



# ISCO NEWSLETTER

The Newsletter of the International Spill Response Community

Issue 298, 29 August 2011

[info@spillcontrol.org](mailto:info@spillcontrol.org)

<http://www.spillcontrol.org>

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10<sup>th</sup> - 12<sup>th</sup> October 2011

Grand Hyatt Hotel, Doha, Qatar



## Arctic Oil Spill Conference

4-5 October 2011, Hilton London Paddington Hotel

Advancing oil spill prevention and  
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## News

### X PRIZE - IMPROVING OIL SPILL CLEANUP TECHNOLOGY

**The Wendy Schmidt Oil Cleanup X CHALLENGE**, sponsored by Wendy Schmidt, with Shell as the supporting partner, and organized by X PRIZE Foundation to help develop oil spill cleanup technology, will soon be announcing a winner

The Wendy Schmidt Oil Cleanup X CHALLENGE, to encourage development of new technologies which can do more to clean up an oil spill, aims to announce a winner in October this year, and give them \$1m. The \$1 million prize purse, along with 2nd prize of \$300,000 and 3rd prize of \$100,000, has been personally donated by Wendy Schmidt.

Shell, the only industry participant, in an effort to ensure that advancing technologies emerge and are introduced into the marketplace, has pledged its support and collaboration to the Wendy Schmidt Oil Cleanup X CHALLENGE. As part of this ongoing association, Shell is assisting with direct support for the technical, operational and scientific components of the Competition.

The idea is to find a technology which could be used on all kinds of oil spills, including from offshore oil and gas operations and tankers. The expected minimum requirements were an oil recovery rate of 2,500 gallons per minute (35,700 barrels per day over 10 hours) with oil spill of 1 inch thickness, and oil recovery efficiency (oil water ratio) of 70 per cent. If none of the entrants achieve this, the judges will decide whether to adjust the criteria - or maybe not make an award at all.

To determine the winner, 10 finalists are testing their equipment in a water tank 203m long, 20m wide and 3.4m deep, covered with an inch of oil, and with a wave machine to make things more difficult (and more realistic). [Read more](#)

## AUSTRALIA: BANNING HEAVY OILS FROM ANTARCTICA

Australia is signing up to an international treaty to protect Antarctica from damaging oil spills.

It will ban ships carrying or using heavy grade oil in the Australian Antarctic Territory, except when it's necessary for safety or in a search and rescue operation. The ban also will apply to Australian ships in other parts of Antarctica.

Transport Minister Anthony Albanese said amendments to Australian law would implement changes to the International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships.

The convention's actions to greatly limit heavy oils in Antarctica came into force on August 1 this year. Mr Albanese said the possibility of an oil spill in Antarctica was relatively high because of icebergs and sea ice in uncharted waters. Moreover, heavy grade oils were very environmentally hazardous because they were slow to break down, particularly in cold polar waters.

[Read more](#)

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## INDIA: NO AGENCY TO HANDLE OIL SPILLS

The oil spill from MV Rak has once again brought to the fore the state's inadequacy in dealing with such situations. According to Coast Guard sources, such was the state of local agencies that they had to be supplied with plastic gloves in order to conduct the clean-up operation.

The situation was not very different last year when in August 2010, more than 800 metric tonnes of oil spilled from MV Chitra had sparked environmental concerns around the state's coast.

An assessment of the agencies drawn out to combat this oil spill found that the local state government was not prepared to prevent the spill from reaching the shoreline or to undertake a shoreline clean up, said Coast Guard officials. It was also found that there was no private provider available to undertake an oil spill response on behalf of the polluting ship or on behalf of the port.

"The contingency plan prepared by the ports and oil-handling agencies do not cater to a complete response for a vessel weighing more than 100 tonnes," said a senior Coast Guard official, on condition of anonymity as he is not authorised to speak to the media.

In fact, there is not a single state agency dedicated to tackle an oil spill with the state pollution control board stating that it is not a response agency. The constitution of Maharashtra Pollution Control Board (MPCB) makes it just a regulatory body with few men or equipment trained to respond to an oil spill.

Of the 677 employees, 352 have been recruited as stenographers, drivers, peons and others. An MPCB official, on condition of anonymity said, "We have skimmers to tackle an oil spill. But it does not fall under our purview."

"The state environment department should appoint or constitute an agency which would respond to an oil spill." [Read more](#)

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## USA: REVISIONS NEEDED TO NATIONAL CONTINGENCY PLAN BASED ON DEEPWATER HORIZON OIL SPILL

EPA and the manufacturer of Corexit completed required steps to include Corexit products on the NCP Product Schedule. However, EPA has not updated the NCP since 1994 to include the most appropriate efficacy testing protocol. Subpart J of the NCP identifies requirements a manufacturer must meet to include a product on the Product Schedule, including efficacy results using the Swirling Flask Test. EPA has considered revising Subpart J to change efficacy testing procedures to the more reproducible Baffled Flask Test. However, EPA had not finalized the rulemaking before the Deepwater Horizon oil spill occurred because of competing priorities and changes in management. If EPA had updated Subpart J, more reliable efficacy data may have been available during the oil spill.

Responders to the Deepwater Horizon oil spill could have used other dispersants, but not within the applicable window of time designated by Addendum 2 to a directive issued by EPA and the Coast Guard. EPA's involvement in the response included issuing Joint Directives to BP, making operational decisions, and conducting additional dispersant testing. EPA involved senior officials in the response because (a) the Agency was not prepared for the unprecedented volume and duration of dispersant use and subsea application, and (b) additional clarity was needed on roles and responsibilities in responding to a Spill of National Significance. The involvement of senior EPA officials created confusion as to who at EPA led response efforts for dispersant use. [Read more](#)

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## USA: GULF OF MEXICO IN THE NEWS AGAIN

### Deepwater trouble on the horizon: oil discovered floating near source of Gulf of Mexico spill



August 25 - Oil is once again fouling the Gulf of Mexico around the **Deepwater Horizon** well, which was capped a little over a year ago.

Tuesday afternoon, hundreds of small, circular patches of oily sheen dotted the surface within a mile of the wellhead. With just a bare sheen present over about a quarter-mile, the scene was a far cry from the massive slick that covered the Gulf last summer.

The source of the oil was unclear, but a chemical analysis by Louisiana State University scientists confirmed that it was a sweet Louisiana crude, and could possibly be from BP PLC's well. [Read more](#)

### BP: Macondo well is not leaking oil, new inspection confirms

The Coast Guard and BP have returned to the scene of last year's Deepwater Horizon disaster after a newspaper reported numerous oily blobs rising to the surface of the Gulf of Mexico a mile from the site. BP on Thursday night deployed a robotic submersible to examine the Macondo well, drilled in 5,000 feet of water and cemented last August.

Early Friday, BP announced that the wellhead inspection – observed by government officials in New Orleans through a video feed - had confirmed that the Macondo well is not leaking any oil. [Read more](#)

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## AUSTRALIA : TWO SPILLS FROM NEWSCASTLE CHEMICAL COMPLEX NEAR SYDNEY

### August 16 - Hexavalent Chromium leaks from Orica site in Newcastle

On the evening of Monday 8 August Orica's Kooragang Island ammonium nitrate plant, north of Newcastle in NSW, released hexavalent chromium into the atmosphere. It is reported that the leak went undetected for a period of 30 minutes.

Up to 20 workers were exposed and residents of the affected suburb, Stockton, were not told about their exposure to emissions from the Orica plant until Wednesday morning. Shine Lawyers' environmental expert and EJS executive secretary Rebecca Jancauskas asserts that "The fact residents were not notified is simply unacceptable".

71 samples have been collected by the office of Environment and Heritage in the Stockton area. Samples include swabs of outside surfaces such as windows, soil and sand, vegetation and water in tanks and pools. Chromium was not detected in 60 samples. In 11 samples, low levels of chromium were detected. The low levels of chromium were detected in six residential blocks close to the Orica plant and in two water samples collected immediately south of the six-block area. [Read more](#)



### August 29 - Second toxic leak in Newcastle, Australia

The [company](#) admitted that a discharge of 1.2 megalitres of effluent, containing arsenic, poured into the Hunter River in Newcastle on Friday. The leak came from its Kooragang [Island](#) manufacturing plant, the same location from which plumes of toxic hexavalent chromium escaped last week.

That first leak created anger among locals, firstly because it happened at all, but also because of the length of time it took both the company and the state government to inform the community. [Read more](#)

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## NORWAY: FISHING CREWS SOUGHT TO SUPPORT BARENTS SPILL RESPONSE

August 25 -Fishing vessel owners in Finnmark region in northern Norway have been offered contracts to participate in local oil spill preparedness programs.

"Fishermen have unique local knowledge and can mobilize at short notice", said Sjur Knudsen, CEO of the Norwegian Clean Seas Association for Operating Companies (Nofo). "Their recruitment will provide a further strengthening of the oil spill preparedness organisation near shore."

One of their main roles will be to support activity at Eni Norge's Goliat field, the first oilfield development in the Norwegian sector of the Barents Sea, due onstream in 2013.

Eni, partner Statoil and Nofo have been working for several years with the northern region of the Norwegian Fishermen's Association (NFA) on use of local fishermen to responding to oil spills. New regulations covering this area came into force in February. The fishing boats will be used mainly to tow booms, and potentially also for transporting equipment.

"Drawing on the fishing fleet plus the unique expertise of fishermen about working in the open sea and on local weather and currents is effective and profitable for the oil industry," said Ivar Sagen in the NFA's northern region. [Read more](#)

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### CHINA: CONOCOPHILLIPS URGED TO CLEAN UP OIL SPILLS

China's top maritime official on Thursday urged US oil giant ConocoPhillips to finish cleaning up oil spills in north China's Bohai Bay before the arrival of a deadline set by the government, stating that the company will face "enhanced supervision" if it does not do so.

Liu Cigui, head of the State Oceanic Administration (SOA), said his administration is collecting evidence and gauging the ecological impact of the spills in preparation for possible legal action against the company.

"Any company that damages China's oceanic environment must pay for their actions," Liu said during a teleconference concerning the handling of the incident, during which he referred to the spills as the "worst oceanic environmental accident" in Chinese history.

During a press conference held on Wednesday, Georg Storaker, president of ConocoPhillips China (COPC), said his company will be able to finish cleaning up the spills before the deadline arrives.

The SOA previously ordered COPC to "take all effective measures" to clean up the spills and eliminate any possible oil spill sources before August 31. The SOA said on Wednesday that it will be ready to sue ConocoPhillips over the spills after it finishes assembling its legal team. [Read more](#)

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### PHILIPPINES: GUIMARAS MARINE ENVIRONMENT SHOWS TRACES OF RECOVERY AFTER OIL SPILL

August 19 - There are traces of recovery in the marine environment in the province of Guimaras five years after the largest oil spill happened on August 11, 2006.

It can be recalled that the oil tanker MT Solar I, carrying two million liters of tanker fuel, sank off the coast of Guimaras and Negros Occidental, causing about 200,000 liters of fuel to pour into the strait.

The oil spill adversely affected the waters of the Visayas seas, considered as a rich fishing ground where supply of fish for the entire country come from, according to the then National Disaster Coordinating Council (NDCC).

Guimaras Gov. Felipe Hilan Nava said he was happy to note that the marine environment is recovering even if the process takes a gradual pace. [Read more](#) [Thanks to Don Johnston of ISCO Industry Partner, DG & Hazmat Group, for providing this link]

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### THOUSANDS AWAIT IVORY COAST TOXIC WASTE COMPENSATION: GROUP

August 19 - Five years after the dumping of toxic waste by oil-trading group Trafigura affected more than 100,000 people in Ivory Coast, thousands still await compensation, Amnesty International said Friday.

"It is unacceptable that so many people who were affected by the dumping have not received the compensation money they are entitled to," said Benedetta Lacey, AI's special advisor on corporate accountability.

The London-based watchdog urged the government of the country's newly-installed and Western-backed president, Alassane Ouattara, not to replicate the opacity that prevailed under his predecessor Laurent Gbagbo. [Read more](#)

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### NIGERIA'S OIL-TAINTED Ogoni WEARY OF BLAME GAME

Skillfully scooping water from beneath a thick black carpet of crude, veteran Nigerian fisherman Suagelo Kpalap gives a shrug of resignation at the mention of the latest twist in an oil spill blame game he's watched for decades.

## News (continued)

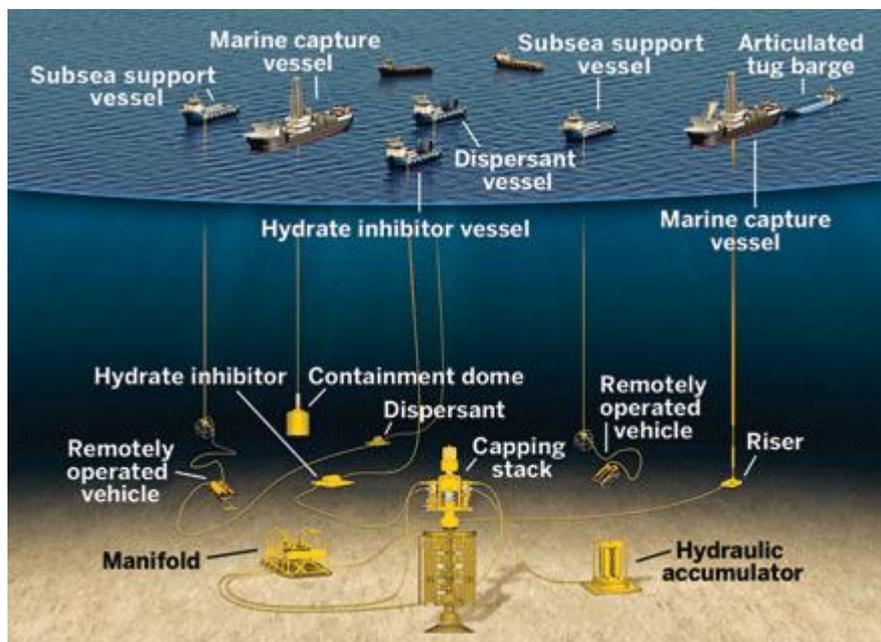
A U.N. report released this month told Kpalap and the other inhabitants of Ogoniland, a region within the vast, oil-rich Niger Delta, what they've known for years -- their environment is dangerously polluted and Royal Dutch Shell and the government aren't doing enough to clean it up.

"Oil spills have wasted my life, my environment and livelihood. There isn't much for me to enjoy at my age," the 57-year old said, wiping oil-stained hands on ragged clothes. "My fishing nets are all soaked in oil, I don't have money to get new ones and my canoes have been destroyed by the spills." In some Africa delta regions, tourists enjoy the calm waterways and wildlife. The landscape of banana trees and a pineapple farm where Kpalap stands looks bleak, stained with oil, in air filled with dark smoke from gas flaring.

The U.N. report said Ogoniland required the biggest oil clean-up in history, which could take 30 years and cost an initial \$1 billion. The paper, the most scientific and detailed report ever on Niger Delta spills, found levels of pollution that shocked the most pessimistic observers. [Read more](#)

## Science & Technology

### TECHNOLOGY: OIL FIRMS DEVELOP NEW METHODS TO AVOID ANOTHER BP SPILL



As a result of the BP Deepwater Horizon rig explosion on April 20, 2010, new steps have been put in place to improve safety. Specifically, before obtaining permits from the Interior Department to drill in the deepwater Gulf of Mexico, oil companies are now required to prove they have access to containment systems able to halt even a worst-case spill.

To meet Interior's requirements, the oil and gas industry has been working to develop improved spill prevention, containment, and recovery plans. Last year, for example, ExxonMobil and four other major oil firms together invested \$1 billion to establish the nonprofit Marine Well Containment Co. (MWCC), which has developed a new rapid response system that is now available to capture and contain oil in the event of another deepwater well blowout.

The MWCC containment system includes a "capping stack" of valves and pipes controlled by underwater robots, that can be placed on top of a gushing well in 10,000 feet of water to stop oil flow. The equipment is capable of capturing 60,000 barrels of oil per day from a leaking well, roughly equivalent to the daily amount of crude that escaped from BP's blown-out well. Next year, MWCC will bring on-line an expanded well containment system that will have the capacity to capture up to 100,000 bbl of oil per day. [Read more](#)

### A LOOK AT OIL SPILLS AND OIL SPILL PREVENTION

Leaks happen whether anyone wants them to or not. All that can be done is to try to anticipate them and prevent them by useful maintenance and repairs before the leak happens. A computer model that tests automobile components for crashworthiness could also be of use to the oil and gas industry, according to researchers at MIT's Impact and Crashworthiness Laboratory, who are now using their simulations of material deformation in car crashes to predict how pipes may fracture in offshore drilling accidents. President Barack Obama in May 2010 stated that the federal government needs to look at getting the technology that would allow it to work at the bottom of the sea to plug oil leaks like the Gulf of Mexico spill. That is after that fact. Better would be to stop the leak before it happens.

There have been many releases of oil over the years. They are caused by many variables. Those caused by human error or unexpected accident can only be partially prevented by better design. Those that are the result of predictable design or mechanical failure can be prevented. As a case study, the MIT team simulated the forces involved in the 2010 Deepwater Horizon explosion in the Gulf of Mexico, finding that their model accurately predicted the location and propagation of cracks in the oil rig's drill riser — the portion of pipe connecting the surface drilling platform to the seafloor. In a side-by-side comparison, the researchers found that their model's reconstruction closely resembled an image of the actual fractured pipe taken by a remotely operated vehicle shortly after the accident occurred. The group presented their results at the International Offshore and Polar Engineering Conference in June. [Read more](#)



In this issue of the ISCO Newsletter we are printing No. 40 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 40)

In addition to allocating half-lives<sup>1,2</sup> to Oil Groups I - IV, ITOPF published the relevant oil property values for these Groups by reference to the property identification symbols reproduced in article 39.

Individual Oils	Group I			
	Specific Property Identification Symbol			
	A	B	C	D
Gasoline	n/a	0.5	100	0
Naphtha	n/a	0.5	100	0
Kerosene	n/a	2.0	50	0
	n/a: too low to be significant			

These products evaporate within a few hours, their evaporation half-lives being in minutes.

High Pour Point	Property Identification Symbol				Low Pour Point	Group II		
	A	B	C	D		Property Identification Symbol	B	C
Oil					Oil			
Argyle	9	11	29	39	Abu Dhabi	7	36	31
Amna	18	s	25	30	Berri	9	36	35
Arjuna	27	s	37	15	Beryl	9	35	34
Auk	9	9	33	35	Brass River	4	45	17
Bass Strait	15	s	40	20	Brega	9	38	32
Beatrice	12	32	25	35	Brent Spar	9	37	32
Bunvu	18	s	29	12	Ekofisk	4	46	25
Cormorant	12	13	32	38	Kirkuk	11	35	36
Dunlin	6	11	29	36	Kole Marine	11	34	35
Escravos	10	9	35	15	Montrose	7	36	31
Es Sider	9	11	31	37	Murban	9	36	30
Gippsand Mix	15	s	40	20	Murchison	7	36	20
Lucina	15	s	30	34	Qatar Marine	9	36	33
Nigerian Light	9	s	35	27	Saharan Blend	4	48	23
Ninian	6	13	29	40	Sirtica	7	44	27
Qua Ibbe	10	7	37	8	Stat Fjord	9	35	32
Rio Zulia	27	s	43	20	Zakum	7	34	31
San Juachim	24	s	43	20				
Santa Roasa	10	4	34	27	Gas Oil	5	-	-
Sarir	24	s	37	15				
Sena	18	s	37	15				
Thistle	9	9	35	38				
Zuctina	9	9	35	30				

These oils disperse with Group II dispersion half-lives at ambient temperatures above their pour-points. At temperatures below their pour-points they were to be treated as Group IV oils (but c.f. article 42). Those which are solid at all ambient temperatures are designated, s, in the above and subsequent tabulations.

Thus, for any incident-specific oil release we can determine whether it will be liquid or solid, and the percentage evaporative weight loss if it is liquid as previously demonstrated for Ekofisk Oil; estimate the likely encapsulation of volatiles if it is solid as demonstrated for Beatrix Oil; estimate the increase in pollutant volume from the water-content of the emulsified non-volatile percentage of liquid oils; the extent of natural dispersion of these emulsions from the tabulated half-life values as demonstrated for Ekofisk Oil; and hence estimate the amount likely to reach shore in whatever time it takes to get there as estimated from summing 100% and 3% of the tide/current and wind vectors respectively.

1 The *Rational Trinity: Imagination, Belief and Knowledge*, D.Cormack, Bright Pen 2010 available at [www.authorsonline.co.uk](http://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.

## Wendy Schmidt Oil Clean-Up X Challenge Finalists

### THE SIXTH IN A SERIES OF ARTICLES FEATURING THE FINALISTS IN THE COMPETITION

#### *Innovation through Inspiration*

When Vortek was announced as a finalist for the Wendy Schmidt Oil Cleanup X Challenge, team leader Ashley Day reflected on his team's unconventional path so far.

**Ashley Day** *President/CEO*  
**Vor-Tek Recovery Solutions LLC**  
1378 E. Valencia Dr. Fullerton, CA 92830  
[www.vtrsolutions.com](http://www.vtrsolutions.com)



"From the backgrounds of our team members, to our path here as a company, to making it to the finals in this challenge by X Prize, this process has been amazing. We feel we are bringing new technological innovation and life into a industry that has remained relatively stagnant for the past 40 years," states Mr. Day.

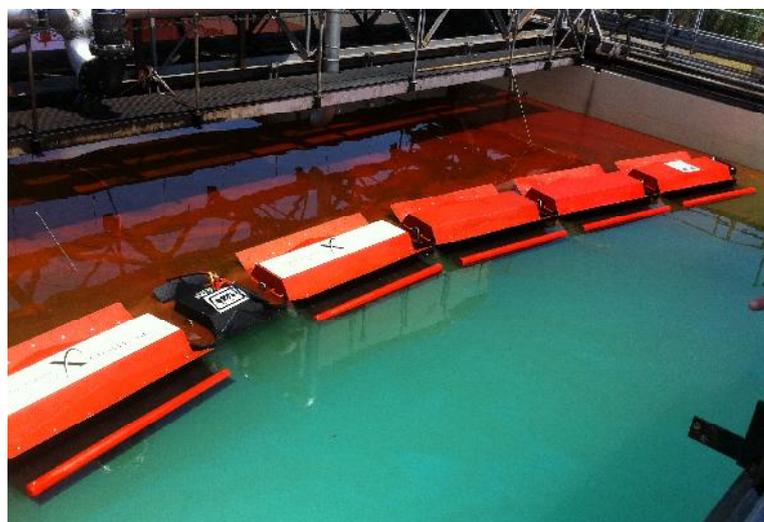


This ride didn't start in an engineering firm, or on an oil rig, platform, or actually anything to do with oil at all. It started in the scrap processing and materials recycling industry. As the co-founder of a research and development company providing sustainable solutions to the largest metals recyclers, steel mills and electronic recycling businesses in the world, Mr. Day started tinkering with the idea of cleaning up our oceans and waterways. While working on prototypes for an innovative passive collection device intended as a solution to remove some of the plastic in the Pacific Garbage Patch (North Pacific Gyre), Mr. Day was asked if the device could collect oil. Since the intention is to collect many types of debris, it only took a few modifications to update the functionality of the device to include the large-scale collection of oil in open water scenarios.

After the BP Oil Spill last summer, the industry's technologies were severely examined and scrutinized as only 3 – 5 percent of all oil collected was done through mechanical means. This number proved that there were large-scale technological inefficiencies and porous clean up methods.

Ashley saw that a different approach to this problem might be the answer. "Last year's Gulf oil spill highlighted the need for new technologies and oil spill recovery capabilities to be available for rapid and efficient deployment, in all locations where oil is drilled, refined, processed or handled."

With teams bolstering years of experience not only as a company but also in the oil remediation technologies, how does Mr. Day think his team will fare?



"I'm very pleased with our performance at the X-Prize competition, it was very rewarding to see our technology performing so well and I believe that we have set the bar not only for this competition but for the industry with this new technology. Mr. Day explains. Vor-Tek was founded on the passion and determination of individuals from many different backgrounds with the mutual goal of providing real solutions for marine plastic and oil spill remediation. I didn't go out and build a team with the traditional scientists or engineers, I found people that were not influenced by the current methods or technologies and have realistic viewpoints and unique thoughts to the issue,"

Different... YES, but this company and its members might very well be the unconventional solution needed to make this industry and our world adjust itself for the better!

### ISAA ANNOUNCES TRAINING EVENT TO BE HELD IN CORK, IRELAND



## INTERNATIONAL SPILL ACCREDITATION

**Improving the standards of oil spill response**

**ONE DAY ISAA SPILL RESPONSE TRAINING COURSE TO BE HELD AT  
THE NATIONAL MARITIME COLLEGE, RINGASKIDDY, CORK  
ON MONDAY 24 OCTOBER, 2011  
(AND, DEPENDING ON DEMAND FOR PLACES,  
ALSO ON TUESDAY 25 OCTOBER 2011)**

This year ISAA is making a break from tradition and offering a one day course instead of the normal two day course. This is in response to comment from delegates on difficulties encountered in finding time to attend over two days. The target audiences for the training programme are –

**GROUP A**      **Desktop Exercise** for Managers from County Councils, SRO managers and others who may be required to manage the response to an inland surface water oil spill

**GROUP B**      **Practical Training & Exercise** for Response team leaders and operators who will be involved in inland surface water oil spill containment and clean-up operations.

Courses for the two groups, A and B, will run concurrently.

The Desktop and Practical Exercises are based on the following incident scenario –

*Following collapse of a wall at a factory a fuel oil pipeline leading from an oil tank to a boiler has fractured with the loss of about 20 tonnes of fuel oil.*

*“The accident happened over a weekend and it was not until the early hours of Monday morning that a member of the public reported seeing oil in a watercourse about 2 km distant from the factory. Parts of the watercourse are heavily overgrown with difficult access.*

*The watercourse joins a small river immediately upstream of a sandy beach. At this location the river waters are subject to limited tidal influences. There are good areas of hard standing with vehicular access where the watercourse joins the river and also adjacent to the amenity beach. A plant that abstracts river water for cooling purposes is located about 2.5 km downstream.*

*The County Council Oil Pollution Officer is quickly alerted and an immediate pollution survey is instructed.*

*The initial report indicates that most of the oil is still in the watercourse but some has escaped into the river. Some oil is observed near a sandy shore just downstream of the point where the watercourse joins the river”.*

For more information contact the ISAA Administrator at [info@spillcontrol.org](mailto:info@spillcontrol.org)

## Events

### AUSTRALIA: CROIERG AGM

Members are reminded that the CROIERG AGM will be held at Swaggers Motor Inn Conference Centre in Yass NSW on September 13<sup>th</sup> Starting at 10.30AM

AGM Agendas have been distributed to members by email and post

Two presentations on the day:

Supt Kim Reesson Fire & Rescue NSW on Risk Management and road tanker incidents

Rob Harwood Mgr Director Environmental Strategies of Sydney who will discuss examples of spills he has attended in a professional capacity

All members are urged to attend the AGM.

Brian O'Connor Secretary CROIERG Ph 0428 627 777

## Events (continued)

### USA: APICOM FALL 2011 MEETING

October 5-7, 2011 New Orleans, LA Sponsored by Clean Gulf Associates.

## Company News

### FRANCE: ASSISTANCE, SALVAGE AND POLLUTION REMEDIATION

BOURBON provides coastal protection for France through Les Abeilles assistance and salvage tugs and 3 services vessels.

Since 1976, these vessels have overseen the protection of the 3,120 km of exposed French coastline. They provide prevention and protection for the marine environment. Their missions are to prevent wrecks, assist and save vessels in distress, and combat pollution.

Les Abeilles is a member of the International Salvage Union (ISU) which is the umbrella body for salvage and marine support companies. The members of the ISU are duty-bound to possess this high level of expertise required of salvage professionals

Among the operations it is responsible for are recovering containers, laying buoys, and assessing pollution, all of which contribute to greater safety.

BOURBON's skills and expertise in assistance, salvage, and anti-pollution operations are widely recognized in France and worldwide.

### USA: O'BRIENS HOUSTON OFFICE HAS MOVED TO CITY CENTRE IN THE ENERGY CORRIDOR



As of August 15<sup>th</sup>, O'Brien's Spring office is based inside Houston's Energy Corridor at CityCentre:

818 Town & Country Boulevard  
Suite 200  
Houston, Texas 77024

Telephone: 281.320.9796

This new location is centrally located to better serve clients and contains a state-of-the-art, backup, 24/7 command center.

## ISCO Announcements

### REMINDER: DISCOUNTS AVAILABLE TO ISCO MEMBERS

#### Arctic Oil Spill Conference (see banner on front page)

A 15% discount is available to readers of the ISCO Newsletter. The link below has been specially set up to activate this discount - <http://www.informaglobalevents.com/KA0121SCEM>

#### PESCO Scheduled Training Courses at Sharm El Sheikh International Training Centre, Egypt

10% discount for ISCO Members. <http://www.pescoeg.com/training.php>

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