



Cedre NEWSLETTER

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

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*At the beginning of this new year,
our thoughts turn to our partners,
who we would like to thank for their continued confidence.
We wish them all the best for this new year!*



In short Meetings

► *Cedre's* Board of Governors met on 11th December at the headquarters of the National Maritime Fisheries and Mariculture Committee - CNPMM - in Paris.

Training courses

- On 5th and 6th December for the Port of Conakry (Guinea), at *Cedre*, 4 participants
- On 19th and 20th for maritime affairs executives training at *ENSAM* in Nantes, 20 participants

Dates for the diary

► *Cedre* Information Day
Provisional programme and Registration forms. Spill modelling, at the *Direction de l'Eau et de la Biodiversité*, Grande Arche, Paroi Sud - Paris-La-Défense on Wednesday 27th March.

Emergency response and annual overview

The duty team was called upon in total 12 times during December, 5 of which related to spill incidents, including one acid leak on a container ship en route to Nouméa. *Cedre* also organised a simple ICE exercise (ring test) involving the 16 national focal points. This exercise was run by three duty engineers.

In 2012, the Emergency Response Department was called upon a total of 162 times. The number of individual incidents totalled 74, with the main highlights being the *TK Bremen* spill and the fire onboard the *MSC Flaminia*. We note a relatively high number of exercises, with 26 for 2012.

In the field, 11 call-outs required the presence of one or more agents (Pilot Response and Training Team).

Cedre Mediterranean delegation

The forthcoming retirement of the *Cedre* delegate for the Mediterranean has led us to rethink the organisation of the delegation and the organisation of *Cedre's* action in this region. The new set-up will involve a correspondent who will be called out to the area whenever necessary, but will be permanently based at *Cedre's* headquarters in Brest, instead of the current system with a permanent delegate based in Toulon. The retiring delegate not only fulfilled his role as Mediterranean delegate, but also worked on several projects involving *Cedre*, particularly in terms of research and development. The new set-up should allow greater flexibility in the management of the delegate's activity and should enable his presence on site to be adapted to meet requirements. This new organisation was presented to the maritime authorities for the Mediterranean and for the southern defence and security zone in early December.

POSOW project

The European project *POSOW* on Preparedness for Oil-polluted Shoreline cleanup and Oiled Wildlife interventions, launched last January under the coordination of *REMPEC*, is now at halfway point. The first of four manuals, the Oiled Shoreline Assessment Manual, has been sent for printing and can be downloaded from the [project website](#). Three other manuals - Oiled Shoreline Cleanup Manual, Oil Spill Volunteer Management Manual and Oiled Wildlife Response Manual - are currently being finalised. The first quarter of 2013 will be devoted to the preparation of posters and PowerPoint presentations. Thereafter, two train-the-trainer courses will be organised in May at *Cedre*. The last quarter will be devoted to training in the field and the dissemination of the materials produced. For further information, see the [project newsletter](#).

Hoverspill project, meeting in Italy

On 13th December, Cedre took part in the 6th meeting of **Hoverspill** project partners which focused on the design and construction of a small hovercraft for spill response. This meeting was held once again on the premises of the Italian partner SOA, which provided the opportunity to see the evolution of the hovercraft prototype under construction as well as the other prototype developed as part of this project, the oil/water separator designed by the French consultant Ylec which will be fitted to one of the Hoverspill's response modules. Furthermore, this meeting was the chance to assess project progress and more specifically for *Cedre* to present the results of its evaluation tests conducted on small pumps and skimmers liable to be used in the hovercraft's skimming and pumping module. Real-life on-site trials are planned over the coming term for the Hoverspill and its associated tools. These trials will be conducted in Italy (Po), Romania (Danube) and France (Loire estuary).

Oil detector trials at *Cedre*

Upon request from the EDF power plant in Cordemais, trials on the oil detector Slick Sleuth were carried out at *Cedre's* technical facilities in December. These trials performed on a heavy fuel oil and mineral oil were conducted by *Cedre* (equipment and experimentation) in partnership with the company Végase (detection and signal interpretation).

Contingency plan for STDO, Tahiti

The oil pipeline operator for the port of Papeete, STDO (*Société Tahitienne des Oléoducs*), is responsible for all oil transfer operations between the receiving wharf, storage depots and ship fuelling points, for three local oil companies (PPS, Petropol and Total Polynesia), all shareholders of the company. STDO chose *Cedre* to plan the organisational and operational actions to be taken following oil spills occurring at the interface between STDO installations and the water body of the port of Papeete. Within this context, an engineer together with the head of the Contingency Planning Department were sent to Papeete from 10th to 24th November. During this mission, the data required to draft this document was collected, the key response players were met with (authorities, oil operators, potential contractors), an inventory of resources (local, regional, national and international) able to be mobilised was drawn up and the drafting of the contingency plan was initiated. Following this assignment, a draft plan and its annexes were submitted to STDO management for proofreading. The corrections made will be integrated into the final version, which should be delivered, together with the electronic version of the plan, by mid-February.

Dispersants workshop

EMSA has relaunched the working group on oil dispersants run by *Cedre*, by organising a workshop on subsea dispersant injection during the **Deepwater Horizon** spill on 26th and 27th November 2012 in Lisbon. This workshop was the opportunity to exchange views on environmental issues between representatives of Member States, representatives of oil companies and experts. Little attention was given however to practical aspects (application methods, logistics...).

South Korean visit

Upon invitation from KOEM (Korea Marine Environment Management Corporation) with which *Cedre* has signed a cooperation agreement, one of *Cedre's* deputy directors went to South Korea from 3rd to 7th December. Following a meeting with the KOEM management team in Seoul, he continued his visit to Pusan where KOEM set up its Marine Environment Research Institute (MERTI) two years ago. In its laboratory, this centre monitors the quality of Korean coastal waters and runs theory and practical training courses. To do so, it has a wave tank and a man-made beach in a covered hall. During his visit, our representative gave an afternoon of lectures on 4 themes chosen by KOEM. In addition, one of MERTI's missions is to educate young people on the marine environment.

Costa Concordia

Almost a year after the accident involving the *Costa Concordia* cruise ship near the island of Giglio in Italy, the Italian prosecutors have completed their inquiry and are preparing to take 8 people to court in early January, including the ship's captain.

Illegal discharge convictions in France

On 5th December, the criminal court of Marseille delivered its verdict, fining the captain and shipowner of a ferry €650,000 for illegal discharge off Hyères on 15th August 2009. The case is to be appealed. On 31st January, the Rennes court of appeal is to announce its decision on an illegal discharge in the Bay of Biscay also in 2009. This time, a €1.5 million fine is called for.

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