



## Cedre NEWSLETTER

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Experimentation on Accidental Water Pollution

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#### Emergency Response

Cedre's response centre was called upon in relation to several incidents: by the Seine-et-Marne fire brigade following a road accident involving two trucks, seeking information on various water treatment substances and their potential reaction if mixed with other substances; followed by an enquiry relating to the recovery of soybean oil spilt in a port while loading a vessel; and finally an enquiry relating to a tank container drifting at sea which turned out to belong to the cargo of the *MSC Flaminia*. It was however a number of exercises that occupied the response centre the most. An ICE network exercise organised by Norway involving all the European network's partners; the "POLMAR Baie de Seine 2012" exercise detailed below and the "ORSEC maritime POLMAR/LNG 2012" exercise organised by the Maritime Authority for the Channel and North Sea based on a sea collision scenario resulting in a breakdown of a methane tanker's cargo cooling system: the first day, devoted to crisis management, included the arrangement, together with the land authorities, of a place of refuge for the vessel. For this exercise, Cedre was called upon by the INERIS emergency response unit CASU, to evaluate the hazardous areas due to the deliberate release of gas into the atmosphere. The response centre was also contacted by REMPEC during the "Maltex 2012" exercise with questions relating to expert mobilisation and finally during the "Carouge 2012" POLMAR Land exercise in Martinique which aimed to test the implementation of boom laying plans and the set-up of an operational command centre in the Carbet area.

#### In short

##### Training courses

- ▶ Training course on oil spill response in coastal areas: session 4 from 1st to 5th, 19 participants; session 5, from 22nd to 26th, 19 participants
- ▶ Marine pollution crisis management training course, from 8th to 12th, 18 participants

##### Dates for the diary

- ▶ Cedre Information Day

[The programme is available here](#)

The 2013 Cedre Information Day will be dedicated to spill modelling. It will be held at the *Direction de l'Eau et de la Biodiversité*, Grande Arche, Paroi Sud - Paris-La-Défense on Wednesday 27 March.

- ▶ Surfrider Foundation Europe is organising an anniversary conference "10 years since the *Prestige*" on 22 and 23 November in Biarritz

#### October training courses

In addition to the training courses mentioned in the "In short" section, the month of October saw 3 "ORSEC/POLMAR Land" training courses (Corsica, Loire-Atlantique and French Guiana), a practical course for VNF agents (in Gamsheim, Alsace), as well as 3 training courses upon the initiative of the SNH (Société Nationale des Hydrocarbures) in Cameroon (Douala, Kribi and Limbé) for the local and national authorities. Two training days (theory and practical exercises) were also run during an international seminar on maritime safety organised as part of the MAREMED programme in Cyprus.

#### Exercise in the Bay of Seine

A major crisis exercise entitled "POLMAR Baie de Seine 2012" was organised as part of the revision of the specific marine pollution provisions for north-western France. It involved the Maritime Authority for the Channel and North Sea, the counties of Seine-Maritime, Calvados and Manche, as well as the civil protection authority for western France. This exercise mobilised a large number of State departments as well as 7 agents from Cedre, divided between the command centre in Rennes, the 3 counties (Rouen, Caen and Saint-Lô) and Cedre's response centre. The aims were to implement marine pollution response measures, practice applying land-sea interface procedures, assess zonal coordination and determine the capacity of department-level players in terms of shoreline surveys, site protection, clean-up site set-up and waste management, as well as to test communication on a departmental level. All parties showed a high level of involvement in the realistic, although unusual, scenario consisting of an incident in an estuary drifting seawards then towards the shore.

#### Cooperation with Taiwan

Following the seminar organised in Brest for a Taiwanese delegation (see [Newsletter 205](#)), Cedre was invited to give a conference on the 16th in Taipei, during an international workshop on marine pollution. An engineer from the Training Department presented France's spill response experience through several case studies of incidents involving oil, chemicals and fermentable substances.

## Total E&P Ivory Coast OSCP

Total, which has been present in Ivory Coast for many years in particular in the refining sector (technical assistance to SIR), started to develop its exploration and production activity in 2010. As operator of the CI-100 deep offshore license, the group saw its license extended to three new blocks, CI-514, CI-515 and CI-516, located around 100 kilometres from the coast and stretching over a surface area of 3,200 km<sup>2</sup> in waters 2,000 to 3,000 metres deep. Within the context of these drilling and exploration operations, the Total group's Ivory Coast subsidiary (TEPCI) contracted *Cedre* to produce its oil spill contingency plan (OSCP). An engineer together with the head of the Contingency Planning Department went to Abidjan from 30 September to 7 October. During this mission, the data required to set up such a system was collected, the key response players were met with (authorities, oil operators, potential contractors), an inventory of resources (local, national and international) able to be mobilised was drawn up and the drafting of the plan was initiated.

## Post-Arcopol contract between the Aquitaine region and Cedre

The European Interreg III project EROCIPS (2005-2007) and Interreg IV B project ARCOPOL (2008-2011) gathered together 7 regions and 5 countries (Ireland, UK, France, Spain and Portugal) on the theme of the Atlantic regions' response to coastal pollution from shipping. The French regions of Aquitaine and Brittany were partners in these two projects and were tasked with producing concrete, operational tools designed for decision-makers and operators as well as local authorities, sea professionals and NGOs. In order to distribute the tools developed, to train potential spill responders and to maintain an operational thematic network, the two regions signed a post-Arcopol framework agreement. To do so, the region of Aquitaine decided to call upon an external contractor and awarded the public tender to *Cedre*. The contract began on 17 and 18 October with a kick-off meeting held in Bordeaux in the presence of *Cedre's* Contingency Planning team.

## EMSA's 7th CTG MPPR meeting in Lisbon on 24 October

One of *Cedre's* Deputy Directors, as part of the French delegation led by the Secretariat General of the Sea, attended the 7th meeting of EMSA's Consultative Technical Group for Marine Pollution Preparedness and Response. This meeting was the opportunity to review the agency's activities (SafeSeaNet, Empollex, Standby Vessel Network, CleanSeaNet, Mar-ICE Network, MAR-CIS, working groups, studies and guidance manuals) and to discuss incidents, exercises and recent news. *Cedre* presented its two latest guides: "Manufactured Spill Response Booms" and "Custom-Made Spill Response Barriers" as well as the learning guide produced in partnership with Transport Canada entitled "Understanding Chemical Pollution at Sea". As the Empollex programme was not activated in 2012, it is to be "frozen" and its funding used in 2013 to organise two aerial observation courses: one for the Baltic region and another to be organised by France. Norway offered to host a workshop on new preparedness and response technologies.

## ANEL study days

The French association of elected representatives of coastal areas ANEL held its study days from 17 to 19 October in Perros-Guirec (Côtes-d'Armor). During this session, the association elected its new president, Mr Jean-François Rapin, mayor of Merlimont, who takes over from Mr Yvon Bonnot, mayor Perros-Guirec, to whom heartfelt thanks were extended for his action as president for the past 10 years. These days were also honoured with the presence of Mr Frédéric Cuvillier, delegate minister for the Ministry of Ecology, Sustainable Development and Energy, in charge of Transport, the Sea and Fisheries. *Cedre* was represented by its Director, who gave a talk on the issue of accidental pollution and the role of local authorities as part of the workshop "Water, a resource to be protected and shared".

## Atlantic Forum

On 29 and 30 October, the Atlantic Forum held a meeting in Brest. This initiative is supported by the European Commission (Directorate-General for Maritime Affairs and Fisheries). It is tasked with identifying and proposing projects, defining an action plan to create the infrastructures required for "blue economy" development and developing innovative ideas to work together to meet future challenges. This event brought together various political, technical and scientific decision-makers from states of the Atlantic Arc to address three main issues: renewable energies, sustainable shipping and finally maritime safety and security. *Cedre* was represented at this meeting by its Director.

## 2012 Science Festival

The 21st edition of the *Fête de la Science* was held from 10 to 14 October at Brest's Faculty of Science. *Cedre* took part in the event by running discussion sessions on a documentary from the series "Lucie La Luciole" recently filmed at *Cedre*. Around 200 primary school children took part in a game of questions and answers, and proved to be very sensitive to the issues raised.

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