



## Cedre NEWSLETTER

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

### N° 196 E – News from November 2011

#### Information Day 2012

A date for the diary.

Our next Information Day will be held on

**Tuesday 20 March 2012 at INHESJ**

on the theme of **"Spill and illegal discharge detection"**.

The programme and registration form will be available soon.

#### In short

##### VISITS TO CEDRE

► On 8th, visit by a delegation from the Korea Marine Environment Management Corporation (KOEM) led by its chief executive director, with the signature of a cooperation agreement

► On 25th, the 2011 class of officers from the Naval Academy

##### TRAINING

► From 14th to 16th, aerial observation of pollution training course, 18 participants

► From 21st to 23rd, chemical spill response training course, 12 participants

► On 29th and 30th, training course on merchant ships and the role of shipping industry stakeholders in the event of accidental marine pollution, 16 participants

#### Emergency response

In addition to an oil drift prediction and behaviour modelling request as part of an exercise and a query on the existing standards in terms of oil contamination in the environment, several exchanges took place with the services in charge of inland water pollution management, which *Cedre* learned of through the ORSEC portal. We also note that our Caribbean delegate was contacted by the MRCC Antilles-Guiana following the observation of pollution in Fort-de-France Bay, the source of which was unknown.

#### Visit from the Deputy Secretary General of the Sea

On 3 November, *Cedre* received a visit from Rear Admiral Patrick Chevallereau, who was recently appointed Deputy Secretary General of the Sea, following on from Rear Admiral Bruno Paulmier. This visit to *Cedre* was part of a programme of meetings with the different players involved in State action at sea in the Brest area.

#### CESE hearing

On the 2nd, one of *Cedre's* Deputy Directors was interviewed by the environment section of the *Conseil Économique, Social et Environnemental* (CESE) on the theme of the safety of oil platforms at sea within a context of preventative environmental risk management.

#### 2nd Cross-Channel Forum

On 22 November, the 2nd edition of the Cross-Channel Forum was held in Rennes, within the framework of the European project CAMIS (Channel Arc Manche Integrated Strategy), which aims to define and deploy, with the support of all the stakeholders concerned, an integrated maritime strategy in the Channel area, while promoting active cooperation between stakeholders. This event, at which *Cedre* was represented by its director, was the opportunity to exchange on the proposed strategy, which is to be enhanced by the contributions of the different stakeholders involved.

#### Brest - Cedre Technical Day on incident feedback

*Cedre's* 9th Technical Day, held the day before the autumn Strategic Committee meeting, was the opportunity for exchanges between *Cedre's* team and its partners on its organisation in terms of feedback from spills, whether or not *Cedre* was directly involved, with, in particular, the exemplary case of the *Deepwater Horizon* spill. The second part of the day placed a particular focus on certain lessons learnt from this spill and the resulting reflection in terms of possible future action by *Cedre* in the technical fields of *in-situ* burning, dispersant use, recovery at the water surface, shoreline protection and clean-up, and impact monitoring and assessment. The presentations benefited from a major data collection, analysis and summarising effort implemented through two study contracts.

#### Brest - 34th Cedre Strategic Committee meeting

This second meeting of the year was the opportunity to interpret the guiding principles laid down at the previous meeting by refining the content of the programme for the coming year. Almost all 50 proposals presented received marks of interest from the committee members and only 3 or 4 will not be followed up in the immediate future. Over and above the still very high share of permanent activities, *Cedre's* 2012 programme will be marked by heavy involvement in multipartner projects benefiting from external funding, in particular from the French National Research Agency (ANR)

and the European Union. Six of these projects will be completed by the end of 2012 and 5 others have newly been or are soon to be launched. *Cedre* is a partner in these projects which, to quote a few examples, deal with the modelling of underwater gas or oil leaks (Blow out and Metane led by Alyotech), pollutant detection in water (Remantas project led by *lfremer*) and the breakdown of oil in mudflats (Decapage, led by the University of Pau).

## November training courses

November was a particularly busy month in terms of training, with the organisation of 3 of our annual courses on our premises (mentioned in the "In short" section) and 3 external training activities. These included helping to run the training day organised in Lille on 3 November, upon request by *DREAL* Nord-Pas-de-Calais, for some forty-odd environmental experts identified within the *ORSEC* organisation for this area. From 14 to 18, 6 representatives of the Ports of Paris came to *Cedre* for a practical training course on oil spill response in inland waterways. Finally, from 28 November to 1st December, a practical training course on shoreline response was run at the refinery of Lamentin (Martinique) for 14 SARA personnel. *Cedre* also contributed to the organisation of an international course on aerial observation by *EMSA*, by preparing 2 presentations which were given by several speakers, and in particular the French Customs pollution expert, in addition to his own conferences.

## Completion of rehabilitation work on the Island of Er trenches

The rehabilitation work on the storage trenches on the Island of Er in Plougrescant (22) (*Newsletter n°194*) was completed on 10 November. The conditions for the work on this sensitive site were favourable and the work was completed ahead of schedule. Almost 400 tonnes were extracted from the trenches, half of which was made up of oil and the rest of polluted earth, in addition to a large volume of litter and debris accumulated over the years.

## European project ARCOPOL - Closure and awareness-raising actions

The European project ARCOPOL ([www.arcopol.eu](http://www.arcopol.eu)), which focuses on the needs of local authorities in terms of oil and *HNS* spills in coastal environments (Interreg IVB programme) is coming to a close. The closure conference, organised in Vigo (Spain), on 9 and 10 November, provided partners with the opportunity to present their work. *Cedre*, a technical service provider for the regions of Aquitaine and Brittany, presented the tools produced through work packages 4, 5 and 6, including an awareness-raising video on the main shoreline clean-up principles (4 languages), a CD-Rom for local authority training, 3 operational guides for local authorities, volunteer associations and sea professionals respectively, as well as the internationalised operational version of the collaborative web-GIS, ARGEPOL. The partners and representatives of organisations such as *IMO* and the *IOPC* Funds highlighted the quality of the materials produced. Within the French context, ARCOPOL has provided local stakeholders with operational tools, tested and now available for use in exercises, training and above all in the case of real spills. These tools will be distributed through an interregional convention (Aquitaine/Brittany). Three awareness-raising actions on accidental pollution have already been conducted by *Cedre* in a number of high schools: on 9 November in Le Guilvinec (Brittany), on 22 in Gujan-Mestras (Gironde) and on 23 in Capbreton (Landes). A date remains to be established for a similar action in a high school in Etel (Morbihan). ARCOPOL also identified new areas of work, which have laid the foundations of a new Interreg IV B project, baptised ARCOPOL+, set to last from January 2012 to the end of 2013.

## Erika: First cheque from the insurer Rina

The French area of Croisic (Loire-Atlantique) received a cheque for €700,000 from the classification society Rina as compensation for the damages caused by the *Erika* spill. Other areas which opted for direct compensation are expecting to receive their cheque, but the majority of claimants are awaiting the appeal. This is the case for the regions of Brittany and Poitou-Charentes, the departments of Finistère, Morbihan and Vendée, as well as the *LPO*.

## A barge caught illegally discharging on the Seine

The pollution spread over a distance of 3 kilometres between Epinay-sur-Seine and Ile-Saint-Denis (Seine-Saint-Denis) according to reports by the river police. The scene was filmed from the Paris police department helicopter while on a surveillance flight. The captain and his sailor risk up to two years imprisonment and a €75,000 fine.

## Donges: legal proceedings for the pollution of the Loire on 16 March 2008

On 4 and 5 October, the Total Refining Marketing group appeared before the court of Saint-Nazaire for "culpable negligence" for the pollution of the Loire (*Newsletter 154* and the following) in the presence of 24 plaintiffs. The prosecutor called for a €300,000 fine. The court will deliver its verdict on 17 January.

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