



Cedre NEWSLETTER

A monthly publication
by the Centre of Documentation, Research and
Experimentation on Accidental Water Pollution

N° 213 E – News from May 2013

Emergency Response

Two main actions were carried out by the Emergency Response Department this month: firstly, on 15th and 16th May, assistance was provided to the French maritime authorities for the Channel and North Sea, implemented both from our response centre in Brest and by an agent from *Cedre* at the authority's headquarters in Cherbourg, for the Bonnex 2013 exercise which focused on the collision between an oil tanker and a bulk carrier off the coast of Dunkirk, with the release of oil at sea. Secondly, from 23rd May, assistance was provided to the State services in the Landes area, from our response centre, following a road accident leading to a spill of 25,000 litres of an oil additive (Anglamol 99) into the aquatic environment, generating a risk of environmental impact as far as the port of Capbreton and Lake Hossegor, with a risk of affecting oyster farms. Furthermore, *Cedre's* response centre also advised the local authorities in the Côtes-d'Armor on protection measures to be taken following an overflow at a wastewater treatment plant in the port of Binic, in particular in terms of bathing and shellfish harvesting.

In short

Dates for the diary

► **AMOP 2013**, 4-6 June, Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada

International technical seminar on environmental contamination and response.

► **Illegal Discharges Workshop**, EMSA, 4-5 June, Lisbon, Portugal

Publications

► The guides **Manufactured Spill Response Booms** and **Custom-Made Spill Response Barriers** can now be downloaded in English from our [website](#)

FP7 Hoverspill project end: test and demonstration of 2 prototypes

From 21st to 23rd May, *Cedre*, together with its partners **Hovertech**, SOA and Terra Mediu, organised full-scale trials in the Loire estuary on the **hovercraft prototype** designed and built within the framework of the European FP7 project **Hoverspill**. These trials, carried out with support from the Nantes-Saint-Nazaire maritime port, the communes of Paimbœuf and Saint-Brévin and Saint-Brévin fire station, were followed by 2 official demonstrations in the presence of representatives of public bodies, local authorities and industry, one in St-Brévin (Loire-Atlantique) on the 24th, and the other in Brest (Finistère) on the 27th, at *Cedre*. The second demonstration was also the opportunity to present the second prototype developed as part of this same project: the **Turbylec oil/water separator**. The other project partners (Innova, University of Padoue and CRF-FIAT) also attended the final project meeting held at *Cedre* on the 28th.

Strategic Committee meeting

The 37th session of *Cedre's* Strategic Committee was held on 30th May at the Météo-France International Conference Centre in Toulouse. The review of *Cedre's* activities during the past six months and those planned for the coming months was completed by a presentation of the 2013-2017 investment plan, followed by a discussion on the overall directions of *Cedre's* work for 2014. The second half of the day consisted of a visit of the Météo-France site and was the chance to learn about the work of forecasters, including those of the Marine and Oceanography Division with which *Cedre* has been regularly collaborating for several years now, in particular in the field of response.

May training courses

Following discussions initiated in 2012, a Taiwanese delegation came to Brest for a training course on response to oil spills (7-11 May) then chemical spills (13-15 May). 22 delegates were able to exchange with the experts at *Cedre*, as well as visiting the Corsen **MRCC** and the **POLMAR** stockpile and meeting representatives of Brest **CSN**, **ITOPF** and the International Group of P&I Clubs. Later in the month, two "train the trainer" courses were organised as part of the European project **POSOW**. These two identical sessions, held from 21st to 23rd and 28th to 30th May, provided the opportunity to train 34 future trainers liable to contribute in their respective countries to the training of responders in charge of volunteer management, oiled shoreline assessment, shoreline clean-up and wildlife response. The POSOW project is set to continue until the end of 2013 with the organisation of pilot training courses in volunteer countries involved in the project as well as with the translation of training kits provided to new trainers. Meanwhile, two people from *Cedre* were sent to La Ferté-Gaucher (Seine-et-Marne) for a training course with a practical exercise run for Hess Oil on 21st and 22nd May. In total, 21 participants were trained. This course was followed by an incident management exercise with equipment deployment. An agent from *Cedre* was present at the Hess Oil France headquarters in Paris.

MOBEX 2013 exercise, Guiana

Two engineers from Cedre took part in the MOBEX 2013 exercise and seminar, jointly organised by CCA, OSRL's regional base and Shell, from 15th to 17th May, in Cayenne. Around fifty participants from the oil industry and State services in charge of spill response were present. Cedre was invited by the organisation committee to present the main spill response strategies and methods, as well as the results of the latest experimentation conducted by Cedre on the use of dispersants in inshore waters. This MOBEX exercise takes place every three years in a country in the Caribbean-Latin America region. This was the fourth time Cedre had been invited to give a presentation, with the first invitation dating back to 2005 during the MOBEX Martinique exercise organised in collaboration with SARA.

Post-Arcopol action by the Region of Brittany

The Region of Brittany, a partner of the Arcopol project (2009-2011) alongside the Region of Aquitaine and Vigipol, was keen to promote the operational tools produced by Cedre (technical assistant to the Regions) as part of this European project (Newsletters 206 and 212). The presentation and dissemination of these tools are the opportunity for the Region of Brittany and the French State to promote the convergence and coordination of actions of all stakeholders in the field. It was within this perspective that a presentation and discussion meeting was jointly organised on 29th May 2013 at the *Palais des Arts* in Dinard. At this meeting, Cedre presented the ARCOPOL tools to the local councillors of Ille-et-Vilaine. Similar actions are due to be carried out in the other areas of Brittany (Côtes-d'Armor, Finistère and Morbihan) before the end of 2013.

OTSOPA 2013

This year, France was in charge of organising the annual meeting of the OTSOPA Bonn Agreement Working Group. This meeting brought together around ten countries bordering the Channel and North Sea from 22nd to 24th May at the *Cercle Naval Chantereyne* in Cherbourg. It was the chance to review the recently organised transnational exercises involving the deployment of aerial means (Super CEPCO) and nautical means (BONNEX). Presentations on recent incidents (*MSC Flaminia* and various incidents in German waters) and work by different contracting party organisations reinforced the exchange of information between countries in this area. Cedre presented its collection of chemical response guides, its 2 operational guides on manufactured booms and custom-made barriers as well as the educational website www.chemical-pollution.com.

15th IMO OPRC-HNS Technical Group (TG) meeting

This meeting, held from 7th to 10th May, brought together around twenty delegations, two observers, seven NGOs and REMPEITC. It was marked by the announcement of a probable reallocation of the TG as part of the restructuring of the IMO sub-committees. At this meeting, Cedre presented: the progress of the revision of the IMO manual on dispersants for which it is responsible, the release of the website "[Understanding chemical pollution at sea](#)" produced in collaboration with Transport Canada, the collection of chemical response guides and the progress of the POSOW project.

Report on potentially polluting wrecks

The NOAA (US) has recently released on its [website](#) a report on potentially polluting wrecks in US waters. This almost 200 pages document covers two years of research intended to identify the wrecks presenting a serious ecological and economic risk, out of the estimated 20,000 shipwrecks in the US EEZ (including the Pacific Islands). The Congress appropriated \$1 million for this study. 573 wrecks were identified as posing a substantial oil pollution threat. Of these, 87 were classed as priority wrecks to varying degrees. The document shows a very similar approach to that used by Cedre in the late 1990s, and the NOAA used the risk assessment principle presented in the DEEPP report (DEvelopment of European guidelines for Potentially Polluting shipwrecks, DG Environment, Civil Protection Unit, Cedre, ICRAM, 2007), defining a risk factor that takes into account the volume and type of oil and the distance to the shore or a sensitive area, as well as other parameters related to the circumstances surrounding the shipwrecking.

Illegal discharge from the *Trefin Adam* and *SDS Rain*

The high court of Marseille fined the captain of the *Trefin Adam* €75,000 (of which €50,000 to be covered by the shipowner) and fined the shipowner €300,000. The environmental associations, claimants in the case, were awarded €1,000 each. A French Navy spotter plane detected oil in the wake of the vessel in the Strait of Bonifacio on 27th January 2012. As for the *SDS Rain*, its Italian shipping company, SDS Navigation SRL, was acquitted by the court of appeal of Aix-en-Provence, as the judges considered that the discharge was not strictly speaking oil (the company was fined €750,000 by the court of first instance, [Newsletters 198](#) and [199](#)).

[Unsubscribe from the Cedre Newsletter](#)

Think green - don't print out your emails!

[Legal information](#)

[Contact us](#)