

N° 300 E – News from April 2021

Emergency response

Cedre's duty team was called upon by the **Finistère fire brigade (SDIS 29)** following a spill of slurry into the Penzé river. The **Tarn fire brigade (SDIS 81)** was also contacted by Cedre due to soot in a watercourse following a fire involving several tonnes of straw. Samples from Pleubian and Saint-Pol-de-Léon were received and analysed by Cedre's laboratory. The analyses revealed the presence of paraffin.

MRCC Corsen contacted the duty team following the observation of a slick in the Glénan area (Finistère) and then in relation to a suspected case of pollution off Gironde. **MRCC Lagarde** also contacted us following reports of a patch of fluorescent green near the coast, apparently due to micro-algae. Various discussions were also held with **MRCC Jobourg** following the observation of a yellow liquid in the North Sea and subsequently a suspected case of pollution near Urville which turned out to be algae. Finally, the **Côtes-d'Armor DDTM** (Departmental Directorate for Territories and the Sea) contacted us in connection with a spill of diesel and oil after a fishing boat ran aground near the port of Loguivy-de-la-Mer.

In short

Cedre Information Day:

All the presentations from the Cedre Information Day on containers held on 27th March will be available soon on our **Youtube** channel.

Dates for the diary

► 10th to 14th May, **IOSC 2021**

Training

► 17th to 21st May: "Oil spill response in inland waters" course at Cedre

► 25th to 28th, **POLMAR** shoreline response training course for port staff, Bonifacio

► 31st May to 4th June: "Oil spill response at sea and on the shoreline" course at Cedre

New Chair for Cedre's Strategy Committee

Patricia Mani, Group Vice President, Crisis Management and Environmental & Societal Expertise Division at **Total**, who chaired Cedre's Strategy Committee, left her position in March. All of Cedre's staff would like to thank Patricia with whom we worked for many years in the field of response preparedness before she became chair of our Strategy Committee in 2017. We wish her every success in her new activities. On 20th April, Cedre's Board of Governors elected a new chair. The chosen candidate is Clément Lavigne, Patricia Mani's successor in her position at Total. Clément has held various positions in which Cedre's teams have collaborated with him on a regular basis, and we are pleased that he will be able to share his experience with our Strategy Committee. He will be chairing the next meeting on 26th May at **CNPP** in Vernon.

European project West MOPoCo comes to a close

Funded by DG-ECHO for an initial two-year period, the **West MOPoCo project** (Newsletters 280, 287, 290, 294) was extended for 4 months until 30th April. To mark the occasion, France's **General Secretariat for the Sea** organised an online wrap-up conference on 14th April, with around 120 participants. The activities carried out during the project and the deliverables produced were presented by 19 speakers. Cedre presented the "Marine HNS Reponse Manual", drafted in collaboration with **ISPRA** and **ITOPF** with the contribution of the secretariats and member countries of the **Bonn Agreement**, **HELCOM** and **REMPEC** and gave a demonstration of the **interactive version available online**. **REMPEC** presented the updated version of the **Maritime Integrated Decision Support Information System on Transport of Chemical Substances (MIDSIS.TROCS 4.0)**. **REMPEC** also highlighted how useful the project had been in the implementation of the 2016-2021 regional programme of work, including the development of tools and capacities for the use of emergency communication systems (**MEDGIS-MAR**) and the strengthening of synergies between national and sub-regional emergency procedures. Representatives of the project's beneficiary and partner countries (Algeria, Spain, France, Italy, Malta, Morocco, Tunisia and Monaco) then testified to its positive impact, in particular through workshops organised to evaluate national contingency plans using the **RETOSTM** tool and workshops to develop a national improvement programme based on this evaluation.

Audit for Saint-Malo port

At the initiative of Brittany's Ports, Airports and Freight Directorate and in collaboration with the harbour master's office, Cedre ran a practical training course in the port of Saint-Malo on spill response in port areas on 21st and 22nd April. The course, attended by a dozen port staff (harbour master, harbour master's office staff, agents and seafarers from the region of Brittany, **Ille-et-Vilaine fire brigade (SDIS 35)**, **Edeis** and a fuel delivery company) involved an oil spill simulation exercise in which the participants were able to deploy containment and recovery equipment in the channel between two harbour basins. This action concluded the audit on the spill response capabilities of the port of Saint Malo.

Participation in a Franco-American workshop on aquatic litter monitoring

On 12th April, Cedre took part in a Franco-American virtual discussion workshop on aquatic litter monitoring in relation to the COVID-19 pandemic. This workshop, organised by the **Global Council for Science and the Environment**, gathered around ten experts from France and the US. Its main objective was to identify collaboration opportunities for developing future research projects to assess the effects of the health crisis on plastic pollution. Cedre presented the organisation of aquatic litter monitoring in France and Europe and the data currently available.

Crisis management training course

From 12th to 15th April, this year's first session of the IMO 3 level marine pollution crisis management course was held at Cedre. Eleven representatives of the French Navy and one representative of [MRCC Jobourg](#) attended this course, which ended with a tabletop exercise and final debrief. Two participants were able to attend the conferences virtually via our e-learning platform elearning.cedre.fr.

Training course at ISMI in Côte d'Ivoire

From 13th to 15th, two engineers from Cedre travelled to Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire, to conduct the third and final module of a training course on oil spill response at sea and on the shoreline at the Interregional Maritime Security Institute, [ISMI](#). This course followed on from two modules (in French and English) run virtually via Cedre's e-learning platform (elearning.cedre.fr) to provide the theory part of this hybrid training course. With this course, financed and organised by French cooperation, 24 participants from 12 countries in the Gulf of Guinea were trained to IMO 2 standards. It was also an opportunity for them to take part in a practical exercise carried out at the [Port of Abidjan](#), in which the teams contributed to and supported the deployment of containment and recovery equipment.

Study launched in Brest's marina

Pieces of expanded and extruded polystyrene as well as new generation plastics (biosourced and/or biodegradable) were placed in cages and positioned in the Marina du Château in Brest in order to study the adsorption of chemical pollutants as well as the development of micro-organisms on the surface of the materials. This study was launched on 28th April and is scheduled to last 9 weeks. This experiment, conducted as part of the [Interreg project OceanWise](#), is being carried out in collaboration with Brest's marinas and Brest University's [LUBEM laboratory](#) (Laboratoire Universitaire de Biodiversité et Ecologie Microbienne).

Litter monitoring in Saint-Jean-Trolimon (Finistère), season 2, 2021

On 28th April, Cedre was back on Stang beach in Saint-Jean-Trolimon to monitor coastal litter. For this year's second monitoring campaign, the protocols for quantifying macro-litter on the shoreline and microplastics in the sediment were carried out as previously. We also implemented a new protocol to quantify large microplastics and meso-litter (5 mm - 2.5 cm) at the sediment surface. While meso-litter is already taken into account in the coastal macro-litter protocol, this new protocol, currently in test phase, aims to more accurately quantify and identify this litter size category. The protocol will then be tested by willing operators that belong to the monitoring networks already coordinated by Cedre. Large-scale strandings of meso- and large microplastics this winter, particularly on the beaches of Finistère, highlight the need to quantify and monitor this pollution. The litter collected in accordance with the three protocols will then be sorted, counted and identified at Cedre, and will provide input for the national marine litter monitoring programme.

Crisis management training: pollution of water resources

From 1st to 3rd June, Cedre, in collaboration with [IMT Mines Alès](#), [Environmental Emergency & Security Services \(ES²\)](#) and the [Aguasûreté](#) network, will be offering a new crisis management course. Involving practitioners and trainers from these structures, as well as the fire brigade, State services and the media, this course will be based on feedback from the management of past pollution incidents affecting water resources or water distribution networks. It will include both theory and practical sessions and will end with a large-scale crisis management exercise in the simulation rooms at ITM Mines Alès.

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