



Welcome to a special edition of Ocean Orbit for INTERSPILL!

We are delighted to be participating in **INTERSPILL 2025** and proud of our long association with the event, which goes back to its first ever incarnation in Brighton in 2000. This year our involvement has stepped up a gear! As co-chairs of the Technical Programme, we have helped shape the rich agenda of papers and discussions on offer this week. These cover key topical issues related to current and future challenges in marine spill response. Outside of the main conference, we are looking forward

to seeing new innovations on the exhibition show floor, gaining fresh insights from academic and industry experts at the science workshop, and, above all, meeting and networking with our many partners in the spill response community.

The ITOPF team will be out in force at INTERSPILL, variously presenting, chairing sessions, providing training or welcoming visitors to our exhibition stand **B24**. Our full diary of events is provided on the back page.

But first, we thought we'd take the opportunity to share some of our latest news on staff, spills and other recent activities...

Ocean Orbit 2025

INTERSPILL SPECIAL



COLLABORATION | INTEGRITY | OBJECTIVITY | RESPECT | DILIGENCE

Spills

We have attended four spills on-site since the start of the year and provided remote advice for a further five incidents. In January, two members of the team travelled to China to survey contamination and recommend appropriate clean-up techniques following a spill of VLSFO bunkers and ammonium sulphate cargo from a bulk carrier. Later that month, we were mobilised to an incident involving a sunken tanker in the Singapore Strait, undertaking an aerial survey with the Indonesian authorities to assess and confirm the presence of oil near the sinking location. In February, ITOPF made the two-day journey from London to the site of a grounded containership in Newfoundland, Canada. At the time of writing, no pollution had been reported. Our role has involved modelling the trajectory of oil in the event of a spill, assessing the risks from the various cargoes onboard (including plastic pellets, foodstuffs and whisky), and surveying shorelines at risk. Our focus has been on supporting the Coastguard and spill contractor with response planning and the effective use of resources. Most recently, we have been mobilised to the incident in the North Sea involving an allision between a tanker carrying jet fuel and a container ship.



SURVEYING THE WRECK LOCATION, NEWFOUNDLAND, CANADA (PHOTO CREDIT ECRC)



SINGAPORE TEAM MEMBERS AT A COMPANY SOCIAL EVENT

Singapore Office

Since it opened in December 2022, our Singapore office has proved to be a huge success and quickly established itself as an invaluable resource for stakeholders in the Asia-Pacific region. Due to heavy demand and a busy schedule of commitments, we have now bolstered our response capacity in Singapore with an additional secondee from London and moved to slightly larger premises to accommodate all the team. You'll find us at the Executive Centre, Level 17, Frasers Tower, 182 Cecil Street, Singapore 069547.

R&D Award

Apply for funding for research projects related to accidental spills of oil and cargo in the marine environment – up to £60,000 available for short-term projects (1-2 years) and up to £40,000 for PhD projects (plus a student stipend and university fees).



Visit our stand B24 for further details.

Oil Tanker Spill Stats 2024

Despite some annual fluctuations, ITOPF's statistics show that the number and volume of oil spills from tankers have now largely stabilised at a low level relative to historical norms. This reflects the positive changes driven by the shipping industry and governments to improve tanker

safety and standards of operations. As last month's incident in the North Sea demonstrates, however, accidents still happen and maintaining this commitment is crucial for the continued protection of the marine environment.

Large spills
(>700 tonnes)



Medium spills
(7-700 tonnes)



10,000 tonnes of oil lost
from tanker accidents



Click here to
read the
full report

The Team

We are delighted to introduce some new faces to the team in 2025. Our three newest recruits are Pippa Howarth, Shlo Kuttner and Amy Stephenson who are all working from the London office. **Pippa** joins as Technical Adviser; she was previously a senior consultant at an independent consultancy specialising in the sustainable management of aquatic resources. **Shlo** has taken the new role of ESG & Sustainability Project Coordinator, having previously worked on sustainability strategies for a range of organisations. **Amy** is our new People & Culture Adviser, dealing with all things HR, and has already been supporting us on a temporary basis for 12 months.

Please drop by our stand B24 and say hello to colleagues old and new.



SHLO KUTTNER, AMY STEPHENSON, PIPPA HOWARTH

MR Shoreline Response App

Our Training and Education team are continuing to develop interactive tools and materials to optimise the effectiveness of our training activities. Our latest product is a Mixed Reality (MR) shoreline clean-up application for the Meta Quest 3 headset. This presents a number of spill scenarios, and the user is tasked with deploying appropriate response resources onto the shoreline to meet specific clean-up end points.

Visit our stand B24 to test your skills on the MR app!



ESG

Integrating ESG (Environmental, Social, Governance) sustainability practices into operations is fast becoming a priority for the shipping industry. As awareness around ESG reporting increases, ITOPF, with the support of several P&I Clubs, is developing tools to assess the ESG impacts relating to ship-source pollution incidents. The first tool is a greenhouse gas (GHG) calculator to estimate the carbon footprint associated with response operations. This feeds into a more holistic tool which captures wider ESG impacts relating to a marine casualty incident and highlights lessons learned. Find out more in our paper **Applying an ESG perspective to the MARCO POLO incident** on Thursday at 13.30 in the Environmental, social and governance session.

The increasing expectations of stakeholders on sustainability issues has also reinforced the importance of understanding our own impact and potential as an organisation. To support us on internal ESG projects and practices, we have recruited Shlo Kuttner (pictured above), an experienced sustainability professional, to the team.

TIPs

We are updating and expanding our series of Technical Information Papers (TIPs).

These provide practical guidance on various aspects of responding to spills of oil and other pollutants in the marine environment. Two new papers are now available covering aerial surveillance and plastic pellet response.

Visit our stand B24 to pick up copies of our new TIPs!



Alternative Fuels

In a series of reports drafted for the International Group of P&I Clubs Alternative Fuels Working Group, ITOPF has investigated the fate, behaviour, hazards and possible damage and liabilities of the following alternative fuels:

- Ammonia
- Hydrogen
- Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG)
- Liquefied Petroleum Gas (LPG)
- Biofuels (FAME and HVO)
- Methanol
- Lithium-Ion Batteries



Click here to view the reports

Our INTERSPILL Diary

Monday 7th April

12:30-17:30 Optimising spill response: Transitioning from emergencies to projects

Interspill Academy short course *with OSRL*

18:00-23:00 The night before INTERSPILL

ITOPF is hosting an informal 'invitation only' (to manage numbers) evening of nibbles and drinks at a traditional London pub, The Counting House, 50 Cornhill, London, EC3V 3PD

Tuesday 8th April

09:30 Current and future challenges

Richard Johnson, Technical Director
Plenary session

15:30 New fuels, new risks: Contingency planning in the context of alternative fuel spill response

Andrew Le Masurier, Senior Technical Adviser
Stream 3 Alternative fuels #1: Setting the scene

Wednesday 9th April

09:00 Session chair

Andrew Le Masurier, Senior Technical Adviser
Stream 1 Shipping risks

09:00 Monitoring in multi-stressor environments

Dr Sue Ware, Technical Adviser
Premium conference: Emerging threats & challenges

12:30-14:00 Diversity, Equality & Inclusion (DEI) lunch event

We join partners from OSRL, IOPC Funds, Ipieca and IMO for a lunchtime session to discuss experiences and assist with the creation of industry best practice in DEI in oil spill response. Vanessa Holliday, People & Culture Manager, will be presenting a poster on ITOPF's experiences of DEI implementation across the organisation.

14:00 Session chair

Jenny Edwards, Company Secretary and Director of Governance
Stream 1 Sanctions, insurance and claims

16:30 Dark waters: The risks of uninsured vessels to coastal states and the international conventions – a Tobago case study

Dr Annabelle Nicolas-Kopec, Senior Technical Adviser
Stream 1 Case histories: Trinidad & Tobago: Gulfstream

16:30 Session chair

Richard Johnson, Technical Director
Stream 3 Premium conference: New environments and geographies

Thursday 10th April

09:00 Nuclear ships: History, risks and implications for the spill community

Dr Conor Bolas, Technical Adviser /
Natálie Kirk, Technical Adviser
Stream 1 Emerging fuels

09:00 Response goals for marine plastic pellet spills

David Campion, Senior Technical Adviser / Head of Singapore office
Stream 3 Plastics and marine litter

11:00 Cost of oil spills – an international regime perspective

Tim Wadsworth, Technical Support Manager
Stream 3 Outreach and comms #2

13:30 Applying an ESG perspective to the MARCO POLO incident

Dr Amy Jewell, Technical Adviser
Stream 1 Environmental, social and governance

13:30 South Africa 2024: Cape shipping incidents affected by Red Sea activities?

Dr Sue Ware, Technical Adviser
Stream 3 Case histories

13:30 MARINE HONOUR, Singapore, June 2024: Collision and pollution in a major maritime hub

David Campion, Senior Technical Adviser /
Head of Singapore office
Stream 3 Case histories

15:15 Interspill's Emerging Leaders 'Class of 2025' pose questions to a panel of industry leaders

Richard Johnson, Technical Director, alongside senior representatives from IMO, IOPG, Ipieca & OSRL
Plenary Theatre

ITOPF & Cedre Science & Innovation Workshops

A series of presentations in the Exhibition Hall on low-sulfur fuel oils (LSFO), plastics, alternative fuels and volatile hazardous & noxious substances (HNS)

Posters

Tanker oil spills in ports and inland waters

Naa Sackeyfio, Senior Data & GIS Specialist

Collaborative GIS: How prepared are we?

Naa Sackeyfio, Senior Data & GIS Specialist /
Lisa Woolgar, Information & Communications Manager

ITOPF R&D Award

Duarte Soares, Senior Technical Adviser /
Deborah McKendrick, Senior Information Officer

(Correct at time of going to print)

itopf.org

LONDON: Tel +44 (0)20 7566 6999

SINGAPORE: Tel +65 6978 2100