**ITOPF WINS GOLD STEVIE® AWARD IN 2014 INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS AWARDSSM**

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ITOPF was named the winner of a Gold Stevie® Award in the 11th Annual International Business AwardsSM.

It received the Award in the “training” category for its seven part film series “Response to Marine Oil Spills.”

This series promotes good practice and raises awareness of some of the issues involved in oil spill response. The films are freely available to view online or can be purchased as a single DVD from ITOPF’s website.

The Stevie Awards were created in 2002 to honour and generate public recognition of the achievements and positive contributions of organisations and working professionals worldwide.

Stevie Award winners were selected by more than 250 executives worldwide who participated in the judging process from May to early August.

ITOPF Managing Director, Dr Karen Purnell, said “Having already won the top three prizes at the International Oil Spill Conference Film Festival in the USA, we are delighted that the films have now received accolades beyond our own industry sector. This Award is welcome confirmation that the films are comprehensible and engaging and hit the right notes as a training resource”.

Nicknamed the Stevies for the Greek word for "crowned," the awards will be presented to winners at a gala awards banquet at the Westin Paris – Vendome Hotel in Paris, France on 10th October.

"We congratulate all of the Stevie winners in this year's IBAs," said Michael Gallagher, president and founder of the Stevie Awards. "The quality of entries we receive improves every year. This year's judges were rewarded with the opportunity to review more than 3,500 stories of business achievement and innovation from around the world.  We look forward to celebrating the winners' achievements in Paris on 10 October."

Details about the International Business Awards and the lists of Stevie Award winners are available at [www.StevieAwards.com/IBA](http://www.StevieAwards.com/IBA).

19th August 2014

**Notes for Editors:**

**ITOPF Film Series – Response to Marine Oil Spills**

ITOPF has launched a new series of seven films on oil spills, their impacts, effective response and compensation. The films are designed to promote good practice and raise awareness of some of the issues involved in oil spill response. They incorporate footage shot on location at oil spills worldwide since 2007, combined with interviews and archive film from the major incidents of the last 45 years.

The films are approximately 20 minutes long and cover the following topics:

* 1. Introduction to Oil Spills
* 2. Aerial Surveillance
* 3. At-Sea Response
* 4. Shoreline Clean-Up
* 5. Waste Management
* 6. Environmental Impacts
* 7. Oil Spill Compensation

All films are available to view on-line from [ITOPF’s website](http://www.itopf.com/knowledge-resources/library/video-library/).

They are also available as a single DVD priced £10 (including postage & packing) with subtitles in English, Arabic, French, Spanish, Chinese (simplified) and Korean. Copies can be ordered from the [ITOPF website](http://www.itopf.com/knowledge-resources/library/response-to-marine-oil-spills-dvd/).

**ITOPF**

1. The International Tanker Owners Pollution Federation Limited (ITOPF) was established as a non-profit making service organisation in 1968. In the early days its principal function was the administration of the TOVALOP voluntary oil spill compensation agreement. However, for the past forty years ITOPF has also provided a broad range of technical services in the field of marine pollution to and on behalf of shipowners, their P&I insurers and other groups such as the International Oil Pollution Compensation Funds, as well as to the community at large.

2. ITOPF's Membership currently comprises some 6,350 owners and bareboat charterers of approximately 10,950 tank vessels with a total gross tonnage of about 340 million GT. The organisation also benefits from the participation of 721 million GT of non-tanker tonnage owned and operated by its Associates.

3. ITOPF's priority service is responding to accidental marine spills and the organisation's team of highly experienced technical staff are at constant readiness to travel anywhere in the world at a few hours’ notice. Since 1978 ITOPF staff have attended on-site at over 700 incidents around the world, giving the organisation unparalleled practical experience of the realities of combating major marine spills. ITOPF also:

* assesses the damage caused by spills to the environment and economic resources;
* provides advice on the technical merits of claims for compensation;
* conducts contingency planning, advisory and training assignments;
* produces a wide range of technical publications; and
* maintains various databases as well as a website at <http://www.itopf.com>

4. For further information contact:

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