

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

ICE MANAGEMENT SYSTEM FOR RECOVERING SPILLED OIL IN ICE INFESTED WATERS



The Desmi Brush skimmer sits inside the ice management system that prevents ice, slush and debris from interfering with the skimmer's ability to pick up oil.

Recovery operations in ice infested waters with mechanical recovery equipment is complicated by ice, slush and debris, which interferes with the skimmer's ability to efficiently pick up oil. This problem was identified during the Bureau of Safety and Environmental Enforcement (BSEE) funded Ice Month in the winter of 2013 at Ohmsett. Ice Month skimmer evaluations were conducted with US Coast Guard and US Navy equipment in a simulated arctic environment. The objective was to identify viable technologies and equipment alternatives for use by Oil Spill Response Organizations (OSROs).

As a result of the evaluation, it was recommended that an ice management system that prevents ice, slush and debris from interfering with the skimmer could potentially enhance its performance. Continuing the collaborative research effort between BSEE and the USCG, the USCG R&D Center took the lead in soliciting the development of an ice management system. They awarded a contract to Marine Pollution Control (MPC) of Michigan to design and build a deployable device to keep ice from around the skimmer recovery zone.

The newly designed ice cage was tested with two skimmers at Ohmsett during the week of March 2, 2015 in conditions similar to those used during Ice Month.

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International news (continued)

According to Kurt Hansen, project engineer for the USCG R&D Center, they wanted an ice management system that could increase the recovery efficiency performance in 70% ice coverage conditions.

The Ice Cage has a conical shape that displaces ice when the system is placed into the water. It floats separately from the skimmer and is equipped with a fence-like frame that prevents ice chunks from entering the collection zone. The ice cage was designed to work with several skimmers and was evaluated with an Elastec TDS 118G Drum skimmer and a Desmi Helix skimmer.

"This was a collaborative effort to get the potential realized," said Bill Hazel, director of Marine Services at MPC. "The need for the cone shape came out of the ice month demonstrations. So we designed around strength and floatation."

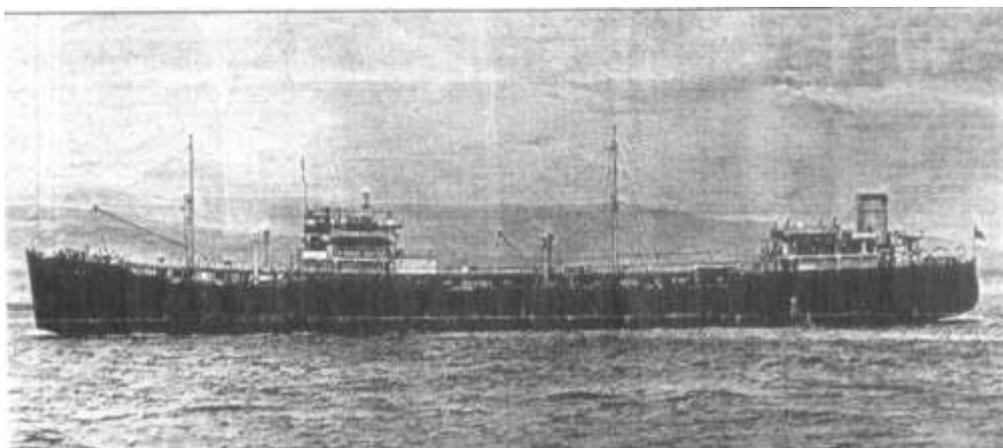
The evaluation took place in a boomed area of the Ohmsett tank which provided enough room for the skimmer and ice cage to move through the ice floes. Ice was sourced from the U.S. Army's Corps of Engineers Cold Regions Research and Engineering Laboratory (CRREL) in 40-inch x 40-inch x 8-inch thick sheets. The ice field was created by cutting the sheets into various sizes and placing them in the boomed area for evaluations in 30% and 70% ice coverage. To create the simulated oil spill, a 1-inch thick slick was distributed within the test area.

Ice coverage and slick thickness were measured and verified during the test series using two different techniques: a thermal imaging camera with processing software known as Tactical Rapid Airborne Classification System (TRACS), and a pixel counting technique using overhead digital images.

During the tests the skimmers were maneuvered and controlled using the main bridge crane. They were slowly moved through the test area in order to expose the skimmer to new pockets of oil within the ice field. The skimmers within the ice cage were evaluated for recovery efficiency, recovery rate and operational efficiency. This project was the first at Ohmsett to explore the feasibility of this concept to ultimately increase the effectiveness of oil recovery in icy waters. The data collected during the test series is currently being evaluated and, according to Hansen, the USCG RDC is considering if additional modifications are needed for deployment in an actual spill. *[The above article originally appeared in The Ohmsett Gazette and is reproduced here with the kind permission of Ohmsett]*

International news (continued)

UK MOD TO REMOVE OIL FROM RFA DARKDALE, JAMES' BAY, ST. HELENA



The RFA Darkdale was a fleet fuel tanker stationed at St Helena in World War II. In October 1941, she was attacked and sunk by a U-Boat in James' Bay and since that time she has been slowly seeping oil – visible as a light sheen over the wreck site.

A major marine and environmental operation to remove remaining oil in the wreck of RFA Darkdale in James' Bay – led by the UK's Ministry of Defence (MOD) – will commence mobilisation in Cape Town on 1 June 2015. Three

vessels will be readied for the operation and the salvage group – including a team of Royal Navy divers – is expected to arrive at St Helena around Thursday 25 June, possibly a day or two earlier if mobilisation goes well. The team plans to complete all phases of the work in James' Bay by 1 August, with some flex built in to cover adverse weather and technical issues.

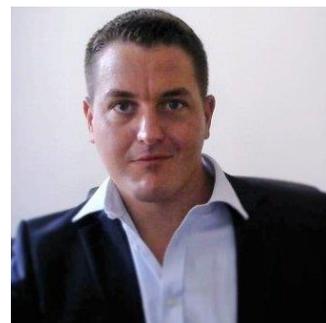
On 2 December 2013, the recommendations of an MOD report were published and accepted – including a recommendation that the remaining oil be removed from the wreck. Since then, MOD, FCO and SHG have worked to bring the operation together – all designed to safeguard St Helena's precious marine environment for the future. Given the scale of the operation and St Helena's remote location, planning for this work has taken some time. Up to 5000 cubic metres of oil is believed to remain in the wreck and this will now be removed.

International news (continued)



Photos – LEFT, Andy Liddell, MOD Salvage & Marine Operations Division and RIGHT, James Brewin, Salvage Operations Manager, Swire Pacific Offshore

The team will be led by Project Director Andy Liddell of MOD's Salvage & Marine Operations division, supported by Jim Griffiths, MOD Project Manager, and James Brewin, Project Director of prime contractor Swire Salvage. A team of UK Royal Navy divers, lead by Lieutenant Oliver Shepherd, will initially clear ammunition that is on and adjacent to the up-turned hull of the wreck prior to commencing the operation.



The contract awarded to Swire Salvage is to the value of £6.87m which – as the owners of the wreck – is being paid by the UK Ministry of Defence.

Andy Liddell said “The wreck of the Darkdale first came to our attention in 2010 and I am pleased that we are now taking positive action to remove oil from the wreck and minimise the risk of pollution to the beautiful Island of St Helena”.

Head of the Environmental Management Division, Ben Sansom said: “We welcome this operation, which will ensure the protection of our wonderful marine environment from this legacy pollution risk. The removal of the oil from the wreck will ensure that in the long term there are no ongoing pollution risks from the RFA Darkdale. In the meantime, EMD will continue to provide local knowledge and assistance when requested by the MOD.”

The majority of the work will be carried out from the Pacific Diligence, a large offshore support vessel. In addition, there will be an oil tanker and a smaller offshore support vessel to assist with other tasks, including laying the moorings for the tanker.

The oil will be removed by divers and remotely operated vehicles from the Pacific Diligence, using a technique known as hot tapping, involving the fixing of valves to the hull and pumping of oil without leakage to the marine environment. At the end of the task, the valves will remain on the hull, but otherwise the wreck will remain unaffected. The removed oil will be pumped onto the tanker and taken for safe disposal.

The MOD team has said that although outside of UK waters – and therefore not protected in statute in the same way as some of the wrecks around the UK coastline – the Darkdale is the final resting place of the majority of her crew and will be treated with utmost respect.

Source: Press release from St. Helena Government <http://www.sainthelena.gov.sh/mod-to-remove-oil-from-darkdale/>

Related reports <http://www.historicalrfa.org/archived-stories/856-the-loss-of-rfa-darkdale>

And <http://www.the5gigabytediet.com/2015/04/dive-st-helena-rfa-darkdale-part-2/> [Thanks to Bob McWhinnie, BEM]

RESPONDING TO TRANS-BOUNDARY MARINE INCIDENTS

IMO's Colleen O'Hagan has emphasized the importance of widespread ratification of international conventions relating to marine pollution at a workshop on trans-boundary maritime environmental pollution, taking place in Brisbane, Australia (20-22 May). The course, aimed at technical and policy officials from ASEAN countries with operational and policy responsibility for maritime pollution, is part of an initiative by the Expanded ASEAN Maritime Forum (EAMF) on ASEAN Seafarers' Training (EAST).

Ratification of the International Convention on Oil Pollution Preparedness, Response and Co-operation (OPRC) was one of the treaties highlighted by Ms O'Hagan during her keynote speech at the event, which is being co-chaired by Australia and Viet Nam and hosted by the Australia Maritime Safety Authority (AMSA) and the University of Queensland, Australia. IMO <http://www.imo.org>

CARIBBEAN – RAC/REMPEITC-CARIBE HAS RELEASED A NEW BROCHURE

The Regional Marine Pollution Emergency, Information and Training Centre is one of four Regional Activity Centres of the Caribbean Environment Programme (UNEP-CAR/RCU). Established in 1995, RAC/REMPEITC-Caribe is hosted by the government of Curaçao and staffed with subject matter experts voluntarily seconded by states signatory to the Cartagena Convention of 1983. Activities are largely funded by the International Maritime Organization (IMO), the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP).

RAC/REMPEITC-Caribe assists countries in the Wider Caribbean Region to prevent and respond to pollution in the marine environment through:

- Developing and assessing national and multilateral contingency plans
- Training and workshops
- Technical support and consultancy
- Information and public awareness

Download brochure at http://cep.unep.org/racrempeitc/about-us/RAC_REMPEITC%202015%20one%20page%20brochure.pdf

International news (continued)

PERFORMANCE OF EUROPEAN CROSS-COUNTRY OIL PIPELINES

May 8 – CONCAWE has released its latest Report on the Performance of European Cross-Country Pipelines. This is statistical summary of reported spillages in 2013 and since 1971. The report can be downloaded at - https://www.concawe.eu/uploads/Modules/Publications/rpt_15-4.pdf

THE MEDITERRANEAN ACTION PLAN CELEBRATES ITS 40TH ANNIVERSARY: "TOGETHER FOR A SUSTAINABLE MEDITERRANEAN"

May 19 - Under the auspices of the Ministry for Environment of the Hellenic Republic, the United Nations Environment Programme/Mediterranean Action Plan (UNEP/MAP) launched the celebration of its 40th anniversary in Athens, Greece on 19 May 2015.

Under the umbrella of the United Nations Environment Programme, the Mediterranean Action Plan and the Barcelona Convention provide the political and legal framework for the protection of the marine environment and the coastal areas of the Mediterranean region. With all riparian countries and the EU as Contracting Parties, they aim at addressing the multiple pressures affecting the sea and its coasts while promoting sustainable development.

More information on UNEP/MAP's activities and action is accessible on the [following link](#). *REMPEC* [Read more](#)

Incident reports from around the world (in chronological order)

UK: TOXIC SLUDGE DUMPED BESIDE RIVER NESS IN CLAUDY, NORTHERN IRELAND



May 22 - Containers of toxic sludge have been dumped metres from a river on a County Londonderry road. They were dumped on the Baranait Road in Claudy beside the River Ness, a tributary of the River Faughan,

The sludge is the by-product of illegal fuel laundering. *BBC News* [Read more](#)

USA: CALIFORNIA OIL SPILL FIVE TIMES WORSE THAN PREDICTED



Photo: Staff members and volunteers work to clean oil off a brown pelican at the International Bird Rescue office in the San Pedro area of Los Angeles, on Friday. A broken onshore pipeline in near Santa Barbara spewed oil down a storm drain and into the ocean for several hours Tuesday before it was shut off. Chris Carlson — The Associated Press

May 23 - The nine-mile Santa Barbara coastline hit by an oil spill on Tuesday is even worse off than expected. Officials now say about 105,000 gallons of crude oil have spilled into Refugio State Beach, up from five times the original predictions.

It may take months before the beach is restored, U.S. Coast Guard Capt. Jennifer Williams said at a news conference.

Msnbc [Read more and watch news video](#)

May 23 - Leaking California pipeline had no automatic shut-off valve: The pipeline that leaked hundreds of thousands of litres of oil on the California coast this week was the only pipe of its kind in the county not required to have an automatic shut-off valve because of a court fight nearly three decades ago, a county official said. *CBC News* [Read more](#)

May 23 - That 10 square mile oil slick off the California coast is getting tougher to clean up: A 10-square-mile oil slick off the coast of California is thinner than a coat of paint and it's becoming harder to skim from choppy waters, officials said Friday as more dead animals were discovered on the Santa Barbara coast. *Business Insider* [Read more](#)

May 25 - Company lowers worst-case scenario for California oil spill: Plains All American Pipeline is downgrading the amount

Incident reports from around the world (in chronological order)

of oil it says spilled off a California coastline in a worst-case scenario The company now says the estimate of the worst-case volume of oil released is up to 101,000 gallons — about 4,200 gallons less than previously believed.

May 28 - California Pipeline Owner Receives Oil Cleanup Order: The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the U.S. Coast Guard have issued a joint federal Clean Water Act order to ensure the cleanup of heavy crude oil leaked from a pipeline near Refugio State Beach, Santa Barbara County, Calif. The order requires Plains Pipeline, L.P. (a.k.a. Plains All American Pipeline), the pipeline owner and operator, to continue its cleanup work inland, beachside, and in the ocean, to contain the oil and prevent further shoreline contamination. The order establishes federally enforceable timelines and cleanup requirements for the long-term response action that will be required to clean up the largest coastal spill in California in the last 25 years.

The Maritime Executive [Read more](#)

LIBYA: AIRSTRIKE SETS OIL TANKER ABLAZE



May 25 - Warplanes deployed by Libya's internationally recognized government bombed an oil tanker at a terminal controlled by the nation's rival Islamist leaders, killing one person, the regional coastguard commander said.

The Anwaar Afriqya, carrying fuel from Greece, was attacked while anchored to offload the cargo for a power plant in the coastal region of Sirte, Rida Issa said in a telephone interview. The airstrike wounded another person and set the vessel on fire, he said. The tanker was carrying 30,000 liters of light fuel, according to the Libya News Agency.

gCaptain [Read more](#)

USA: OIL SPILL CONCERN IN AMERICAN SAMOA

May 27 - There's concern up to 4,000 litres of fuel and tonnes of dead fish could be spilled into the ocean in American Samoa where a fishing vessel ran aground.

The Taiwanese-flagged longliner hit the reef off Coconut Point on Friday, leaving its crew with minor cuts and scratches. Efforts to salvage the longliner have so far been unsuccessful because of bad weather. *Radio New Zealand* [Read more](#)

USA: COAST GUARD CONTINUES TO MONITOR PISCATAQUA OIL SPILL, NEW CASTLE, NH

May 27 - A National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration ship, Ferdinand R. Hassler, accidentally discharged oily water overboard during its mooring in New Castle shortly after 12 p.m. "It was some kind of mixture of oil and water," Lt. Cmdr. Timm Balunis said. "We're still investigating the cause. We do know it was accidental, we know it was secured, and at this point we're focused on cleaning it up as thoroughly as we can." *WMUR News* [Read more and watch video](#) [Thanks to Don Johnston of ISCO Industry Partner, DG & Hazmat Group]

USA: UNIFIED COMMAND RESPONDING TO CLEANUP ABOARD VESSEL IN ALASKA

May 28 - A Unified Command consisting of representatives from the U.S. Coast Guard, Department of the Interior, Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation, City of Seldovia and the responsible party, formed to respond to a 6,000 gallon diesel fuel discharge into the Gulf of Alaska has completed fuel removal from the damaged tank trailer aboard the motor vessel Thor's Hammer.

Response crews and contractors from Alaska Chadux Corporation removed the 3,000 gallons of diesel fuel remaining in the punctured tank, as well as 28 bags of oily waste collected by the motor vessel Thor's Hammer's crew. The 6,000 gallons of spilled diesel is no longer recoverable due to weathering and evaporation. *Green4Sea* [Read more](#) Another report in [The Maritime Executive](#)

USA: TAR-LIKE GOO CLOSES TWO-MILE STRETCH OF MANHATTAN BEACH

May 28 - A two-mile stretch of shoreline in Manhattan Beach was closed Wednesday when an unidentified tar-like substance began washing ashore.

The unknown substance began hitting the beach about 10 a.m., according to the county. The U.S. Coast Guard and other agencies collected samples of the material and were still trying to identify the substance and its source. A company known as Ocean Blue Environmental was hired to clean up the substance. *The Orange County Register* [Read more](#)

Incident reports from around the world (continued)

SPAIN: DAMAGED PETROL TANKER WITH 90,000 TONNES OF FUEL WANTS TO MOOR IN LAS PALMAS

May 29 – A broken-down ship carrying 90,000 tonnes of fuel has asked permission to moor in Las Palmas de Gran Canaria, just weeks after a Russian fishing boat caught fire and left a six-kilometre oil-slick off the coast of Maspalomas.



The Lady M, a petrol tanker, suffered a breakdown when crossing the Strait of Gibraltar en route to the USA a few days ago, caused by a fire in the control cabin.

Since then, the craft, which bears a Liberian flag, has been 'drifting' in the Atlantic.

It is currently around 60 miles, or 111 kilometres off the coast of Gran Canaria, the nearest dry land suitable for mooring the boat and carrying out repairs.

Gnomes National News [Read more](#) [Thanks to Don Johnston of ISCO Industry Partner, DG & Hazmat Group]

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

AUSTRALIA: BP WOULD NEED TO BRING EQUIPMENT FROM TEXAS TO CONTAIN SOUTH AUSTRALIA OIL SPILL

May 24 - BP's attempts to halt any oil spill from planned drilling off South Australia's coast would depend on transporting recovery equipment from Houston, Texas, internal documents have revealed.

In information submitted to the federal government, BP says equipment to cap leaking oil wells is based in Singapore, more than 4,800km away, while a containment response system would have to be transported from Houston in the US, more than 14,000km away.

The shipping and installation of the equipment from Singapore to Australia would take 32 days, while the response system would take 25 days to arrive from Houston, the document shows. In the event of a disaster, a second rig would be positioned to drill a "relief" well, which would take 157 days, BP says. *The Guardian* [Read more](#)

AUSTRALIA: BARRIER REEF SPILL: AUTHORITY CANNOT AFFORD TO CLEAN UP GROUNDED SHIP'S TOXIC MESS

May 25 - The Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority (GBRMPA) says it cannot afford to clean up all the toxic mess left over from the grounding of a bulk coal carrier on the reef in 2010.

Chinese ship Shen Neng One ran aground on Douglas Shoal off the central Queensland coast on April 3, 2010, after veering more than 10 kilometres outside the shipping lane.

The grounding damaged one of the ship's fuel tanks, resulting in a four-kilometre-long slick of heavy fuel oil and leaving toxic antifouling paint embedded in the sea floor. *ABC News* [Read more](#) [Thanks to Don Johnston of ISCO Industry Partner, DG & Hazmat Group]

CANADA: CALCULATING OIL SPILL PROBABILITIES IS TRICKY AND FRAUGHT WITH CONTROVERSY

May 26 - A new report on the risks of the Kinder Morgan pipeline project by two Simon Fraser University academics is sure to raise concerns among residents around Burrard Inlet and deep skepticism among industry experts.

Simon Fraser University's Thomas Gunton and Sean Broadbent looked at existing spill projections to come up with a report filed with Tuesday with the National Energy Board.

The report wasn't public until late Tuesday, but the material was used in a devastating environmental assessment of the \$5.4 billion project released earlier in the day by the Tsleil-Waututh First Nation of North Vancouver.

Using data that includes tanker spills before to the introduction of mandatory double-hulling of tankers, the academics presented a frightening scenario to the public. *The Vancouver Sun* [Read more](#)

Other news reports from around the world (continued)

CANADA: OIL SPILL CONTINGENCY FEE FOR TRANS MOUNTAIN PIPELINE DRAWS FLAK

May 27 - Kinder Morgan Inc. is taking flak over a plan to jack up fees on its Trans Mountain pipeline to cover costs associated with oil spill safeguards as the company seeks approval for a threefold expansion of the conduit.

U.S.-based Kinder Morgan is proposing an increase of roughly 8 per cent to fees paid by oil company shippers in order to bolster the industry's ability to respond to a large marine oil spill, according to documents filed with regulators.

The change, set to take effect as early as June 1, would tack a 28-cent-a-barrel surcharge on shipments from the company's Westridge dock, where the pipeline ends in Burnaby, B.C. – a pinch point in the energy industry's long-running effort to dramatically boost exports of Alberta's landlocked crude. *The Globe and Mail* [Read more](#)

INDIA: PARTIALLY SUNKEN SAGAR PASCHIMI POSES OIL SPILLAGE THREAT

May 28 - An ocean research and survey vessel from Chennai has been lying partially submerged in the coastal waters near the Fishing Harbour since Cyclone Hudhud struck the city on October 12, 2014, triggering apprehensions among city environmental organisations about oil spillage in the future.

Even though the central government institute, Chennai-based National Institute of Ocean Technology (NIOT), which owns the ship, had intimated the ministry concerned about the incident, bureaucratic clearances and coordination among various government departments and ministries has led to delays in salvaging the vessel even seven months after it got partly submerged.

The Times of India [Read more](#)

NEW ZEALAND: WORLD'S SMALLEST DOLPHINS FALLING PREY TO EXTINCTION



Photo: Maui's dolphins in the waters off New Zealand's North Island (Photo courtesy NABU)

Numbers of the world's smallest and rarest marine dolphin, New Zealand's critically endangered Maui's dolphin, have hit an all time low of 43-47 individuals, with just 10-12 adult females.

Cetacean experts and advocates are warning that the Maui's dolphin could go extinct within 15 years.

The future of the Maui's dolphin will be part of the discussions by 200 of the world's cetacean scientists who are in San Diego for the annual two-week-long meeting of the Scientific Committee of the International Whaling Commission, IWC. *Environment News Service* [Read more](#)

USA: PRESIDENT OBAMA ASSERTS POWER OVER SMALL WATERWAYS

May 27 - The Obama administration on Wednesday asserted its authority over the nation's streams, wetlands and other smaller waterways, moving forward with one of the most controversial environmental regulations in recent years.

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the Army Corps of Engineers said they are making final their proposed waters of the United States rule, which Republicans and many businesses have long panned as a massive federal overreach that would put the EPA in charge of ditches, puddles and wet areas.

"We're finalizing a clean water rule to protect the streams and the wetlands that one in three Americans rely on for drinking water. And we're doing that without creating any new permitting requirements and maintaining all previous exemptions and exclusions," EPA head Gina McCarthy told reporters Wednesday. *The Hill* [Read more](#)

USA: KULLUK: SHELL APPROVED INADEQUATE PLAN

May 29 - The U.S. National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB) has released its report into the 2012 grounding of Kulluk, an ice-class mobile offshore drilling unit owned by Shell Offshore and operated by Noble Drilling.

The investigators concluded that no single error or mechanical failure led to this accident. Rather, shortcomings in the design of a plan with an insufficient margin of safety allowed this accident to take place. The plan was created to move the mobile offshore drilling unit (MODU) at a time of year with a known likelihood of severe weather conditions for reasons unrelated to operational safety. *The Maritime Executive* [Read more](#)

ISCO WELCOMES NEW CORPORATE MEMBER

ISCO is pleased to welcome Varichem de Colombia S.A.S. as a new Corporate Member of the organization. The company, based in Bogota D.C., was founded in 1996. It is focused on providing specialized industrial environmental solutions, VARICHEM has grouped together, a unique collection of products, equipment and services that cover the many diverse needs of our customers and offer new alternatives with high quality, safety and environmental standards. More info is on the website at www.varichem.com

INDIVIDUAL MEMBERSHIP OF ISCO

Individual Membership, costing only £75 per annum, is available for individuals who don't want to seek Professional Membership of the organization. Going for this option is the best choice if all you want is the weekly newsletter and access to all the technical and reference information in the Members' Area of the website. It's a great option if you work for a government agency or authority where it isn't easy to get your employer to cover your membership cost. Where else can you get so much for so little and in most countries it's even tax-deductible.

An even better answer is to persuade your employer to join ISCO. That way, you and all of your colleagues can get all the benefits under your employer's membership of the organization. Membership of ISCO is available for government agencies, research establishments, port authorities, and many other organizations – see <http://www.spillcontrol.org/2013-02-05-10-50-47/who-can-join>

COMPANY PROFILES IN THE ISCO NEWSLETTER

Did you know that for a £185 contribution to ISCO, you can have your corporate profile appear in the ISCO Newsletter? You get a full page with text and pictures to inform a highly targeted audience about your company and what you do. The rules are simple: The option is only available to paid-up members and each member is allowed only one entry per annum. No issue of the newsletter will ever contain more than one company profile. Content of your profile is subject to editorial approval in regard to suitability for publication. If interested, please contact info@spillcontrol.org

Science and Technology

CLEANUP DEVICE WILL BE WORLD'S LARGEST FLOATING STRUCTURE



May 29 - Boyan Slat, 20-year-old founder and CEO of The Ocean Cleanup, has announced that the world's first system to passively clean up plastic pollution from the world's oceans is to be deployed in 2016.

The array is projected to be deployed in the second quarter of 2016. The feasibility of deployment, off the coast of Tsushima, an island located in the waters between Japan and South-Korea is currently being researched.

The system will span 2,000 meters (6,560 feet), becoming the longest floating structure ever deployed in the ocean (beating the current record of 1,000 meters held by the Tokyo Mega-Float airport). It will be operational for at least two years, catching plastic pollution before it reaches the shores of the proposed deployment location of Tsushima Island.

The scale of the plastic pollution problem, in the case of Tsushima Island, is approximately one cubic meter of pollution per person washed up each year, and this has led the Japanese local government to seek innovative solutions to the problem.

The deployment will represent an important milestone in The Ocean Cleanup's mission to remove plastic pollution from the world's oceans. Within five years, after a series of deployments of increasing scale, The Ocean Cleanup plans to deploy a 100 kilometer (62 mile) long system to clean up about half the Great Pacific Garbage Patch, between Hawaii and California.

Slat said: "Taking care of the world's ocean garbage problem is one of the largest environmental challenges mankind faces today. Not only will this first cleanup array contribute to cleaner waters and coasts but it simultaneously is an essential step towards our goal of cleaning up the Great Pacific Garbage Patch. This deployment will enable us to study the system's efficiency and durability over time."

In April, the organization announced a Mega Expedition, in which up to 50 vessels will collect more plastic measurements in three weeks than have been collected in the past 40 years combined. *The Maritime Executive* [Read more](#)

Publications

UPDATE ON THE LITTLE BLACK BOOK OF OIL SPILL CONTRACTORS

Stewart Ellis writes – “I am about a quarter of the way through reviewing contractor listings, more nights and weekends to follow. A good selection of manufacturers, retailers and contractors have committed to advertising. Don't forget to send any updates, you still have time! Note that corrections to listings are free of charge. Once the book is published you will be able to get on online or at a variety of trade shows in the next year or so.

Cleanupoil.com is the most comprehensive International Directory of Oil Spill Response Organizations (OSRO's) and Oil Pollution Clean-up Contractors”. [More info](#) Contact: stewart@cleanupoil.com

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

AMSA Aboard	News from the Australian Maritime Safety Authority	May 2015 issue
ASME EED EHS Newsletter	News and commentary on HSE issues from George Holliday	Most recent issue
Bow Wave	Sam Ignarski's Ezine on Marine & Transport Matters	Current issue
Cedre Newsletter	News from Cedre in Brittany, France	April 2015
Celtic Biogenie enGlobe Newsletter	Latest Remediation and related technology news	Spring 2015 issue
CROIERG Enews	Canberra & Regions Oil Industry Emergency Response Group	Current issue
EMSA Newsletter	News from the European Maritime Safety Agency	June 2015 issue
Energy Institute eBulletin	News from the Energy Institute	April 2015 issue
Environmental Technology Online	Environmental Monitoring, Testing & Analysis	May 2015 issue
IMO News Magazine	News from the International Maritime Organization	No 1, 2015
IMO Publishing News	New and forthcoming IMO publications	April 2015
Intertanko Weekly News	International news for the oil tanker community	No 22 2015
IPIECA eNews	Int'l Petroleum Industry Environmental Conservation Assoc'n	February 12 issue
JOIFF "The Catalyst"	Int'l Organisation for Industrial Hazard Management	April 2015 issue
MOIG Newsletter	News from the Mediterranean Oil Industry Group	16 April 2015 Issue
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 27 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

CANADA: 38TH AMOP TECHNICAL SEMINAR ON ENVIRONMENTAL CONTAMINATION AND RESPONSE - JUNE 2 TO 4, 2015, VANCOUVER, BRITISH COLUMBIA, CANADA

Note from editor: Last week I received an email from Natalie Jones, the Technical Seminar Coordinator to advise that Environment Canada was currently experiencing server issues and had yet to get the Final Program live on their website. Unfortunately this advice missed the publication deadline for last week's ISCO Newsletter. The Final Programme is too large to publish here but if not too late, you should be able to request a copy by sending an email to SpillSeminars@ec.gc.ca

The 38th AMOP Technical Seminar on Environmental Contamination and Response will take place from June 2 to 4, 2015. The Seminar provides a forum for professionals working in the field of oil and hazardous materials spills. The forum facilitates the transfer of scientific results and is intended to link research and the operational community. All submitted papers are peer-reviewed by scientific and technical experts.

SINGAPORE: SALVAGE & WRECK ASIA CONFERENCE

Improving cooperation and coordination of salvage operations in the Asia-Pacific, 8-9 September 2015, Hotel Novotel, Clarke Quay, Singapore

Visit the website: <http://www.informamaritimeevents.com/FKT2843LNKDA2> Quote VIP Code FKT2843LNKDA2 to save £100*

- The MPA and AMSA share views on salvage operations in the Asia-Pacific region
- Gard and Thomas Miller discuss salvage contracts and wreck removal claims
- Case study corner featuring the salvage solutions employed for the POE GIANT 12 and THUAN MY
- 6 month report on the Nairobi Wreck Removal Convention – it is a game changer?
- Interview with Nick Sloane on lessons learnt from the COSTA CONCORDIA

* Applies to new bookings only, email jenna.warren@informa.com for full T&Cs.

CANADA: CLEAN PACIFIC REMINDER – IT’S NOT TOO LATE TO REGISTER

**“Changing Landscape – Shifts in Rail, Pipeline and Vessel Transport”
June 16 – 18, 2015, Vancouver BC, Canada**

CLEAN PACIFIC covers a wide range of prevention, preparedness and response topics, with a focus on the growth in crude transportation across the West. It provides a forum for responders, operators, regulators, equipment providers and environmental groups to openly discuss best practices and industry trends. CLEAN PACIFIC is co-hosted by the member agencies of the Pacific States/British Columbia Oil Spill Task Force. It incorporates the Task Force’s 2015 Annual Meeting. The 2015 agenda was developed by an Advisory Committee representing State/Provincial and Federal government, industry and the non-profit partners in oil spill prevention, preparedness and response.

Click on this link: <http://www.cleanpacific.org/registration-pricing/>

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

USA: CLEAN GULF CONFERENCE & EXHIBITION - NOVEMBER 10-12, 2015 NEW ORLEANS, LA

Inland, Offshore, Coastal - The [CLEAN GULF](#) Agenda is Shaping Up to Cover the Most Timely and Important Issues in Spill Preparedness and Response

Sessions planned for the 25th Annual CLEAN GULF include:

Track: Research, Existing and Emerging Technologies

- Response Research
- Shoreline Assessment and Cleanup
- Situational Awareness
- Surveillance

Track: Planning and Preparedness

- New Regulations and Implications for Industry Projecting Forward
- Risk Management
- Shale and Non-traditional Oils
- Training and Exercising for Readiness
- Understanding Complex Response-Related Issues

Track: Response

- Salvage and Marine Firefighting
- Morgan’s Point Collision: A Complex CERCLA Response
- Responding to Non-Traditional Fuels
- A Contractor’s Perspective
- Response Safety Concerns
- Response Case Studies

Track: Inland Preparedness and Response

- Crude by Rail
- Enhance Response Capabilities through Partnerships
- Inland Response
- Inland Response Perspectives
- Pipeline 360
- Inland Regulatory Issues

Track: Special Interest

- Re-Tweet - Positive Stakeholder Management
- Mexico Energy Reform Developments
- Natural Resource Damage Assessment (NRDA) during Response
- Net Environmental Benefits Analysis (NEBA)
- Restoration Benefits

Track: Subsea

- Containment and Intervention
- Source Control Branch - The New Kid on the ICS Block
- Subsea Dispersant Use, Planning, and Approving

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

Company news

EVTN ANNOUNCES VORAXIAL SHIPMENT FOR OIL SPILL RESPONSE

May 28 - Enviro Voraxial Technology, Inc. announced today that it has recently shipped a Voraxial 4000 Separator to a leading and highly recognized oil spill recovery organization.

The order comes after multiple tests that confirmed the performance ability of the Voraxial Separator to efficiently separate oil from water. The tests were centered on the inlet oil concentration rates fluctuating from 5% to 20%. Other projects have also demonstrated efficient separation at lower and higher oil concentrations. This order represents another important step toward the introduction of Voraxial enabled, next generation oil spill response and recovery vessels that can effectively contain and recover larger volumes of oil from major spills. *Power Engineering International* [Read more](#)

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