

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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Click on these links to view websites

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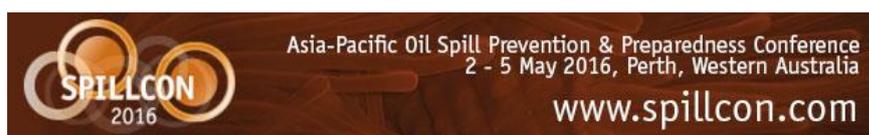
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International news

For more information on the events featured below, click on the banners



FRANCE RATIFIES WRECK REMOVAL TREATY



February 4 - France has ratified the Nairobi International Convention on the Removal of Wrecks.

Adopted in 2007, this convention provides the legal basis for States to remove, or have removed, shipwrecks that may threaten the safety of lives, goods and property at sea, as well as the marine environment. It also provides uniform international rules for the prompt and effective removal of wrecks located beyond territorial seas.

H.E. Nicole Taillefer, Permanent Representative of France to IMO, met IMO Secretary-General Kitack Lim and deposited the instrument of ratification today (4 February). Source: [IMO](http://www.imo.org)

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International news (continued)

CELEBRATING 40 YEARS OF COOPERATION FOR A HEALTHY MEDITERRANEAN

The Conference of Parties to the Barcelona Convention will be hosted by the Greek Government in Athens from 9 to 12 February. Deputy Executive Director, Ibrahim Thiaw, to represent UNEP



Athens, 2 February 2016 - More than 150 delegates from 21 Mediterranean countries and the European Union, all parties to the Barcelona Convention, will meet in Athens next week to decide on key environmental issues related to the marine and coastal areas of the region.

The meeting coincides with the 40th anniversary of the Barcelona Convention, which, together with the Mediterranean Action Plan (MAP), represents one of the most advanced legal regimes worldwide for the protection of marine and coastal environment. This first-ever agreement under the United Nations Environment Programme's (UNEP) Regional Seas umbrella has served as a model for the 12 subsequent Regional Seas cooperation frameworks around the world. During the last four decades, the Barcelona Convention developed seven protocols addressing specific aspects of Mediterranean environmental conservation. These have evolved from preventing pollution from maritime transport, marine exploration, and land-based activities to protecting biodiversity, and managing coastal zones. Mediterranean countries have endeavoured to integrate sustainable development into their national policies.

The Mediterranean Strategy for Sustainable Development, adopted in 2005, has become a strategic guiding document for all stakeholders and partners to translate the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development at the regional, sub-regional and national levels. Building on these achievements, the delegates to next week's meeting are expected to adopt basin wide strategies, MAP medium-term strategy for the coming 6 years, key action plans as well as a regional framework on climate change adaptation. During a high level event with the theme "Forty Years of Cooperation for Healthy and Productive Mediterranean Sea and Coast: A Collective Journey Towards Sustainable Development" the region's ministers will take stock of the successful first four decades of the Barcelona Convention. They will also draw a roadmap for the sustainable development of the Mediterranean in the coming ten years, within the framework of the global SDGs.

The Meeting comes at a key moment for the Mediterranean, as the region is integrating the agreed universal goals into its own sustainable development agenda, transitioning to a green and blue economy. Source: [UNEP News Centre](#)

PROVIDING INFORMATION AND ADVICE ON CHEMICALS IN THE EVENT OF A MARITIME EMERGENCY VIA THE MAR-ICE NETWORK

EMSA met with its MAR-ICE Network partners, the European Chemical Industry Council (Cefic) and the Centre of Documentation, Research and Experimentation on Accidental Water Pollution (Cedre), to review and discuss the network's activations since July 2013, address relevant developments within the chemical industry and EMSA, and explore options to further enhance the MAR-ICE service.

There has been a recent increase in the network's activations during chemical spill exercises. The feedback received from the service's users was analysed and several follow-up actions identified, including the revision of the MAR-ICE Contact Form. Overall, the service provided by this public-private partnership is well appreciated and all parties expressed their desire to continue with the MAR-ICE Network in the future and explore options to further develop the information service it provides for chemical spills. The 3rd MAR-ICE Network evaluation report will be published on EMSA's website in early 2016. Source: [EMSA Newsletter](#)

ITOPF PRESENTS AT PAJ OIL SPILL SYMPOSIUM 2016



February 2 - Richard Johnson was one of the key speakers at the Petroleum Association of Japan's (PAJ) annual symposium in Tokyo last week. The theme of this year's event was "Maintaining Future Effective Preparedness against Oil Spills" which featured a range of presentations from national and international specialists on how best to find the optimum level of future oil spill response preparedness and still comply with the OPRC Convention, 20 years after it came into force.

Richard gave a presentation entitled "Just when is oil spill preparedness too expensive?" In the context of a downturn in oil prices and with budgetary constraints affecting government and industry, Richard concluded that an appropriate level of preparedness proportionate to the associated risk must remain a top priority.

Richard also took the opportunity to show ITOPF's films on at-sea response and shoreline clean-up, subtitled in Japanese, to the gathering of 150 delegates Source: [ITOPF News](#)

Incident reports from around the world (listed in chronological order)

NIGERIA: OIL SPILL AS MILITANTS BLOW UP PIPELINES IN SOUTH NIGERIA

A file photograph dated 30 January 2007 shows Nigerian militants patrolling in the creeks of the Niger delta region of Southern Nigeria. Photo: EPA/George Esiri

January 31 - LAGOS -- Suspected militants in southern Nigeria have blown up oil pipelines operated by a subsidiary of Italy's Eni, causing a "massive" oil spill, an industry official said Sunday.

"The attack on the Agip pipelines in Brass was carried out by suspected Niger Delta militants on Thursday night," an official from the state-run oil company NNPC, who did not want to be named, told AFP.

He said explosives were used to blow up the pipelines in the oil-rich state of Bayelsa.

"The explosion has led to a massive spillage of crude into the sea and fishing camps while residents of the communities now live in fear," he said. ENCA.com
[Read more](#) Related reports: Feb 1 <https://news.vice.com/article/pipeline-attacks-in-the-niger-delta-trigger-what-could-be-the-biggest-oil-spill-in-years> and Feb 1 <http://abcnews.go.com/International/wireStory/bomb-attacks-pipelines-massive-oil-spill-nigeria-36636827>



NIGERIA: BIAFRA MILITANTS CLAIM THEY WILL BLOW UP HIJACKED TANKER

February 1 - At least one and possibly two tankers have been hijacked in Nigeria over the weekend, with reports that Biafra militants are threatening to blow a vessel up unless the Nigerian government releases one of their imprisoned leaders.

Shipping sources in the country told Lloyd's List that the situation is confused, and there are conflicting reports about exactly what has happened and which vessel or vessels are involved. [Lloyds List](#) [Read more](#)

USA: OIL SPILL IN ILLINOIS RIVER NEAR SPRING VALLEY

February 2 - Crews are working to clean up an oil spill on the Illinois River near Spring Valley. It happened around 7:30 p.m. Monday night when the Bureau County Emergency Management Agency was notified of a waste oil spill just south of the Route 89 Bridge. [KWQC](#) [Read more](#)

Incident reports from around the world (continued)

PHILIPPINES: OIL SPILL HITS BATANGAS WATERS

February 3 - A malfunctioning pipeline has resulted in an oil spill off San Pascual town in Batangas on Tuesday afternoon, a report on Balitanghali said Wednesday. Oil firm Chevron was quoted as saying in the report as saying that the pipeline malfunctioned while transferring oil onto a chartered vessel about 5 p.m. The operation was immediately canceled, and the spill was declared contained at 7 p.m., the report said.

Chevron, one of the country's biggest oil companies, said it recovered some 300 liters of oil from the sea. Chevron is currently working with the Philippine Coast Guard and the Department of Energy regarding the incident. *GMA News* [Read more](#) [Watch video](#)

DENMARK: FEARS INCREASING OF THE POSSIBILITY OF A LARGE OIL SPILL IN THE NORTH SEA



Photo: The Sea Worker at work in better days (photo: A2SEA A/S)

February 3 - Danish emergency response teams are fearful that the windmill installation barge *Sea Worker*, which overturned in the North Sea last week, may begin to leak some of the 178,000 litres of diesel fuel it has on board.

The barge overturned in the North Sea, just two kilometres off the coast of Jutland near Hvide Sande.

"We are very concerned about holes in the hull," Kim Bjerg Vemmelund, the head of Brand og Redning MidtVest. "Our challenge is that the weather right now is still very windy, which would make it difficult to recover any oil that spills."

Vemmelund said that there is a salvage plan in place for the capsized vessel, but nothing can be done until the weather improves. *Cphpost.dk* [Read more](#)

IRAQ: OIL SPILL MARS BASRA POWER PLANT EXPANSION

Photo: A view of the Najibiya power plant from the Shatt al-Arab river. (DAVID WELLS/EAMES)

February 4 - Iraqi regulators are threatening to shut down Basra's newly expanded Najibiya power plant after an oil spill contaminated residential and agricultural water supplies. Iraqi Prime Minister Haider al-Abadi formally opened the plant less than a month ago, citing its refurbishment as an example of the government's efforts to improve public services in Basra.

Iraq Oil Report [Read more](#)



GERMANY: ONE OF WORLD'S BIGGEST CONTAINERSHIPS HARD AGROUND ON ELBE RIVER



February 4 - One of the world's biggest containerships is hard aground in Germany's Elbe River leading to the port of Hamburg. The vessel CSCL Indian Ocean ran aground Wednesday night at 21:20 UTC. Initial reports said the incident was caused by an apparent mechanical failure.

An attempt to refloat the ship at around noon local time was unsuccessful.

Germany's Central Command for Maritime Emergencies (CCME) says it has been in touch with the ship owner and they are in the process of developing a salvage plan

An update from the CCME said crews will begin removing some fuel from grounded the ship. The tugs *Dolphin* and *Boxer* will remain on scene overnight. The pollution control vessel *Neuwerk* is also on site. *gCaptain* [Read more](#)

Incident reports from around the world (continued)

SPAIN: LISTING RO/RO MODERN EXPRESS ENTERS PORT OF BILBAO

February 3 - The listing ro/ro Modern Express has been successfully towed into harbor at Bilbao, Spain, following days adrift without crew in the Bay of Biscay. A team from SMIT Salvage boarded her Monday and ran a tow line, saving her from grounding on the French coastline.

She was brought to Bilbao by the towing vessel Centaurus, escorted by the offshore supply vessel / tug Ria de Vigo and the spill response vessel Argonaute. Weather during the transit was much calmer than conditions over the weekend, with wind in the range of eight knots and swells to seven feet. The French Navy frigate Primauguet and the rescue tug Abeille Bourbon left the Express' convoy Tuesday and made to return to their home port of Brest.

The Express was ten miles off Bilbao on Tuesday night, but Spanish authorities and salvors chose to wait for daylight and improved visibility to bring her in. At the harbor entrance, additional towing vessels joined her for docking, and a team of eight salvors boarded her to handle lines. Video of tugs bringing her into the Port of Bilbao is [available here](#). *The Maritime Executive*
[Read more](#)

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

CHINA UNVEILS FIRST OIL SPILL RESPONSE PLAN

February 1 - China's cabinet has approved the country's first oil spill emergency response scheme to be ready by 2020, to tackle increasing risks from offshore leakages, the government said on Monday.

The new regulation - which sets oil clean-up capacity at 1,000 tonnes (7,300 barrels) within 50 nautical miles from shore - came amid a tightening of the country's environmental rules after several oil spills in recent years.

China will be capable of cleaning up 10,000 tonnes of oil discharged in those waters that are prone to high risks and less than 50 nautical miles from the coast, according to a statement on the Chinese government's main web portal.

In addition, coastal cities should be equipped to clean up and recycle 10,000 tonnes of spilled oil, the cabinet said.

By 2020, China will have 191 offshore facilities, 260 emergency boats and 52 onshore facilities as well as trained personnel that can handle emergencies, the cabinet added. *Yahoo News* [Read more](#)

USA: TRUCKS WILL MOVE OIL STORED AFTER SANTA BARBARA OIL SPILL

February 1 - Officials in California's Santa Barbara County have endorsed Exxon Mobil Corp.'s plan to use trucks to move more than 17 million gallons of oil stranded in storage after a pipeline break in May.

The county says it approved the proposal Monday because of risks associated with long-term storage. *CBS* [Read more](#)

USA: NEARLY 1,000 SCIENTISTS IN TAMPA FOR CONFERENCE ON BP OIL SPILL

February 1 - Nearly 1,000 scientists, researchers and environmental experts from all over the globe are in downtown Tampa this week for the four-day Gulf of Mexico Oil Spill & Ecosystem Science Conference.

The 2010 BP Deepwater Horizon oil spill in the northern reaches of the Gulf has spawned a staggering amount of research into the impact on just about every aspect of the Gulf of Mexico.

"We have a ton of data," said Lisa DiPinto, senior scientist for the Assessment and Restoration Division of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, which conducted the exhaustive study. "We have 13 million records that are available to the public with every type of data available." Scientists studied the effects the oil spill had on the deep water, off-shore and near-shore ecosystems. They also studied the effects on marine life, including sea turtles, marine mammals and birds. *The Tampa Tribune*
[Read more](#)

USA: OIL DRILLING OFF U.S. EAST COAST UNDER ATTACK FROM ENVIRONMENTALISTS

February 3 - Environmentalists emboldened by President Barack Obama's rejection of the Keystone XL pipeline are now trying to convince the administration to close a door it opened last year to allow oil drilling off the Atlantic coast.

The action comes as the Interior Department works on a plan to govern offshore oil lease sales from mid-2017 to mid-2022. An initial draft, published last January, pencilled in one sale of south Atlantic acreage, along with three auctions of oil leases near Alaska and 10 in the Gulf of Mexico. That draft foreclosed auctions of territory along the West Coast and in the north and mid-Atlantic, from Maryland to Maine. *gCaptain* [Read more](#)

People in the news

SALVAGE MASTER NICK SLOANE JOINS RESOLVE MARINE



February 2 - Respected salvage master Captain Nick Sloane has joined Fort Lauderdale, Florida-based salvors Resolve Marine Group as the firm's new director.

Captain Sloane has more than thirty years of experience as a salvage master and project manager, with a deep portfolio of past operations around the globe, from fire and flooding response to rig operations and pipelaying. He is a member of Lloyd's Panel of Special Casualty Representatives, and is perhaps best known for his role – alongside the late Capt. Rich Habib – as senior salvage master for the raising of the Costa Concordia, the most expensive and complex salvage operation in history. His other high-profile projects include the AD-19, Tasman Spirit, Jolly Rubino, Ikan Tanda, Treasure, Sealand Express, CP Valour, and the Kota Kado. *The Maritime Executive* [Read more](#)

ISCO news

ISCO WILL BE WELL REPRESENTED AT IMO'S MEPC PPR SUB-COMMITTEE

The MEPC Sub-Committee on Pollution Prevention and Response (PPR) meeting takes place next week (15/02/2016 - 19/02/2016). This year a larger than usual ISCO representation will join the meeting – ISCO President, David Usher and Secretary, John McMurtrie, will be joined by Executive Committee Member Lord Peter Simon Rickaby, Honorary Member, Dr Douglas Cormack and Charles Usher, representing Corporate Member, Marine Pollution Control of Detroit, USA.

Agenda items will include the Revised Section II of the Manual on Oil Pollution Contingency Planning, the Guide on Oil Spill Response in Ice and Snow Conditions, Updated IMO Dispersant Guidelines (Part IV), and Updated OPRC Model Training Courses.

Science and technology

NATURAL OIL SEEPS HELP GULF OF MEXICO PHYTOPLANKTON THRIVE

January 26 - While researchers were analyzing the effects of a major oil spill on the microbial life in Gulf of Mexico, they found that natural oil seeps help Gulf of Mexico phytoplankton thrive.

Investigators found that phytoplankton was twice as dense in areas dotted by naturally occurring oil seeps than in clear regions. Researchers concluded that oil, in relatively small amounts, may somehow benefit microbial life in the gulf.

The team was able to create a map of oil that either reached the gulf naturally or through man's actions. Researchers were especially concerned over the environmental effects of the Deepwater Horizon oil spill from six years ago.

According to the research paper, which was published in the Journal of Geophysical Research Oceans, in the wake of the spill 4.3 million barrels of oil were released in the gulf's waters. By contrast, natural oil seeps generate between 160,000 and 600,000 barrels annually. *Chronicle Council* [Read more](#)

OIL SPILL CLEAN-UP SOLUTION CREATED FROM PAPER-WASTE AEROGEL

February 3 - The world's first biodegradable cellulose-based aerogel made from paper-waste that features an exceptional ability to absorb oil has been developed by Singaporean researchers.

The material can absorb up to four times as much oil as the best existing commercial sorbents. This, combined with its non-toxic and biodegradable nature, makes the material an ideal candidate for oil spill cleaning. Capable of absorbing up to 90 times its dried weight, the novel aerogel can be squeezed and up to 99 per cent of the absorbed oil recovered.

"Sorption has been considered one of the most effective ways to clean oil spills," said Assistant Professor Duong Hai Minh from the Department of Mechanical Engineering at the National University of Singapore, who led the research.

"Polypropylene (PP)-based absorbents are widely used for oil absorption, but they are non-biodegradable and their absorption capabilities are both low and slow. Our novel cellulose aerogels therefore serve as an attractive alternative to current methods of oil spill cleaning, which has a potential market size of \$143.5bn."

The aerogel, coated with Trimethoxy-methylsilane, is water repellent and therefore absorbs only oil. *Engineering & Technology Magazine* [Read more](#)

SHORELINE CLEAN-UP – PART 4

A short series of articles contributed by Mark Francis of Oil Spill Solutions



Mark Francis has been involved with the oil industry since 1975. He attended his first oil spill in 1976, the Tanker Elaine V incident. He became head of response for inland spills within the UK for British Petroleum E & P in 1980 for 10 years responding to well, storage tank and pipeline spills throughout the UK. Over the next 25 years he continued to build his international operations experience and has also specialised in spill response training, delivering IMO and other courses in more than 20 countries.

Shoreline Clean-up Assessment Technique (SCAT) - Continued

Percentage of coverage

This is probably the most difficult to estimate: the objective is not to provide an exact measurement of oil distribution, which is generally not homogenous, but to try to reach an average.

Level refers to the height of oil on the shore in relation to the tide. This information is important to evaluate the risk of oil remobilisation.

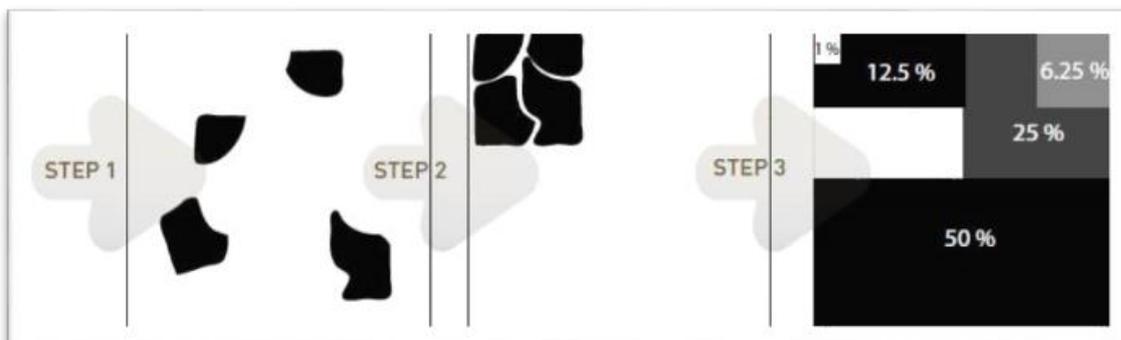
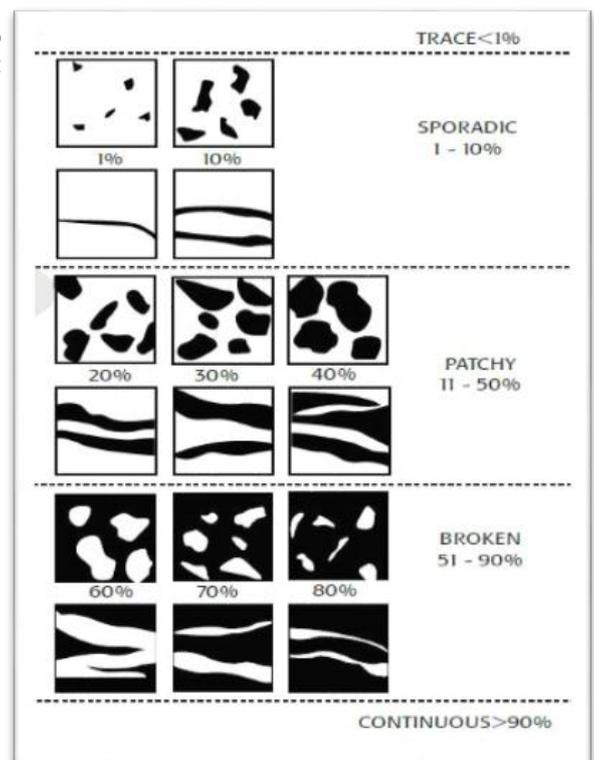
- TR Trace < 1%
- SP Sporadic 1 - 10 %
- PA Patchy 11 - 50 %
- BR Broken 51 - 90 %
- CO Continuous > 90 %

Thickness

Refers to the average or dominant oil thickness within the segment or zone.

- TO Thick oil (fresh oil or mousse > 1 cm thick)
- CV Cover (oil or mousse from >0.1 cm to <1 cm on any surface)
- CT Coat (visible oil <0.1 cm, which can be scraped off with fingernail)
- FL Film (transparent or iridescent sheen or oily film)

This column provides a qualitative description of the form of oil.



- FR Fresh oil (un-weathered, liquid oil)
- MS Mousse (emulsified oil occurring over broad areas)
- TB Tar balls (discrete accumulations of oil <10 cm in diameter)
- TP Tar patties (discrete lumps or patches >10 cm diameter)
- PA Patches (accumulation of oil > 1 m < 30 m)
- SR Surface oil residue (non-cohesive, oiled surface sediments)
- AP Asphalt pavements (cohesive, heavily oiled surface sediments)
- TA Weathered tarry oil, almost solid consistency

Special feature (continued)

Exposure

Approximate overall exposure rating of the upper shore (or oiling) parts of the segment:

Very exposed:

Sites which face into prevailing winds and receive oceanic swell without and offshore breaks (Islands) for hundreds of kilometers.

Exposed:

Sites where strong onshore winds are frequent but also have a degree of shelter because of extensive shallow areas or other seaward obstructions.

Partially sheltered:

Sites with a restricted sea area over which the wind blows (Fetch) generally <10km.

They can face prevailing winds but with extensive shallow areas to seaward or may face away from prevailing winds.

Very sheltered:

Sites with a very restricted sea area over which blows (Fetch) generally <2km and which face away from prevailing winds or have obstructions such as reefs to seaward or are fully enclosed:

Characteristics of sediment and beach slopes depend on exposure.

Photo right shows a very exposed boulder beach (note the slope and rounded boulders as good indicators of high exposure).

Hydro dynamism

The higher the energy of the environment (high hydrodynamics), the more rapid cleanup of affected areas will be by natural processes, the more sheltered beaches will take much longer.

The degree of sheltering is in direct proportion to the vulnerability of the coastal ecosystems.

In ecology, as a rule, the more balanced and stable (sheltered) the environment, the greater the diversity of the species.

Granulometry

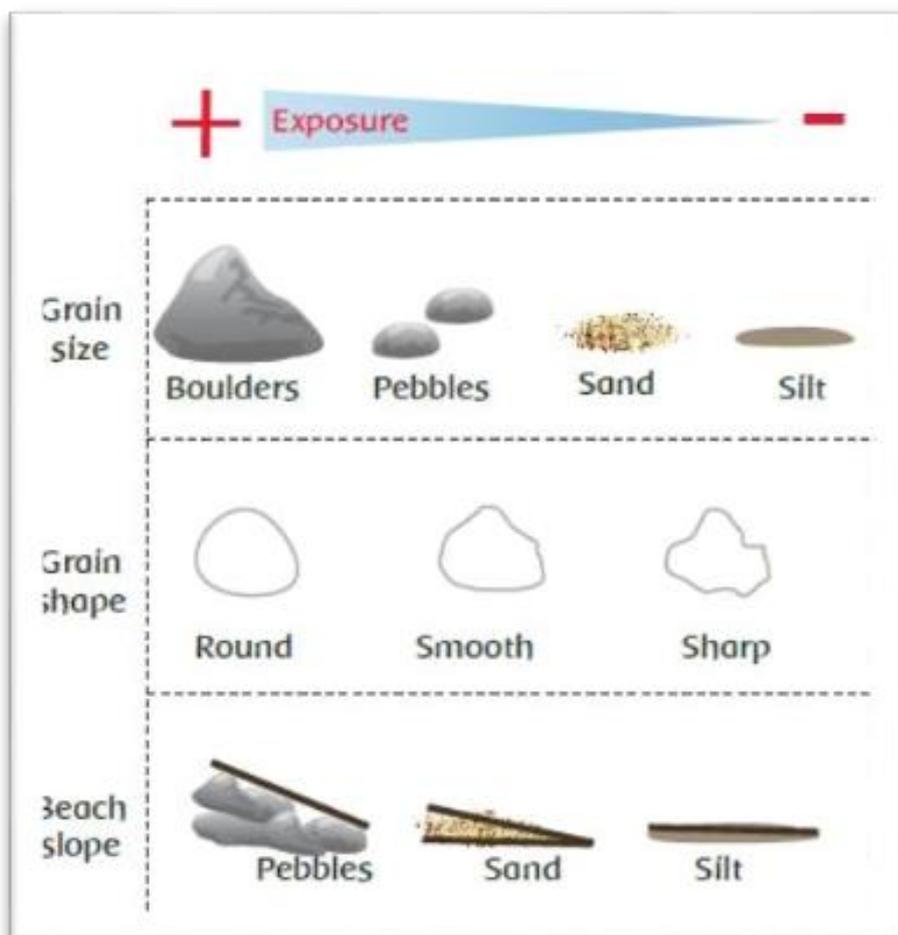
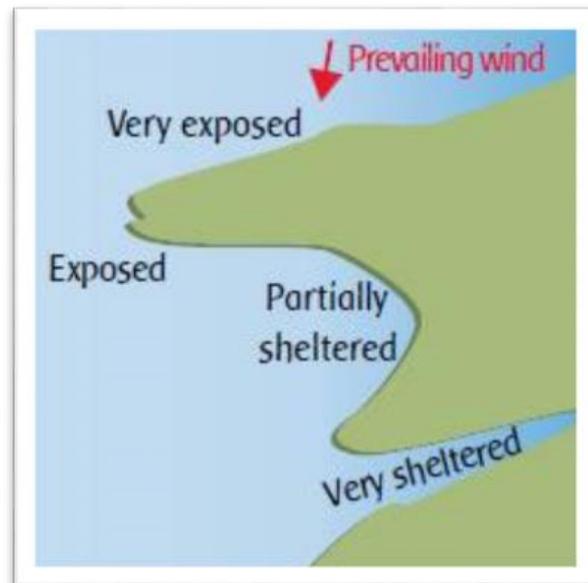
In accordance with the size of the grains, the percolation of oil will vary.

Basically, it will be greater when the grains of sediments are larger.

Thus, fine-grained beaches are less vulnerable to spills, since the greater compaction of the beach prevents the penetration of the oil.

Beaches with coarse sand, on the other hand, are highly vulnerable in this sense, where the oil can penetrate many centimeters.

There are so many combinations with the amount of shoreline sediment types and size along with various types of oil and oiling.



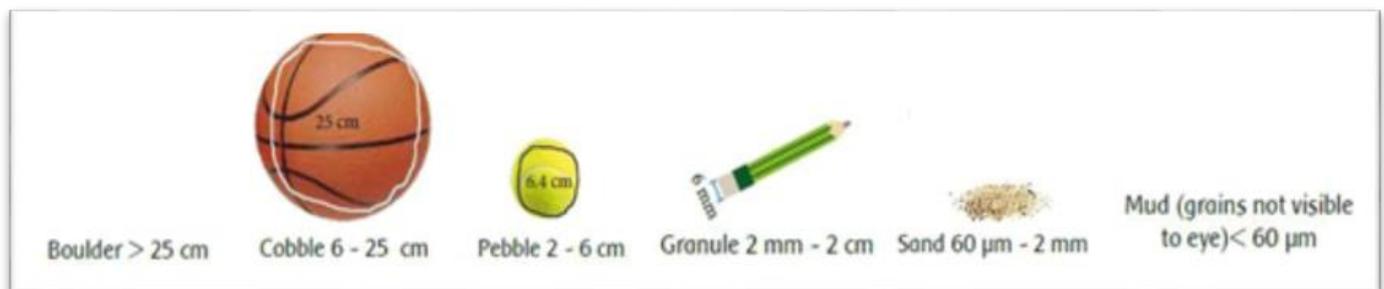
Special feature (continued)

TOOL BOX: SHORELINE SUBSTRATE TYPE DESCRIPTION (NOT TO BE FILLED IN)			
box 4	Man-made structures	solid (quay...)	Sand (60 µm to 2 mm)
		permeable (rip-rap...)	Mud (<60 µm) (grains not visible)
	Cliff	rocky	Mixed sediments
		soft	Sand with vegetation (dune)
	Bedrock platform		Mud with vegetation (saltmarsh)
	Boulder (> 25 cm)		
	Cobble (6 cm to 25 cm)		
	Pebble (2 cm to 6 cm)		
	Granule (2 mm to 2 cm)		

There are various scales for classifying sediments based on the grain sizes. For the purposes of shoreline assessment, broad categories have been used.

Use the box above as a guide to the size of sediment to determine the nature of the beach substrate.

Categories have been chosen based on their implications for shoreline cleanup techniques. Well-known visual references (tennis ball, pencil diameter) can help to determine the size of sediment grains



To be continued in next week's newsletter

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

[ASME EED EHS Newsletter](#)
[Bow Wave](#)
[Cedre Newsletter](#)
[Celtic Biogenie enGlobe Newsletter](#)
[CROIERG Enews](#)
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[Sea Alarm Foundation Newsletter](#)
[SAC News](#)
[Technology Innovation News Survey](#)
[The Essential Hazmat News](#)

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
 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
 News from the Oil Companies International Marine Forum
 News for prevention & control professionals
 Oiled wildlife Preparedness and Response news from Sea Alarm
 Oil spill related and other news from Alaska
 From US EPA – Contaminated site decontamination
 Alliance of Hazardous Materials Professionals

Most recent issue
 Current issue
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 Autumn 2015 issue
 Current issue
 February 2016 issue
 January 2016 issue
 No 4, 2015
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 No 6, 2015
 February 12 issue
 January 2016 issue
 January 2016 issue
 January 2016 issue
 February 3 issue
 Autumn 2015 issue
 Dec.11 issue 2015
 December16-31, 2015
 December 28 issue

Links for recent issues of other publications (continued)

[Transport Canada Newsletter](#)
[USA EPA Tech Direct](#)
[USA EPA Tech News & Trends](#)
[WMU Newsletter](#)

News and articles re transport of dangerous goods in Canada
 Remediation of contaminated soil and groundwater
 Contaminated site clean-up information
 News from the World Maritime University

Winter 2014 issue
 February 1, 2016
 Fall 2015 issue
 December 2015 issue

Your editor depends on regular receipt of updated links for listed publications. If these are not received, relevant entries may be discontinued.

Events

CORRECTION – DATE OF AMOP TECHNICAL SEMINAR IN HALIFAX, NOVA SCOTIA, CANADA

It has been brought to our attention that, in the Upcoming Events Summary in recent issues of the newsletter an incorrect date was given for the 39th AMOP Technical Seminar on Environmental Contamination and Response. Please note that the correct date is 7-9 June, 2016. We apologise for this mistake and any resulting inconvenience caused.

UPCOMING EVENTS SUMMARY

COUNTRY	2016	TITLE OF EVENT	LOCATION
For more information click on Title of Event			
USA	Feb 9-10	Great Lakes Waterways Conference	Cleveland, Ohio
UK	Feb 15-19	IMO Pollution Prevention & Response S/C'ttee.	London
UK	Feb 17-18	Society of Maritime Industries Conference	Hull
QATAR	Feb 22-24	9th Oil Spill Response Officers Mtg & Planning C'tee	Doha
SAUDI ARABIA	Feb 22-24	PetroEnvironment 2016	Dammam
UK	Mar 15-17	Oceanology International	London
AUSTRALIA	Mar 22-23	2nd Dangerous Goods Conference	Perth
CANADA	Mar 23-24	8th Arctic Shipping Summit	Montreal
NIGERIA	Mar 29-31	Clean Niger Delta Conference	Abuja
JAPAN	April 7-8	NOWPAP 14th CEARAC Focal Points Meeting	Toyama
UK	April 18-22	IMO Marine Environment Protection Committee	London
UK N. Ireland	April 19-21	ISAA Training Days 2016	Enniskillen
FRANCE	April 20	CEDRE Information Day – Volunteers in OSR	Paris
UK	April 26	UK Spill Meeting, Dinner and Annual Awards	London
USA	April 27-29	APICOM Spring Meeting	Galveston, TX
AUSTRALIA	May 2-6	Spillcon 2016	Perth, WA
CROATIA	May 10-15	ADRIASPILLCON 2016	Opatija
UAE	May 17-18	Offshore Arabia Conference & Exhibition	Dubai
NETHERLANDS	May 24-26	Bon Agreement WG on Counter Pollution Activities	Scheveningen
CANADA	June 7 - 9	AMOP Technical Seminar	Halifax
USA	June 21-23	Clean Pacific Conference & Exhibition	Seattle. WA
INDIA	August 11-12	Oil Spill India	Mumbai
UAE	October TBA	EI Middle East HSE Technical Forum	Abu Dhabi
MALTA	November 2-3	JOIFF Fire & Explosion Hazard Mgmt. Conference	St. Julians
To request posting of an event of interest to the Spill Response Community please send details to the Editor			

Training

CERTIFICATE IN MARINE POLLUTION PREVENTION AND MANAGEMENT

Tutored distance learning, delivered over 12 weeks - Commences: 16th March 2016

The Syllabus addresses Pollution in Context: Causes and Effects, Governance, Regulations and Enforcement + Air Pollution and Greenhouse Gas Emissions + Ballast Water and Other Marine Pollutants + Oil Pollution and Offshore Activities + Measurement and Management Systems + Legal Issues, Insurance and Compensation [More info](#)

Training (continued)

UK & IRELAND: ISAA OIL SPILL RESPONSE TRAINING DAYS – COURSES ANNOUNCED AND NOTIFICATION OF CHANGE OF DATE TO APRIL 19-21

The dates for the 2016 ISAA Training Days at Castle Archdale, Enniskillen, County Fermanagh, Northern Ireland are **19-21 April**. Please note that the date announced at the ISAA meeting in December has had to be changed for operational reasons.

This year three courses are planned –

- (1) A three-day MCA3P / IMO1 Oil Spill Response Beachmaster / Site Supervisor Training Course
- (2) One day Tanker Rollover (Hydrocarbon) Oil Spill Response Training Course
- (3) One day Oil Spill First Responder (Inland Waterways, Streams, Lakes and Rivers) Training Courses

Please note that Marine Courses will be provided by NI accredited training providers and Inland Courses by ISAA accredited training providers. Certificates with a 3 year validity will be issued to successful candidates. For public/private spill response organisations, it is a requirement that relevant employees hold valid training certificates in order to maintain accredited ISAA status in specified response disciplines.

More information and a booking form will be sent out later this week to all members and stakeholders on the ISAA mailing list.

Business opportunities

CALL FOR PROPOSAL FOR THE PROVISION OF CONSULTANCY SERVICES FOR THE REVIEW OF THE MEDITERRANEAN “PRINCIPLES AND GUIDELINES ON COOPERATION AND MUTUAL ASSISTANCE RELATED TO OIL AND HNS POLLUTION INCIDENTS”

Since 1987, the Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention have adopted a series of principles and guidelines on various aspects related to cooperation and mutual assistance during oil and hazardous and noxious substances pollution incidents.

Considering a number of regional and international developments, the Meeting of National Experts on the Revision of the Regional Strategy for Prevention of and Response to Marine Pollution from Ships (Malta, 11-12 March 2015), highlighted the need to revise the existing principles and guidelines, and to develop new ones aimed at facilitating international co-operation and mutual assistance within the framework of the Prevention and Emergency Protocol. This recommendation was considered by the Eleventh Meeting of the Focal Points of the Regional Marine Pollution Emergency Response Centre for the Mediterranean Sea (REMPEC) (Malta, 15-17 June 2015), which agreed on the revision of the “Principles and Guidelines on Cooperation and Mutual Assistance related to Oil and HNS Pollution Incidents”, in the framework of the Mediterranean Technical Working Group (MTWG).

The main objective of the revision is to provide advice to Mediterranean coastal States to ensure effective coordination between all stakeholders potentially involved in a major incident in the Mediterranean region.

The draft Mediterranean “Principles and Guidelines on cooperation and mutual assistance related to oil and HNS pollution incidents” prepared by the consultant/consultancy firm selected by REMPEC will be circulated for comments to the MTWG and will then be reviewed by the national experts attending the Regional Workshop on Cooperation Arrangements in the Field of Preparedness for and Response to Oil and Hazardous and Noxious Substances Spills (MEDEXPOL 2016), to be tentatively held in Malta mid December 2016.

To support REMPEC, as Secretariat of the MTWG, to carry out the tasks defined in the below Terms of Reference, **proposals for the provision of consultancy services for the review of the Mediterranean “Principles and Guidelines on Cooperation and Mutual Assistance related to Oil and HNS Pollution Incidents” should be sent to temporary.secretary@rempec.org no later than 5pm (Malta Time) on Friday 4th March 2016** and should contain:

- a technical proposal detailing the method of work, the work plan and relevant experience;
- a copy of your Curriculum Vitae of the consultant(s); and
- a quote for the completion of the duties detailed in the below Terms of Reference, including travel and subsistence costs to attend the Kick-off Meeting and the MEDEXPOL 2016 Workshop in Malta.

Questions about the Terms of Reference should be sent to temporary.secretary@rempec.org. Questions and Answers related to this call will be published on REMPEC’s website.

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