

## N° 307 E – News from December 2021

### Best wishes for 2022!

HAPPY  
NEW YEAR  
2022

All the best for 2022 from all the team here at Cedre!

### In short

#### Dates for the diary

► 29th March 2022, Cedre Information Day in Paris (La Défense), on the theme of “Consideration of environmental impacts”.

► 21st to 23rd June 2022, [Interspill](#) in Amsterdam, Netherlands

#### Training

► 21st to 24th February: training course on “Aerial observation of pollution at sea”, at Cedre

► 15th to 17th March: training course on “Water resource pollution crisis management” Watch our [presentation video for this training course](#)

#### Hot off the press

► English language version of the “Condensates” Chemical Response Guide available for [free download here](#)

### Emergency response

Cedre received a request for expert advice from the [DDTM for Bouches-du-Rhône](#) following a fire at a non-hazardous waste storage facility, entailing a risk of the extinguishing water reaching Berre Lake. We were questioned in particular on the analyses to be conducted in the contaminated watercourse and the filtration systems to be used if a retention basin were created. Brittany’s regional environment directorate ([DREAL Bretagne](#)) sought Cedre’s support following a fire on board a trawler in a closed harbour basin in [Sables-d’Olonne](#), then in relation to the pollution risk posed by the 40 tonnes of diesel on board. Assistance was requested to pre-identify storage and pumping solutions as well as contractors capable of conducting operations. Cedre also provided advice to the [Communauté d’Agglomération de La Rochelle](#) on clean-up in rainwater trenches following a spill of home heating oil, as well as to the [Finistère fire brigade](#) after a heavy goods vehicle overturned and spilled diesel. We were informed by the military police for the Manche area of a road accident involving a small spill of engine oil and coolant into a watercourse. The Swedish Coast Guard contacted us for information on the behaviour of very low sulphur fuel oils following damage to a vessel transporting such fuel near the port of Gothenburg. Finally, a [MAR-ICE](#) test was organised by Cedre for the Danish and Czech national ICE focal points in order to question the centre or a national industrial firm in relation to a marine incident involving ferric chloride.

### Cedre attends various OSPAR marine litter meetings

On 4th November, Cedre attended the virtual meeting of the [OSPAR’s](#) Environmental Impacts of Human Activities Committee (EIHA). We presented an updated version of the north-east Atlantic beach litter assessment work we coordinate as leader of the Beach Litter Expert Group (BLEG). This assessment effort is part of the preparatory work for the next OSPAR Quality Status Report due to be published in 2023. Cedre also attended the meeting of the OSPAR Convention’s Intersessional Correspondence Group on Marine Litter (ICG-ML), held in Gothenburg, Sweden, from 22nd to 26th November. The meeting aimed to review marine litter assessment and monitoring in the north-east Atlantic, to coordinate strategic actions for 2030 and to prepare the next Marine Litter Regional Action Plan for the coming years.

### IMAROS project: weathering study and recovery trials

Two very low sulphur fuel oils (VLSFO) were tested at Cedre as part of the European project [IMAROS](#). This project brings together partners from 6 different countries and aims to obtain a better understanding of the characteristics and behaviour of these new generation fuel oils with a view to developing operational spill response recommendations. Trials were conducted in the Polludrome® at 15°C to study the weathering of these products when spilled at sea. A skimmer (Elastec TDS118), on loan from the [POLMAR stockpile in Brest](#) was tested on each of the fuel oils. The trials were performed on approximately 1 m<sup>3</sup> of each fuel oil, in their initial state and emulsified with 50 % seawater.

## Meeting with Marseille's Navy Firefighters Battalion (BMPM)

On 14th December, two experts from Cedre met with representatives of **BMPM**. Discussions at BMPM headquarters were the opportunity for Cedre to upgrade its knowledge of **CAPINAV** (France's national reinforcement capacity for intervention on board ships) and a visit to **COSSIM** (Marseille's operational centre for fire and rescue services) was also organised. Additional discussions were also held at the fire and rescue centre (CIS) in Louvain, in particular with chemists who staff the VDIP (detection, identification and sampling vehicle), the manager and members of the robotic support unit who organised a demonstration of their drones and robots, and finally GIMAé (helicopter rope suspension technique maritime intervention group). The various talks strengthened ties and identified new collaboration opportunities.

## Chemical industry meetings

On 16th and 17th, Cedre visited the **KEM ONE** site in Lavéra and held discussions with the HSE department. A presentation on their activities provided insight into the possible actions in the event of a spill as far as the outlet of the Anse d'Auguette. During this visit, discussions with the industrial site's firefighters offered more precise insight into the response capacity of the Lavéra industrial platform. In addition, a video conference was organised on 15th December with the response department at **Lyondellbasell's Berre Petrochemical Plant**, which has an assistance agreement in place with Cedre, as well as with the head of communications for Lyondellbasell France.

## Litter study in urban networks

Cedre recently launched a study as part of the project to characterise litter in urban networks and on the shoreline of **Brest métropole**. The initial findings confirm the presence of litter carried through the urban networks to the sea. The litter identified includes food packaging, plastic bottles, drink cans, cigarette butts, not to forget disposable face masks. We also visited two partners based in Finistère who are also working on litter monitoring in urban networks as part of the **Interreg project Preventing Plastic Pollution**: the **Syndicat de bassin de l'Elorn** and **EPAB (Etablissement public de gestion et d'aménagement de la baie de Douarnenez)**. These visits were the opportunity to discuss the harmonisation of monitoring methods and the initial findings, as well as the chance to watch as several retention nets in Crozon and Landerneau were lifted.

## Participation in a day on plastic pollution in inshore waters

On 9th December, Cedre was in Vannes for the 8<sup>th</sup> departmental environment meeting, organised by **Morbihan Departmental Council** and its environmental scientific committee. This year, the theme was plastic pollution in inshore waters. Cedre spoke at a panel session to present the monitoring networks we lead as well as the public policy support actions we implement for the reduction of aquatic litter.

## Training: Merchant ships and the role of shipping industry stakeholders in maritime incidents

Our training course on "Merchant ships and the role of shipping industry stakeholders in maritime incidents" was run from 30th November to 2nd December. Attended by 18 participants from the **French Navy**, **Ille-et-Vilaine fire brigade** and the major sea ports of **La Rochelle** and **Bordeaux**, this session was delivered by 17 recognised maritime industry professionals, all specialists in their field, who gave 18 conferences, 4 of which were presented virtually. The aim was to provide managers and authorities in charge of spill response at sea with theory knowledge of merchant ships and the organisation of maritime shipping to enhance their understanding of situations and their contacts with the different stakeholders involved. By the end of the course, the participants were able to identify the appropriate points of contact and were familiar with the constraints of the different types of ships in terms of defining operational response tactics and procedures.

## Remote IMO level 3 training for Taiwanese Ocean Conservation Administration

From 14th to 16th December, 60 representatives of the **Ocean Affairs Council (OAC)**, local authorities and the private sector attended an IMO level 3 online theory course on marine oil spill response. The training programme covered the behaviour and impact of pollutants, response strategies at sea and on the shoreline, contingency planning, IMS, crisis communication, as well as international compensation mechanisms. The course ended with a presentation on feedback from the **Ulysse and CSL Virginia** collision in 2018 in the Mediterranean Sea. Finally, this course, run via **Cedre's online training platform**, also offered our trainers the opportunity to talk to participants and identify emerging topics relating to spill preparedness, such as offshore wind farms. So it seems that new partnership topics may be on the horizon!

## Minilab on aquatic litter at Océanopolis

On 14th November, Cedre took part in **Océanopolis'** Minilab as part of **1 Chercheur.e, 1 Expérience**. This monthly event is organised by Océanopolis to give visitors the chance to talk to scientists about topics relating to the marine environment. Cedre ran a workshop illustrating the range of litter found in aquatic environments and presented the different behaviours they can show.

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