the Royal Fleet Auxiliary and P&O Cruise Line, gaining his Masters' ticket. Working globally, he gained experience aboard several different ships, including tankers, ammunition and logistics ships, as well as DP and cruise vessels. Moving ashore, Bennett later joined Murray Fenton as a surveyor, a position he held for seven years. There he obtained a wide breadth of experience, including salvage, casualty investigation, ship and systems vetting and expert witness services to the insurance market. For the last six years, before joining TITAN, he worked for another major salvor, both as UK representative and commercial manager. Read more

Publications

TRACKING GROUNDWATER POLLUTION TO ITS SOURCE

Computer algorithms might be useful in identifying sources of groundwater pollution, according to researchers in Australia and India. Writing in the *International Journal of Environment and Waste Management* they explain how notoriously difficult it is to trace such pollution.

Groundwater is a major and economical source of drinking water for both urban and rural areas. Although groundwater represents a small percentage of the total water distribution across the globe, it is the largest available reservoir of freshwater. Available fresh water amounts to less than one half of 1% of all the water on earth. However, the subsurface is also the principal receptacle for increasing volumes of human and industrial waste. As global consumption of water is doubling every 20 years, more than twice the rate of human population growth, the issue of pollution of groundwater is a growing problem.

Groundwater pollution occurs from different anthropogenic sources such as leakage from underground storage tanks and chemical and waste depositories, leakage from hazardous waste dump sites, sewers, liquid effluent and process lagoons, soak pits and accidental discharge, explain Ravi Naidu of the Centre for Environmental Risk Assessment and Remediation, at the University of South Australia and colleagues. "Remediation of these contaminated sites requires the optimal decision-making system so that the remediation is done in a cost-effective and efficient manner," the researchers say. "Identification of unknown pollution sources plays an important role in remediation and containment of contaminant plume in a hazardous site." Read more

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NEW NIOSH FACT SHEET ON CBRN RESPIRATORS AVAILABLE

The National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) recently released a fact sheet to support the voluntary approval program for Chemical, Biological, Radiological, and Nuclear (CBRN) self-contained breathing apparatus (SCBA) respirators. The fact sheet, “What’s so special about CBRN self-contained breathing apparatus (SCBA)?” explains the requirements of Title 42 CFR Part 84, for NIOSH-issued certifications of approval for SCBA.

The fact sheet details standards and test procedures that have significant impact on the selection, use, and maintenance procedures of CBRN SCBA as compared to other NIOSH-approved SCBA respirators. NIOSH says that in order to properly care for and effectively use a CBRN SCBA, one must understand the standards and test procedures for the equipment.

Tests described in the fact sheet include chemical agent permeation and penetration tests and laboratory respiratory protection level (LRPL) tests.

In addition, NIOSH provides information on how to determine if a SCBA is NIOSH-approved for the CBRN protection level and shows users what to look for on an approval label.

The fact sheet also includes requirements for retrofitting a field deployed SCBA to CBRN protection level. Read more at http://www.cdc.gov/niosh. With acknowledgements to AHMP *The Essential Hazmat News*

Cormack's Column

In this issue of the ISCO Newsletter we are printing No. 32 in a series of articles contributed by Dr Douglas Cormack.

Dr Douglas Cormack is an Honorary Member of ISCO. As the former Chief Scientist at the British Government's Marine Pollution Control Unit and head of the UK's first government agency, the Warren Spring Laboratory, Douglas is a well known and highly respected figure in the spill response community. He is the Chairman and a founder member of the International Spill Accreditation Association

KNOWLEDGE OF THE FATE OF RELEASED OIL / HNS (CHAPTER 32)

Prior to the WSL observation of slick elongation by the resurfacing of dispersed droplets behind wind-driven slicks, Irving Langmuir, theorised during a transatlantic voyage in 1927 that the wind-aligned parallel ribbons of foam, seaweed and other floating debris which he observed might be explained by the existence of wind-driven subsurface circulation cells. Later, he demonstrated by experimentation in Lake George that these circulation cells did exist and that they accounted for the observed phenomenon. However, since they act as a localised counters to the generalised spreading of oil, I now review their consequences for spill recovery and dispersant application.

The circulation system consists of large horizontal cylindrical cells of water lying parallel to each other and at a small angle to the wind direction with adjacent cells rotating in opposite directions to produce narrow ribbons of down-welling where downward moving edges of adjacent cells meet and ribbons of up-welling where the moving edges of adjacent cells separate. Thus, water is continuously brought to the surface to diverge to regions where it leaves the surface in such a way as to bring buoyant material to the surface to remain there in parallel alignment. Again, a change in wind direction will sub-divide existing ribbons to form others aligned to the new direction. Nonetheless, it has been shown that spacing between these so-called windrows in metres is five times the wind speed in metres per second or 2.5 times the wind speed in knots, though spacing tends to stabilise at intervals of 20-30, 36-40 and 48-52 metres these being the diameter ranges of the horizontal circulation cells. However, such windrows are unlikely to form at the layer thicknesses of Phase I spreading, though they are observed to form in the fully spread oil slicks of Phase II *i.e.* at layer thicknesses of the order of 0.1mm, while slicks already at Phase III present insignificant encounter rates for either dispersant application or mechanical recovery and in any case continue to disperse naturally.

However, as to response by mechanical recovery, we see that a windrow of 3-5 metres in width produced by rotating cells of 20 -52 metres in width results in layer thickness enhancement by a factor of 10 within the windrows; that this enhancement is averaged back to the un-windrowed thickness by the oil-free ribbons between the windrows; and that the collection boom of mechanical recovery systems need have swath widths of little more than 5 metres to encounter layer thicknesses up to 10 times thicker than Phase II spreading with avoidance of useless sweeping of the oil-free ribbons between windrows. Again, the formation of oil-in-water emulsions increases the Phase II layer thickness of 0.1 mm to 0.4 mm for water-contents up to 80%, though computation of oil recovery tonnages must allow for this water-content in addition to the free-water invariably recovered with the oil or its emulsion. Again, if windrows are to be sprayed with dispersant, it is necessary to know the dispersant : oil ratio for efficient application to a reference swath width and layer thickness, say of 1m and 0.1mm respectively and to adjust the application rate appropriately for the enhanced layer thicknesses of windrows or to recognise the need for multiple applications and to adjust the sprayed swath from that applicable to non-windrowed layers to those appropriate for windrow widths.

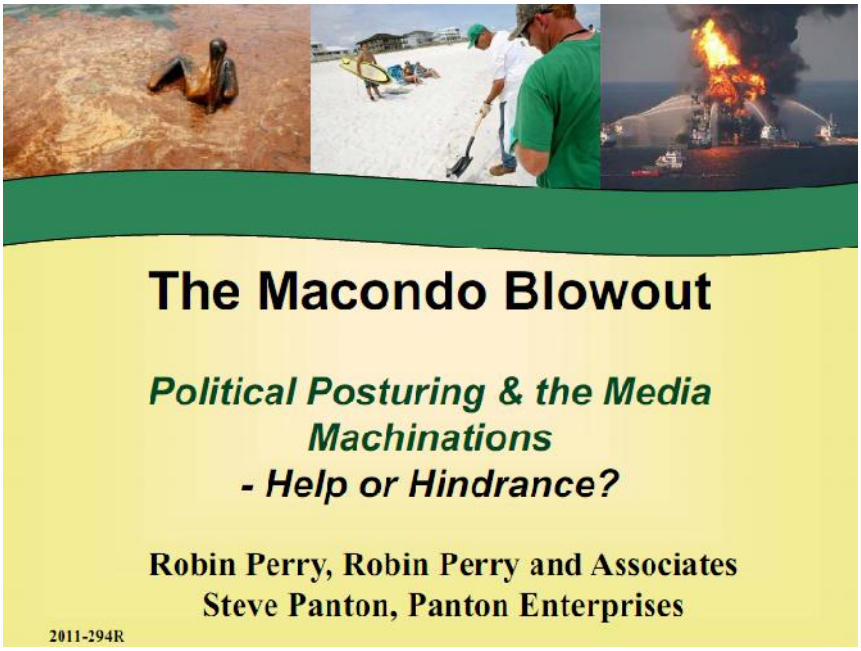
Further to mechanical recovery, we see that single ship operations with relatively narrow boom openings of say 5 metres (15 ft) would encounter a windrow of 2 -5 metres width and of the order 4.0 mm thickness for 80% water content emulsions to produce 1 knot encounter rates of 14.4 - 36.0 tonnes per hour. In practice, by the time RV Seaspring reached the scene of the Ekofisk blowout the windrows were of narrow and uneven width, suggesting more than one realignment in the wind speed conditions prevailed from the start. However, it was found that an early version of what became the Springsweep single-ship system consisting of a tension-line boom of 10 metre (30 ft) swath-width, an *ad hoc* floating hose-end and a deck-mounted 3.5 inch Spate pump recovered 9 tonnes of 70% water-content emulsion per hour after correction for free-water which was minimised by pumping only when the layer thickness in the sweeping boom collection-trap was sufficient to satisfy the pump.

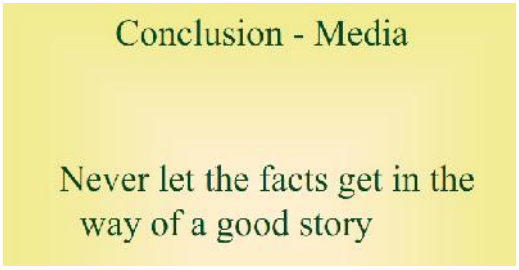
When this actual recovery rate is compared with the 14.4 - 36.0 tonnes per hour as estimated above, and when the 70% water-content of the emulsion is allowed for, we see that the oil recovery rate was 30% of 9 tonnes per hour or 2.7 tonnes per hour; and that the theoretical limit for a recovery system optimised for windrow recovery of oil as an emulsion is 30%of (14.4 - 36.0) or 4.3 - 10.8 tonnes per hour; that for an emulsion of 80% water-content the oil recovery is 2.88 -7.2 tonnes per hour. Thus, WSL focussed on improving the pumping system of its single-ship system for recovery of pollutants of the highest possible viscosity, alternatives involving booms being towed by two ships with a third to recover pollutant, being judged impossibly ineffective and costly on the above data.

1 The *Rational Trinity: Imagination, Belief and Knowledge*, D.Cormack, Bright Pen 2010 available at www.authorsonline.co.uk
2 *Response to Oil and Chemical Marine Pollution*, D. Cormack, Applied Science Publishers, 1983.
3 *Response to Marine Oil Pollution - Review and Assessment*, Douglas Cormack, Kluwer Academic Publishers, 1999.

IOSC Conference : A thought-provoking presentation

"NEVER LET THE FACTS GET IN THE WAY OF A GOOD STORY"





It was "standing room only" at this presentation given by Robin Perry and Steve Panton at IOSC 2011. Robin has kindly sent your editor a copy of the Power Point presentation but it's too long to reproduce on the pages of this Newsletter. It really was a fascinating talk, raising important issues.

With the thought that many of our readers who were unable to attend IOSC would like to see the presentation, your editor has uploaded it in the downloads section of the ISCO website. Click on http://www.spillcontrol.org and select Downloads Page. To further amplify the points being made in the individual slides, you can use the icon in the top left corner of each slide to view the accompanying notes.

Stop Press – Breaking news

BP WINS LEGAL CHALLENGE OVER OIL SPILL CLEAN-UP

Sunday, 26 June - BP has scored its first major victory in the legal battle over the Gulf of Mexico oil spill after a judge dismissed a series of environmental claims against the British oil major.

More than 100,000 claims are being processed by the Louisiana court in relation to the accident, which killed 11 men and led to a three-month oil leak in April last year. The suits, divided into eight groups, are due to be heard in a series of sittings starting next February.

Now Judge Carl Barbier, the man in charge of overseeing the "multi-district litigation", has struck out the claims in one group, filed by environmentalists trying to change the way BP is cleaning up the spill. Any changes to the clean-up programme or delays could have cost the company more money.

The court ruled that it was up to the US government to address environmental damage and file any relevant charges – not third party environmental organisations.

"The injunction at this stage would be useless, as not only is there no ongoing release from the well, but there is also no viable offshore facility from which any release could possibly occur," the judge decided. "The Macondo well is dead, and what remains of the Deepwater Horizon vessel is on the ocean floor, where it capsized and sank in 5,000 feet of water.

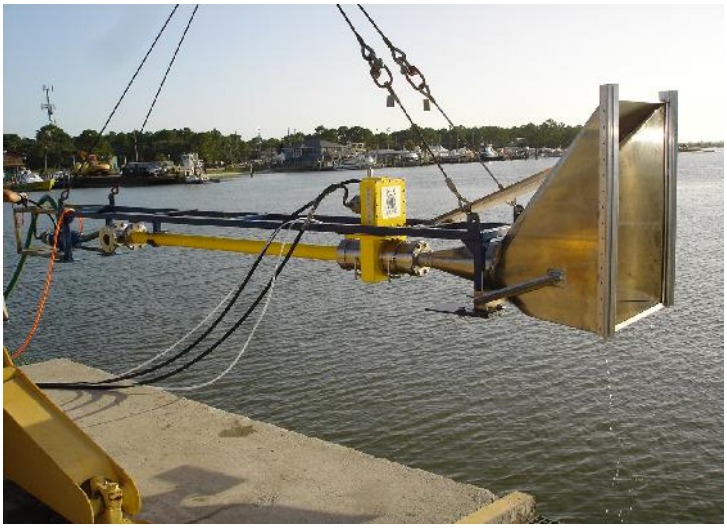
"Moreover, BP and the agencies comprising the Unified Area Command have been and are cleaning up the Gulf of Mexico. An injury is not redressable by a citizen suit when the injury is already being addressed."

Read the original article in the Telegraph

Wendy Schmdt Oil Clean-Up X Challenge Finalists

THE THIRD IN A SERIES OF ARTICLES FEATURING THE FINALISTS IN THE COMPETITION

Team Voraxial is a family affair that currently consists of three individuals affiliated with its public parent company, Enviro Voraxial Technology, Inc. (OTCQB "EVTN"). Alberto Di Bella is the President and Chief Executive Officer of EVTN, as well as, the architect of the Voraxial® Separator, John Di Bella is the Chief Operating Officer of EVTN, as well as, the nephew of Alberto Di Bella and Laura Di Bella, Team Voraxial's team leader, serves as the Vice President of Marketing and Investor Relations for EVTN, as well as, the daughter of Alberto Di Bella.



Enviro Voraxial Technology, Inc. (EVTN) is a Fort Lauderdale, Florida based CleanTech company that developed and manufactures the Voraxial® Separator, a highly efficient technology for high volume, bulk separation of fluids such as oil and water. The Voraxial® Separator is a unique, patented, in-line, continuous-flow separator capable of pumping and simultaneously separating up to three components, such as oil, water and sand. It is a mechanical separator that separates contaminants at high volumes with less space, energy, weight and cost than conventional equipment. The Voraxial® Separator benefits include: high volume/small footprint, no pressure drop requirement, two-way or three-way separation, ability to handle fluctuations in flow rate and oil concentration without any adjustments, high "G" force and less maintenance than conventional equipment. These benefits result in significant acquisition and operating cost savings to the customer.

The Voraxial® may stand alone or serve to enhance the capabilities of other environmental or energy technologies.

For the X Challenge, the Submersible Voraxial® 8000 will be used. The compactness, light weight and low energy requirements of the Submersible Voraxial® enables it to be installed BELOW the surface on new vessels or retrofitted on existing vessels for oil spill response.

The Submersible Voraxial® 8000 model, capable of processing 7,000,000 gallons of oily water per day, can easily be retrofitted on an average size supply vessel or tug boat and will quickly convert it into a high volume oil spill recovery vessel.

To put this in perspective, an average supply vessel equipped with three Voraxial® 8000 Separators can capture, process and separate over 20 million gallons of oily water per day. Last year's oil spill in the Gulf of Mexico was estimated to be 2.1 million gallons per day (50,000 barrels). The spill's damage to the environment could have been significantly mitigated if vessels equipped with Voraxial® Separators were deployed immediately.

(The Voraxial® is a scalable technology that can be tailored to a customer's specific separation needs. The pictures attached show the Submersible Voraxial® 4000 model used in the BP trials in the Gulf, it is a smaller version of the Voraxial® 8000 that will be used in the competition).

More information on the Voraxial technology can be found on the company's website at http://evtn.com/

Recent awards

LITHUANIAN SCIENTISTS CLEAN UP AT 2011 EUREKA INNOVATION AWARD

It is well known just how damaging oil can be to nature. It is also well known just how difficult it can be to clean up after a spill or contamination. Removing an oil spill or contamination from soil is hard and requires very different techniques to removing oil from water. A Lithuanian company, Biocentras, together with academic partners from Latvia and Lithuania, developed a technique that has so far cleaned over 22,000 tons of soil without the need for potentially harmful chemicals or genetically-modified technologies. This natural process transforms contaminated soil so that it can be used again for growing all kinds of plants.

Recent awards (continued)

Many of the existing solutions for the problem of cleaning contaminated soil rely on chemicals. For highly contaminated soil, larger amounts of chemicals are required, meaning that the potential for side-effects on the surrounding environment are increased. Other solutions use genetically-modified bacteria which have their own potential problems, including a lack of public trust.

In contrast, once the non-genetically-modified bacteria from the E! 2522 OPTISOIL CLEAN project have done their work, they simply die and become food to other forms of life. This provides a totally natural solution, known as biodegradation. The role of Biocentras is therefore one of optimising the use of the bacteria to provide the right amount and the best possible conditions. Not only is the process cleaner and more natural, but their internal studies suggest that it is one of the most efficient methods currently available.

The developed technology can be applied to soil contaminated by any concentration of oil or oil products. Usually biodegradation can be effective in 20 to 50 g/kg of pollution, and sometimes up to 100 g/kg. However, Biocentras manages to clean up oil sludge with up to 300 g/kg of pollutants. Read more

ELASTEC/AMERICAN MARINE ACCEPTS AWARD FROM GOVERNOR QUINN DURING ILLINOIS EXPORT WEEK

Jeff Bohleber, CFO of Elastec, Inc., accepts one of three awards for Southern Illinois from Governor Pat Quinn

It has been announced that Elastec/American Marine was awarded the 2011 Governor's Export Excellence Award in the small-sized company category for continuing excellence during Illinois Export Week, June 20 – 24, 2011, in Chicago, Illinois. This award was presented by the office of Governor Pat Quinn, the Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity and the Office of Trade and Investment.

Elastec/American Marine is the largest manufacturer of pollution control equipment in the United States, with over 30 years experience. The company manufactures a variety of innovative environmental protection products such as oil spill response equipment, portable vacuum systems, containment boom, Hydro-Fire® boom, portable incinerators used extensively by the United States Army in the Middle East, and ATV oil spill response vehicles.

Illinois ranks as the 6th largest exporting state in the United States and #1 in the Midwest; Elastec/American Marine contributes to this ranking by being an internationally known industry leader for pollution control equipment and exporting to customers in 115 countries. For additional information on Elastec/American Marine, visit www.elastec.com For additional information on Illinois Export Week, visit www.exportweek.illinois.gov

ISCO Notices

THE ISCO NEWSLETTER WILL NOT BE PUBLISHED NEXT WEEK

Your editor will be in London over the coming two weeks attending IMO Council and the OPRC-HNS Technical Group Meetings.

Because of this, the Newsletter will not be published on Monday 4th July. The next issue will be on Monday 11th July.

We apologise for this disruption.