



## ISCO NEWSLETTER

The Newsletter of the International Spill Response Community

Issue 615 11 December 2017

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

<http://www.spillcontrol.org>



### 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 organisations.

### ISCO COMMITTEE & COUNCIL

ISCO is managed by an elected executive committee members of which are **Mr David Usher** (President, USA), **Mr Matthew Sommerville** (Secretary, UK), **Mr Marc Shaye** (USA), **Mr Dan Sheehan** (USA), **M. Jean Claude Sainlos** (France), **Mr Kerem Kemerli** (Turkey), **Lord Peter Simon Rickaby** (UK), **Mr Li Guobin** (China), **Captain Bill Boyle** (UK) and **Mr John McMurtrie** (UK)

The Register of ISCO Members is maintained by **Ms Mary Ann Dagleish** (Membership Director). She is also responsible for collecting membership dues.

The Executive Committee is assisted by the non-executive ISCO Council composed of the following national representatives – **Mr John Wardrop** (Australia), **Mr Osman Tarzumanov** (Azerbaijan), **Mr John Cantlie** (Brazil), **Dr Merv Fingas** (Canada), **Captain Davy T. S. Lau** (China, Hong Kong), **Mr Li Guobin** (China, Mainland), **Mr Darko Domovic** (Croatia), **Eng. Ashraf Sabet** (Egypt), **Mr Torbjorn Hedrenius** (Estonia), **Mr Pauli Einarsson** (Faroe Islands), **Prof. Harilaous Psaraftis** (Greece), **Captain D. C. Sekhar** (India), **Mr Sanjay Gandhi** (Kenya), **Chief Kola Agboke** (Nigeria), **Capt. Chris Richards** (Singapore), **Mrs Fatima B. Shaik** (South Africa), **Dr Ali Saeed Al Ameri** (UAE), **Mr Kevin Miller** (UK), **Dr Manik Sardesai** (USA), **Mr Dennis van der Veen** (The Netherlands), **Mr Carlos Sagrera** (Panama), and **Major Ben Benny** (Israel)

For more info on Executive Committee and Council Members go to [www.spillcontrol.org](http://www.spillcontrol.org)

### INTERNATIONAL DIRECTORY

Click on these links to view websites

[EQUIPMENT & MATERIALS](#)

[RESPONSE ORGANISATIONS](#)

[TRAINING PROVIDERS](#)

[CONSULTANTS](#)

### International news

For more information on the event featured below, click on the banner



### U.N. ENVIRONMENT CHIEF WARNS "WE'RE FACING AN OCEAN ARMAGEDDON"



December 4 - In Nairobi, Kenya, a U.N. environmental summit opened Monday. The goal: to restore a healthy ocean. The U.N. Environment Assembly (UNEA) began with 7,000 delegates from around the world and 100 ministers, making it the highest level decision-making body on the environment.

It is important to note that resolutions passed during the U.N. Environment Assembly are non-binding to member states, but there is a push to move toward a legal treaty banning plastic waste from entering the sea, in effect, a "zero tolerance" policy.

U.N. Environment Executive Director and Under-Secretary-General of the United Nations, Erik Solheim, told CBS News that he is hoping that the Nairobi summit will be a turning point, "We're facing an ocean Armageddon: Every year, we're dumping at least 8 million tons of plastics into our oceans."

Solheim said, "At the current rate, we'll end up with more plastic in the oceans than fish by the middle of the century, and ultimately that comes back to our own food chain."

"We need to understand that if we kill our oceans, we also kill ourselves." *CBS News* [Read more](#)

### PUTTING ENVIRONMENTAL REGULATIONS ON THE CHART

December 8 - Today's complex regulatory environment makes it difficult for ship owners and operators to ensure compliance. Governing bodies exist in each country and region, each one having multiple regulatory documents for each type of discharge, creating a maze of documentation and guidance. Clean technologies and improved processes and procedures historically have functioned as piecemeal solutions for reducing the risk of noncompliance. However, with today's enhanced enforcement, a comprehensive and collaborative solution is needed.

Ocean Guardian is a flexible digitization tool that is shaping the future for vessel environmental operations with the goal of zero-pollution. It provides operators with immediate and accurate information on environmental regulations pertaining to a vessel's specific location and provides the tools to facilitate compliance throughout their fleet.

## PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIP

Advance your career by gaining Professional Recognition.

Professional recognition is a visible mark of quality, competence and commitment, and can give you a significant advantage in today's competitive environment.

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.

You can apply for Student Membership, Associate Membership (AMISCO), MEMBERSHIP (MISCO) or FELLOWSHIP (FISCO)

[All about Professional Membership](#)

[Application Form](#)

To receive the free ISCO Newsletter

Go to <http://www.spillcontrol.org> and enter your name and email address in the Registration Form (located on the right hand side of the home page) then click on "subscribe".

were reported to be leaking molten sulfur, which is used in making rubber, detergent and fertilizers. *Reuters*  
[Read more](#) [Thanks to Don Johnston of ISCO Industry Partner, DG & Hazmat Group]

## International news (continued)

Vessel operators often rely on paper copies of regulations, e-mail communication, robust electronic workbooks, and in-person visits from ship agents and superintendents to stay current with ever-changing environmental regulations. While these are workable solutions, they have two distinct challenges: (1) timely and uniform updates are difficult to make and (2) fleet management and ship owners have no way to ensure an operator is using the most up-to-date manual.

Ocean Guardian is a digital knowledge bank that eliminates much of that paperwork, bringing environmental compliance into the 21st Century. Information is instantly accessible to an operator through a straightforward user interface, reducing the time it takes to understand the regulations for a specific location.

*The Maritime Executive* [Read more](#)

## Incident reports

### USA: CSX TRAIN CARRYING HARMFUL CHEMICALS DERAILS IN FLORIDA

November 27 - A CSX Corp freight train carrying hazardous molten sulfur derailed in central Florida on Monday, prompting authorities to tell residents to stay indoors for several hours, company officials said.

No one was hurt, Jacksonville, Florida-based CSX said in a statement.

The train was traveling to Winston, Florida, from Waycross, Georgia, when nine carriages, including four with molten sulfur, went off the track at around 2 a.m. EST in Lakeland, Florida, nearly 60 miles south of Orlando, said CSX spokesman Rob Doolittle.

CSX officials said in the statement that several of the derailed cars

### CANADA: OIL LEAK AT HUSKY WELL SITE NEAR VAWN, SASKATCHEWAN.

December 2 - An uncontrolled release of steam and oil occurred at a Husky well site near Vawn, Sask., on Friday, according to the Saskatchewan government.

Successful shutdown procedures took place overnight. A spokesperson said the reservoir has sour gas attributes, but air monitoring systems were in place throughout the entire process and no release of hydrogen sulfide (H<sub>2</sub>S) was recorded. Husky will develop and execute cleanup plans as well as assess volumes. *Global News* [Read more](#)

### AUSTRALIA: LARGE OIL SPILL NORTH WEST OF TOOWOOMBA, QUEENSLAND

December 3 - Emergency services are at the scene of a large oil spill north west of Toowoomba. Queensland Fire and Emergency Services are currently at the spill at Myall Creek, Dalby. A heavy oil sludge is affecting water from the Patrick Street Bridge to the Myall Creek weir. Multiple agencies are currently on-site working to contain and clean the oil spill. *The Chronicle* [Read more](#)

### USA: LOUISIANA - SPILLED PIPELINE OIL IN LOWER PLAQUEMINES IS BURNED



*Photo: A controlled burn is seen in the distance to remove oil spilled after a pipeline leak near Pointe a la Hache in lower Plaquemines Parish on Friday, Dec. 1, 2017, the Coast Guard said. (U.S. Coast Guard)*

December 3 - A controlled burn to remove oil spilled after a pipeline leak near Pointe a la Hache in lower Plaquemines Parish went on as planned and air monitoring afterward showed no troubling results, the Coast Guard said Saturday (Dec. 2).

The pipeline owned by XTO Energy was reported to be leaking to the Coast Guard at 2:40 p.m. Thursday. As of Thursday night, officials said, they'd removed 1,260 gallons of "product" using absorbent materials. The agency, in a press release, said fire was used to burn spilled oil in the marsh on Friday, from 12 p.m. to 3:40 p.m. *The Times Picayune* [Read more](#)

## Incident reports (continued)

### RUSSIA: EMERGENCY IN ARCTIC WATERS AS OIL TANKER GETS STUCK IN ICE, DRIFTS ASHORE



Illustration photo: Rosmorport.ru

December 4 - Little is known about the incident which probably could have triggered a serious accident along Russia's icy northern coast.

According to Rostom, the state company operating the fleet of nuclear-powered icebreakers, the «Chukotka+» on the 30th October entered the waters of the Northern Sea Route. The ship sailed alone and aimed for a voyage across the Arctic route without icebreaker assistance. It was not successful.

In the Sannikov Strait, the area between the New Siberian Islands and the mainland, the ship got stuck in ice. It subsequently drifted with the ice onto a sand bank.

*Barents Observer* [Read more](#)

---

### CHINA: TONNES OF SULPHURIC ACID LEAK FROM TANK AT CHINESE CHEMICAL PLANT

December 5 - Hundreds of workers help contain the spill, but the authorities say there is no danger to local people's health, according to media reports. The leak was detected at about 5.50am on Monday at the state-owned plant in Lingbao in Henan province.

About 300 workers sealed off the area around the spillage so the chemical could be treated. The acid was kept in an ageing tank and a drainage ditch nearby was filled with the bubbling chemical, video footage showed.

*South China Morning Post* [Read more](#) [Thanks to Don Johnston of ISCO Industry Partner, DG & Hazmat Group]

---

### USA: OIL PIPELINE SHUT DOWN AFTER 'SIGNIFICANT SPILL' INTO CREEK IN WESTERN N.D.

December 7 - A pipeline leak caused a significant oil spill in a tributary of the Little Missouri River this week, but the volume of oil released was still unknown Tuesday as a winter storm affected response efforts. The spill discovered Monday morning about 16 miles northwest of Belfield contaminated Ash Coulee Creek with the release contained about 2½ miles downstream, said Bill Suess, spill investigation program manager for the North Dakota Department of Health.

The company shut down the pipeline and crews have been working to recover oil since Monday, including constructing a dam about 4 miles downstream, according to an incident report. *Billings Gazette* [Read more](#)

---

### UK: RESIDENTS EVACUATED AFTER FORTIES PIPELINE LEAK FOUND NEAR ABERDEEN

December 8 - Petrochemicals giant Ineos, which completed its acquisition of the pipeline system from BP in October, said the people had been offered temporary accommodation.

The Netherley to Cookney road has been shut and a 300-metre cordon set up around the site. It is understood that Ineos lowered the pressure in the pipeline after identifying the leak, but did not have to shut it down.

Forties carries almost 40% of the UK's North Sea oil and gas output.

An Ineos spokesman said: "We mobilised a repair and oil spill response team following the identification of a very small amount of oil seepage during a routine inspection of the Forties Pipeline System at Red Moss, near Netherley, Aberdeenshire, at approximately 10:00 hours yesterday. *Aberdeen Press & Journal* [Read more](#)

---

### FRANCE: GROUNDING AVERTED IN ENGLISH CHANNEL

December 8 - On Thursday afternoon, the rescue tug Abeille Bourbon helped avert a grounding near the Portsall Rocks, a cluster of shoals off the northwestern tip of Brittany.

At 1114 hours Thursday, the Dutch freighter EEMS Traveler reported a propulsion failure to the French regional search and rescue center (CROSS) at Corsen, Finistère. She was drifting towards shore about 15 nm off Portsall Rocks, an area best known as the site of the grounding of the tanker Amoco Cadiz in 1978.

The Abeille Bourbon took the Traveler in tow at 1542 hours and brought her back to port for repairs.

*The Maritime Executive* [Read more](#)

## Incident reports (continued)

### USA: HAWAII - CLEANUP OF PACIFIC PARADISE GROUNDING SITE BEGINS

December 8 - The grounded fishing vessel Pacific Paradise was successfully removed from a reef off Kaimana Beach, Hawaii on Thursday, and the state's Department of Land and Natural Resources is taking the lead with the shipowner to conduct a cleanup of the wreck site.

Suzanne Case, chair of the Hawaii Department of Land and Natural Resources, expressed her gratitude to the team that worked on the Paradise salvage. "These efforts are complex, and with the addition of unpredictable ocean conditions, the position, size and weight of the ship on the reef, and its proximity to one of Hawaii's most populated beach areas, it was important that we all worked together to remove the ship while minimizing risk to people and to the environment," she said. *The Maritime Executive* [Read more and watch video](#)

## News reports from around the world (countries listed in alphabetical order)

### AUSTRALIA: AMSA LAUNCHES ITS NEW WEBSITE

December 6 – The Australian Maritime Authority has redeveloped its website to make it easier for you to find the information you need. You can find common tasks that you perform from the home page—for example report pollution or update a qualification. You can also find content based on who you are and what you do—if you are a fisherman, naval architect or another audience type, scroll to our audience section on the bottom right side of our home page and find your audience page. *AMSA* [Read more](#)

### CANADA: FEDERAL-PROVINCIAL MONEY TO FURTHER DEVELOP OIL SPILL PREVENTION AND RESPONSE

December 8 - Federal-provincial funding was announced today in St. John's for research hoped to increase the efficiency of existing mechanical oil recovery systems for heavy oil products in harsh, cold environments.

St. John's East MP Nick Whalen, on behalf of federal Natural Resources Minister Jim Carr, announced \$1.39 million for two projects to enhance marine incident prevention and responsiveness in Canada's oceans.

Siobhan Coady, Newfoundland and Labrador's Minister of Natural Resources, announced provincial government funding of \$428,500 toward the projects. Whalen also said \$400,000 will be provided to the University of Toronto for a project that will develop a foam filtration system for use in oil spills. In St. John's, research and development corporation C-CORE, will get \$991,500 of the money. *The Telegram* [Read more](#)

### EGYPT: ITOPF PARTICIPATES IN HNS WORKSHOP IN EGYPT

December 4 - ITOPF, working with REMPEC and Cedre, presented a training course on hazardous and noxious substance (HNS) spill management in Cairo, Egypt from 26th-30th November 2017. The objectives of the 5-day course were to provide an overview of preparedness and response to a ship-source HNS incident; to facilitate the development of a national contingency plan for response to HNS in the marine environment; and to share experiences and discuss issues that have arisen from recent cases. Franck Laruelle attended on behalf of ITOPF and made a series of presentations to the 40-strong audience which included representatives from the navy, port authorities, Egyptian Environmental Affairs Agency (EEAA), oil companies and spill responders. *ITOPF* [Source document](#)

### FRANCE: FRENCH PM CHALLENGED OVER NEW CALEDONIA OIL SPILL



*French Prime Minister Edouard Philippe reacts after receiving a flower necklace during a welcoming ceremony at the Tiga chiefdom, on Tiga island, in the archipelago of the Loyalty Islands, during their visit to the French overseas territory of New Caledonia on December 3, 2017. / AFP PHOTO / Fred Payet Photo: AFP or licensors*

December 4 - The French prime minister Edouard Philippe has been challenged by New Caledonians concerned about maritime pollution after last month's break-up of a stranded container ship. Mr Philippe, who visited Lifou in the Loyalty islands as part of his four-day official visit, was asked for help over the oil spillage which has led to a fishing and swimming ban in parts of the archipelago.

Salvage efforts saw most of 782 tonnes of fuel on board being pumped out but when inclement weather broke up the ship last month, residual oil spilled into the sea and washed up on New Caledonia's eastern shores. *Radio NZ* [Read more](#)

## News reports from around the world (continued)

### NIGERIA: HIGH EXPECTATIONS AS SENATE C'TTEE VISITS POLLUTED OGONI COMMUNITIES

December 6 - The recent visit by the Senate Committee on Environment, led by Senator Oluremi Tinubu, to communities in Ogoni land affected by oil pollution raised hope for relief to hundreds of Ogoni residents affected by the worst oil pollution devastation in Nigeria.

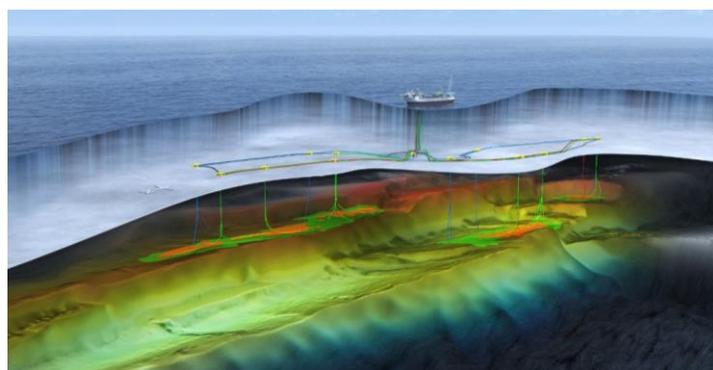
The lawmakers were in Rivers State to carry out oversight function and investigate the progress of work towards the remediation of the communities affected by the age-long oil pollution, resulting from ruptured facilities of Shell Petroleum Development Company (SPDC). Some of the communities mostly affected by the oil pollution are Kebari Dere, Ogali, Bomu, Bodo City, Kpean, Buan, B. Dere and Ebubu. *Daily Trust* [Read more](#)

### NIGERIA: OIL SPILL: FIRM ADVOCATES SYNERGY AMONG HOST COMMUNITIES

December 6 - An oil servicing firm, Heritage Energy Operational Service Limited (HEOSL), yesterday called for synergy among host communities and stakeholders within OML 30 to prevent vandals from tampering with oil facilities in their area. The people of Egbo quarters of Uwheru community, Ughelli North Local Government Area of Delta State had accused the company of not showing commitment over its cry for help, following incident of oil spillage in one of the company's facilities at Ewreni Well 8 and 9 of OML 30.

In a statement issued by the company "Our Health, Safety, Security, Environment and Quality (HSSEQ) Department was promptly informed of the incident, who notified our partners and other relevant regulatory authorities, including the Department of Petroleum Resources (DPR). "We didn't stop there, we also informed the National Oil Spill Detection and Response Agency (NOSDRA) and subsequently mobilised for a Joint Investigation Visit (JIV) to ascertain the volume of spill, extent of environmental impact and cost of remediation. The evaluation team was denied access to the site by agitating community members, who gave conditions as means to gaining access to the site for spill containment and remediation, so the team was rendered inconclusive. *New Telegraph* [Read more](#)

### NORWAY: STATOIL GREENLIGHTS KEY \$6 BILLION NORWAY ARCTIC OIL PROJECT



December 5 - Statoil ASA gave the final go-ahead to a flagship Arctic oil project after slashing costs by half.

While expected, the move by Norway's biggest oil company is a boost to a region seen as key to arresting a decline in the country's production. In a striking illustration of how oil companies have adapted to lower prices, Statoil cut estimated investments at the Johan Castberg project to about 49 billion kroner (\$6 billion) from an initial forecast of more than 100 billion kroner, it said on Tuesday, reiterating a figure given in June. The field in the Barents Sea is due to start production in 2022. *gCaptain* [Read more](#)

### PAKISTAN: PMSA KICKS OFF DRILL TO CHECK MARINE OIL SPILLS

December 4 - Pakistan Maritime Security Agency (PMSA) has organized an exercise named BARRACUDA-VW under the guidance of Pakistan Navy from December 4-7 2017, which is aimed at rehearsing the anti-oil-spill procedures and contingency mechanism.

Marine pollution like major oil spills are highly dangerous for the marine environment and also pose a threat to ports, harbours and exclusive economic zone, requiring a collective response by all stakeholders.

After the catastrophic incident of MV TASMAN spirit in Karachi in 2003, a need was strongly felt to formulate a comprehensive anti-pollution plan. Subsequently,

National Marine Disaster Contingency Plan (NMDCP) was prepared and promulgated by Government of Pakistan in 2007 with Pakistan Navy and Pakistan Maritime Security Agency in lead role. *Pakistan Today* [Read more](#)



Download a more detailed report with more photos by clicking [HERE](#)

## News reports from around the world (continued)

### **SOUTH KOREA: 2017 INTERNATIONAL MARITIME DISASTER RESPONSE CONFERENCE**

December 5 - The IOPC Funds participated in the 2017 International Maritime Disaster Response Conference on 6 and 7 December to commemorate the 10th anniversary of the Hebei Spirit oil spill incident. The conference took place in Pusan, Republic of Korea and was organised by the Korea Coast Guard in conjunction with the NOWPAP MERRAC Expert meeting.

The conference brought together over 200 participants, including government, domestic and international experts on marine pollution response, and various governmental and non-governmental organisations. It provided an opportunity to share knowledge and discuss case studies of major oil and HNS spill incidents. An exhibition was also displayed, which presented the latest trends and technology in the industry.

IOPC Funds Claims Manager, Chiara Della Mea, delivered a presentation on the international liability and compensation regime for oil spills from tankers, focusing on the admissibility of claims, in particular in the clean-up sector, and lessons learned from the Hebei Spirit incident. *IOPC Funds* [Source document](#)

---

### **USA: STRAITS OF MACKINAC TUNNEL PLAN BRINGS MANY UNANSWERED QUESTIONS**

December 1 - Roughly 350 feet below the surface of the Straits of Mackinac — about the same depth as a passenger rail tunnel that links England and France — Michigan officials envision a 10-foot-wide tunnel to house the controversial Line 5 oil and gas pipeline.

In the latest legal agreement between the state and Enbridge, the entities will partner on a study to “examine several possible techniques and allow a much more detailed examination on the technical feasibility of such a tunnel” to replace 64-year-old twin pipelines that rest on the lakebed.

In the final draft of an alternatives analysis released on November 20, engineers offer a preliminary view of how such a tunnel would be built, what it would cost and the associated risks of that option. *Midwest Energy News* [Read more](#)

---

### **USA: JUDGE ORDERS MONITORING, AUDIT OF DAKOTA ACCESS PIPELINE**

December 4 - A federal judge on Monday imposed a series of conditions on the Dakota Access pipeline, which is currently transporting oil while undergoing a court-ordered environmental review. U.S. District Court Judge James Boasberg ordered Dakota Access operators to coordinate an oil spill response plan with federal and tribal officials near Lake Oahe in North Dakota, conduct a third-party audit of the pipeline’s compliance with federal and state regulations, and produce bi-monthly reports on the pipeline’s operations. *The Hill* [Read more](#) Read a related report in [UPI News](#)

---

### **USA: AIRBORNE SUPPORT, FOTOTERRA ANNOUNCE JV TO PROVIDE AIRBORNE OIL SPILL RESPONSE IN THE GOM**

December 4 - Airborne Support Inc. (ASI) and Fototerra Aerial Survey LLC (Fototerra) today announced a joint venture to provide integrated airborne oil spill response services in the Gulf of Mexico for the responder’s community and the oil and gas operators. The joint venture will capitalize on the strong reputation Airborne Support Inc. has developed as a leader for aerial dispersant application in the Americas and on Fototerra’s strength in aerial remote sensing with unique technologies for oil spill detection and analysis.

"This agreement represents each organization’s strong commitment to provide customers with a single source for the best in oil spill response," commented Brad Barker, ASI president and CEO. "This joint venture expands the ASI offering into a total service solution. When unique remote sensing capabilities are combined with the ASI reputation and credibility for excellence in dispersant application, you have a situation that can't be matched in aerial services for oil spill response." *World Oil* [Read more](#)

---

### **USA: ENBRIDGE SHUTS DOWN OIL FLOW THROUGH STRAITS OF MACKINAC PIPELINE DUE TO HIGH WINDS, WAVES**

December 5 - High winds and waves on Tuesday prompted Enbridge Energy to temporarily suspend operation of its Line 5 underwater oil pipelines in the Straits of Mackinac, the Michigan Agency for Energy announced.

It's the first activation of components in a new agreement between the state and Enbridge designed to increase safety and transparency related to the twin, 64-year-old pipelines, which ship more than 23 million gallons of crude oil and natural gas liquids through the Straits daily. *Detroit Free Press* [Read more to find out why this was done](#)

---

## News reports from around the world (continued)

### USA: GOVERNMENT AND INDUSTRY PARTNERS COLLABORATE TO PRODUCE A GUIDE FOR COOPERATION ON OIL SPILL ASSESSMENTS

December 8 - In November 2017, NOAA's Office of Response and Restoration and several West Coast Joint Assessment Team (JAT) participants completed an update of an informational guide, [Recommendations for Conducting Cooperative Natural Resource Damage Assessment](#).

This new document summarizes the collective roles, lines of communication, and latest suggested field techniques that support effective interactions between response, assessment, and restoration personnel. In addition to the West Coast JAT, there are Joint Assessment Teams that cover Alaska and several states along the Gulf Coast.

The West Coast JAT is an ad hoc discussion group of representatives from state and federal natural resource trustee agencies, spill response organizations, and representatives from the oil industry. The West Coast JAT was formed in 1996 to foster cooperation between agencies and private industry in preparing for, responding to, and assessing damages from spills in California, Oregon, and Washington. The group meets to talk and exchange ideas outside of the urgency of a real oil spill. *NOAA OR&R* See who was in the group and [Read more](#)

## ISCO news

### ISCO WELCOMES NEW MEMBERS

ISCO is pleased to welcome two new members.

**Oil Spill Products Ltd.** is a new Corporate Member and is based in Washington, Tyne & Weir, UK. The company manufactures spill control and containment products including absorbents, spill kits, spill containment products, floating spill containment booms, oil skimmers, pumps, oil water separators, material handling equipment which they engineer and build at their own manufacturing facility. The website is at <https://oilspillproducts.co.uk/>

**Allan Howarth** has joined ISCO as a new Professional Member and the Professional Standards Committee has elected him as a Fellow (FISCO) of the organisation. Allan has over 28 years' experience in the International area of Oil Spill Response, including exposure within multi-cultural societies. He has specialised in senior management and project services management in a wide range of countries, both onshore and offshore. Also, he has been involved in many major oil spill incidents over the last 26 years, in different capacities from Operator to Incident Commander. Since 2002 he has continuously held senior management positions and has a wealth of contacts with Oil and Service Companies. He has worked in a senior capacity for leading international companies on major oil pollution and related projects in Europe, the Middle East, Far East and CIS, undertaking hands-on, advisory and strategy functions.

### ISCO AT CLEAN GULF IN HOUSTON, TEXAS, USA

Last week ISCO President David Usher, Secretary Matthew Sommerville and Membership Director Mary Ann Dalgleish were at the Clean Gulf Conference and Exhibition. A report will be published in the next issue.

## Contributed article

### RECOVERING OIL AS THE SLICK DIMINISHES



*Photo: During the diminishing slick thickness test, the skimmer recovery rate and efficiency was quantified using the ASTM F2709 guidelines while recovering from 3 to 2 inches of oil. Performance tests in thinner slicks included thicknesses of 2, 1, ½ and ¼ inches.*

In a continued series of experiments for obtaining basic research data on skimmer performance, the Bureau of Safety and Environmental Enforcement (BSEE) conducted a diminishing slick thickness test in July 2017.

The objective was to evaluate the performance of a self-adjusting weir skimmer for oil recovery rates and oil recovery efficiencies while recovering oil from incrementally thinner slicks.

The previous test series focused on oleophilic type skimmers; however since the weir type skimmer is widely used, this assessment was of interest to BSEE.

## Contributed article (continued)

The test was conducted using the guidelines of the ASTM F2709 Standard Test Method for Determining a Measured Nameplate Recovery Rate of Stationary Oil Skimming Systems. This standard specifies testing in an initial three inches of oil to provide near ideal conditions for skimming in order to establish baseline performance data. However, in actual oil spill response operations, it cannot be assumed that a skimmer will be recovering in a three inch thick slick. In many cases, it is likely a skimmer would operate in a thinner thickness.

“It is important to understand how a skimmer’s performance is affected when operating as slick thickness diminishes,” says Kristi McKinney, an engineer for the Oil Spill Preparedness Division of BSEE.

Data was collected using a DESMI TERMITE skimmer which provides a lightweight package that can skim and transfer oils with a wide range of viscosity. The weir depth automatically adjusts to match the discharge rate of the offload pump or the rate at which the product is being removed from the skimmer hopper. This design allows the operator to optimize recovery efficiency at varying slick thicknesses for all flow rates.

In this test series, the TERMITE recovery rate and efficiency was quantified per ASTM F2709 guidelines while recovering from 3 to 2 inches of oil. “For the study, recovery rate was considered the dependent test parameter and valid for corresponding recovery efficiencies at or above 70%,” states Dave DeVitis, test director at Ohmsett. “Performance tests in thinner slicks included thicknesses of 2, 1, ½ and ¼ inches during which the slicks were replenished and maintained at a constant thickness. Resultantly the data obtained provided a recovery rate versus slick thickness curve.”

This data along with the results previously obtained during the oleophilic skimmer tests will be available on <https://www.bsee.gov/> under research project 1072. A master list of research projects conducted by BSEE can be found on <https://www.bsee.gov/what-we-do/oil-spillpreparedness/oil-spill-response-research/master-list-of-oil-spill-research>.

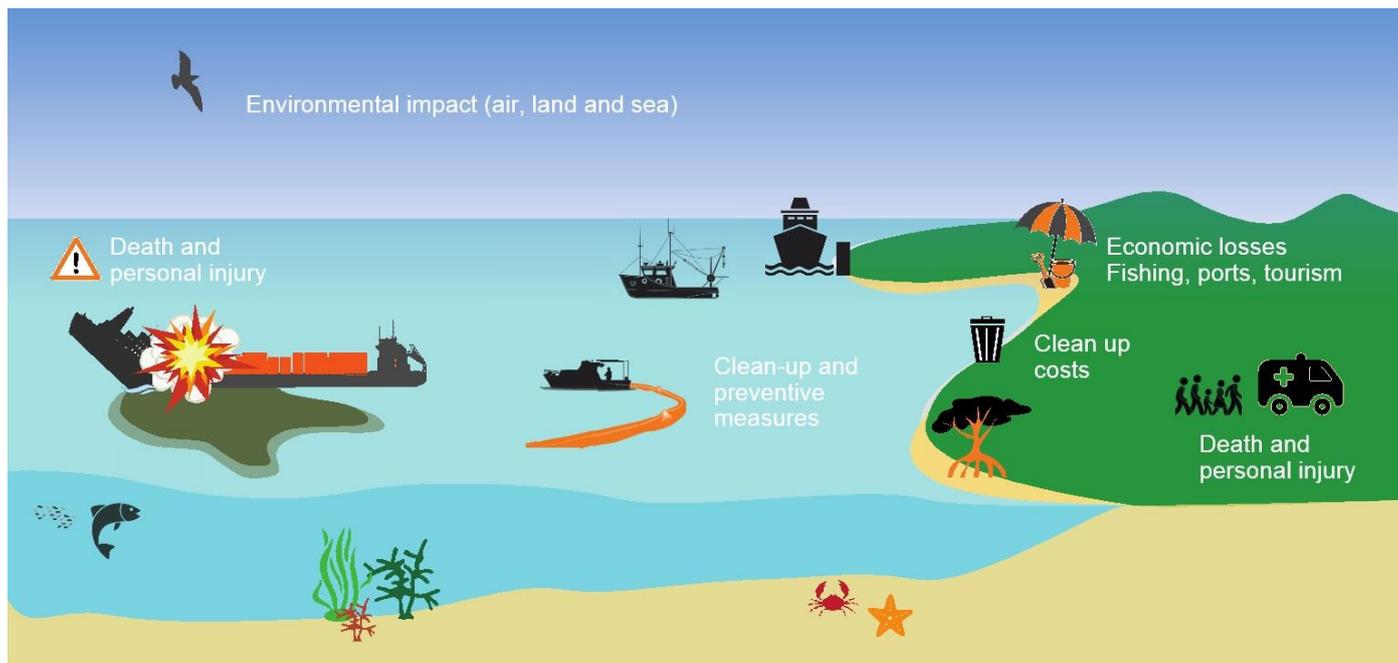
ISCO thanks Ohmsett for permission to reprint this article which was originally printed in the fall 2018 issue of the Ohmsett Gazette

## Special feature

### THE HNS CONVENTION - WHY IT IS NEEDED

The transport of hazardous and noxious substances (HNS) by sea is a vital trade. Chemicals and other products underpin many manufacturing processes and IMO regulations ensure their safe transport.

However, incidents do happen - and the HNS Convention is the last piece in the puzzle needed to ensure that those who have suffered damage have access to a comprehensive and international liability and compensation regime.



HNS covered by the Convention include: oils; other liquid substances defined as noxious or dangerous; liquefied gases; liquid substances with a flashpoint not exceeding 60°C; dangerous, hazardous and harmful materials and substances carried in packaged form or in containers; and solid bulk materials defined as possessing chemical hazards.

The HNS Convention establishes the principle that the ‘polluter pays’ by ensuring that the shipping and HNS industries provide compensation for those who have suffered loss or damage resulting from an HNS incident.

## Special feature (continued)

The shipping, oil, gas, chemical, petrochemical and other HNS industries are committed to paying such compensation through an international system, and the HNS Convention provides the framework just such a system. The HNS Convention benefits all State Parties (producing, receiving and coastal States) by establishing a system of strict liability and clear claims criteria.

The current HNS Convention was adopted in 2010, amending a previous instrument that had been adopted in 1996. However, the 2010 HNS Convention has still not entered into force; States must ratify it before this can happen.

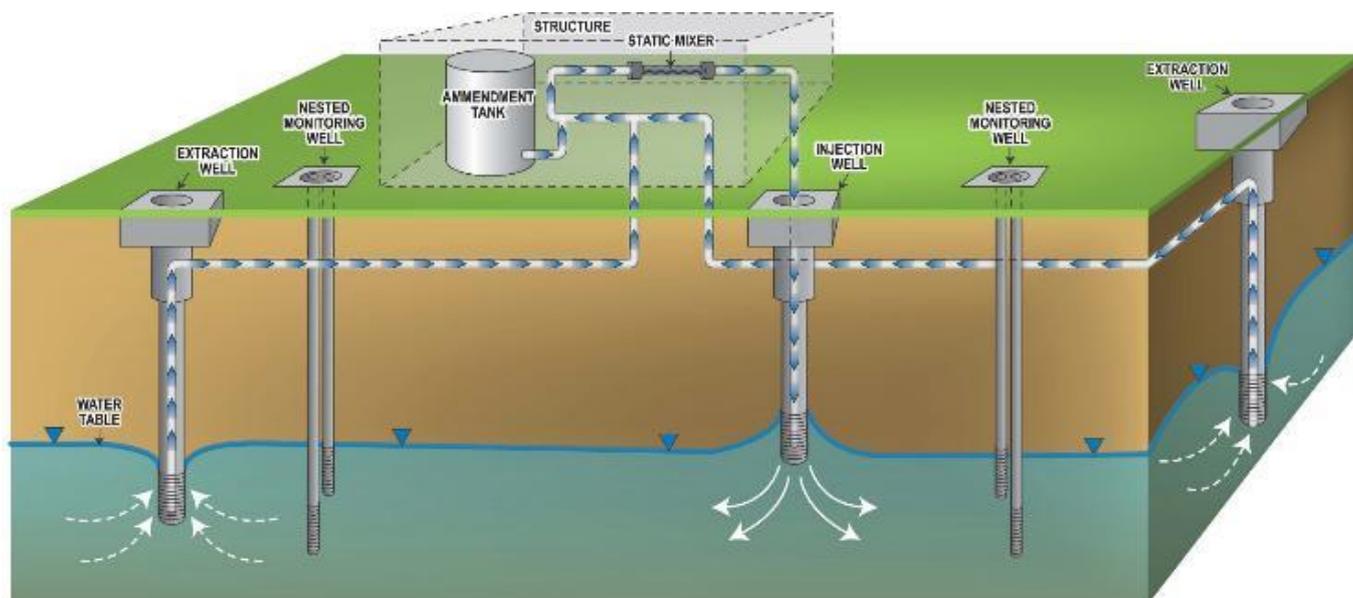
A [new presentation](#)\* is available to help understand and promote the HNS Convention. It outlines specific incident scenarios and the consequent impacts, risks and costs - illustrating the benefits of the compensation regime under the HNS Convention. The presentation is intended for use by decision-making authorities within Governments who are working with industry stakeholders to become parties to the HNS Convention.

The presentation is available in [English](#), [French](#) and [Spanish](#).

\* *The presentation may be freely downloaded and used for non-commercial purposes, but may not be changed, altered or modified in any sense which would be a breach of existing copyright. Please notify [hns@imo.org](mailto:hns@imo.org) to let us know when and where the presentation has been used and any feedback.*

## Science and technology

### USA: NEW MEXICO - KAFB TO GET NEW TOOL TO FIGHT FUEL LEAK



The Air Force is conducting a pilot test on groundwater contaminated by a decadeslong jet fuel leak in hopes naturally occurring bacteria can join the fight against toxic chemicals.

The ethylene dibromide (EDB) in-situ bioremediation pilot test being performed near the source of the leak on Kirtland Air Force Base involves pumping groundwater up and adding sugar that will serve as food for bacteria – potentially increasing their activity and encouraging them to gobble up more EDB – then injecting it back underground.

*Albuquerque Journal* Read more [Thanks to Don Johnston of ISCO Industry Partner, DG & Hazmat Group]

### CANADA: DEVELOPMENT OF AN INTEGRATED MECHANICAL RECOVERY AND OIL SPILL RESPONSE SYSTEM FOR HEAVY OIL IN COLD AND ICE PRONE MARINE ENVIRONMENTS

December 9 - The project aims at increasing the efficiency of existing mechanical recovery systems in collecting heavy oil disperse in water column below the water surface. Operating parameters such as temperature, oil density, and oil to water ratios are among the most important parameters to be analyzed during the primary scope of the project.

The challenging aspects of heavy crude and bituminous oil clean-up will be addressed by introduction of an advanced hybrid phase separation and spill collection system.

The project will improve the mechanical recovery processes for heavy oil clean up in marine and cold ocean environments and will provide an effective and practical solution for an oil spill incident. Physical tests and state-of-the-art simulation techniques will be utilized in order to test, simulate, and optimize the system for a wide range of spill scenarios.

## Science and technology

The main intermediate outcome of this project consists of an improved oil spill collection and separation system that can be integrated in an efficient response technique including a specially designed vessel. The system will be based on the established concepts and proven technologies for recovery of heavy oil spills from sea water in cold and ice prone ocean environments.

The long term outcome of the project will include specialized vessels with the required detection, storage, and spill removal systems, tested and proven in the real life conditions.

The Project Partners are Elastec, Development Corporation Newfoundland and Labrador (RDC) and InnovatechNL

You can find out more at [Centre for Cold Ocean Resources Engineering](#) [Thanks to Natural Resources Canada]

## Technical support

### UPDATED VERSIONS OF CAMEOFM AND TIER2 SUBMIT RELEASED

December 1 - Every year, NOAA and the EPA jointly release updated versions of [CAMEOfm](#) and [Tier2 Submit™](#), two programs to aid state and local emergency planners in preparing for and responding to chemical emergencies.

This past week, NOAA and the EPA released the latest versions of these software products, available to the public for free.

Under the Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act ([EPCRA \(link is external\)](#)), chemical facilities with certain quantities of Extremely Hazardous Substances (EHSs) must annually submit facility information to the local authorities for emergency planning and response purposes. Tier2 Submit provides a way for facilities to complete the EPCRA Tier II form electronically, and then submit files or paper copies according to their state's requirements. Tier2 Submit files can be imported into [CAMEOfm](#), where users can manage the facility, chemical, and contact data, in addition to data on past incidents or sensitive locations (such as hospitals and schools). These software products can interact with the other programs in the [CAMEO® software suite](#) to model chemical releases, generate custom maps, and more.

Tier2 Submit and [CAMEOfm](#) are the only free, publicly available tools to submit and manage Tier II forms. The latest versions, Tier2 Submit 2017 and [CAMEOfm 3.4](#), were released on November 28. These versions contain new physical and health hazard categories, updated resource types with the latest categories from FEMA, new 2017 North American Industry Classification (NAICS) codes, and more. The programs also adhere to the [National Tier II Data Standard](#), released in October 2016.

For more information, contact [Mark.W.Miller@noaa.gov \(link sends e-mail\)](mailto:Mark.W.Miller@noaa.gov) or [Brianne.Connolly@noaa.gov \(link sends e-mail\)](mailto:Brianne.Connolly@noaa.gov). [Thanks to NOAA OR&R]

## Publications

### NEW DATABASE CATALOGUES PLANTS THAT SOAK UP CONTAMINATION

Hyperaccumulators are unusual plants that can absorb much larger amounts of metal compounds in their leaves and stems than normal plants, and they are very useful for cleaning up contaminated land. As described in a [New Phytologist](#) article, researchers have published a database that provides easier access to information on the plant world's hyperaccumulators.

The new Global Hyperaccumulator Database contains data on 721 species of hyperaccumulators. Investigators hope that it will expand as more discoveries are made.

The Global Hyperaccumulator Database can be found at <http://hyperaccumulators.smi.uq.edu.au/collection/>

*Eureka Alert* [Read more](#)

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

<a href="#">Newsletter from George Holliday</a>	News and commentary on HSE issues from George Holliday	On request via email
<a href="#">Bow Wave</a>	Sam Ignarski's Ezine on Marine & Transport Matters	Current issue
<a href="#">Cedre Newsletter</a>	News from Cedre in Brittany, France	October 2017
<a href="#">CROIERG Enews</a>	Canberra & Regions Oil Industry Emergency Response Group	October 2017
<a href="#">EMSA Newsletter</a>	News from the European Maritime Safety Agency	December 2017 issue
<a href="#">EUROWA Newsletter</a>	European Oiled Wildlife Response Assistance Module	October 2017
<a href="#">IMO News Magazine</a>	News from the International Maritime Organization	Autumn 2017 issue
<a href="#">IMO Publishing News</a>	New and forthcoming IMO publications	November 2017
<a href="#">Intertanko Weekly News</a>	International news for the oil tanker community	December 1, 2017
<a href="#">JOIFF "The Catalyst"</a>	Int'l Organisation for Industrial Hazard Management	Q4 2017 issue
<a href="#">Maritime Executive Magazine</a>	Often contains articles of interest to the spill response community	Sept.-Oct. 2017
<a href="#">MOIG Newsletter</a>	News from the Mediterranean Oil Industry Group	October 2017 issue
<a href="#">NOWPAP Quarterly</a>	News from the North West Pacific Action Plan	Quarter 1, 2017 issue
<a href="#">Ocean Orbit</a>	Newsletter from the International Tanker Owners Pollution Federation	August 2017

## Links for recent issues of other publications (continued)

<a href="#">OCIMF Newsletter</a>	News from the Oil Companies International Marine Forum	November 2017 issue
<a href="#">Pollution Online Newsletter</a>	News for prevention & control professionals	December 6, 2017
<a href="#">Safe Seas, Clean Seas</a>	Quarterly Newsletter from Maritime New Zealand	August 2017 issue
<a href="#">Sea Alarm Foundation Newsletter</a>	Oiled wildlife Preparedness and Response news from Sea Alarm	Spring 2017 issue
<a href="#">Technology Innovation News Survey</a>	News from US EPA – Contaminated Site Decontamination	Oct. 16-31, 2017
<a href="#">Transport Canada Newsletter</a>	News and articles re transport of dangerous goods in Canada	June 2017 issue
<a href="#">UK NCEC</a>	News from the National Chemical Emergency Centre	July 2017 issue
<a href="#">USA EPA Tech Direct</a>	Remediation of contaminated soil and groundwater	December 1, 2017

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

## Correction

### CLEAN GULF – ISCO MEMBERS ATTENDING

Editor – Last week a list of the ISCO Corporate Members exhibiting at the Clean Gulf Conference and Exhibition was published. Unfortunately Abasco LLC was not included in the list. ISCO apologises most sincerely to Abasco for this error.

## Events

### ANTWERP TO HOST EUROPEAN ENVIRONMENTAL PORTS CONFERENCE 2018

ACI's European Environmental Ports Conference 2018 intends to follow on from the success of our inaugural 2017 edition. This year we are returning to Antwerp on the 16th & 17th May. Through extensive INDUSTRY research and the aid of our Agenda Committee Members, we have attained a great insight into the port industry and its environmental concerns.

The conference will examine the most pressing matters within the port industry such as: air quality, waste management, keeping up with compliance, improving relationships with the local area, onshore power supply and water quality. Moreover, the two day event will hear from cruise liners on their environmental output, alternative ideas and approaches from ports around Europe. There will also be a discussion between stakeholders focusing on cooperation from all areas of the port industry, assessing what can be done to improve the environment within ports in the long term.

To view a copy of the conference agenda, please click [Request the agenda via email](#) Register Before 22<sup>nd</sup> December & Take Advantage of the 20% Early Bird Discount

### INTERSPILL 2018 - BOOK NOW TO SECURE EARLY BIRD DELEGATE TICKETS

Start your 2018 off successfully by attending Interspill, the leading spill Conference and Exhibition. Registering to attend Interspill will allow you to:

- Expand your network with over 1,300 spill industry professionals through multiple networking opportunities
- Get a first-hand look at the vast range of cutting-edge initiatives improving global readiness
- Gain industry insight with a high quality conference programme produced by an industry-leading committee
- Attend the free of charge exhibition showcasing state-of-the-art equipment and services to prevent and respond to oil spills from over 100 exhibitors

Offer ends on 31 December, book now to secure your early bird delegate discount. [Register now](#)

## Upcoming events summary 2017

COUNTRY	2017	TITLE OF EVENT	LOCATION
For more information click on Title of Event			
GABON	Dec. 11-14	<a href="#">GI WACAF Nat'l W'shop on Marine Oil Spill Waste</a>	Libreville
JAPAN	Dec 12	<a href="#">PAJ Oil Spill Workshop FY2017</a>	Tokyo
UK (N. Ireland)	Dec 12	<a href="#">ISAA Christmas Meeting and Lunch</a>	Lisburn
MALAYSIA	Dec. 13-15	<a href="#">Oil Spill Management and Response Workshop</a>	Kuala Lumpur
ALBANIA	Dec. 17-20	<a href="#">Meeting of Parties to the Barcelona Convention</a>	Tirana

## Upcoming events summary 2018

COUNTRY	2018	TITLE OF EVENT	LOCATION
For more information click on Title of Event			
USA	Jan. 3-5	<a href="#">28<sup>th</sup> Annual No Spills Conference</a>	Grand Traverse MI
UK	Feb. 5-9	<a href="#">IMO Pollution Prevention &amp; Response Committee</a>	London
CANADA	Feb. 21-22	<a href="#">12<sup>th</sup> Arctic Shipping Summit</a>	Montreal
UAE	Feb 28 – Mar 1	<a href="#">Offshore Arabia Conference &amp; Exhibition</a>	Dubai
UK	March 13-15	<a href="#">2018 INTERSPILL Conference and Exhibition</a>	London
UK	March 13-15	<a href="#">Oceanology International 2018</a>	London
USA	March 20-21	<a href="#">SCAA Annual Meeting &amp; Conference</a>	Arlington VA
RUSSIA	March 22-23	<a href="#">Baltic Sea Day International Environmental Forum</a>	St. Petersburg
BELGIUM	March 22-23	<a href="#">CONCAWE Oil Pipeline Experience Seminar</a>	Antwerp
USA	April 4-5	<a href="#">Clean Waterways Conference</a>	St. Louis, MO
UK	April 9-13	<a href="#">IMO Marine Environment Protection Committee</a>	London
FINLAND	April 17-20	<a href="#">Arctic Shipping Forum</a>	Helsinki
NEW ZEALAND	May 1-3	<a href="#">NZ 5th Contaminated Land Conference</a>	Christchurch
USA	May 7-11	<a href="#">13th Int'l Effects of Oil on Wildlife Conference</a>	Baltimore, MD
UK	May 23-24	<a href="#">HAZMAT 2018</a>	Stratford on Avon
CANADA	June 5-7	<a href="#">AMOP Tech. Seminar – Contamination &amp; Response</a>	Vancouver BC
USA	June 19-21	<a href="#">Clean Pacific Conference and Exhibition</a>	Portland, OR
ITALY	June 20-22	<a href="#">INTERTANKO Annual Event 2018</a>	Rome
UK	June 25-29	<a href="#">International Harbour Masters Congress</a>	London
INDIA	July 5-6	<a href="#">Oil Spill India 2018 Conference &amp; Exhibition</a>	New Delhi
UAE	October 9-10	<a href="#">RECSO EnviroSpill Conference &amp; Exhibition</a>	Abu Dhabi
UK	October 22-26	<a href="#">IMO Marine Environment Protection Committee</a>	London
USA	Nov.13-15	Clean Gulf Conference and Exhibition	New Orleans, LA
To request posting of an event of interest to the Spill Response Community please send details to the Editor			

## Corporate member news

### RESOLVE MARINE GROUP STRENGTHENS CLIENT SERVICES TEAM

Resolve Marine Group has strengthened its senior team with the appointments of Lindsay Malen-Habib as Manager of Client Services and Dimos Iliopoulos as its Representative in Greece.



Lindsay Malen-Habib has 15 years' experience in maritime emergency response, business development and marketing and will be based in Resolve's head office in Fort Lauderdale, Florida. Ms. Malen-Habib has extensive experience in emergency response contingency planning, salvage and wreck removal having previously served as Director of Business Development for one of the world's largest salvors. Ms. Malen-Habib is active on numerous industry associations including Chair of the American Salvage Association Membership Committee and Co-chair of the Marketing and Communications Committee. She is also an active member of the Women in International Shipping and Trading Association (WISTA).



Dimos Iliopoulos, a naval architect and marine engineer, has 40 years' experience in the Greek shipping industry having served in key management positions with ship owners, operators and shipbuilders. Mr. Iliopoulos is member of various Greek and foreign associations including the Greek Chamber of Engineers, and also sits on the technical committees of three major classification societies. Mr Iliopoulos will be based in Athens and manage Resolve's client bases in Greece, Cyprus and Turkey.

**Resolve Marine Group is a Corporate Member of ISCO**

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](http://www.spillcontrol.org)