



N° 262 E – News from November 2017

Emergency response

In November, Cedre was called upon as part of several exercises: one involving a leak of sodium hydroxide at sea for a UK-based private emergency response company; another for oil drift and behaviour forecasts for an oil company in West Africa; for drift forecasts and response recommendations as part of an ORSEC exercise in French Polynesia (Leeward Islands) whose scenario involved providing assistance to a vessel in difficulty and pollution response following a collision between an oil tanker and a schooner; and finally in relation to a scenario involving tarballs on the shoreline and a leak of 2,500 litres of marine diesel, for the joint union of the Ria d'Etel in France. The duty team was also mobilised in relation to several smaller spills. Following reports of small quantities of tarballs on the beaches of New Caledonia, the national military police force (*Gendarmerie*) sent samples for identification by Cedre's laboratory. These samples are due to arrive in the coming days and will be immediately analysed by our laboratory. Tarballs were also reported on a beach on Reunion Island. Finally MRCC Corsen and the Côtes-d'Armor authorities (Departmental Directorate for Territories and the Sea) contacted Cedre's duty team when a fishing boat sank near Bréhat Island for modelling (Adios) and response advice.

In short

Standard training courses

- ▶ 8th and 9th: "Merchant ships and the role of shipping industry stakeholders", 11 participants
- ▶ 14th to 16th: "Aerial observation of pollution at sea", 18 participants
- ▶ 21st to 23rd: "Chemical spill response principles", 13 participants

Visits

- ▶ On 13th, meeting between the Director and Thierry Coquil - Director of Maritime Affairs, Paris

Dates for the diary

- ▶ 12th December: SHOM **scientific and technical information day** in Brest, France
- ▶ 31st December: deadline for submitting abstracts for the 41st AMOP technical seminar (5-7th June 2018)
- ▶ 13th to 15th March 2018: **Interspill** in London

46th meeting of Cedre's Strategy Committee

On 17th November, the Strategy Committee met at Cedre. The main purpose of this meeting was to discuss next year's technical programme. Some forty proposals covering our different fields of activity were discussed with the committee members. Alongside the permanent activities and the continuation of multiannual projects in progress, the scope of the new projects selected for 2018 was outlined through productive discussions, in concordance with the priorities defined by the committee members.

Cedre Technical Day

This year, the Cedre Technical Day was held in Brest on 16th November in Brest on the theme of response in areas of strong current. This is a common issue, both in rivers and at sea and on the shoreline. Speakers from CEREMA, FOST, Total Donges, **the port of Nantes St-Nazaire** and Cedre presented their experience drawing on real examples of both old and recent cases of spill response, as well as boom laying exercises and assessment tests on specialised equipment. The presentations highlighted the fact that operational response in areas of strong current is subject to strong environmental, technical, logistical and organisational constraints, and emphasised the importance of assessing specific recovery techniques and equipment specially designed for strong current, as well as of validating boom laying plans.

GI WACAF Regional Conference, Abidjan

The 2017 Regional Conference of the **Global Initiative for West, Central and Southern Africa** on oil spill prevention and response was held in Abidjan from 6th to 9th November. Carefully prepared by IMO and IPIECA, it was hosted by CIAPOL. This biennial meeting was the opportunity for the State and oil industry representatives of the 22 countries in the region to review the activities carried out over the past two years and to update the country profiles. The international experts invited (**Exxon Mobil**, IPIECA, **ITOPF**, **OSPRI**, **OSRL**, **SANCCOB**) gave 6 technical presentations, ran work groups on 6 issues and a tabletop exercise on shoreline clean-up. Two engineers from Cedre took part in this session, ran workshops, presented a conference on shoreline clean-up, helped to run the exercise and drew up a list of general recommendations which emerged from the work groups.

Iroise Marine Nature Park management committee

On the 23rd, a member of the management team attended the meeting of the Iroise Marine Nature Park (PNMI) management committee. Among the points on the agenda, we note: the evolution of the rules in terms of assent, two simple approvals, the National Iroise Nature Park (one year of management by PNMI, inventory of islets of the Molène archipelago, possible extension), and the key projects for 2018-2025. Two information notices: 10 years of management of Natura 2000 sites in the PNMI and the tidal turbine project in the Fromveur strait. Finally, the presentation of the book "Pêcheurs d'Iroise" produced by PNMI and published by Ouest-France.

MARINER project final conference

On the 21st, Cedre attended the final conference, held in Vigo, of the MARINER project (Newsletters 250 and 256), of which it was a partner. Organised by the project leader CETMAR, this day was the chance for each partner to present the activities conducted from the project launch until early 2016. In particular, Cedre presented the chemical spill response training materials it developed and which will be available in English [here](#) by the end of the year.

Participation in an HNS exercise in Spain

Following the above-mentioned conference, Cedre visited the premises of INTECMAR on the 22nd then took part in an exercise organised on the 23rd by this same institute. The operational aim was to enable the Galician Coast Guard, in collaboration with SASEMAR, to test the procedures and equipment for responding to chemical spills at sea or reaching the shoreline. The different manoeuvres implemented as well as the discussions with the various participants helped to reinforce Cedre's expertise in chemical spill response.

November bespoke training courses

- **MARPOCS** training: 3-day course (31st October - 2nd November), in Agadir, as part of the MARPOCS project, coordinated in partnership with the Moroccan institute of fisheries research INRH. Cedre was in charge of the first two days of the course which aimed to provide the local authorities with information on response to spills of oil and HNS. The last day was the chance to try out the decision support system developed as part of the project through an exercise.
- **EMSA** training in Lisbon: two engineers from Cedre ran a 3-day workshop (7-9th November) on oil spill management based on the IMO level 3 standard programme. The aim was to raise awareness among EMSA agents of the roles and responsibilities of executives involved in crisis management as well as to present the issues relating to marine pollution management.
- Cypriot administration training: Cedre ran a 5-day course (27th November - 1st December) on oil spill management based on the IMO level 3 standard programme, followed by two additional days, one on surveying pollution at sea and the other on dispersion. This course was run for 9 representatives of the Cypriot environment and transport ministries.

French maritime economy congress

On 21st and 22nd November, Cedre's Director attended the "Assises de l'économie de la mer", which featured a key appearance by the French Prime Minister who outlined the French maritime policy. This 2-day congress was also the opportunity to strengthen ties with Cedre's partner organisations, administrations and ministries and to hold numerous discussions with industrial players in the maritime field and shipping companies. Concrete plans, in particular in terms of training, are currently under discussion for 2018.

Meeting at REMPEC, Malta

On 28th and 29th November, upon invitation by REMPEC and the French General Secretariat for the Sea, Cedre's Director attended the second meeting of the Mediterranean Network of Law Enforcement Officials (MENELAS) relating to MARPOL within the framework of the Barcelona Convention in La Valette. The main aims of this meeting were to examine the implementation of the MENELAS programme and to discuss the French proposal to create new legal cooperation tools under the regional strategy for prevention and response to marine pollution from ships and under MENELAS. Cedre was invited to present the POLREP compilation method, as well as the results of the processing and exploitation of this data by Cedre.

Prestige oil spill compensation

On 15th November, 15 years after the *Prestige* sank off the coast of Galicia, the court of A Coruña rendered its verdict on the compensation granted to the 272 parties affected, awarding €1.6 billion for Spain and €61 million for France for damages estimated, in 2012, at €3.8 billion for Spain and, in 2013, at €109 million for France. The main parties fined are the ship's captain and his insurers.