

ISCO & THE ISCO NEWSLETTER

The ISCO Newsletter is published weekly by the International Spill Control Organisation, a not-for-profit organisation supported by members in 45 countries. ISCO has Consultative Status at IMO, Observer Status at IOPC Funds and is dedicated to raising worldwide preparedness and co-operation in response to oil and chemical spills, promoting technical development and professional competency, and to providing a focus for making the knowledge and experience of spill control professionals available to IMO, UNEP, EC and other organisation.

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International news

THE IMPORTANCE OF INTERNATIONAL CO-OPERATION AND LEARNING FROM PREVIOUS INCIDENTS IN ICE-COVERED WATERS



May 15 – These were the key themes during the latest session of filming which took ITOPF and the True North production team back to Svalbard. The contrast in just three months since the previous visit from darkness at midday to 24 hour sunlight could not have been more stark.

The input from two leading members of the Norwegian Coastal Authority (NCA) - Kystverket provided the focus for the filming. Ole Kristian Bjerkemo, Chair of the Emergency Prevention, Planning and Preparedness (EPPR) working group of the Arctic Council, emphasised the central role that bilateral and multilateral agreements play in all aspects of prevention and preparedness. His personal experience of the value of these agreements in joint exercises and sharing of information over the last 20 years will be a key theme for the film.

Then in a biting Arctic wind entirely appropriate to the setting, Trond Hjort-Larsen talked through his experience and the lessons he had learnt from dealing with the GODAFOSS spill in February 2011 when the waters were partially covered in ice and a response had to be mounted during the short winter daylight hours. He

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International news (continued)

The Egyptian experience can be shared throughout the PERSGA region. More information on PERSGA can be found here [PERSGA](#) Source: IEMS Newsletter

NEW PREMISES FOR THE WORLD MARITIME UNIVERSITY INAUGURATED

Expanded, state-of-the-art, premises for the World Maritime University (WMU) were inaugurated on Tuesday (19 May 2015) in Malmö, Sweden, by IMO Secretary-General and WMU Chancellor Koji Sekimizu. WMU is an international educational institute for the maritime community, operating under the auspices of IMO.



At close to 6,000m², the new facility is nearly double the size of the previous Malmö campus. It provides a new auditorium, multiple research laboratories, seminar rooms, and video-conferencing capabilities for hosting international conferences. An integrated information system embracing unified communications, broadcast media and information management systems for teaching, video-conferencing, research, and management is a central feature of the new site.

The new premises are centred on the refurbished historic Malmö Harbour Master's Building, with dramatic additions designed by the renowned Danish architect Kim Utzon in collaboration with Australian architect Tyrone James Cobcroft of Cobcroft Architects.

Photos of the inauguration can [be found here](#).
Source and Image Credit: [IMO](#)
[Safety4Sea](#) [Read more](#)

International news (continued)

was able to paint a picture of the additional challenges in terms of oil characteristics and stresses on equipment when dealing with a spill during these harsh winter conditions. His illustrations of the ways in which responders need to adapt existing spill response approaches used in more temperate waters will provide ideal material for those with a role to prepare for a potential spill in ice covered waters.

The backdrops under the winter twilight were impressive at the end of January. Now under 24 hours of daylight the adjacent images illustrate some of the scenery that will be bringing the oil-in-ice film to life.

The film is scheduled for release in Spring 2016, but in the meantime we have released a trailer of the spectacular footage from the earlier shoot in Svalbard just as the Polar night was coming to a close. The two minute clip gives a flavour of what will be a visual treat as well as a succinct review of prevention, preparedness and response in ice-covered waters. You can also follow the progress of the project on Twitter. *Article received from ITOPF*
<http://www.itopf.com> [Download and view the film trailer](#)

REGIONAL ORGANIZATION FOR THE CONSERVATION OF THE ENVIRONMENT OF THE RED SEA AND GULF OF ADEN

May 20 – The Regional Organization for the Conservation of the Environment of the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden (PERSGA) 16th Ministerial Council convened in Sharm El-Sheikh, Egypt, on the 9th April 2015 preceded by a meeting of the Executive Committee of PERSGA's Focal Points on the 7th of the month. The meeting was attended by the ministers of the environment and representatives from six PERSGA Member States namely: Egypt, Saudi Arabia, Sudan, Jordan, Djibouti and Yemen.

The Council paid special tribute to the on-ground carried out by the Egyptian Environment Affairs Agency (EEAA) in the Arab Republic of Egypt for the operation and management of the Tier 2 Oil Spill Response Center at Sharm El Sheikh. The center is a true model of excellence and EEAA is to be commended for achieving such a center in the region.

IEMS was commended for the management system and the continuous improvement programs set in place, there was noted clear collaboration between the public and private sector.

International news (continued)

CLARKSON UNIVERSITY PROFESSOR TO LEAD INTERNATIONAL SESSION ON OIL SPILL MODELING

May 19 - Clarkson University Professor of Civil & Environmental Engineering Poojitha Yapa is organizing the oil spill modeling session as chairman of the group at the 36th International Association for Hydro-Environment Engineering and Research World Congress.

Poojitha YapalAHR has organized this special one-day session for July 2 at The Hague, Netherlands, to create a forum for scientists to determine the current state of the oil spill modeling, industry and government needs, and areas that need to be improved. The session will bring together researchers from academia, research institutes, government and industry around the world to exchange ideas and set future directions
Clarkson University [Read more](#)



Incident reports from around the world (in chronological order)

CHEMICAL LEAK IN NORTHERN CHINA KILLS 8, INJURES 2

May 15 - Authorities say a chemical leak in northern China has killed eight people and injured two others. A statement from Yangcheng County in Shanxi province said the carbon disulfide leak occurred Saturday morning at a plant belonging to the Ruixing chemical company. *SFGate* [Read more](#) [Thanks to Don Johnston of ISCO Industry Partner, DG & Hazmat Group]

USA: HAWAII DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH INVESTIGATED CHEMICAL SPILL IN AIEA

May 19 - The Hawaii State Department of Health (DOH) today removed the warning signs that were posted on Friday, May 15 at a drainage ditch near the bike path at Hekaha Street in Aiea. Warning signs were posted due to evidence of a contained chemical spill that occurred in the area killing more than 600 fish. Dead fish including tilapia and guppies were removed by crews coordinated by DOH. On May 12, Department of Health's Clean Water Branch received the report of a fish kill and milky-white discolored water with a strong "cleaning agent" like scent lingering in the affected area in Aiea. Staff from the department's Hazard Evaluation and Emergency Response Office and Clean Water Branch conducted an on-site inspection and took water samples for testing. Results indicated lower than normal PH levels in the water suggesting contamination from an acidic compound which could include cleaning solvents or solutions. *Hawaii News Now* [Read more](#)

JAPAN: NYK: NO OIL LEAKAGE FROM TANKER TAKAMINE IN TOKYO BAY

May 19 - On May 16 and 17, a few media outlets reported that crude oil had leaked from Takamine, a tanker operated by NYK Line, while the ship was discharging at JST 9:28 p.m. on May 15 at Keihin Kawasaki sea berth in Tokyo Bay. However, there are no indications that any leakage of oil occurred from this ship. The vessel has subsequently sailed safely toward its next port. *Green4Sea* [Read more](#)

USA: PIPELINE RUPTURE IN CALIFORNIA SENDS 21,000 GALLONS OF OIL INTO OCEAN NEAR SANTA BARBARA BEACHES

May 19 - A ruptured pipeline in California leaked 21,000 gallons of oil into the ocean Tuesday. Authorities say the conduit broke near Santa Barbara County and left a sheen of oil spanning about four miles of beach and running 50 yards into the ocean. *International Business Times* [Read more](#)

May 20 - 105,000 gallons of oil may have spilled in Santa Barbara County - The operator of an underground pipeline that ruptured and released up to 105,000 gallons of crude oil in Santa Barbara County -- and tens of thousands of gallons into the ocean -- said Wednesday that the spill happened after a series of mechanical problems caused the line to be shut down..

The problems began about 10:45 a.m. Tuesday at two pump stations that move oil through the 11-mile pipeline along the Gaviota Coast, Rick McMichael, director of pipeline operations for Plains All American Pipeline, said at a news conference. *Los Angeles Times* [Read more](#) [Thanks to Marc K. Shaye, Hon.FISCO]

May 20 - Santa Barbara oil spill: Pipeline operator has long record of problems - Plains Pipeline, the large Texas-based company responsible for the pipe that ruptured in Santa Barbara County, has accumulated 175 safety and maintenance infractions since 2006, according to federal records.

A Times analysis of [data from the Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration](#) shows Plains' rate of incidents per mile of pipe is more than three times the national average. Such incidents may include problems with pipelines, storage tanks and drains, among others. *Los Angeles Times* [Read more](#) [Thanks to Marc K. Shaye, Hon.FISCO]

May 22 - California oil spill response continues in earnest - A "significant" response operation is under way to clean up the

Incident reports from around the world (in chronological order)

beaches of Santa Barbara following this week's oil spill, a unified command said.



Photo: Oil washes ashore at Refugio State Beach off the Santa Barbara County coast in Goleta, California on May 20, 2015. State and federal officials on Wednesday investigated what caused a 2-foot-diameter underground pipeline to leak thousands of gallons of crude oil that polluted several miles of wildlife-rich beach and ocean along the scenic Santa Barbara coast. Photo by Jim Ruymen/UPI | License Photo

A unified command center established for the spill said the worst-case estimate is that 2,500 barrels of oil was released from a pipeline operated by Plains All American. Sheen is spread several miles from the site of the spill off the coast of Refugio State Beach.

"Continuing in this significant response, more than 349 federal, state and local first responders, and numerous environmental clean-up contractors have arrived on scene and are actively assessing, booming and continuing to remove oil from affected areas," the unified command said in its latest operational update.

Responders so far have deployed about 4,500 feet of containment boom, closed area beaches and enacted a fishing ban. About 8,300 gallons, or around 200 barrels, of an oily-water mixture has been recovered from the shoreline. *UPI* [Read more](#)

May 23 - Rescue Workers Try to Save Oil-Soaked Pelicans - Eight brown pelicans soaked in sludgy crude oil have arrived at the Oiled Bird Care and International Bird Rescue Center in San Pedro, California, where veterinarians and expert are scrambling to help the seabirds survive. "They have been very heavily oiled," said Dr. Christine Fiorello of the Oiled Wildlife Care Network based out of UC Davis. "Anywhere from 90 to 100 percent oiled." So far, eight brown pelicans have been saved, but the bodies of five oil-soaked bodies of pelicans have been recovered, officials told Reuters Friday. *NBC Los Angeles* [Read more](#)

NORWAY: STATOIL CLASSIFIES GUDRUN LEAK AS 'SERIOUS'

May 20 - Statoil ASA announced Wednesday that a condensate leak which occurred on the Gudrun platform recently was "of the highest degree of seriousness".

The classification was made by Statoil's corporate investigation team following reports of noise and vibrations on the Gudrun site in the North Sea Feb. 18. A 0.07 inch crack extending approximately 90 percent across the circumference of a two inch pipeline was found at Gudrun and condensate had leaked from the pipeline and resulted in gas distribution. Statoil estimated the volume of condensate from the leak at four cubic meters and the leak rate was calculated to be around 17 pounds per second. *Rigzone* [Read more](#) [Thanks to Don Johnston of ISCO Industrial Partner, DG & Hazmat Group]

CANADA: OIL LEAK CONTAINED AT MV MINER SITE OFFSHORE NOVA SCOTIA

May 22 - On-site workers acted quickly to contain an oil leak during the final stages of removing the wreck of the MV Miner off Scaterie Island, the government of Canada's Nova Scotia province reports.

"Thankfully, the contractor already had preventative actions in place and contained the spill immediately," said Transportation and Infrastructure Renewal Minister Geoff MacLellan. "No heavy oil got past the containment oil booms and the lobster fishery is not affected. I'm very grateful for their quick work and especially for their pro-active measures to contain the leak."

The contractor, RJ MacIsaac Construction, was planning to remove the last remaining engine from the wreck site. Because it was a large ocean-going engine, the company expected oil could be an environmental risk and took appropriate preventive measures. Divers videoed the remaining wreckage and a comprehensive plan to contain any oil leak was prepared. Oil containment booms were placed around the wreckage and oil absorption materials were on-site before trying to remove the engine. *Green4Sea* [Read more](#)

USA: PLATFORM FIRE IN GULF OF MEXICO, SOME OIL LEAKING

May 22 - The Coast Guard is responding to a report of a platform fire near Breton Island, Friday. Watchstanders at Coast Guard Sector New Orleans received a report at 2:50 a.m. from the offshore supply vessel Miss Katherine reporting a fire on board an oil production platform in Breton Sound Block 21. All 28 people aboard the platform were evacuated to the offshore supply vessel and were taken to Venice. No injuries were reported.

The well was shut in and production has ceased. The platform has an estimated 4,000 barrels of crude oil on board in storage tanks. *WKRG.com* [Read more](#) [Thanks to Don Johnston of ISCO Industry Partner, DG & Hazmat Group]

Incident reports from around the world (in chronological order)



May 22 - Platform Fire in Gulf of Mexico Off Louisiana – Update - The platform fire continues to burn Friday in the Gulf of Mexico not far from the Louisiana coast. The Coast Guard has updated that the maximum potential release has been reduced from 4,000 barrels to 130 barrels. Response vessels are on scene with additional vessels en route as fire teams are preparing to employ measures to extinguish the fire.

Spill response equipment and personnel, including boom and skimmers are en route to help protect the Breton National Wildlife Refuge, the Coast Guard said. *gCaptain* [Read more](#)

May 23 - Coast Guard: Fire on gulf oil platform; 28 evacuated - Texas Petroleum Investment Co., the owner and operator of the platform, estimated that no more than

120 barrels of crude oil - about 5,040 gallons - were stored on the platform. Coast Guard officials later estimated the maximum potential release at 130 barrels, or 5,460 gallons. The Coast Guard had earlier worried that storage tanks on the platform were filled to their capacity of 168,000 gallons.

The production platform where the fire occurred gathers oil and then pumps it through a pipeline, so there is little oil stored on site and all wells feeding the platform have been shut down," David Marguiles, spokesman for Texas Petroleum Investment, said in an email. The statement said a compressor on the platform is believed to have caught fire. *KATC.com* [Read more](#)

Other news reports from around the world (countries in alphabetical order)

AUSTRALIA: THE BOOMERANG RETURNS TO AUSTRALIA

In the picture: Toby Stone, General Manager, Marine Environment Division, AMSA; accepts the boomerang from Rob Cox, Technical Director – OSR JIP Programme Manager, IPIECA

During the international oil spill conference, Interspill 2015, in Amsterdam, the conference organisers presented a boomerang to Toby Stone, on behalf of Spillcon 2016. The boomerang symbolises the three-year cycle of international oil spill conferences that Spillcon runs in conjunction with Interspill in Europe and the International Oil Spill Conference (IOSC) in the United States. These conferences provide a venue for experts in spill prevention, preparedness, response and restoration from around the world to share information in a common forum.

Spillcon 2016 will be held in Perth, Western Australia from 2-5 May 2016. The event is proudly organised by Australia's key government and industry agencies responsible for Australia's marine environmental protection arrangements, AMSA and the Australian Institute of Petroleum. Spillcon 2016 will bring together local, regional and global environmental and shipping representatives across industry, government and business to provide an avenue to discuss issues including cause and prevention, preparedness, response management and environmental issues. Spillcon 2016 will also profile an expansive number of exhibitors and equipment and include an impressive on-water display.

Interest in attending Spillcon 2016 was high at Interspill, with many exhibitors keen to sign on for the Australian event. Please visit the [Spillcon website](#) for more information. Source: AMSA Aboard May 2015 [Source document](#) <https://www.amsa.gov.au/>



GAMBIA: OIL SPILL WORKSHOP TEAM VISITS GAM PETROLEUM AND GAMBIAN PORTS AUTHORITY

May 18 - In their move to practically demonstrate and observe some of the sensitive issues discussed during the course of the first sessions of their programme, participants of the Sensitivity Mapping and Shoreline Cleaning workshop recently visited the Gam Petroleum station in Mandinary and The Gambia Ports Authority in Banjul.

The team met with Michael Girardin, managing director of Gam Petroleum (GP), who was really appreciative of the visit, and said such initiatives are what the country needs to ensure 'we are disaster-free'.

Joe Small, the International Maritime Organisation (IMO) consultant and facilitator of the workshop, explained that the main focus of this programme is to build a national plan. He said this is a very broad project which requires a deep survey to know what the chances of risk are, the possibility of its frequent occurrence, what products are dealt with as well as the quantity. *Daily Observer* [Read more](#)

NORWAY: HELGELAND 2015 EXERCISE, SANDNESSJOEN, NORWAY, 6TH MAY 2015



May 18 – Report received from ITOPF - In May 2015, ITOPF was asked by Skuld P&I Club to take part in an oil spill response exercise organised by the Norwegian Coastal Administration (NCA) in Sandnessjøen, Helgeland district, Northern Norway. Two members of the ITOPF technical team, Dr Franck Laruelle and Romain Chancerel, attended the exercise on 6th May. The scenario was the loss of 1,200 tonnes of HFO from a tanker in an economically and environmentally sensitive area of Northern Norway. The exercise was designed with the specific objectives to:

- familiarise the different stakeholders involved in response operations with the provisions of the national contingency plan at different levels of the response (Incident Command and On-scene);
- test national response capabilities in a particularly sensitive area;
- test public - private cooperation during response operations; in particular cooperation with the shipowner during the salvage and response phases; and the partnership with local fisheries chartered to undertake at-sea response in the region;
- identify any other weaknesses regarding salvage and pollution response operations.

The exercise was conducted from Sandnessjøen where the Incident Command was set up as well as in the field where full scale at-sea and shoreline operations were conducted. Romain was on board the observer vessel, whilst Franck attended the NCA command centre with representatives of Skuld P&I and the shipowner, Knutsen OAS shipping.

This above report is reproduced here with acknowledgement and thanks to ITOPF [Source document](#) <http://www.itopf.com>

USA: NOAA REPORT: DEEPWATER HORIZON OIL SPILL CAUSED BIGGEST DOLPHIN DIE-OFF IN GULF'S HISTORY

Photo: A new NOAA study shows a link between the 2010 Deepwater Horizon accident and a flourish of dolphins deaths along the Gulf coast. This is one of the stranded dead dolphins that came ashore in 2012 along the Louisiana coast. Photo by Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries

May 20 - The 2010 BP Deepwater Horizon disaster caused a fatal disease never seen before in dolphins living in the Gulf of Mexico, according to a new report from National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA). The study finally gives verdict to whether or not petroleum exposure caused the biggest dolphin die-off ever recorded in the Gulf of Mexico.

“No feasible alternatives remain that can reasonably explain the timing, location and nature of this increase in death,” co-author Stephanie Venn-Watson of the National Marine Mammal Foundation in San Diego said in a press conference announcing the study. This forensic investigation is part of NOAA’s long-term ecological analysis of the Deepwater incident that was started in 2013, known as the [Natural Resource Damage Assessment](#)



BP has [always challenged](#) the link between the current slate of dolphin deaths — more than 1,300 in five years — and the Deepwater Horizon oil spill, which leaked an estimated 4.9 million barrels of oil into the Gulf of Mexico between April and September 2010. [PBS.org](#) [Read more](#)

May 20 - BP oil spill contributed to dead dolphins, scientists say, citing tissue samples - The [BP oil spill](#) contributed to the deaths of [bottlenose dolphins](#) along the Gulf of Mexico's northern coast, scientists said Wednesday (May 20), citing a study of tissue samples that for the first time found conclusive evidence of a link between the disaster and the animals' deaths.

BP immediately attacked the study, pointing to the beginning of the dolphin die-off in February 2010, two months before the spill, as indicating that other natural diseases are to blame. [The Times Picayune](#) [Read more](#)

ISCO WELCOMES ANOTHER NEW MEMBER

This week ISCO welcomes new Corporate Member Osprey Spill Control, based in Virginia, USA. The company was founded in 2009 by its President Mary Meyer. OSC manufactures, markets, and distributes Osprey Sorbents, a recycled cellulose-based sorbent system used to aid in the recovery of oil and other hydrocarbon-based liquid products released into the environment in the event of an oil spill. Mrs. Meyer has steered the way to create an environmentally friendly way to clean up all types of hydrocarbon based spills offering the highest sorption rate (30X) in the market, non-toxic, and non-corrosive, hydrophobic, price competitive and safe for humans, animals and plants.

PROFESSIONAL RECOGNITION FOR INDIVIDUALS IN THE INTERNATIONAL SPILL RESPONSE COMMUNITY

This month ISCO celebrates the fourth anniversary of the introduction of new classes of professional membership that recognise the qualifications and experience of spill responders and others in the international spill response community.

In May 2011 SCO President David Usher wrote "This fills a long felt need and will help meet the aspirations of many in the industry who have long felt that their qualifications and experience should be recognised. The creation of professional memberships will encourage all who are making a career in the field of oil and chemical pollution control to take pride in their chosen profession".

Students, apprentices and trainees can join ISCO as student members and pursue a career development path that, as qualifications and experience are gained, can lead to eligibility for Associate Membership (AMISCO), Membership (MISCO) and, eventually, Fellowship (FISCO).

At this year's Annual General Meeting held during the Interspill Conference in Amsterdam it was agreed that a free one year "student membership" be made available for students, apprentices and trainees. These awards will be made to individuals upon recommendation of training organisations and companies undertaking internal training programmes.

The intention is to encourage young people who show promise and interest in making a career in the spill response industry. Nominated individuals will receive a Certificate of Student Membership and be able to access technical information such as spill response tools, manuals, response guidelines on the ISCO website. They will also receive the ISCO Newsletter which has an educational role and be able to seek additional help and advice from other members via the ISCO Groups facility (currently under construction)

Lecturers at training establishments and training managers at companies that carry out their own internal training are invited to nominate candidates for a free one year trial student membership of ISCO. Please send an email to john.mcmurtrie@spillcontrol.org with names and email addresses of the candidates you wish to recommend.

All who have the relevant qualifications and the required level of experience can apply for Professional Membership of ISCO. The organization offers independent validation and integrity. Each grade of membership reflects an individual's professional training, experience and qualifications. Academic qualifications are not a requirement if applicants can demonstrate the necessary levels of competence through their experience, skills and professional development.

The key word is "professional" when applied to men and women who are making a success in their careers and have the necessary levels of knowledge and expertise. Professional recognition is a visible mark of quality, competence and commitment, and can offer a significant advantage in today's competitive environment. More info under Membership at <http://www.spillcontrol.org>

Science and Technology

INDIAN-AMERICAN TEENAGER INVENTS DEVICE THAT STOPS UNDERSEA OIL SPILLS



May 19 - This Indian-American boy from Texas has developed a device that can prevent ecological catastrophe. Karan Jerath, 18, has invented a device that can stop oil spills undersea, for which he won the Intel Foundation Young Scientist Award in the US. Jerath bagged \$50,000 top prize at the just concluded Intel International Science and Engineering Fair (ISEF).

The teenager, who designed a device that can collect oil, gas and water spewing from a broken well on the seafloor, was one of the five contenders selected for the Intel and Indo-US Science and Technology Forum Visit to India Award.

Explaining how the device works, Jerath said sensors inside the 350-tonne device would measure the temperature, pressure and density of the mix of gases and fluids erupting from a well and a computer would then calculate how valves in the gadget should be adjusted so that the gas and oil can be collected. "That should stop a spill in its tracks. The device could help prevent an ecological catastrophe. It also would lessen cleanup costs," he said. [Gizmodo India](#) [Read more](#)

NOAA LAUNCHES NEW DATA MANAGEMENT TOOL FOR PUBLIC ACCESS TO DEEPWATER HORIZON OIL SPILL DATA



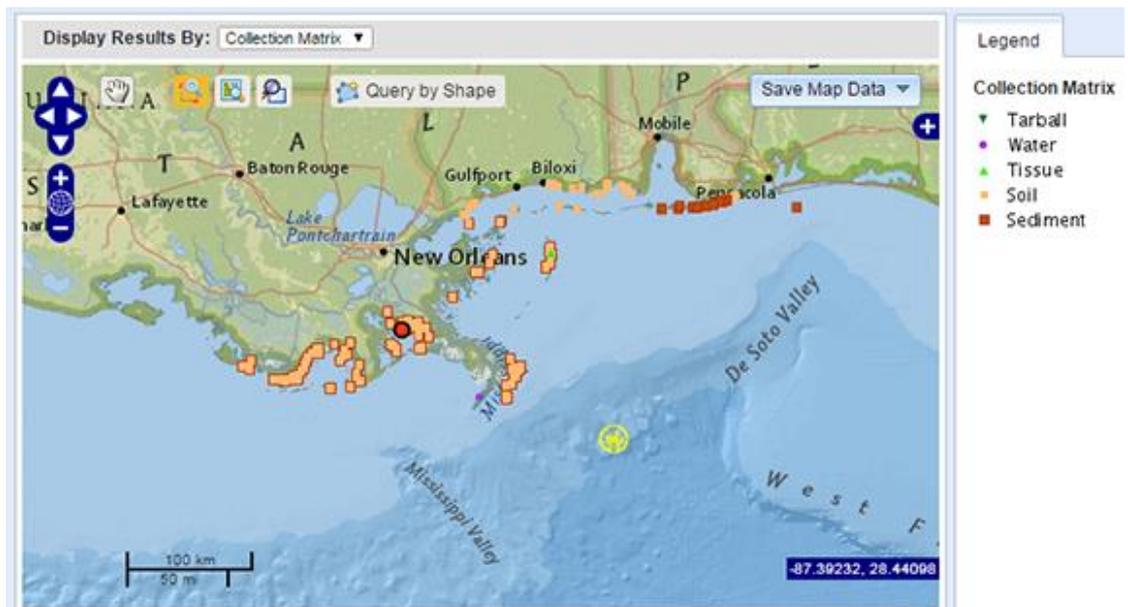
Picture: Launching a device to take measurements in the water column during the 2010 Deepwater Horizon oil spill. NOAA built the online tool DIVER to organize and provide access to these scientific data and the many others collected in the wake of the spill. (NOAA)

May 4 - A flexible new data management tool—known as DIVER and developed by NOAA to support the Natural Resource Damage Assessment for the 2010 Deepwater Horizon oil spill—is now available for public use.

DIVER stands for "Data Integration, Visualization, Exploration and Reporting," and it can be accessed at <https://dwhdiver.orr.noaa.gov/>

DIVER was developed as a digital data warehouse during the Deepwater Horizon oil spill response effort and related damage assessment process, which has required collecting and organizing massive amounts of scientific data on the environmental impacts of the spill.

The tool serves as a centralized data repository that integrates diverse environmental data sets collected from across the Gulf of Mexico ecosystem. It allows scientists from different organizations and laboratories located across the country to upload field data, analyses, photographs, and other key information related to their studies in a standardized format. DIVER thus brings together all of that validated information into a single, web-based tool.



In addition, DIVER provides unprecedented flexibility for filtering and downloading validated data collected as part of the ongoing damage assessment efforts for the Gulf of Mexico.

The custom query and mapping interface of the tool, "DIVER Explorer," provides both a data filter and review tools, which allow users to refine how they look for data and explore large data sets online. Query results are presented in an interactive dashboard, with a map, charts, table of results, metadata (data about the data), and sophisticated options for exporting the data.

NOAA Press Release [Read more](#)

Links for recent issues of other publications (in alphabetical order)

- [AMSA Aboard](#)
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- [JOIFF "The Catalyst"](#)
- [MOIG Newsletter](#)

- News from the Australian Maritime Safety Authority
- News and commentary on HSE issues from George Holliday
- Sam Ignarski's Ezine on Marine & Transport Matters
- News from Cedre in Brittany, France
- Latest Remediation and related technology news
- Canberra & Regions Oil Industry Emergency Response Group
- News from the European Maritime Safety Agency
- News from the Energy Institute
- Environmental Monitoring, Testing & Analysis
- News from the International Maritime Organization
- New and forthcoming IMO publications
- International news for the oil tanker community
- Int'l Petroleum Industry Environmental Conservation Assoc'n
- Int'l Organisation for Industrial Hazard Management
- News from the Mediterranean Oil Industry Group

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NOAA update	Oil spill response news from NOAA OR&R	April 2015
OCIMF Newsletter	News from the Oil Companies International Marine Forum	April 2015 issue
Pollution Online Newsletter	News for prevention & control professionals	May 20 issue
Sea Alarm Foundation Newsletter	News from the Sea Alarm Wildlife Protection Organisation	Spring 2015 issue
SAC News	Oil spill related and other news from Alaska	April 2015
Technology Innovation News Survey	From US EPA - Contaminated site decontamination	April 1-15 2015
The Essential Hazmat News	Alliance of Hazardous Materials Professionals	March 23 issue
Transport Canada Newsletter	News and articles re transport of dangerous goods in Canada	Winter 2014 issue
USA EPA Tech Direct	Remediation of contaminated soil and groundwater	May 1 2015 issue
USA EPA Tech News & Trends	Contaminated site clean-up information	Winter 2015 issue

Events



The CLEAN PACIFIC Conference & Exhibition is around the corner and registration is on track to be our most well-attended event yet. Don't miss the opportunity to attend CLEAN PACIFIC and discuss a variety of spill preparedness and response topics unique to the West with your peers in the spill response community! [Register today](#) using **VIP code CORNER**.

Keynote Session: The View from the Waterfront: the Convergence of Rail, Pipeline, and Vessel Transport in British Columbia



Roger Girouard, Assistant Commissioner, Canadian Coast Guard, Western Region

The Assistant Commissioner will speak to the land-sea interface and the impact of the growing economic flow of products through British Columbia's ports and the Province's adjacent waters. Considering that upcoming projects will increase shipping by 20% in the medium term, he will explore the methods of managing the movement of goods today, the plans to mitigate any growing risks and the tools required to address marine incidents.

Mega Session: Changing the Landscape, Framing the Issues

Energy transport across the West Coast of Canada is the subject of much debate, concern and speculation. It impacts the environment, the economy, and the communities through which it is transported. This Mega session will frame the issues from a wide perspective of a variety of stakeholders who are all important to the conversation.

Jurisdictional Updates and Legacy Awards

Hear what you need to know to conduct business in the Pacific States and the Province of British Columbia directly from the regulators responsible for implementation and enforcement. The Jurisdictional Updates are followed by the presentation of the Pacific States and British Columbia Oil Spill Task Force Legacy Awards.

[Tracks and Sessions:](#)

Track 1: Prevention

- How Marine Safety Regimes Prevent Oil Spills
- Assessing Risk Protocols/Risk Assessment and Continuous Improvement
- Assessing Risks in Marine Environments
- Managing Risk in the Inland Zone
- Evolution of Prevention - How to Take the Results to the Next Level
- Funding and Insurance Issues

Track 2: Planning and Preparedness

- Advances in Planning - Part 1
- Advances in Planning - Part 2
- Information Sharing: Getting Everyone Prepared
- Mounting a Transboundary Response
- Advances in Drills and Training
- Inland Planning and Preparedness for Rail and Pipelines

Events (continued)

Track 3: Response and Recovery

- Developing Technologies in Response
- Define the Toolbox and Use the Right Tool for the Job – Part 1
- Define the Toolbox and Use the Right Tool for the Job – Part 2
- Wildlife Response Issues
- Response Safety
- Operations - Hot Topics, Cool Places

[Pre-Conference Workshops:](#)

- Building and Executing a Communication Strategy Before a Spill Occurs
- Shoreline/Inland Response and SCAT Surveys

ISCO is a sponsor of the Clean Pacific Conference and Exhibition and commends this event to its Members

Contracts and Tenders

EMSA: SERVICE CONTRACT FOR EQUIPMENT ASSISTANCE SERVICE (EAS)

The Procurement procedure EMSA/NEG/8/2015 for Service Contract for Equipment Assistance Service (EAS) has been launched by the European Maritime Safety Agency (EMSA) for the provision of storage, maintenance, transport and logistic for oil pollution response services, more particularly the availability on-site of specialised Oil Spill Response (OSR) equipment in order to respond to oil spills in the European regional sea basins.

The Invitation to Apply and associated Enclosures, which can be downloaded in a zip file from this link, include the details on how to participate and the relevant requirements at this stage.

For any request, contact the following e-mail address NEG82015@emsa.europa.eu. The relevant Contract Notice for this procedure (reference 2015/S 077-135320) as published in the Official Journal of the European Union can be found in the following link: <http://ted.europa.eu/udl?uri=TED:NOTICE:135320-2015:TEXT:EN:HTML> **Deadline for submission is 15 June 2015**

OIL BOOMS, OIL SKIMMERS, OIL SPILL RESPONSE SERVICES - GLOBAL TENDER TIGER

Last week your editor received an email from a company called Tender Tiger. This company provides information on Tenders, Bids, RFP, RFQ, EOI, Specifications, Prequalification's, Projects, Upcoming Projects, Procurement Forecasts, Procurement news, Expression of Interest and Projects on a daily basis via e-mail. Service users are given a unique User ID and Password for online browsing on its website, to view all the Live Business Opportunities related to their business interests. Tender Tiger provides this tender information on a subscription basis. Interested companies need to register with its portal by paying a onetime subscription fee to get tender information delivered daily by email and to also be able to access the company's website.

The most important thing is notification of new tenders being issued. With the help of the portal you don't need to search for tenders that match your interest because the company selects relevant tenders in accordance with your requirements and receives tender invitations on a daily basis. As soon as a tender is published by the tendering authority Tender Tiger forwards that information with full details to you within 24 hours so that you can prepare your bid strategy accordingly.

Looks like a useful service and it appears that several ISCO members are already signed up. Contacts are as follows - Rahul.Chauhan@tendertiger.com and Hussain.Mirza@tendertiger.com

Company news

EGYPT: IEMS OPENS NEW HEADQUARTERS BUILDING

IEMS has consolidated its operations and relocated its Egyptian headquarters to a recently completed building in new Cairo.

The new headquarters encompasses 400 square meters on an entire floor of the three-story office tower overlooking Road 90, new Cairo. About half of the space is dedicated to administrative purposes, and the rest has been designed to provide a fully equipped state of the art Emergency Operations Room and Training Centre.

Legal disclaimer: Whilst ISCO takes every care to ensure that information published in this newsletter is accurate unintentional mistakes can occur. No liability for consequences of errors is accepted but, if an error is brought to our attention, a correction will be printed in a following issue of this newsletter. Products and services featured in the ISCO Newsletter and/or the ISCO website, including the International Directory of Spill Response Supplies and Services, have not been tested, approved or endorsed by ISCO. Any claims made by suppliers of products or services are solely those of the suppliers and ISCO does not accept any liability for their accuracy. It should not be assumed that views and opinions expressed in linked reports, articles and other content reflect the views of the organization. Subscription is subject to acceptance of ISCO's Terms and Conditions as published on the website www.spillcontrol.org
