



Cedre NEWSLETTER

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Emergency response

In addition to its heavy involvement in Polmar exercises and the spill in Theys described in detail below, the Emergency Response Department was called upon several times throughout the month of June. At the beginning of the month, *Cedre* was alerted as to 2 spills in inland waters and questioned on the response means to deploy. The first was a spill of heavy fuel oil into a stream in the very north of France for which response means had already been deployed. The second also involved heavy fuel oil (70 m³ from the chemical industry) in an inlet of the Mediterranean Sea. Several requests for drift simulations were also processed in June, as well as inquiries from private individuals concerning, for instance, storage locations of waste from the *Amoco Cadiz* and the best clean-up solution for a tank after overspill during filling with a bitumen emulsion. Finally, on 30th, we were informed of a collision between 2 fishing vessels off Saint-Gilles-Croix-de-Vie (Vendée). One of the 2 vessels sank with 300 litres of fuel on board and sheen was observed at the water surface.

Spill in Theys

An estimated spill of between 6 and 9 m³ of domestic fuel oil occurred on a holiday club site, located in Theys, in the Isère area. The pollutant leaked into a mountain stream located in Saint-Pierre-d'Allevard due to the flow direction of this drainage basin. The fire brigade was mobilised on 14 and 15 June to deploy sorbent booms and pads on the stream in order to capture the floating oil. An engineer from *Cedre* and 2 members of the Fast Oil Spill Team (FOST) were also sent onsite on 16th, where they completed the response effort with filtrating dams. The aim was to block the pollutant and prevent it from spreading downstream, while letting the water through. We note that rainstorms occurred in the area on 14 and 15 causing the polluted surface area to widen as the stream burst its banks (into undergrowth and damp grassland). Clean-up operations were contracted to a specialised company. A team of 7 people has been present onsite since 24th. *Cedre* will be monitoring the progress of clean-up. Operations are due to finish on 16 July.

“Grenelle de la Mer” summit

The major national summit "Grenelle de la Mer" organised by the French Ministry of Ecology continues its work by holding regional meetings. *Cedre* was called upon to participate in several of these gatherings and took part in the debates held in Brittany, Pays-de-la-Loire and Corsica. When the summit came to Brest, *Cedre* was represented at a stand, alongside around twenty other Breton organisations whose activities are related to the sea, as part of an exhibition set up in parallel to the meetings and public debate. The national report of the work carried out is due to appear in early July.

Polmar Sea 2009 exercise

On 10 and 11 June 2009, a Polmar Sea exercise took place, initiated and organised by the Préfecture Maritime for the Atlantic with support from Ceppol. This was a large-scale exercise, first in terms of the number of nautical and aerial means deployed a few nautical miles off the coast of Sables-d'Olonne, but also due to the active participation of two defence zones (western and south-western) and the Préfectures of Loire-Atlantique, Vendée and Charente-Maritime. The agents from *Cedre* were particularly involved in preparing the scenario and in the running of the exercise. Two agents from *Cedre* integrated the exercise management team, 2 agents were present at the Polmar

In short

MEETINGS

► On 19th, meeting of *Cedre*'s board of governors on our premises.

VISITS

- On 22nd, a representative of the Korean Environment Institute.
- On 25th, French ambassador to the Czech Republic.
- On 29th, a delegation from Vietnam.

TRAINING

- From 8th to 9th, pollution response module of Le Havre merchant navy school's maritime expert diploma (3 participants).
- From 9th to 11th, port officer training course on response to small-scale pollution in ports for training centre CFP Brest (11 participants).
- From 22nd to 26th, practical training course on spill response in inland waters (16 participants).
- From 22nd to 26th, pollution response training course for Seine-et-Marne fire brigade (16 participants).

PUBLICATIONS



► *Cedre* Information Bulletin n°25, focusing on a case study of the spill at Donges Refinery.



► *Cedre* 2008 annual report, available in French at www.cedre.fr

Sea response centre and 2 others were in Sables d'Olonne. *Cedre's* response centre was reinforced by several agents for this situation and took advantage of the experience of the Euronyme 09 exercise (Newsletter n°168). The issues relating to oil (risks for responders and local inhabitants, hazardous substances present in a tank container lost overboard during the collision) were addressed realistically. *Cedre* contacted CASU (INERIS emergency response unit) to identify the atmospheric risks related to the products and to inform the maritime and land authorities of these risks. A drift committee met at *Cedre*. The members of this committee (Ifremer, Shom, Météo France and *Cedre*) presented the results of their work to the Maritime Prefect during a crisis response meeting. The feedback from this exercise will help to modulate the organisation and output of the drift committee.

Polmar course in Guadeloupe

Upon request from the Phares et Balises subdivision of the Guadeloupe Equipment Directorate, the head of *Cedre's* Training Department and our Caribbean delegate led a practical training course on oil spill response from 2 to 5 June, for around twenty participants from the Equipment Directorate, the fire brigade, SIDPC (defence and civil protection service), technical departments of various local authorities and representatives of the private sector (Total Guadeloupe). This joint course is the third of its kind organised in Guadeloupe by *Cedre* since 2006.

Training course in Egypt

A twinning project aiming to help the Egyptian authorities to improve their fresh waters (Nile and Lake Nasser) has just begun. This project, for which the International Office for Water is a partner for one of the activities, is funded by the EU and piloted by Italy. *Cedre* was contracted by IOWater to manage the sections relating to spill response. Within this context, two members of the Training Department were sent to Cairo from 13 to 18 June in order to meet all the institutional partners involved in spill management in Egypt. *Cedre's* involvement in this project will extend to the end of 2010 and will in particular result in the provision of practical response sheets, the organisation of seminars and the running of training sessions.

Greentide 2009 exercise

From 1st to 4th June, OSR (Oil Spill Response) organised the exercise Greentide off the Isle of Wight to train its personnel. A delegation from *Cedre* was invited to participate in this event as observers. This was the opportunity for familiarisation and exchanges concerning the response techniques deployed by OSR and the chance to observe dispersant application operations by plane.

Case study, setting up local contingency plans

During the elaboration of the intercommunal contingency plan for Toulon Provence Méditerranée (TPM), the community decided to bring together those involved in crisis management in the 11 communes for 3 days of exchanges on the management of a civil protection incident. *Cedre*, called upon to help to draft scenarios and to lead group work, took part from 22 to 24 June at the CNFPT (Centre National de la Fonction Publique Territoriale) of La Garde (Var), co-chairing debates involving 30 agents who discussed their experiences and assessed the local organisation to be set up in order to respond to small to medium-scale oil spills.

Cedre open day for the centre's 30th anniversary

Following the meeting of its board of governors and upon the occasion of its 30th anniversary, *Cedre* organised an open day on 19th June for its administrators, partners and the general public. The sun shone for the occasion and the day was a success with over 250 external visitors, who were able to spend all afternoon attending equipment demonstrations, viewing films and admiring a selection of the best images from *Cedre's* photo library. A competition on spill response knowledge was also organised. The winner is David Salou, 15 years old, who all the team at *Cedre* congratulate. [See photo gallery here](#)



Clean-up on a pebble beach
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Explanations about the demonstrations
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Visit to the experimental greenhouse
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