



## Cedre NEWSLETTER

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#### Emergency response

Cedre was contacted by the Saint-Pierre-et-Miquelon authorities (DTAM) to provide advice on the management of spill response operations following a fuel tank leak near a centre for the disabled. We also received a request for advice from the *Communauté d'Agglomération de La Rochelle* in relation to the treatment of residual pollution in a stream, following a domestic fuel oil leak, treated by pumping and laying sorbent booms. SAUR in La Roche-sur-Yon questioned Cedre's duty team on the issue of sheen often observed on a water body under their management. The French Navy Operational Centre (COM) in Brest informed Cedre of the presence of a slick, believed to be of diesel, in the Bay of Douarnenez, which naturally evaporated and dispersed at sea. The MRCC Jobourg alerted Cedre as to a collision between a chemical tanker and an oil tanker off Ostend, resulting in a small oil leak, most likely from the chemical tanker's propeller shaft. The MRCC requested a drift forecast using the Mothy model. The substance dispersed naturally. The MRCC Med La Garde requested Cedre's expert opinion after pollution was observed near Cap Béar semaphore and between Corsica and the mainland. The Yvelines fire brigade (SDIS 78) informed Cedre of a small spill on the River Seine, in the Port-Marly area. Finally, the ICE mechanism was activated for an exercise on dichloromethane (UN 1593) launched by the Swiss focal point.

#### In short

##### Training

- ▶ 7th to 11th September, oil spill response in inland waters
- ▶ 14th to 18th September: oil spill response at sea and on the shoreline
- ▶ 28th September to 1st October, pollution crisis management

#### Experimentation on chemical behaviour

As part of the "Chemical behaviour at sea and response sheets" project, funded by the French Navy and MTES, Cedre performed trials in the Cedre Experimentation Column (CEC). These trials were designed to study the fate of three chemicals (isopropylbenzene, 5-methylhexan-2-one and 2-butoxyethyl acetate) in the event of controlled release from a sunken wreck. The aims were to determine whether the released substance would rise through the water column to the surface and, if so, to estimate the proportion. This study will be followed, in the coming weeks, by trials in floating mesocosms to assess the fate of a chemical slick at the sea surface. The results of these different experimentation programmes will be used to draft response sheets.

#### OceanWise project coordination meeting

The fifth coordination meeting for the European project OceanWise was held remotely on 12th and 13th May. This project, led by the Portuguese Directorate-General for Natural Resources, Safety and Maritime Services (DGRM) and involving 13 partners (Irish, British, French, Spanish and Portuguese), aims to develop concrete solutions, based on resource-efficiency, circular economy and participatory methods, to reduce the impact of expanded and extruded polystyrene (EPS/XPS) in the marine environment in the north-east Atlantic area. More than 25 participants met virtually to review the progress of the various actions, in particular the development of a knowledge hub on the production and use of EPS/XPS in Europe, the assessment of their impact, research into pre-existing alternatives, the running of participatory workshops in the 5 countries as well as the evaluation of potential solutions. #BeOceanWise: If you would like to contribute to the project or be updated on its progress, [you can register with the project's online platform](#).

#### West MOPoCo HNS response manual progress

Within the framework of the West MOPoCo project, Cedre attended the Bonn Agreement OTSOPA meeting on 27th May and presented the progress made on the Marine HNS Response Manual. This operational document, drafted jointly by ISPRA and ITOFF, is designed to be of inter-regional scope between the Barcelona Convention, the Helsinki Convention and the Bonn Agreement. This meeting, organised by videoconference, was the opportunity for very interesting and constructive discussions. The Bonn Agreement delegations showed a marked interest in the provision of this document.

## OSPAR ICG Marine Litter meeting

Cedre attended the quarterly meeting of the **OSPAR** Convention Intersessional Correspondence Group on Marine Litter (ICG-ML) held remotely on 27th and 28th May. Attended by some forty participants, this meeting began with a review of the work conducted by the expert groups associated with the various marine litter monitoring programmes. Cedre presented the work of the expert group that focuses on the “beach litter” indicator, for which we are project leader. The remainder of the meeting focused on the **Regional Action Plan (RAP)** for Marine Litter, for which a progress review of the various actions was conducted by the Member States. The contributions of the **CleanAtlantic project** to the RAP were presented by Cedre, on behalf of the project consortium, in particular for actions 36 (fishing industry litter), 48 (harm caused by litter, including cigarette butts), 54 (litter in inland waterways), 55 and 56 (hotspots), 58 (education) and 59 (good practices).

## Final workshop for HazRunoff project

The final workshop of the European project **HazRunoff** was held remotely on 27th May. The final project outcomes were presented, in particular the online platform prototype, developed through the project, designed to collect and share data and modelling in real time for spill and/or flood management. The modelling results, comprising a river-based model and a coastal model, were presented by **IST**, for the 4 pilot estuaries (the Severn in Wales, the Tage in Portugal, the Ria de Arousa in Spain and the Loire in France). Other presentations covered the system developed to make satellite images available in near-real time for the 4 pilot sites (**EOMAP**), and an algorithm applied to social media in order to use them as an early warning system for floods and spills (PHE). With a view to the enhancement of response preparedness, Cedre presented its worldwide spill data analysis for estuaries and inland waters, over a 20-year period, as well as case studies of 2 spill and flooding events. Finally, an external partner that is a member of **EMODnet** (European Marine Observation and Data network) presented the content of and access to EMODnet data devoted to physical oceanographic data (temperature, salinity, wind, current, etc.). [Click here to download the Layman's report.](#)

## Annual ICE network meeting by videoconference

As France's national centre and a level 1 support centre, Cedre took part in the annual meeting, held on 14th May by videoconference, of the **ICE** (Intervention in Chemical transport Emergencies) scheme coordinated by **CEFIC**. The aim of this scheme is to provide several levels of assistance: remote advice, advice from an expert at the scene of an incident or assistance with personnel and equipment at the scene of an incident during chemical transport or storage. Cedre also attended this meeting in its role as a focal point of the **MAR-Ice** Network set up by **EMSA** and **CEFIC**. One particular point of discussion was the implementation of MAR-Ice level 2 assistance (expert advice on site during an emergency at a Member State's incident command centre).

## Bonn Agreement OTSOPA working group meeting

The annual meeting of the **Bonn Agreement OTSOPA working group** was held by videoconference from 26th to 28th May and was chaired by Ronny Schallier from the **Royal Belgian Institute of Natural Sciences**. The group focused on a number of key points: review and organisation of aerial surveillance missions, practical implementation of MARPOL Annex VI (with the creation of a sub-group), shared projects and incident presentations. The progress of the **IMAROS** project (study of the behaviour of low-sulphur fuel oils and research into effective spill response techniques) and **West MOPoCo** project were presented. The contracting parties and Secretariat were invited to contribute to current and upcoming actions. In terms of incidents, Cedre presented the cases of two currently leaking wrecks: the **Grande America** and the **Tanio**. Norway briefly mentioned the case of the **Trans Carrier**, a vessel that lost several tonnes of plastic pellets from a container. These cases will be discussed in more detail at the group's next meeting, to be held from 25th to 27th May 2021.

## Cedre training via distance learning!

Under the impetus of its Strategy Committee, Cedre has launched an online training centre, developed in partnership with the **International Office for Water (IOWater)** and the **Region of Brittany**. This new platform offers two e-learning modules, currently available in French and soon in English. The first, on surveying sites polluted by oil, is geared towards any personnel liable to assist the response authorities (fire fighters, municipal agents, private contractors, fishermen, seafarers, etc). This module provides practical insight into site surveys for a large number of first-line responders as “information relays” for the authorities. The second module, on the behaviour of chemicals spilt in water, funded with support from the Region of Brittany, is targeted towards local authorities, seafaring personnel as well as anyone interested in the fate of chemicals spilt in the aquatic environment and their consequences. Each module lasts around 2 hours and can be followed up by discussions with one of Cedre's training engineers via a discussion forum. Specialised documents on the issue (survey forms, guides, etc.) are also available. This “**Online Training Centre**” will also be used to post content for participants on our on-site courses, attended by over 1,300 trainees each year, both in France and abroad. This new development will enable Cedre to organise hybrid courses combining on-site and online training.