



Cedre NEWSLETTER

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Cedre Open Day, 19 June



Don't forget to keep your afternoon free on 19 June to attend the *Cedre* Open Day! A full programme awaits you including demonstrations, equipment deployment, a photo exhibition and a competition.

Emergency response

The month of May was calm for the Emergency Response Department. Incidents addressed included a spill of 1,000 litres of heavy fuel oil from a cement plant into inland waters in Madagascar, a 15 km slick of weathered oil drifting at sea near the coast of Cameroon and a spill of ammonia from a tank in the Charente area. Two exercises also took place: Euronyme 2009 in the Mediterranean (see below) and a pre-exercise organised by the *Préfecture maritime* for the Channel and the North Sea in preparation for the upcoming Polmar Sea exercise. Finally, two maritime drift simulation requests were processed with support from Météo France and its software Mothy.

Infopol course

The international seminar Infopol 2009, jointly financed by the Maritime Affairs Directorate, the Water and Biodiversity Directorate and Total, was held from 4 to 14 May with 8 overseas participants (Morocco, Ivory Coast, Panama, Croatia and Angola). After spending the first week in Brest focusing on the theme of French know-how, the participants travelled to Marseilles to attend, on Monday 11, an equipment demonstration organised by Sycopol, followed by the Interspill conference.

Interspill conference-exhibition

From 12 to 14 May in Marseilles, the Interspill 2009 show attracted more than 1000 delegates, exhibitors and visitors from 73 countries, reaffirming its position as the unmissable triennial spill industry event. This 5th edition of Interspill was opened by its president, Bernard Tramier, kingpin of the event's organisation, held for the first time in the Mediterranean, alongside the General Secretary for the Sea, the general managers of EMSA and ITOPF, and representatives of IMO and the Mairie de Marseille. Over the 3 days of concurrent sessions of the Interspill conference and the 4th IMO R&D forum, 70 platform presentations were given, completed by a programme of 50 posters. The exhibition, accommodated by Sycopol and enriched by an equipment deployment demonstration at sea, attracted 90 exhibitors, several of which signed important contracts. Finally, IOPC Funds, ITOPF, OSR, IPIECA, REMPEC and *Cedre* took this opportunity to schedule courses, seminars and internal meetings, allowing participants to optimise their visit.

EURONYME 2009 exercise

A large-scale spill response exercise, Euronyme 2009, was organised by the *Préfecture maritime* for the Mediterranean in Toulon on 27 and 28 May. It involved an oil tanker and a shipcarrying of dangerous substances, made available by shipowners, off the coast of La Ciotat. Issues of "situation assessment" and "port of refuge" were the focus of the first day. Coordinated by Ceppol, the response at sea component was held on 28 off the coast of St-Tropez due to weather constraints. *Cedre* played its role as an adviser by taking an active part in developing the scenario and running the exercise. An agent from *Cedre* participated in the work of the drift committee from Toulon, while the rest of the committee remained in Brest to use Ifremer and Météo France modelling programmes. Of the two drifting buoys deployed onsite, only one worked and was used to validate different possible drift options. On land, recovery sites were set up in the Aude area in the presence of an agent from *Cedre*, while another was present in the Var area.

In short

MEETINGS

► On 11 May, meeting of *Cedre*'s Strategic Committee on the premises of Fost in Rognac.

VISITS

► On 14 May, 60 students of the *Jeanne d'Arc* training ship as part of a seminar on the action of the French State at sea organised by the *Préfecture maritime* for the Atlantic.

► On 15 May, a delegation from KOEM (South Korea) at *Cedre*.

TRAINING

► On 26 May, Polmar training course for Aude local authorities, 90 participants.

PUBLICATIONS

► The operational guide "Use of Sorbents for Spill Response" has recently been published in French. You can order the printed version from our Information Department or download the PDF from our [website](#). English version to follow.

OSPAR Marine Beach Litter Programme

After having participated in the working group "Litter in aquatic environments", set up as part of the Grenelle environmental summit, the head of the Spill Follow-up Department attended the 4th meeting of the Intercessional Correspondence Group on Marine Litter (ICGML) under the OSPAR Convention. Around 15 European experts took part in this group, on 11 and 12 May in Nigran (Spain), in order to review the work in progress and scheduled tasks (national monitoring and statistics, typology, impacts, plastic particles...)

Oil spill waste: trenches from the *Torrey Canyon* on the Ile d'Er

On 14 May, the Sub-prefect of Lannion invited a wide range of representatives to present the conclusions of BRGM on the fate of the 400 m³ of oil waste stored in open facilities on the island of Er (Côtes-d'Armor). The head of the Spill Follow-up department was present. A site survey is to be conducted in order to assess the feasibility of evacuation over land, without causing harmful effects for the fragile environment which characterise this private islet.

OTSOPA meeting

A member of management participated in the meeting of the Bonn Agreement OTSOPA working group in Rotterdam from 26 to 28 May. Aerial surveillance, technology intelligence, exercises and feedback from accidents were on the agenda. Sjon Huisman's presidency was extended. Upon the occasion of the meeting of contracting parties next October, the Bonn Agreement will celebrate its fortieth anniversary.

Training - Normandy refinery contingency plan

Following the drafting of its pollution contingency plan by Cedre in 2008, the Total Normandy Refinery contracted Cedre to conduct a training programme for the implementation of this plan. A theory and practical training course was considered necessary to validate the organisation proposed in the plan, the strategies adopted, the acquisition and deployment of equipment and therefore the reality of the refinery's contingency plan. Thus in February/March, 44 refinery supervisors were trained on the use of this plan and the available means and in April/May, 69 field agents were trained on the deployment of the response equipment acquired by the refinery. To conclude this work, two representatives of the Contingency Planning Department will participate, as observers, in a response exercise organised onsite on 23 June.

Workshop in Costa Rica

The Caribbean delegation was called upon in early May by RAC/REMPEITC for the realisation of a workshop in Costa Rica. The workshop, preceded by an OPRC course, was designed to help the national commission for preparedness and response to oil spills to finalise its national contingency plan which will be integrated into the Central America OPRC plan. Some twenty-odd participants from government services as well as representatives of RECOPE refinery and the OPC group took part in this workshop. A tabletop exercise simulating an incident involving a damaged oil tanker off the coast of Puerto Limon (Caribbean Coast) allowed participants to apply the knowledge gained through the course.

Freshwater Spill Symposium in the US

An engineer from the Spill Follow-up Department was sent to Saint Louis, Missouri, US, from 27 to 30 April 2009 to attend the 7th edition of the Freshwater Spill Symposium (more information from www.epa.gov). This event dedicated to response to spills in freshwater environments was organised by the United States Environmental Protection Agency (US EPA). During this symposium, our representative presented the case study of the pollution of the Garonne River in 2007 following a crude oil spill in Ambès (Gironde).

IMO/UNEP assessment and restoration manual

IMO and UNEP have recently published a Guidance Manual on the Assessment and Restoration of Environmental Damage following Marine Oil Spills. This 97-page publication provides recommendations on pre-spill planning, assessment and compensation of environmental damage and financeable restoration measures. These recommendations are illustrated by 5 case studies: the *Haven* (Italy, 1991), the *North Cape* (US, 1996), the *Sea Empress* (UK, 1996), the *Kuroshima* (US, 1997) and the *Estrella Pampeana* (Argentina, 1999).

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