

N° 286 E – News from January 2020

Emergency response

Cedre's duty team received several calls relating to incidents in the Côtes-d'Armor area: pollution of a rainwater network in Saint-Brieuc for which a technical adviser was sent on site, leakage of a diesel tank and reports of paraffin washing up on the shore. Two events near Corsica were reported: one a suspected case of pollution in the Gulf of Valinco and the second 40 nautical miles from the coast. The duty team also provided support to the Bouches-du-Rhône authorities in connection with observations of patties of oil off Marseille. Cedre also continues to provide ongoing advice to the company Lubrizol where several advisers were sent for close-out of the Bassin aux Bois clean-up site. A second team was sent to an agri-food site after a heating fuel tank overflowed. We were also called upon by [Ceppol](#) to assess the potential hazards associated with the cargo (reduced iron pellets) of the ship *Life Passion*, which was on fire. We advised the [Seine-et-Marne fire brigade](#) following an incident involving a lorry which caused a chemical leak; we activated the ICE network in relation to this incident. In terms of exercises, Cedre was called upon twice under the ICE agreement, for Hungary and the Netherlands.

Meeting with FOST in Rognac

On 17th January, Cedre's Director met with Mr Abadallah Boulhassi, Director of [FOST](#) (Fast Oil Spill Team) who presented FOST's missions and its facilities in Rognac. This meeting was the opportunity to address the development of future cooperation and participation by Cedre in events organised by FOST.

French national workshop on marine litter organised by Environment Ministry

On 15th January, Cedre took part in the national workshop on marine litter organised by [MTES](#) in Paris. This workshop, first launched in 2015, aims to define waste policies relating to water and the marine environment, in order to coherently implement axis 13 on marine litter of the [national waste prevention plan PNPD 2014-2020](#), as well as continuous measures through the programmes under the [Marine Strategy Framework Directive \(MSFD\)](#) and measures relating to aquatic litter through the French water development and management master plans (SDAGE). This event was the chance for MTES to inform participants of the actions it conducts nationally and internationally, as well as for national stakeholders to present their actions in progress: the development of a participatory science platform dubbed "Zéro Déchet Sauvage" (MerTerre), the study of litter reduction systems in wastewater and rainwater systems ([CEREMA](#)) and the launch of the litter-free beach charter ([ADEME](#)).

Cedre attends oil workshop in Seattle

Cedre took part in a workshop organised by the [Coastal Response Research Center](#) (University of New Hampshire), [NOAA](#) in Seattle on 14th and 15th January. The aim of the workshop was to define the physical and chemical parameters as well as the measurement methods to provide input data on oil. The main purpose of the database developed by NOAA (Emergency Response Division) is to provide useful information for the emergency response phase in the event of a spill.

Cedre Information Day: 17th March

"Containers"

17th March 2020, in Paris La
Défense,

On the premises of [MTES](#)

See the detailed programme and register now!

► The second West MOPoCo newsletter is now out. Click [here](#) to read it.

In short

Visits and presentations

► On 8th, presentation of Cedre and the role of QHSE at [Sainte Anne high school](#) in Brest

► On 8th, visit from students from [ISEN Brest](#) to find out about careers as a researcher at Cedre

► On 9th, visit from [Akvaplan-niva](#)

► On 22nd, presentation of Cedre and tour of the facilities for [AXA XL](#)

► On 23rd, visit from 25 pupils (Year 11) from the Brest naval training school with 4 members of staff

Training

► On 14th and 15th, training course for stakeholders in the Landes area on marine litter monitoring in Mimizan

► On 22nd and 23rd, spill response training for port officers for [CNFPT](#), in Lorient

Hot off the press

► Cedre's brand new and completely revamped [presentation brochure](#)

Launch of participatory science programme on plastics

The participatory science programme "Plastique à la loupe" ('plastic under the magnifying glass') is led by the [Fondation Tara Océan](#) and run in partnership with Cedre, the [Banyuls sur Mer Oceanological Observatory \(CNRS\)](#), the [Fondation la Main à la Pâte](#) and [ADEME](#). It aims to involve school pupils in citizen action, while sharing with them the taste for scientific practice. The pupils will follow a precise protocol issued by researchers and will take recordings on an at least partially sandy beach or river bank that is not often cleaned (at least 3 weeks since last clean-up). The data collected will be used for scientific research purposes and will contribute, through Cedre, to decision support on a European level under the Marine Strategy Framework Directive. This new ongoing initiative will be more broadly deployed from September 2020.

Two new hydrophobic floating sorbents tested

At the request of the companies [Technokontrol](#) and [Mare Sea Cleaning services Inc.](#), the hydrophobic floating sorbents Oilkontrol, a bulk sorbent made from collagen fibres, and Maresorb Pad 2, polypropylene pads, were tested by Cedre's laboratory. Given their performance, they have been added to the list of hydrophobic floating sorbents published by Cedre, available at www.cedre.fr.

New partnerships for stronger training

Building on long-standing cooperation for training actions and during pollution response, Cedre and the [Seine-et-Marne fire brigade](#) decided to join forces to offer a course on spill response in industrial environments and in rivers. Held at the training centre in Gurcy, this course offers trainees the chance to benefit from Cedre's expertise combined with the fire brigade's hands-on experience in the field. A partnership is also formed between Cedre and [CNPP](#), a key player and risk prevention expert in France. With two sessions, one held at CNPP in Vernon and the other at Cedre, we are offering a unique and original training programme, targeting chemical risks in industrial contexts with contamination of the natural environment. Please contact us for more details.

HNS guide in English coming soon!

A representative of [Transport Canada](#) travelled to Cedre for a working meeting to finalise the English version of the operational guide on accidental water pollution by Hazardous and Noxious Substances (HNS). The formatting phase is now underway and the digital version of the guide will be available in March on Cedre's website. Watch this space to find out when it is released! The presence of Transport Canada at Cedre was also the opportunity to resume discussions on future collaboration projects in other fields covered by Cedre.

Operational guide on "Use of Sorbents"

Cedre recently published an updated version of the French language operational guide on sorbents, first released in 2009. The English version, "Use of Sorbents for Spill Response", is due to be updated shortly. The newly updated 65-page guide is aimed at professionals liable to use sorbents as part of response operations in the event of accidental oil or chemical pollution on water or on the ground. Intended for both operators and decision-makers, this practical guide provides information on sorbent types, specifications, particularities, regulations, deployment techniques and waste disposal, as well as precautions and limitations of use. It takes into account new practices and knowledge, in particular with a new section on chemical spills, organising the information from an operational perspective. The guide is available in digital format free of charge on [Cedre's website](#), while hard copies cost €25.

Heavy fine for a Chinese tuna vessel

On 12th May 2019, the [JRCC \(Joint Rescue Coordination Centre\) Tahiti](#) was informed of a suspected oil slick in the wake of a Chinese tuna vessel *Xin Shi Ji 203* some 4 km off the coast of Arue, in the north east of the island of Tahiti. On the orders of the public prosecutor, the ship was diverted to Papeete and the Court of Papeete opened an inquiry. The captain and the Chinese fishing company that owns the vessel were summoned before the Court of Papeete on 14th January 2020 for maritime pollution in territorial waters. The inquiry revealed that the vessel had released 450 litres of diesel-contaminated water and that the bilge pump was not compliant with pollution prevention standards. The public prosecutor called for a fine of 35.8 million XPF (Pacific Francs) for the fishing company and vessel owner and 300,000 XPF for the captain. The case was under deliberation until 28th January, when the court delivered its verdict. No compensation was awarded to the country for non-material damages. The claim filed by the French Polynesian federation of environmental protection associations [Te Ora Naho - FAPE](#), on the other hand, was recognised and awarded 500,000 XPF; the federation had claimed 4.5 million XPF during the case on 14th January in which it was a civil claimant. The fines handed to the fishing company, the vessel owner (€300,000) and the captain (€2,500) were confirmed.

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