

SpillAlert

THE QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER ABOUT THE SPILL INDUSTRY

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Future Spills

Look back to look forward

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EDITOR:
Roger Mabbott
Executive Director -
UKSpill Association

The views and opinions expressed by the authors and those providing comments are theirs alone, and do not necessarily reflect the views of UKSpill.

The theme of this issue, Future Spill, has to be a reflection of the fact that in 2012, serious oil spills in the marine environment were effectively nil, on the basis of spills of more than 7 tons. ITOPF's latest report published this achievement, and they have contributed their analysis and view on this to SpillAlert.

However, to look into the future is a dangerous game, many have tried, most fail, but it is generally agreed that we need to look at the past to get an idea of what might happen in the future, hence the ITOPF commentary, which forms the main article, and is supported by views and opinions on what the future holds for different aspects of oil spill industry.

It is clear in looking at the future, through the variety of forecasts and scenarios generated by BP, Shell and the UN for example, that oil will remain a major source of energy, where demand is likely to nearly double by 2050, and alternative sources will only partly offset this growth.

So oil will continue to be utilised, and in that process, accidents will happen, so the spill industry will remain an essential component for the short and medium term.

The sharp reduction in marine accidents reflects substantial work in prevention via

changes in laws, conventions, training, ship construction, just to name a few. In 1998, the Exxon Valdez spill occurred, political pressure resulted in actions leading to adoption of double hull tankers, but it will be 2015 before that action is complete.

Looking ahead, other drivers for change will influence the type of spill, for example technology is improving navigation, and reducing accidents, but technology is also driving environmental lobbying across a wider spectrum. In 2010, post Macondo, the media lobby in the USA could be argued to have influenced oil company actions in upgrading future oil spill response plans for other offshore, deep water exploration, and locations such as the Arctic. That media lobby will arise in a similar form in future spills, reflecting the spread of the smart phone (and its camera) in almost all parts of the world.

PS - download your UKSpill App free from iPhone Appstore and for Android on Google Play for the latest news on the spill industry in the UK.

Finally, a forecast which will occur, in 2015, Interspill will be held at RAI in Amsterdam over 24-26 March 2015.

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Guest Editorial

A view from Jon Burton, the new Chairman of UKSpill, on the future of UKSpill membership



For a trade association such as the UKSpill Association there is always a danger in the organisation becoming a closed talking shop between existing members, with little potential for growth, adding little value to current members and not attracting new members. In my view this is a worst case scenario and one that we strongly want to avoid.

It is therefore of paramount importance that we regularly review our aims and objectives as a trade association, to ensure that we create a dynamic organisation that maintains interest and value to current members and is an attractive prospect to new members. Looking at the diversity of the membership that has developed over the years, we have largely remained focused on inland and marine spill response contractors, consultants and product manufacturers. Until recently the only member to have not been directly associated with any of these groups was the insurance brokers OAMPS, who have supported UKSpill for many years.

UKSpill continues to have the support of the Environment Agencies for England, Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland, and the Maritime and Coastguard Agency. It is also represented in many different groups with an interest in oil spills, such as the Emergency Planning Society and the Energy Institute, as well as being recognised and accredited by the UK Trade & Investment Department for its support of exporters.

Given we are well represented in the obvious categories of membership, where should we be looking. There is a large group of companies who have a significant input in the spill response industry in the UK and indeed internationally, that are not involved in UKSpill and these are the stakeholders. To develop a dynamic trade association and one in which we can learn and benefit from the knowledge and experience of our existing members and attract new members, we need to invite these stakeholders to be involved in UKSpill.

At the last Annual Meeting, the members voted to include a new membership category, 'Associate Member'. This has been created to attract stakeholders who are heavily involved in the spill industry to join the Association. The intention being that we can learn from these new members and they can have a more direct input into the way in which spill response works are completed by attending and contributing at meetings and events and contributing to publications such as SpillAlert.

The first new member to join in what we hope will be a growing category was QuestGates Chartered Loss Adjusters who are the leading loss adjusters in the inland spill response and remediation market in the UK. As a reflection of their position in the environmental claims industry, QuestGates environmental team were recently awarded a top accolade at the Insurance Times Claims Excellence Awards 2013. As one of seven shortlisted firms, the QuestGates Environmental team demonstrated how they have reduced insurers' indemnity spend by up to 40% in the last year, whilst at the same time displaying high levels of customer care in a complex and sensitive area of the claims sector. This performance has created demand from new clients and an impressive growth in revenue. Other loss adjusters have also recently joined UK Spill and it is hoped that we can attract other stakeholders including insurance companies, brokers, energy networks companies and many more.

In creating a more diverse membership it is hoped that we can host more interesting and useful events for our members and for other interested parties, and an illustration of the likely success of this approach is the recent Inland Spill Seminar held in April at the Fire Service College in Moreton in Marsh. This event was intended to bring together existing members, stakeholders and regulators to discuss the approach to inland spill response and remediation and turnout for the event was double the previous highest figures and the feedback following the event has been very positive indeed. Hopefully we can repeat the success of this event in future inland, and marine events by attracting new members to UKSpill.

Jon Burton
Chairman UKSpill Association,
Technical Director RAW Group
www.raw-group.com

Future Spills

look back to look forward

The Main Feature:

What do the statistics mean, oil's spills down, oil production static, energy demand growing?

What will the future environment be like, what is the future for the spill industry?

What type of spills, how to prevent, respond, what have we learnt?

When we talk of the future, it is mostly questions and not usually many answers...

The recent publication of ITOPF's (International Tanker Operators Pollution Federation) annual report, which showed that spills were almost nil, for the first time for decades is cause for cheer, but behind the figures, what does this mean about what has

happened, and what might happen in future. SpillAlert asked ITOPF for their commentary on these figures, and we put this in the context of global energy demands, and also look at the way spill are changing, for example with growing numbers of pipelines.

Trends in oil spills and ITOPF attendance to incidents

Susannah Musk – ITOPF Technical Support Coordinator

ITOPF has observed a major downward trend in oil tanker incidents. The number of recorded large (>700 tonnes) and medium (7 – 700 tonnes) spills from tankers has decreased dramatically since we began recording such incidents in 1970. In the decade 1970-1979, on average approximately 39 large and medium size spills occurred per year; compare this to only nine spills per year on average for the most recent decade (2000-2009), a reduction of 77%. Consistent with the fall in the number of oil spills, the volume of oil spilt also shows a marked reduction. In the decade 1970-1979, a total of approximately 3.2 million tonnes of oil was spilt; whereas in the decade 2000-2009 a total of approximately 212,000 tonnes of oil was spilt - a decrease of 93% (Figure 1).

Even more encouraging is that this reduction is set against the gradual growth in seaborne oil trade since the mid-1980s (Figure 2). The

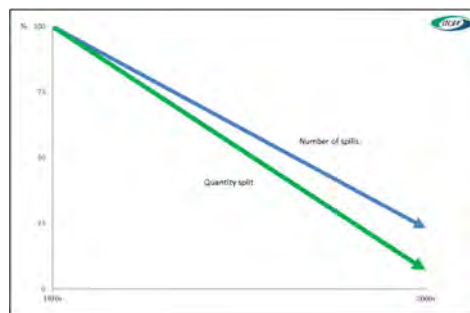


Figure 1: Since the decade 1970-1979, the number of spills per year has reduced by 77% and the quantity spilt has reduced by 93%.

efforts of government and industry to improve the safety of oil transported by sea have meant the additional risk implied from increased movements of oil has not been realised. Such efforts include the implementation and enforcement of conventions and regulations,

training and improvements in technology and navigation.

As might be expected from these statistics, the attendance of ITOPF to incidents involving



Figure 2: Seaborne oil trade and number of tanker spills >7 tonnes, 1970 to 2011 (Crude and Oil Product*). * Product vessels of 60,000 DWT

tankers has declined. However, since the late 1970s and particularly from the late 1990s onwards, our attendance to incidents involving other types of ship (non-tankers) has increased noticeably, primarily to incidents involving bulk carriers, containerships, general cargo vessels and passenger ships. For example, in the last ten years approximately 65% of the incidents ITOPF has attended were non-tankers, of which over 60% were bulk carriers and containerships (Figure 3).

Increasing global demand for chemicals and dry bulk materials used in a wide variety of industries has resulted in the steady growth

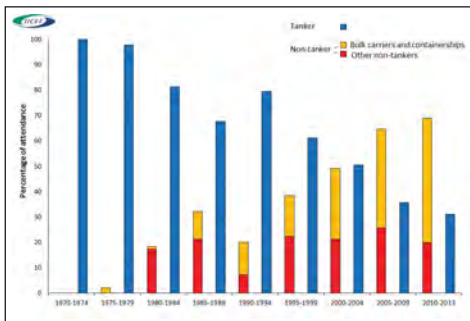


Figure 3: The number of incidents ITOPF has attended shown as a percentage for each five year period since 1970 (except 2010-2013). ITOPF attendance to non-tanker incidents has increased, in particular to bulk carriers and containerships.

of their trade by sea. For example, the volume of containers shipped, a significant number of which may carry Hazardous and Noxious Substances (HNS), has almost doubled in the period 2001 to 2010¹. Seaborne trade of the most commonly transported bulk solid cargoes (iron ore, grain, coal, bauxite/alumina and phosphate) has increased five-fold since 1970².

A generally greater awareness of the potential environmental and economic impacts of a spill of oil, chemicals or other materials, has meant the experience and services of ITOPF are ever more widely sought after. This is especially significant for incidents involving containerships where numerous different HNS



ITOPF attended on site for a containership incident where substances on board included fuel oils and dangerous goods.

may be on board. As potential pollutants, HNS may pose serious risks to human health as well as to the marine environment and can have repercussions for the response. As such, containership incidents in particular can involve considerable work for ITOPF staff.

Prediction of future trends in shipping can be complex but the steady and continued involvement of ITOPF in pollution incidents can be expected.

www.itopf.com

ITOPF is a not-for-profit organisation established on behalf of the world's shipowners to promote an effective response to marine spills of oil, chemicals and other hazardous substances. We provide the following services to our tanker members and non-tanker associates:

- Response advisors for oil and chemical spills
- Damage assessments
- Involvement in drills and exercises
- Contingency planning and advisory work
- Training and education
- Information services, which includes ITOPF incidents database, extensive library, ITOPF technical publications, country profiles and our Geographic Information System (GIS)

¹ Shipping Statistics Yearbook 2011. ISL (Institute of Shipping Economics and Logistics)

² Review of Maritime Transport 2012. UNCTAD (United Nations Conference on Trade and Development)

More Pipelines, More Future Spills

Dave Petley, who is the Wilson Professor of Hazard and Risk in the Department of Geography at Durham University in the United Kingdom, reports on the consequences of landslides on pipelines.

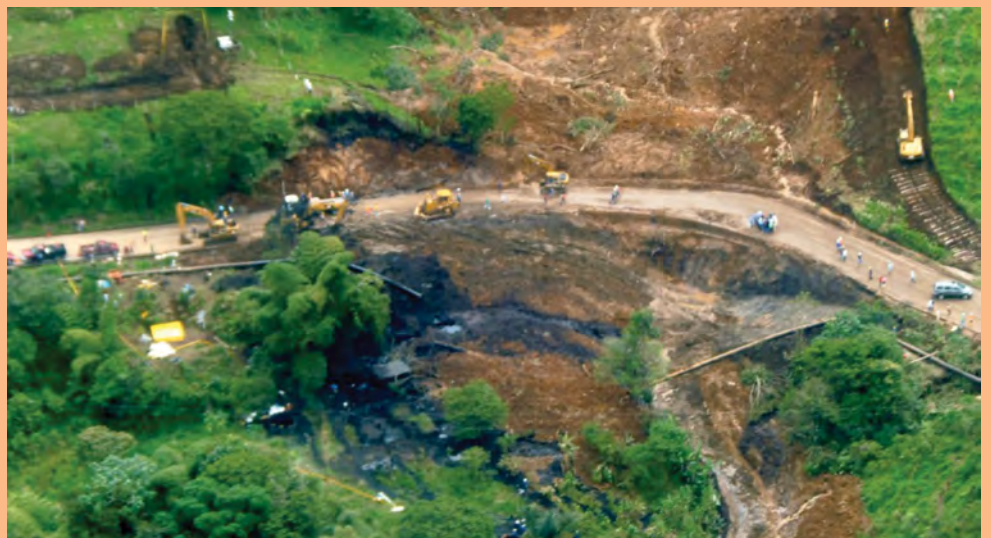
One of the largest impacts of landslides occurs when the slide severs an oil or gas pipeline, allowing a release into the environment. Given that pipelines are increasingly being built in landslide-prone terrain this is a real problem. A clear illustration of this occurred in Ecuador on 31st May, when the Trans-Ecuador pipeline ruptured in a landslide. This image (right), released by Petroecuador, shows the landslide site.

If you look carefully the broken pipeline is clearly visible, as is the spilled oil. Note that this was not a particularly large landslide. The volume of oil released to the

environment is reported to have been about 11,500 barrels, which is about 205,000 litres. The oil flowed into the Coca River and is now making its way downstream. The initial impact was on the city of Coca, which has 80,000 inhabitants, which had to shut down its drinking water supply. Whilst the volumes of oil do not sound huge, the impacts are enormous.

The oil is likely to affect river systems in both Peru and Brazil in due course. The irony is of course that the cost of identifying and avoiding such likely to be small compared with the costs of losing the pipeline and its oil for a few days, and more importantly with the cost of the environmental damage that this spill will cause.

www.landslideblog.org



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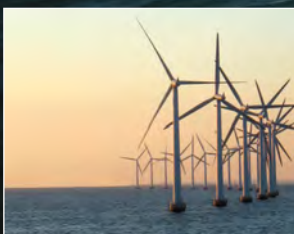
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In the News

EUROPE: NEW EXPLORATION AND PRODUCTION HORIZONS PRESENT DEMANDING CHALLENGES IN THE COMBATTING AND RECOVERY OF OIL SPILLS

Whilst the occurrence of major oil spills may be becoming more infrequent due to the combination of drilling technology and more safety and environmentally conscious operations, in reality significant environmental disasters will never be completely eradicated with wide-ranging causes including factors such as harsh weather conditions, mechanical failures, human error, criminal negligence, wars, terrorism etc.

The environmental, political and financial impacts of such events are hugely damaging as can be the ensuing publicity. After each disaster Exploration and Production companies review and enhance their preparedness and response plans to mitigate these issues.

All the while the global demand for oil continues in a seemingly unabated manner.

There is therefore, a rapidly growing shift to deepwater or extreme environment drilling across the globe and even the extraction of bitumen from oil sands all of which bring with it challenges not only in exploration and production technology but also in the technology for effective environmental containment, response and indeed storage in the case of recovered pollutants.

As was only too evident in the Deepwater Horizon incident where there was an insufficient offshore high volume recovery technology and capability.

Lessons further highlighted the need for efficient and effective recovery of volume pollutant with minimal water content in order to optimise the use of potentially limited recovered oil storage on vessels

It is essential that oil spill response equipment innovates and adapts accordingly and to meet this demand Vikoma has developed an innovative High Capacity Skimming system specifically designed for offshore use.

Using a brief created from specific market feedback and Vikoma's own observations on client needs and developed with the introduction of a number of innovative solutions the result is a system utilising a unique oil collection principle.

The system, known as the OPRS 300 (Oil Pollution Recovery System) is based upon patented oleophilic 'tufted discs' which has been proven to collect up to 300 m³ per hour of oil and can work across oils with viscosities ranging from 1 to 1 million cSt and with minimal free water pick up.

The system comprises of a floating skimmer head utilising the innovative and unique 'tufted disc' technology with an on-board recovered oil discharge pump, and thrusters for manoeuvrability. The head is then connected to a 60m long umbilical (longer lengths



can be provided) with a deck-based handling and deployment system housed within a 20ft container 'footprint' along with an integral diesel driven hydraulic powerpack. The skimmer unit is operated by a hand held remote control console.

A range of towable floating recovered oil storage tanks (F.R.O.S.T.) have also been introduced with capacities of up to 100 tonnes to further help in combatting volume spills offshore.

Vikoma has also developed a range of powerpacks specifically for use in more extreme conditions which can operate in areas with temperature ranges from +49°C down to -32°C. These units have been proven in use by the UK MoD.

Peter Tyler, Vikoma International Ltd
www.vikoma.com

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In the News

ASIA: OIL SPILL RESPONSE LIMITED (OSRL) STRENGTHENS SINGAPORE'S POSITION AS AN INTERNATIONAL OIL & GAS HUB

Oil Spill Response Limited (OSRL), the global oil spill response cooperative funded by more than 160 environmentally responsible oil and energy companies, announces the opening of a new base with enhanced response capabilities at Loyang in Singapore today.

The opening of the base is a milestone event for the maritime and oil and gas industries in

the Asia Pacific region, bringing together expert personnel and equipment resources in a single place so as to deliver an integrated, swift and effective response to an emergency oil spill incident.

In addition, regional response capability sited at the base has been boosted by the recent arrival of advanced subsea well capping equipment known as a 'capping stack' which can be mobilised throughout the Asia Pacific region in the event of a subsea well control incident.

For more information visit:
www.oilspillresponse.com



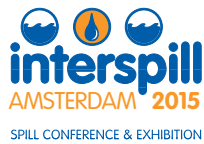
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Find out more at www.interspill.org

Next Triennial Event **IOSC 2014**
Savannah, USA - visit www.IOSC.org for details

In the News

UK: **INTERSPILL 2015**



SPILL CONFERENCE & EXHIBITION

The Interspill Steering Committee have decided to hold the next event of this triennial series, Interspill 2015, at RAI, in Amsterdam, The Netherlands, over 24-26 March 2015.

Chris Morris, Chairman of the Interspill Steering Committee, said that "the decision was unanimous and reflected the importance of locating the event at a central European capital city, where the oil, marine and environment industries come together." Spill Response Group Holland, (SRGH) have agreed to host the event, and have joined the Interspill 2015 event Organising Committee.

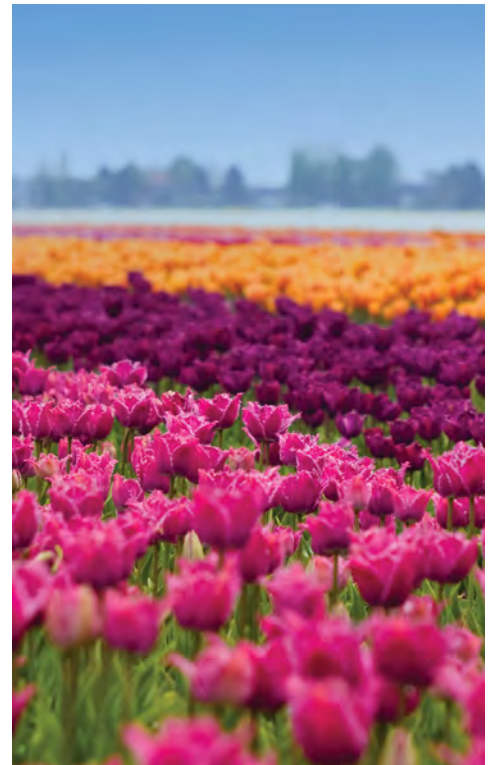
Interspill 2015, as the leading European oil spill conference and exhibition will build on the success of Interspill 2012 in London, taking into account the potential issues to be raised

from any future oil spills, and supporting the networking that this group depends on to deal with spill events.

Interspill has contracted with Reed Exhibitions to partner and organise the 2015 event, following the success of this partnership in 2012. Co-located with Oceanology International at Excel in London, Interspill 2012 attracted over 1300 delegates, visitors and exhibitors from over 70 countries, it was the most successful event so far in the Interspill series since it started in 2000. Proceedings of the 2012 Conference, Workshops and Seminars are published on the Interspill website www.interspill.org.

The Committee plan to announce its Conference and Events programme in September 2013.

For more information visit: www.interspill.org



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The logo for ecoceane features a stylized blue and green wave graphic above the word "ecoceane" in a lowercase, sans-serif font.

A photograph of a white Workglop 128 pollution control workboat on the water.

A photograph showing several Workglop 128 boats docked in a harbor.

The logo for salarollpump features the word "salarollpump" in a bold, lowercase font with a red underline, above a photograph of a worker in an orange safety suit operating a pump.

A photograph of a worker in an orange safety suit operating a large industrial pump.

UK: AMW TEAMS UP WITH ADLER AND ALLAN

Adler and Allan (A&A) is delighted to announce the merger of AMW Contractors into the Adler and Allan Group, bringing a wealth of specialist response and remediation expertise.

AMW, founded in 1990 by Mark Walker, has worked alongside A&A on many high-profile response projects over the past decade including the Buncefield disaster clean-up in 2005-6. Mark, supported by Operations Director, Grant Litherland, and their team are highly experienced multi-disciplinary contractors specialising in design and build remediation projects. The Carlisle depot will become A&A's northern contaminated land centre of excellence.

Mark Calvert, Managing Director of the Adler & Allan Group said "We have worked with Mark and his team at AMW for many years and we know their strengths. There are many synergies between the two companies and they have an excellent reputation. This is a very exciting opportunity to strengthen our regional presence and we welcome their team on board."

AMW is ISO9001, 14001 and 18001 accredited and has significant technical expertise in both response and remediation projects. AMW's

business lines are entirely complimentary to A&A's, and provide opportunities for the Group to increase business particularly in the electrical utility and oil sectors.

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Future Spills



The future of oiled wildlife response

A view from the Sea Alarm Foundation

Wildlife response is not the most important part of an oil spill response. Certainly it is one of the least understood and most underestimated ones. This paper defines what wildlife response is and describes how it came about. It will give a picture of where we are today and what we can expect from the (near) future. One conclusion will be clear: things are changing for the better.

A definition of oiled wildlife response

Oiled wildlife response are the activities that can be undertaken as an extension of the more general oil spill response and aim to assist wild animals that may not fully benefit from (or benefit in time from) standard oil spill countermeasures such as containment, dispersion, recovery and shoreline clean-up. Wildlife response aims to protect animals from getting affected by oil, and mitigate the effects when such oiling has taken place. Targeted animals typically include marine, coastal and aquatic birds, marine reptiles (e.g. sea turtles) and marine and aquatic mammals (seals, sea lions, otters, cetaceans). Response activities



include the assessment of wildlife sensitivities in time and space, real-time monitoring of the whereabouts of wildlife in relation to the oil, protection of nesting/haul-out sites, hazing and deterrence (scaring animals away from oil), pre-emptive capture and collection of

un-oiled animals and their offspring/eggs, collection and analysis of corpses, euthanasia and/or rehabilitation of live oiled animals.

History of oiled wildlife response

As long as mankind has used oil for the propulsion of ships, oil spills have happened, and reports of dead oiled birds found on the shorelines of Europe go back over a hundred years. The Torrey Canyon was the first oil spill that caused thousands of seabird casualties, which came ashore dead and alive, together with the many tons of oil. Oil spill preparedness was unknown in those days, let alone oiled wildlife preparedness.

The Torrey Canyon incident became the landmark that signified the start of professional oil spill preparedness with governments, oil industry, tanker owners and their insurers, and a multi-million oil spill response industry with professional responders, advisors and manufacturers. International agreements have been created at a global level for governmental cooperation on spill prevention, surveillance, response and spill damage compensation.

Oiled wildlife response has not been part of these developments, which is somewhat remarkable given that oiled animals have always been a significant aspect of environmental damage in large landmark spills such as the Sea Empress, Erika and Prestige. Perhaps this can be explained by the fact that in the early days the rehabilitation of live animals was often

attempted, but only rarely successful. Despite the intensive care and good intentions of those who undertook wildlife response, the birds would die in care, or at least shortly after having been washed and released.

The picture of well willing groups and individuals turning up in the aftermath of an oil spill to rescue wildlife, but persistently failing in their efforts is one that has firmly settled with the professional oil spill response community. It was not felt that these efforts could easily become successful and there was no strong driver to integrate wildlife into the capital investments that went into the R&D of other parts of oil spill response.

In the background however, away from the mainstream investments into professional oil spill response, scientists and NGOs kept improving their rehabilitation methodologies. Although the earliest scientific roots for more successful rehabilitation methodologies of seabirds lie in Europe (University of Newcastle, UK, and Royal NIOZ, Texel, NL), they were further developed in the US by organisations such as International Bird Rescue and TriState Bird Rescue Research. The strict polluter pays principle in the new US legislation (OPA '90) that followed the 1989 Exxon Valdez incident, led to a climate where potential Responsible Parties were encouraged to develop retainers with US based wildlife response organisations, which gave a boost to the level of professionalism in the work field. Additional legislation in California laid the basis for the collaborative Oiled Wildlife Care

Network, which is run by the University of California, Davis, and is well-funded via levies on each barrel of imported oil. It consists of more than 30 member organisations working with the State to provide oiled wildlife preparedness and response, and has become one of the main drivers of science-based rehabilitation methodologies and post release survival studies.

Wildlife Response Today

Everywhere in the world the knowledge and expertise to successfully rehabilitate oiled wildlife lies with NGOs and universities. Thanks to enlightened minds thirty years ago, a conference series was created in the U.S. to begin exchanging experiences on oiled wildlife rehabilitation and, today, the Effects of Oil on Wildlife (EOW) conference has grown into the most important driver of global oiled wildlife response and preparedness.

The role of the International Fund of Animal Welfare (IFAW) should also not be underestimated. For many years the organisation financed the availability of professional U.S. responders using proven methodologies in large wildlife incidents worldwide via their Emergency Relief team, a partnership with California-based group International Bird Rescue. In this way the effective bird rehabilitation protocols were demonstrated outside of the US, and the interest and capabilities of organisations in different parts of the world were boosted via training and conferences.

In Europe, the efforts of the Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (RSPCA) to develop effective wildlife response plans and science-based rehabilitation methodologies go back as far as the Torrey Canyon. Incidents such as the Braer brought the Society and some European NGOs to realise that their wildlife response efforts should become better coordinated and integrated into the existing governmental and industry systems. This led to the inception of Sea Alarm in 1999 by the Seal Sanctuary in Pieterburen. Sea Alarm's efforts and intentions to build professional NGO networks and reach out to governments and industry were quickly recognised by industry organisations such as ITOPF and IPIECA and a group of interested oil companies. It resulted in the start of a successful cooperation between Sea Alarm and oil industry owned Oil Spill Response Limited in 2005, and the initiation of a modest but focused programme that mobilised the global



Future Spills

visionary and progressive forces in this particular field.

In Europe the establishment of this unique industry-NGO cooperation has contributed to increased recognition of professional wildlife approaches by European governmental agencies and the European Commission. Nowadays each of the European regional agreements has an integrated oiled wildlife programme, with the most advanced and legally binding systems set up under HELCOM. Countries such as Finland, Belgium, the Netherlands and Estonia have developed integrated wildlife response plans built around close and effective government-NGO cooperation. In the UK and parts of Germany the plans for wildlife response are developed and maintained independently by NGOs, whose services can be invited and integrated into an authority-led response in case their efforts are needed.

Outside of Europe and the US, the success of a professional and integrated oiled wildlife system run by government-NGO cooperation has been demonstrated in South Africa (Treasure, 2000), and more recently in New Zealand during the 2011 Rena incident. In South Africa pre-existing close relationships between SANCCOB and the South African authorities led to a mega-operation in which 19,000 oiled penguins were successfully rehabilitated, also thanks to the involvement of the IFAW ER team. The professionalism demonstrated in the recent Rena response has probably set a new world standard, but few people know the success was the result of many years of well-funded preparedness cooperation between Maritime New-Zealand and Massey University's Wildlife Health Centre. Both the Rena and the Treasure spill demonstrated that integrated preparedness is key to a successful response in which large numbers of animals (some of high conservation value) can be protected and rescued.

The Future of oiled wildlife response

The historic overview demonstrates that for many years oiled wildlife response has not been included in the development of international oil spill response preparedness, leaving interested NGOs on their own, with extremely limited funds for R&D. Fortunately the persistent efforts of pioneering scientists and creative wildlife rehabilitators have led to successful methodologies, the effect of

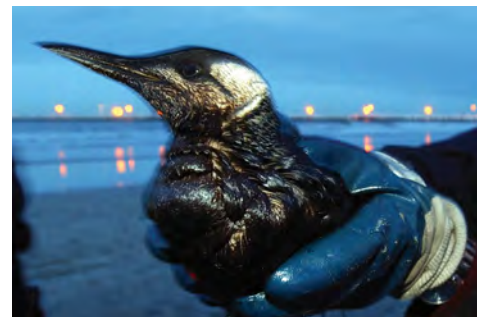
which has been proven in a number of incidents in the course of the last 10-15 years. The role that NGOs can play in dealing with the challenges of a wildlife incident is increasingly recognised by industry and some governments, and it has been demonstrated that a wildlife response by NGOs will significantly benefit from its full integration in an oil spill response.

Some scepticism however should be expressed here, as clearly the less-informed and inexperienced NGOs outnumber the professional and experienced NGOs by far, and the great results described are reported from countries where visionary governmental agencies had a professional NGO partner to talk to and to cooperate with.

On the other hand, the future of oiled wildlife response is clearly one that must continue to build upon formalised relationships between NGOs and end users such as governments and industry. National systems of oiled wildlife preparedness need to go through investments into NGO-authority relationships, integrated planning, training and exercises to achieve maximum effects, which will take time. But each of these activities will also create the important personal relationships that are crucial for an effective cooperation should a spill come too soon. Meanwhile the developing systems will benefit from and can lean on internationally organised and coordinated investments into tier-3 preparedness and R&D projects.

Most of the above has been considering wildlife rehabilitation because this clearly has been technically the most difficult hurdle that had to be taken for professional wildlife response to mature. However, other important wildlife activities should also be targeted for integration, such as scientific impact assessment, hazing and deterrence, and pre-emptive capture.

There are still various gaps that must be filled, but clearly some firm foundations for promising developments have been laid. One of the items currently being explored is the structural cooperation between the oil industry and the world's leading oiled wildlife response NGOs. This would help to establish global industry standards for oiled wildlife response and preparedness, and a coordinated global tier-3 wildlife response system. In Europe and the rest of the world, this would certainly help the further



Rescued birds before and after clean-up.

recognition of wildlife response as an essential element that should be prepared for, and, through training, ensure an increasing number of national NGOs that will be able to deliver such a response at the highest professional level.

www.sea-alarm.org

The Sea Alarm Foundation was first established in the Netherlands in 1999, until 2007, when the Sea Alarm Board started the process of transferring the formal seat of Sea Alarm from the Netherlands to Belgium, which was completed in 2008. Sea Alarm is governed by an international Board and the day-to-day management is delegated to the General Manager.

In October 2005, Sea Alarm embarked on a long term programme with Oil Spill Response (formerly OSRL/EARL) to further the development of global oiled wildlife response capabilities. This joint initiative has enabled both parties to benefit from each other's expertise and experience, and has also provided essential funding for the continuation of Sea Alarm's work.

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Future Spills

A view from Desmi Ro Clean

Before we can look forward it pays to be retrospective and look back on past events. The Deepwater Horizon incident, although a tired and well used head line is still the 'event' of the decade.

There have been countless articles, papers and analysis of the total response effort and with the benefit of hindsight, we hope future events could be better handled. While the whole industry likes to think it is well versed in oil response, it was the scale and complexity of Deepwater Horizon that challenged resource and organisations in unprecedented ways.

As we move into deeper water and more difficult environments there will always be some risk. The subsequent scientific publications on this specific marine-well blow out will certainly be of huge benefit and help guide future actions in a similar event, should that ever happen. However, what has been the effect on the development of equipment and techniques?

What will be the advances and new technologies that we will see over the short to medium term?

Certainly, In-Situ or controlled burning has proven itself under the right conditions. Sweep systems can now operate with oil, over 1 knot without entrainment and, we have seen the surface area of discs increased and in some cases coated in an effort to improve efficiency. High capacity offshore skimming systems with craneage and umbilicals are now more common although the temporary storage remains the challenge!

However, we believe some of the major developments in our conservative industry will be in the use of advanced chemicals. This is in both the dispersant and herding categories plus the need for new methods of delivery. In addition, there will be the adoption of other technologies to enhance or 'bolt on' to existing systems. We already see the use of wireless technology where equipment can be operated by one individual, including launch and recovery. Other technologies such as unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVs), will have bigger roles than just surveillance although this alone will significantly benefit response operations.

There is also significant advancement in equipment for specific environments such as the Arctic. However, shifting economic, climatic, and regulatory realities have contributed to what is at least a possible temporary pause in Arctic oil and gas drilling. So the equipment hardware will pretty much stay 'as is' with organic tweaks and improvements along the way. The real lead will be advanced chemicals and adoption of other technologies.

Andrew Nash, Desmi RoClean
www.desmi.com



Picture: Ayles Fernie International

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Events: reports and upcoming

Croatia - Adriatic OSR Preparedness

An event report from UKSpill member, Lamor
Text: Thomas Barbieri

On May 14-16, the second Adriatic Oil Spill Conference (ADRIASPILLCON 2013) was held in Opatija, Croatia. The scope for the conference at this triennial event extended from oil spill related topics to preparedness of other hazardous and noxious substances.



Lamor's Andrew Crawford, Senior VP Business Development gave a presentation about "Advances in the Recovery and Pumping of Viscous Oil" and highlighted: "The aim of this important conference is fundamentally to increase awareness and the efficiency of prevention and preparedness in response to accidental oil spill incidents. It is a forum for sharing the knowledge and experience by national, regional and international institutions, oil, chemical and shipping industries, individual experts, academic community and specialized companies and equipment manufacturers."

The importance of the health of the marine environment, including the coasts and for the welfare of the population in the Adriatic region coupled with sustainable development for the coastal nations is paramount for the Oil Spill Education Centre (OSEC), the organizers of ADRIASPILLCON.

"The exhibition offers an opportunity for business contacts between the exhibitors and visitors, in particular those conference participants who are responsible for procurement of equipment and products in public and private sectors," says Vedran Martinic, Managing Director, OSEC.

ADRIASPILLCON 2013 attracted several leading manufacturers of OSR equipment from Europe and the US. "Both the presence of Lamor at the conference and exhibition and the presentation given clearly indicated the interest of spill response industry in supporting the efforts of the Adriatic coastal States aimed at improving the levels of spill preparedness and response in our region," says Darko Domovic, Technical Advisor, OSEC.

The Government of Montenegro's Maritime Safety Department, Captain Predrag Ratkovic, Head of Prevention of Pollution from Ships Division stated: "The countries of the Eastern Adriatic need the support of companies like Lamor to be able to upgrade their oil spill preparedness to meet the challenges to tackle an oil spill effectively."

ADRIASPILLCON 2013 is held under the patronage of Croatia's Ministry of Maritime Affairs, Transport and Infrastructure coupled with numerous international organizations and governmental institutions i.e. the International Maritime Organization (IMO), IMO/UNEP Regional Marine Pollution Emergency Response Centre for the Mediterranean Sea (REMPEC), European Maritime Safety Agency (EMSA), International Tanker Owners Pollution Federation Ltd. (ITOPF), International Spill Control Organization (ISCO) and Centre of Documentation, Research and Experimentation on Accidental Water Pollution (CEDRE). Adriatic, Mediterranean and European countries.

Regional Marine Pollution Emergency Response Centre for the Mediterranean Sea (REMPEC), Gabino Gonzalez, Program Manager (OPRC) said: "REMPEC was very happy to support this event in Croatia and we were very pleased with the content of the Lamor presentation and their participation."

"Lamor is pleased to support ADRIASPILLCON 2013 and very much admire the energy, enthusiasm and professionalism of the organizers Darko Domovic and Vedran Martinic from OSEC. They have done so much in the region to bring everyone together to help protect the very precious and fragile environment of the Adriatic Sea," concludes Crawford.

www.adriaspillcon.info
www.lamor.com

SPILLCON 2013

The international conference Spillcon, organised in cooperation with Interspill in Europe and IOSC in the United States, was held in Cairns, Australia, in April. Over 500 people of 28 different nationalities attended the conferences, visited the spill response equipment exhibition and took part in the various meetings organised throughout the week. The theme chosen for this edition was "Global, Regional, Local". Feedback from the explosion of the Deepwater Horizon rig in the United States in 2010, the eruption of the Montara well in Australia in 2009 and the grounding of the Rena in New Zealand in 2011 were also the focus of many presentations. In terms of response techniques, in situ burning, well known for dozens of years now, is today attracting renewed interest following the pollution in the Gulf of Mexico. The use of dispersants, in particular by subsea injection, and classic mechanical recovery equipment complete the main themes addressed during this conference. All the presentations are available on the Spillcon website:

www.spillcon.com/speakers.asp

Inlandspill13 at the Fire Service College

Moreton in Marsh, 15 April

Over 70 delegates attended this year's event at the Fire Service College, a record number, the presentations are available in the Spill Archive on the Association website

www.ukspill.org/spill-archive/inlandspill2013/inlandspill.php

International Oil Spill Conference 2014

Savannah, Georgia, USA | May 5-8

The International Oil Spill Conference (IOSC) provides a vital forum for professionals from the international response community, private sector, government, and non-governmental organizations to come together to tackle the greatest challenges facing us with sound science, practical innovation, social engineering and imagination. This conference is an ideal environment for government agencies, contractors, researchers, industry, and other stakeholders to work together toward mutual objectives, through the exchange of ideas and lessons learned from actual spill responses and research around the world.

www.iosc.org

The Last Word

The oil spill industry is about emergency planning, and it is no surprise that UKSpill is an Associate member of the Emergency Planning Society, and sits on the Oil Pollution Professional Working Group, Jeff Stacey, Secretary of the group, outlines its role

The Emergency Planning Society was formed 20 years ago to “become a driving force in the world of Resilience”. It does this through its wide range of members who come from all areas of the Resilience profession, by providing them with the opportunity to share experiences and disseminate good practice. One of the key opportunities is through the Professional Working Groups, which bring together people with an interest and knowledge in a specialist area to explore how Resilience can be improved.

The Oil Pollution Professional Working Group, as the name suggests, provides a platform for discussion around the response to oil spills. Whilst our main focus is around coastal spills, consideration is also given to inland pollution incidents and chemical spills. The membership of the group is critical to its success and we are fortunate to be able to call upon a wide range of views

from organisations involved in all aspects of the response. The spill response industry is represented by UK Spill, working with the Maritime and Coastguard Agency (Counter Pollution and Response); environmental bodies including the Environment Agency, Marine Management Organisation and Natural England; plus a number of Local Authority representatives who provide us with a geographical spread covering all the UK. There are also specialists such as the Food Standards Agency, Public Health England, Cefas and the Energy Institute.

However, this collective expertise would be to no purpose if it went no further than the meetings we hold twice a year. Our discussions enable us to share information, views and our experiences of incidents and their consequences not just with the group, but with the wider membership of the Emergency Planning Society. As an official representative of the Society on oil pollution matters we were also invited to take part in the discussions around the development of the National Contingency Plan for Oil Pollution.

Our last meeting included a discussion on the Shoreline Cleanup Assessment Techniques (SCAT) that was developed as part of the ARCOPOL project. As a group we felt it had great merit and agreed a way in which it could be put forward for consultation to be adopted as national

THE EMERGENCY PLANNING SOCIETY



policy, including support from UKSpill with accredited training.

To follow our work, please go to the Emergency Planning Website (www.the-eps.org). Go to the About Us page and follow the Professional Working Group link.

www.the-eps.org/

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INDUSTRY EVENTS: PREVIEWS

CHINA: OCEANOLOGY INTERNATIONAL CHINA, EXHIBITION
3-5 SEPTEMBER 2013, SHANGHAI, CHINA
Details at www.oceanologyinternational.com/china

NORWAY : NOSCA SEMINAR
9-13 SEPTEMBER 2013, LOFOTEN ISLANDS
Details at www.nosca.no

UK: ARCOPOL PLUS CONFERENCE
11-12 SEPTEMBER 2013, CARDIFF
Details at <http://tinyurl.com/lo75vkk>

UAE: OFFSHORE ARABIA, CONFERENCE AND EXHIBITION
3-5 MARCH 2014, DUBAI, UAE
Details at www.offshorearabia.ae

UK: OCEANOLOGY INTERNATIONAL EXHIBITION, SPILLEX ZONE
11-13 MARCH 2014, LONDON
Details at www.oceanologyinternational.com

USA: IOSC 2014, CONFERENCE AND EXHIBITION
3-5 MAY 2014, SAVANNAH, USA
Details at www.iosc.org