

N° 306 E – News from November 2021

Emergency response

Madrid's Maritime Rescue Coordination Centre (MRCC) activated the **MAR-ICE** network in relation to two exercises, the first simulating a methanol spill in Tarragona port and the second an ammonia spill. **MRCC Corsen** requested an opinion on satellite images. An industrial firm in charge of water management for an airport contacted Cedre following a kerosene spill. The duty team received several reports of oiled birds on the beaches of Finistère and Côtes-d'Armor: oiled feathers were sampled and are under analysis in Cedre's laboratory to identify the pollutant and possibly link it to a known pollution incident. A coastal warden in Pleubian (Côtes-d'Armor) questioned Cedre on the procedure to be followed after discovering 2 jerrycans on the shoreline. The **Finistère fire brigade** requested advice relating to different pollution incidents: to confirm the actions to be implemented following a small spill of a light product in Portsall port (Finistère); following infiltration of home heating oil into a concrete floor in a private home; and following a spill of detergent at an industrial premises into a watercourse in Plouguerneau (Finistère). Finally, the **Morlaix federation of municipalities** (Finistère) requested information on possible contamination from silage.

In short

Dates for the diary

- ▶ 7th December, meeting of Cedre's Board of Governors, in Paris
- ▶ 29th March 2022, Cedre Information Day in Paris (La Défense), on the theme of "Consideration of environmental impacts".
- ▶ 21st to 23rd June 2022, **Interspill** in Amsterdam, Netherlands

Training

- ▶ 6th to 10th December: shoreline pollution crisis management training course at Cedre

Hot off the press

- ▶ English language version of the "Condensates" Chemical Response Guide available for **free download here**
- ▶ Sea & Shore Technical Newsletters 46 to 49 are now available in English in the **Resources section of our website**

New Chemical Response Guide: Condensates

Thanks to financial and technical support from the **US Bureau of Safety and Environmental Enforcement**, Cedre has just published an English language version of the Chemical Response Guide on condensates, following the release of the French version last year. The guide is intended for professionals who may be liable to face a condensate spill in an aquatic environment. Targeted towards both operational personnel and decision-makers, this practical guide provides useful information on spill response and contingency planning for such spills. It is designed to enable rapid access to the necessary initial information, in addition to providing relevant bibliographical sources to obtain further information. It contains experimental data as well as the results of scenarios based on real incidents. Cedre extends its warmest thanks to the BSEE. Through this partnership, this very well documented and much awaited guide is now available internationally! The guide can be downloaded in digital format from **Cedre's website** free of charge.

54th meeting of Cedre's Strategy Committee

On 26th November, the 54th Strategy Committee meeting was held at our headquarters. The main purpose of this meeting was to examine the 2022 technical programme. Some 55 proposals were discussed with our partners, with nearly half relating to ongoing actions conducted as part of our public service mission and the other half the continuation of actions in progress or launch of new actions to begin next year. Through the discussions held, the priorities of the Strategy Committee members were able to be defined in terms of response and cooperation, knowledge development, response preparedness, documentation and support for public policies in the field of aquatic litter. This meeting was also the opportunity to present the advances of the work currently in progress and to outline the main activities conducted by Cedre since the June meeting.

Cedre Technical Day

The Cedre Technical Day was held, as per tradition, the day before the Strategy Committee meeting. This year the focus was on Overseas France and the specificities of response in these territories. Presentations were given by **AEM** on the overall response organisation, **Ifremer** on monitoring programmes conducted in inshore waters under the **WFD**, **Météo-France** on the use of **MOTHY** modelling software, **CEPPOL** on offshore response, **PNE POLMAR-Terre** on the organisation of onshore response and Cedre on response preparedness, pollutant behaviour and the assistance services we provide. This day was attended by around 30 participants, half of whom were present on our premises in Brest and the other half attending virtually, mainly from Overseas France. The discussions offered insight into the specificities of spill response in Overseas France and pinpointed needs and expectations that could be addressed through future projects by Cedre and its partners.

IOPC Funds plenary meetings

Cedre's Director virtually attended plenary meetings of the governing bodies of the **IOPC Funds** (International Oil Pollution Compensation Funds) from 1st to 5th November. A detailed review of the incidents involving the IOPC Funds was presented. In addition, as the term of office of the current Director of the IOPC Funds, Mr José Maura, is due to expire at the end of the year, the 1992 Fund assembly elected his successor, Mr Gaute Sivertsen, as of 1st January 2022.

MANIFESTS project: a gas plant in Cedre's test tank

From 2nd to 9th November, burn tests on vegetable oils (rapeseed and sunflower), both on and off the seawater surface, were conducted using Cedre's burn test bench. The aim was to determine the heat emitted by this type of fire and to define the safety zone to be set up. To do so, several parameters were also measured: temperatures, radiative heat flow emitted by the flame and the morphology of the flame. Heptane was released in Cedre's test tank to assess the capability of different infrared (IR) cameras to detect the surface slick as well as the gas cloud formed as the product evaporated. These tests were conclusive: **IMT Mines Alès GasFind IR 320** camera clearly showed the gas "pulses" above the slick and Cedre's IR camera (**FLIR E75 42°**) was also able to characterise the spread of the heptane. Using image processing software, the key parameters of slick surface area and thickness were able to be estimated. There are currently plans afoot to use two onboard cameras during the next offshore trial organised by the European project **MANIFESTS**, scheduled for May 2022.

Response equipment testing at Cedre

Following requests from our partners, several oil skimmers were tested at our facilities in November. The performance of the **LAMOR MiniBagger** was measured with several oils of increasing viscosity. These performance tests follow on from the deployment tests conducted on the same skimmer in Saint-Nazaire in October (see **Newsletter n°305**). The skimmer **FORU 70** was also tested in our test tanks with different types of oil. Finally, recovery tests with diesel B7 began in November and will carry on into early December.

Experimentation in French Guiana resumes

A few days before the first lockdown in March 2020, Cedre conducted an in situ experiment in French Guiana in order to study the offshore behaviour of an oil slick. The experiment, conducted on the Île Royale site, was the first phase of a project included in Cedre's technical programme. The second experimental phase, to be conducted at the Degrad des Cannes naval base, was postponed several times due to the pandemic. In November, an engineer from Cedre travelled on site to determine whether the 16 m³ of laboratory equipment stored in a container for 18 months was still in good working order. All the equipment remains in excellent condition despite sometimes very humid storage conditions. The project has therefore officially resumed and the second phase is scheduled for spring 2022. This on-site visit was also the opportunity to meet recently appointed personnel at the naval base which once again offered its logistical support for the continuation of the project. In parallel, contact was also made with **CNRS** and **IRD** in Cayenne to explore collaboration opportunities.

Workshops for Moroccan ports

Within the framework of the contract between the **National Ports Agency (ANP) of the Kingdom of Morocco** and the consultancy firm **MATLEV** aimed at improving the level of spill response preparedness of ANP-managed ports, Cedre has been contracted by MATLEV to assist in implementing certain activities of this project. Within this context, Cedre participated in two two-day national workshops, from 1st to 4th November, each of which was attended by around 15 port commanders and officers. The aim of these workshops was to discuss the ports' level of preparedness and to define improvement opportunities in terms of contingency planning, response equipment procurement and maintenance, and training. Following the two workshops, a recommendations report was submitted to ANP's Port Police and Regulations Directorate.

Ocean Hackathon® and MANIFESTS project

Within the framework of the European project **MANIFESTS**, Cedre and **IMT Mines Alès** entered the 6th edition of **Ocean Hackathon®** held from 5th to 7th November. With help from students at **INSA Lyon**, **IMT Atlantique**, **CESI** and **IUEM**, we spent 48 hours intensively designing a serious game to offer a fun and innovative approach to training local authorities on crisis management in case of a chemical spill. This work culminated in an outline of the game's blueprint, the scenario, inspired by the sinking of the *levoli Sun*, and role of each player, the part they play within the incident management team, as well as a proof of concept of the game interface. Each player can play one of 4 possible characters. The game is intended to be collaborative: each group must solve a series of puzzles then pool their newly acquired knowledge to resolve the incident and finish the game. The game will continue to be developed through the **MANIFESTS** project in collaboration with **IMT Mines Alès**. Although we will not be taking part in the **Ocean Hackathon® Grand Finale** on 15th December, this project nonetheless sparked a lot of enthusiasm from the judges.

Spill response techniques training for PNMI

At the request of **Iroise Marine Nature Park (PNMI)**, Cedre ran two days of training, on 8th and 9th November, on spill response techniques, attended respectively by 5 gillnetter fishermen, then by 14 agents working in ports that have signed up to the partner charter. The aim of these actions was to raise awareness of oil spill response among these stakeholders and to illustrate their position within the overall response organisation at sea (**ORSEC/POLMAR-Mer**), on shore (**ORSEC/POLMAR-Terre**) and in ports. Practical exercises were organised during which all the participants were able to deploy and operate containment and recovery equipment with real oil at Cedre's new port test facility.

Taipei Representative Office in France

On 18th November, Cedre's Director visited the Taipei Representative Office in France to discuss the cooperation initiatives launched by Cedre since 2021 with Taiwan's [Environmental Protection Agency \(EPA\)](#) and Coast Guard Administration, followed by the subsequent developments with the Ocean Conservation Administration (OCA) and the oil industry. The e-learning sessions (on Cedre's platform elearning.cedre.fr) run from the onset of the pandemic were used and appreciated. It has been agreed that Cedre will take part in other pollution-related environmental protection actions in 2022.

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