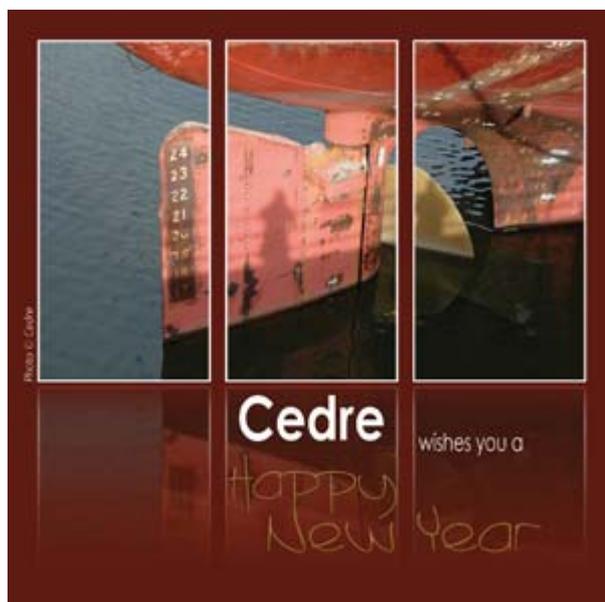




Cedre NEWSLETTER

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

N° 186 E – News from December 2010



The Cedre Newsletter wishes you a very happy new year brimming with energy and success

In short

MEETINGS

► On 7th: meeting of the board of governors and general assembly of Cedre, at Ifremer headquarters in Issy-les-Moulineaux

TRAINING

► On 30/11 and 1/12: PCS Infrapolmar training course for the city of Agde, 8 participants

► On 7th: spill response module of the UFSM Maritime Affairs course at Cedre, 20 participants

► From 6th to 10th: ORSEC / POLMAR-Land crisis management course at Cedre, 16 participants

DATES FOR THE DIARY

The next Cedre Information Day will be held on 17 March at INHESJ. The theme chosen this year is "The Future of Dispersant Use"

Emergency response

The Emergency Response Department kicked off this month with a tabletop exercise based on a spill of ethyl mercaptan during transport by road, followed by a limited yet varied series of incidents. Pollution in the Channel, observed by satellite and resulting in a **MOTHY** drift simulation by Météo France, an oil spill in the port of Paimpol and the loss of a container of isobutanol at sea were the main events upon which the department focused during December.

PUBLICATIONS

► Information Bulletin n°27 has just been released. This issue focuses on "Chemical accidents and risks at sea". It can be [downloaded here](#).



"Pollution and biodiversity" exhibition, Cedre, Brest

From 13 to 17 December 2010, Cedre was open to the general public for an exhibition on its activity as well as on several scientific projects on the potential impact of a spill on flora and fauna. It was the culmination of many actions carried out locally as part of the year of biodiversity. Over 200 people seized the opportunity to visit the unique facilities at Cedre, that most of them only knew by name. Our visitors, both young and young at heart, were delighted to discover our new laboratory. They were also fascinated to see the many tools (flume tank, experimentation column, washing station, greenhouse...) developed over the years and with the occurrence of different spills in order to test the behaviour of potential pollutants. The weather was fair enough to let visitors see our outdoor basins used for training and experimentation. Several meetings with current or potential partners were also held alongside the exhibition. See here the [photo album](#) of this event.

EC and EMSA action on accidental water pollution

On 8 and 9 December, EMSA and the European Commission's Directorate-General for Humanitarian Aid and Civil Protection (DG ECHO) jointly organised a feedback meeting on the *Deepwater Horizon* accident and a workshop on coordinated at-sea and shoreline pollution response. Cedre, represented by its director, took part in these two events alongside national representatives (Ceppol and DSC).

Sorption tests on REP's skirted sorbent boom "Ecosorb"

As part of its technical programme with financial support from Total and CETMEF, Cedre has developed a new test protocol to assess the sorption capacity of skirted sorbent booms. The company REP was the first to ask us to use this new protocol to test its "Ecosorb" skirted sorbent boom at our facilities. The tests were conducted in a tank (with no agitation or current) and aimed to assess the floating oil sorption capacity (determination of the mass of oil absorbed after 24 hours of contact with two oils of different viscosities) and the water sorption capacity (after 24 hours then 7 days of contact).

A spill contingency plan for HTT SA

In 2006, the oil terminal in Tanger Med Port 1 was contracted out by TMSA to the Moroccan firm Horizon Tangiers Terminal SA, which is currently completing the construction of its installations. This includes two loading and unloading wharfs and a storage area for refined products with a capacity of 508,000 m³. Cedre is currently assisting the oil company in the preparation of its pollution contingency plan before its implementation in spring 2011. Two engineers were sent onsite for a week to examine the risks generated by the activities and to put forward response strategies as well as appropriate response means, in collaboration with the port authorities.

Contingency plans for Total Refining Marketing depots

As part of the effort to set up maritime and river contingency plans for the oil sites under the Logistics France division of Total Refining and Marketing, the Environment department of this division requested that Cedre assist it to update and improve pollution contingency plans as well as to run technical training and equipment deployment exercises, so as to complete these sites' preparedness by the end of 2010. For these training courses, an engineer and a technical executive from the Contingency Planning Department ran and supervised 4 theoretical and practical sessions on sites in Lyon, Port la Nouvelle, Gennevilliers and Nanterre for 43 participants.

MOBEX 2010 exercise and seminar

The MOBEX Amazonia 2010 exercise and seminar, held every 3 years by the oil cooperative Clean Caribbean and Americas, took place from 30 November to 3 December in Manaus, Brazil. The Caribbean delegate was invited by the organisation committee to present the work conducted in cooperation with CCA, as part of a joint support effort for the regional centre RAC-REMPEITC, on the creation of a simplified guide for producing sensitivity maps of the shoreline for the countries of Latin America and the Caribbean, work which took into account the existing guides produced by IPIECA, ARPEL, NOAA, Cedre, OTRA... This seminar and the tri-annual MOBEX exercise were the opportunity to make contact with Brazilian players in the environment and the oil sector and to get together once again with those in the Caribbean and Latin American region who support the activities of REMPEITC. Initial contact with the new RAC-REMPEITC consultant provided by France and Total was the chance to briefly review recent activities and those already planned for 2011.

POLMAR-Sea Guiana exercise

The POLMAR-Sea Guiana exercise organised by the Navy with support from Ceppol and AEM was held on 14 December in Cayenne. The aim was to activate the POLMAR plan, to test collaboration between administrations and with the local maritime sector and to deploy response equipment and techniques (containment and dispersion means). The scenario was based on illegal discharge near the access channel to the port of Dégrad-des-Cannes. A crisis unit was activated at the maritime authorities, gathering representatives of different states services and regional authorities, the Navy, the fire brigade, experts from Cedre, Ceppol and Ifremer as well as observers from the oil company Tullow Oil (begin exploration drilling in February 2011 off Guiana). The Météo France MOTHY model was run and Cedre provided additional information on the weathering of the pollutant as well as on the use of dispersants in tropical ecosystems.