

Newsletter



UPDATE OF MOIG BROCHURE

22 April 2021, MOIG produced its brochure version 2021, aimed at providing general information and an overview on its background. The new version contains six (06) pages including information related to Framework, Guiding Principles, Mission and Vision, Membership, Members and Technical Partners, benefits, contacts and Useful Links.

The updates have been made on the front page, membership and members section for those who joined MOIG in 2021. In addition, some new pictures had been added to the brochure.



ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE REGIONAL WORKSHOP ON OIL SPILL WASTE MANAGEMENT



15 April 2021, The Mediterranean Oil Industry Group (MOIG), the Center of Documentation, Research and Experimentation on Accidental Water Pollution (Cedre) and the Regional Marine Pollution Emergency Response Centre for the Mediterranean Sea (REMPEC) are very pleased to announce that the Regional Workshop on “Oil Spill Waste Management”; will be held on 16-17 June 2021; at Iberostar Averroes Hotel in South Hammamet-Tunisia.

The event will be open on Wednesday, 16 June 2021 at 08:30 am and expected to close on Thursday, 17 June 2021 at 17:00 pm. It will be animated

by Mr. Arnaud Guéna, Deputy Director and Production Manager from Cedre and Mr. Malek Smaoui, Programmer Officer (OPRC 90) from REMPEC.

The main objectives of this workshop will be:

- To know the use the available tools in REMPEC on oil spill waste management;
- To be informed on the National and Regional context related to waste management following the conclusions and recommendations of the last workshop held in Tunis-Tunisia;
- To learn about waste management methods;
- To understand the logistic chain of waste management to implement in the event of pollution;
- To get an idea about the cost of waste disposal for the various treatment options;
- To practice the implementation of waste management plan through practical works.

The [Workshop Agenda](#) is attached herewith for your reference. The working languages will be French and English.

ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE REGIONAL WORKSHOP ON OIL SPILL WASTE MANAGEMENT - CONTINUED

In order to enable MOIG to have all logistic arrangements made on time, it would be appreciated; if you could have the attached [Registration Form](#); completed and returned by Mail at: houcine.mejri@moig.org.tn or by Fax at: +216 71 888 439; at your earliest convenience; preferably before 31 May 2021.

We would like to bring your kind attention that MOIG and Iberostar Averroes Hotel will put in place the necessary preventive measures namely the respect of distancing, the port of masks and the use of hydro-alcoholic gel in the conference room, in order to ensure the maximum safety of participants.

Whilst looking forward to your response and to meeting you or your representative in this workshop, please do not hesitate to contact MOIG secretariat for any further information.

ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE TRAINING ON RETOS

The Mediterranean Oil Industry Group (MOIG) and the National Agency of Environment Protection (ANPE) are very pleased to announce that the training on “Readiness Evaluation Tool for Oil Spills (RETOS)”; will be held on 15 June 2021; at Iberostar Averroes Hotel in South Hammamet-Tunisia.



The event will be open at 08:30 am and expected to close the same day at 17:00 pm. It will be animated by Mr. Samir Khedhira, General Controller Expert and REMPEC Focal Point; from ANPE.

RETOS is a part of the Marine Pollution Cooperation in the Western Mediterranean (West MOPoCo) project which supports Algeria, France, Italy, Malta, Morocco, Spain and Tunisia in collaboration with Monaco; in strengthening their cooperation in the field of preparedness for and response to oil and Hazardous and Noxious Substances (HNS) marine pollution and in improving the quality and interoperability of their response capacities. The project is implemented through an inter-regional effort, including the participation of the Regional Marine Pollution Emergency Response Centre for the Mediterranean Sea (REMPEC), the Bonn Agreement for the North Sea and the Helsinki Commission (HELCOM) for the Baltic Sea.

The project benefits from the technical support of expert partner institutions such as the Center of Documentation, Research and Experimentation on Accidental Water Pollution (Cedre), the International Tanker Owners Pollution Federation (ITOPF) and the Istituto Superiore per la Protezione e la Ricerca Ambientale (ISPRA).

The main objectives of this training will be:

- To present the RETOS tool, the accompanying manual ARPEL and the International Guide for Oil Spill Response Planning and Readiness Assessments (IOSC 2008);
- To learn how to assess Oil Spill Contingency Plans with RETOS.

The [Training Agenda](#) is attached herewith for your reference. The working languages will be French and English.

In order to enable MOIG to have all logistic arrangements made on time, it would be appreciated; if you could have the attached [Registration Form](#); completed and returned by Mail at: houcine.mejri@moig.org.tn or by Fax at: +216 71 888 439; at your earliest convenience; preferably before 31 May 2021.

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Whilst looking forward to your response and to meeting you or your representative in this training, please do not hesitate to contact MOIG secretariat for any further information.

WEST MOPoCo CLOSING EVENT

14 April 2021, the MOIG Director participated; via electronic conferencing platform; to West MOPoCo closing event organized by the Secretariat General for the sea of France (SGMer) with the participation of the project beneficiaries and stakeholders.

The main objectives of this event were to present the latest results of the project in preparedness to chemical pollution events and to discuss, with the project partners, about their experience implementing of this cooperation project funded under the Union Civil Protection Mechanism (UCPM 2021) and its results in beneficiary countries.

The screenshot shows the homepage of the West MOPoCo website. It features a large banner image of a coastal landscape with a tree on a cliff. The logo 'West MOPoCo' is prominently displayed. Below the banner, there are sections for 'Project objectives' and 'Main project activities'. The 'Project objectives' section includes text about the project's purpose and funding, along with images of oil spill response equipment. The 'Main project activities' section lists three numbered items: 'Decision support material', 'Assessment of National oil spill contingency planning', and 'Emergency procedures and Cooperation'. Each activity has associated images and descriptions. To the right, there is a 'Partnership' section listing project beneficiaries from various countries, each with their logo and website link. A 'Visit the website' button is at the top right, and a contact point section with address and email at the bottom right.

The project was coordinated by the SGMer and co-funded by DG ECHO (EU). It was implemented through an inter-regional effort, including the participation of the Regional Marine Pollution Emergency Response Centre for the Mediterranean Sea (REMPEC), the Bonn Agreement for the North Sea and the Helsinki Commission (HELCOM) for the Baltic Sea.

The project benefits from the technical support of expert partner institutions such as the Center of Documentation, Research and Experimentation on Accidental Water Pollution (Cedre), the International Tanker Owners Pollution Federation (ITOPF) and the Istituto Superiore per la Protezione e la Ricerca Ambientale (ISPRA).

Specifically, the project aimed to enhance emergency decision-making capabilities, to assess contingency planning and to strengthen cooperation and national emergency procedures. The deliverables under these objectives were presented as well as the remarkable achievements and the possible ways forward. Although the project had focused on the countries of the West Mediterranean such as Algeria, France, Italy, Malta, Morocco, Spain and Tunisia, its outcomes could be also beneficial for the rest of the Mediterranean countries and at inter-regional level.

The inter-regional HNS Response Manual and the update of the Maritime Integrated Decision Support Information System on Transport of Chemical Substances (MIDSIS TRCOS) were introduced by Cedre and REMPEC. The inter-regional HNS Response Manual had been prepared by experts from Cedre, ITOPF and ISPRA and agreed jointly by the Bonn Agreement, REMPEC and HELCOM. The Manual included a methodological approach, operational information, and regional specifications; and is available in English and French versions.

The REMPEC Focal Point from ANPE-Tunisia highlighted that a RETOS training session will be dedicated to MOIG members from oil and gas industry; on 15 June 2021; in South Hammamet-Tunisia.

All beneficiaries and partners of the project expressed their content with the results and thanked SGMer for its coordinating role. The European Union (DG ECHO) requested all participants to share and disseminate the deliverables of the project. The Management committee would like to thank the Secretariat General for the sea of France for its kind invitation to this event.

WEBINAR: SPILL KNOWLEDGE BASE: ABSORBENTS

24 March 2021, the MOIG Director participated; via electronic conferencing platform; in a webinar titled “Knowledge Base: Absorbents” presented by Mark Orr; Executive Director of UK & Ireland Spill Association Ltd, Danny Matthews from Darcy Group and Hugh Neatherway from RSK..This webinar was supported by OAMPS.

Mark Orr introduced the knowledge base and UK & Ireland Spill Association vision for 2021. He underlined that UK & Ireland Spill Association is planning to organize 10 marine knowledge base topics and dates of the next webinars scheduled to occur during the four (04) next months; which are the followings :

- 14 April 2021 : Marine Dispersant: What is available, where and how to deploy them that will be presented by Ayles Fernie from OSRL
- MV Wakashio Part 4: Update and the spill cleanup part that will be presented by UKEirSpill and Poleyco
- 19 May 2021 : Temporary storage tanks for use in spill response
- 16 June 2021 : Marine special equipment: What is available and how should be it used to be presented by Elastek

Mark Orr highlighted the importance of absorbents in referring to Wakashio incident. He underlined that 3.5 Km conventional booms and 56.6 km bagasse booms made by the local people as well as 12 skimmers were deployed to contain oil at sea.

Danny Matthews delivered a presentation titled “Sorbents and their use in spill cleanup”. He started by introducing Darcy Group as UK leader and pioneer in environmental protection since 1995. The group specializes in the manufacture and distribution of products and solutions that protected the environment. He then defined the sorbent, adsorbent and absorbent indicating that the sorbent is a solid material which can actively fix a liquid in a semi-solid form and facilitate its lift-up by manual and other means. He also explained the difference between the adsorbent and absorbent saying that adsorbent is a material characterized by rapidity, poor to good retention of liquid and relatively low sensitivity to liquid viscosity. For absorbent, he stated that it is a material which relies characterized by swelling, relatively slow action, good to excellent retention, ability to suppress vapor and high sensitivity to liquid viscosity.

Danny Matthews presented the traditional sorbents highlighting that are usually used for cleaning up liquid spills. He also described the type of traditional sorbents materials including soil, sand, sawdust, rags, straw and human hair. He indicated that traditional sorbents are characterized by low sorbency/pick-up, poor retention, high bulk/weight, limited number of product formats and poor chemical resistance.



Danny Matthews introduced the modern sorbents highlighting their properties and benefits; which are: High sorption and retention, chemical resistance and wide variety of forms, safe and easy to use, flexible in application, easily disposable and environmentally acceptable. He explained that the modern sorbents can be used on land and water and cannot be used for spills on water when dispersant and detergent are present as well as with liquids where a dangerous reaction may ensue.



WEBINAR: SPILL KNOWLEDGE BASE: ABSORBENTS - CONTINUED

Danny Matthews also presented the types and formats of sorbents which include loose fibre/granules/powder, cushions/pillows, booms/socks, sheets/pacts/rolls, sweeps/mats, pompoms and filter systems. He then described their ranges, highlighting that the oil sorbents are ideal for removing oil from water due to their hydrophobic nature, can be used in bunds, on lakers, harbours, rivers and sea.

For chemical sorbents, he stated that they are fast acting, powerful with high material strength and liquid retention as well as suitable for use inside and outside for spills, leaks and drips of corrosive chemicals and hazardous liquids. Regarding sorbents maintenance, he explained that they are suitable for indoor use on oils, fuels, mild chemicals and non aggressive liquids excellent chemical resistance with instant high absorbing action and retention for rapid as well as cost effective spill cleanup. Concerning environmental footprint, he underlined that Darcy manufactures some of sorbents from recycled materials, e.g socks, cushion and pillows. About ecological disposal, he indicated that contaminated sorbents are likely to be classified as hazardous and special wastes and must be disposed of at a suitably authorized waste management facility. For Safety, he explained that all sorbents are safe to touch and advised to follow site safety/spill contingency plans, to be aware of the liquid spilt, to wear appropriate PPE and to ensure that used sorbents are safely stored.

Danny Matthews concluded with the developing for the future highlighting that Darcy Group will continue innovation to provide solutions and products that are more environmentally sustainable and will advance in the use of natural fibres and resources, e.g by products of the cotton industry, hemp etc..



Hugh Neatherway delivered a presentation titled "Using Absorbents – Practical Aspects". He began by introducing himself and his professional experience in spill response and the names of projects in which he has been involved such as inland water spills, loss to ground, domestic heating oil loss, road traffic incidents and chemical and hydrocarbons. He then explained how to use absorbents and what they have been spilt.



Hugh Neatherway underlined the need to know what you are dealing with to be able to choose the right absorbents e.g petroleum hydrocarbons, minerals oils, lubricating oils, chemicals and non-hazardous material. He stated that absorbents can be used in conjunction with other pieces of kit such as fence/retention booms, wood loose, liquid degreasers and skimmers.



Hugh Neatherway explained that booms if left can deteriorate and fall apart, can be heavy and can have vegetation growing through them, can sink with time and collect rubbish. He presented some examples of damage during deployment of booms due to vandalism and canal boat traffic. He underlined that weather conditions e.g freezing, wind and hot weather will need to be considered during deployment.

Hugh Neatherway presented many types of powder absorbents and stated that they can be really good and versatile but pose an issue in the handling, can be dusty and retain properties of absorbed materials e.g flammable. He talked about the biodegradable products highlighting that they are ecofriendly, can be left in situ in the correct circumstances and can also be used with other materials.

The Management Committee would like to thank UK & Ireland Spill Association for providing this opportunity to know more about absorbents.