

**N° 252 E – News from December 2016**



**Demain se prépare aujourd'hui**  
**Preparing today for tomorrow**



The Cedre team wish you all the best for 2017

**In short**

**Training courses**

► 9th December: training course on "response in ports and harbours" for public servants in Vannes - 15 participants

**Dates for the diary**

- **IOSC** from 15th to 18th May 2017 in Long Beach, California, US
- **ICOPCE** from 25th to 28th April 2017 in Singapore

**Emergency response**

In December, further exchanges took place with various contacts in Pas-de-Calais following the stranding of balls of paraffin ([Newsletter 251](#)). Cedre's laboratory confirmed the type of product involved. We also responded to enquiries from the authorities in the Bouches-du-Rhône area (south-eastern France), who were faced with pollution from a past spill of benzene. We were mobilised in relation to the grounding of the *Citius* in the Seine, and sent information on the potential impact and actions to be implemented in the event of a spill of coal, as well as safety datasheets on the fuels present on board.

Finally, we were questioned by the civil protection department and the fire brigade of the Côtes-d'Armor area (Brittany) following a road accident involving methane transport.

In terms of exercises, two enquiries were made, one by our Slovak colleagues as part of an **ICE** ring test on benzene and another by the regional health board of Normandy (**ARS**) on boron trifluoride. We in turn tested our colleagues within the ICE network with a ring test on acrylic acid.

**A new president for Cedre's Strategy Committee**

On 6th December, Cedre's Board of Governors validated the nomination of Patricia Mani, Director of Crisis Management and Environmental & Societal Expertise at Total, as President of the Strategy Committee. She takes over from Frédéric Périé who has been called to other duties following internal changes within the group.

**Visit from a Norwegian delegation**

On 8th December, we received a delegation of seven visitors from three Norwegian institutions: the Ministry of Transport and Communications, the Norwegian Coastal Administration and Nordland County Council. This visit was conducted as part of a feasibility study for a national centre with multiple missions: oil spills, marine litter and support for fishing and aquaculture activities. The discussions mainly focused on how Cedre works and its missions since its creation, and on the possibilities for future collaboration between the two centres.

**Interspill: Memorandum of Understanding signed**

On 13th December, a Memorandum of Understanding was signed at **EMSA's** headquarters in Lisbon by the different organisers of **Interspill**: **EMSA**, **Cedre**, **IOPC Funds**, **IPIECA**, **ITOPF**, **NOSCA**, **IMO**, **OSRL**, **SYCOPOL** and **UKSpill**. This document defines the relations between the Steering Committee of Interspill Ltd, which is in charge of the commercial governance of the event, and the Interspill Committee, which is in charge of its technical supervision.

**Find out more about the training courses offered by Cedre**

Cedre offers training courses at its unparalleled facilities, where practical exercises can be carried out using real oil. We can also come to your facilities to provide on-site training sessions for your personnel and partners, tailored to your risks, tools and equipment. These courses can be run in English, French or Spanish. For more information, please visit [cedre.fr](http://cedre.fr).

**POSOW II training course in Morocco and project closure**

The **POSOW II** project, previously mentioned in various Cedre Newsletters, ended with a training course organised in Rabat, Morocco, on 20th and 21st December with support from the Moroccan Environment Ministry and the National Ports Agency. The trainers trained at Cedre in April in turn ran training sessions for twenty-odd trainees from the Moroccan authorities or **NGOs** during this two-day course. A visit was also organised to the spill response stockpile of the port of Mohammedia.

### "Biodiversity and Economy" Forum

Cedre's Director was invited by the French Environment Ministry to speak at the workshop entitled "Overcoming the hurdles of public procurement processes to promote biodiversity" at the Biodiversity and Economy Forum on 24th and 25th November.

Stéphane Doll based his presentation on his wide-ranging professional experiences, first as a public stakeholder in charge of drawing up specifications and of analysing industrial offers and services, then on the industrial side analysing public calls and submitting bids. The aims: to highlight the risks and opportunities for companies and public procurement, to identify potential new markets for promoting biodiversity and to suggest a few ways of improving the current regulatory framework.

### Presentation of the REMANTAS project

On 30th November, an engineer from Cedre was sent to Vienna to present the **REMANTAS** project, funded by the French National Research Agency, at a seminar organised as part of the **Water Joint Programming Initiative (JPI)** programme. The aim of this programme is to build links between institutes involved in research projects supported by European or national funding on the theme of water quality. At this seminar, future research topics were identified, in particular the issue of chronic contaminants from agriculture, whose persistence has been proven and which end up in the sea, often resulting in environmental impacts. During this event, the **REMANTAS** project was presented under the theme of innovative water quality monitoring techniques.

### HNS-MS project seminar

On 13th and 14th December, a seminar was held in Brussels to present the results of the European project **HNS-MS** (Improving Member States Preparedness to face an HNS pollution of the Marine System), funded by DG-ECHO, to the various stakeholders. It was held in the offices of the Belgian Federal Public Service – Health, Food Chain Safety and Environment – the project partner in charge of organising the seminar. The results of the tests and analyses which have led to improved knowledge of the behaviour of chemicals in the marine environment, the development of behaviour and drift models as well as environmental and socio-economic sensitivity **GIS** models were presented. The final system developed for the response authorities was also presented: a web platform providing access to data and via which models can be launched. The thirty-odd experts included representatives of the authorities and experts from the Bonn Agreement countries (OTSOPA), as well as representatives of **EMSA**, **CEPPOL**, **ITOPF**, Météo-France, **IMO** and **OSPAR**.

### Donges spill: environmental damage recognised in favour of LPO

On 9th December, the Rennes Court of Appeal condemned Total following the **pollution of the Loire estuary** with bunker fuel. Backtrack to 16th March 2008: a pipe between a storage tank at Donges refinery (Loire-Atlantique) and a loading wharf cracked. Despite rapid emergency measures, oil was released onto the site and ran into a tributary to the Loire River. In January 2012, parties were refused right to claim compensation for environmental damage by the Criminal Court of Saint-Nazaire. In September 2013, the Rennes Court of Appeal reversed this decision and granted associations the right to claim environmental damages, without establishing the sum payable for this damage to **LPO**. In March 2016, the Supreme Court overruled this decision, asserting that the Rennes Court of Appeal should have determined the sum to be paid. The case was referred back to the Court of Appeal which rendered its verdict, recognising environmental damage in favour of **LPO** and sentencing the oil group to a sum of €80,000 for repair and €20,000 for court costs.

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