

Interspill 2015 – Science workshops

Dispersant Breakthrough (SW 1)

Biographies

Thomas Coolbaugh (Chairman)

Tom Coolbaugh is currently a Distinguished Scientific Associate in the Oil Spill Response Technology group of ExxonMobil Research & Engineering (EMRE). He leads EMRE's Oil Spill Response Technology group. Focus areas include response technologies such as the use dispersants and in-situ burning, remote sensing of oil spills, and providing training to a variety of potential spill responders. He has been with ExxonMobil since 1988.

Tom received his B.A. in chemistry from Amherst College and his Ph.D. in chemistry from the California Institute of Technology. Tom obtained an M.S. in the Management of Technology from Polytechnic University in New York (now part of NYU).

Dr. Coolbaugh has extensive experience in a variety of research settings as a research scientist and research leader. He is Chair of IPIECA's Oil Spill Working Group, a member of the American Petroleum Industry (API) Spills Advisory Group, the Marine Preservation Association Dispersant Advisory Committee, and most recently on the committee that prepared the NRC report on "Responding to Oil Spills in the U.S. Arctic Marine Environment."

Per S Daling

Per Daling is a Senior Research Scientist at Environmental Technology Department at SINTEF. He has a MSc in Organic Analytical Chemistry from University of Trondheim from 1983. He has 30 years of experience within the field of oil pollution, and has been project manager and scientist responsible for many relevant research programs within oil weathering and behaviour and use of oil spill dispersants under various environmental conditions, including: "Application of dispersants on weathered oils" (DIWO – R&D Program, 1987-1994), "Properties and behavior of oils and effectiveness testing of dispersants under Arctic conditions" (ONA – 1989-1994), "Oil in Ice – JIP: Dispersant effectiveness and dispersant application in ice covered areas" (2006-2010), "Evaluation of Regulations for use of dispersants for Norwegian Authorities" (1999 / 2002 / 2012).

Per Daling has comprehensive field experience, both from field trials and in oil spill incidents, on open offshore waters as well as ice covered waters. During the Macondo incident in 2010, at the request from BP / Unified Command, Per Daling travelled to the Gulf to provide technical support and assessment for aerial dispersant operations and in field monitoring on

the spill site. After the Macondo incident, he has been extensively involved in follow-up research studies at SINTEF on documenting the fate and behaviour of the Macondo crude.

Per Daling has authored or co-authored more than 40 refereed publications, and more than 150 non-refereed publications, papers and invited presentations.

François Merlin

François Merlin holds a master degree in chemistry and is an experienced oil industry service engineer. Francois MERLIN joined the French Technical Center on Oil Spill pollution Response (Cedre) in 1979 to undertake research projects and studies on response products, especially oil spill dispersants and bioremediation agents. His work bore on all aspects related to efficiency assessment, environmental impact and application equipment and methodology.

He coordinated all R&D activities in Cedre as Head of Cedre "Research and Development" Department, and was in charge of the French approval procedure for oil spill dispersants.

He has contributed to various publications and handbooks, especially the IMO guidelines on dispersants as well as the Ipieca document on dispersants, and lectured and trained many students on that matter. He has also been called for expertise in France and other countries to evaluate pollutions, to advise on the selection of treatment products and methods and to set national policy on oil spill response. In this respect he just led the IMO correspondence group in charge of drafting IMO dispersant guidelines.