

CRACK DOWN ON ILLEGAL DISCHARGES



Evidence for the prosecution

This year EMSA's training and cooperation sector started a new training activity together with Interpol, the international police organization. Based on the manual on "illegal discharges from vessels" developed by Interpol in the framework of the project "cleanSeas" a training course on "Illegal discharges and MARPOL violations" was organised for the benefit of the European Member States. Lecturers from EMSA, the US Department of Justice, the Swedish Coast Guard and Rotterdam's Dutch Seaport police presented the training course to 26 participants designated by the competent authorities in the Member States. The course focussed on improving investigations into shipping pollution violations (illegal discharges of oil, oil residues and oily mixtures) and on collecting appropriate evidence - also by means like CleanSeaNet and SafeSeaNet managed by the Agency - to support successful prosecution. The training course was very well received by the participants and EMSA will explore with the Member States' focal points for training and cooperation and Interpol the possibility of renewing such fruitful cooperation.

SIGHTS SET ON THETIS TO EMBRACE MARITIME CLAIMS INSURANCE DIRECTIVE



Thetis responsibilities set to expand

At the request of the Committee on Safe Seas (COSS), EMSA chaired an expert group meeting on 20 September to discuss the development of an EU tool for the enforcement of the directive on the insurance of shipowners for maritime claims. EU Member State delegates identified the elements that Thetis, as the port state control database, should incorporate to support inspections under Directive 2009/20/EC. The outcome of the meeting will pave the way for COSS in November 2012 to take a decision on how to implement the insurance directive effectively, with Thetis seen as the most appropriate system to facilitate inspections at EU level.

SAFESEANET/VMS PILOT PROJECTS RECEIVE POSITIVE ASSESSMENT

A meeting on the assessment of the "SSN/VMS synergies" and pilot projects was held at EMSA premises on 27 September. Experts from Italy, Latvia, Malta, Norway and



Exploring the benefits of combined VMS and AIS data

Spain participated as well as one representative from the European Fisheries Control Agency (EFCA). A presentation on another fisheries related project (namely the "MARSURV3/Blue

Fin Tuna") also took place. The aim of these pilot projects is to explore the benefits for Fisheries Monitoring Centres (FMCs) and EFCA that may result from the exchange and correlation of VMS and AIS data using the integrated capabilities of the EMSA maritime applications. The results achieved during the pilot phase were appreciated by all parties who opted to reinforce cooperation towards establishing a permanent service for the benefit of both fishery and maritime communities.

PREPARATIONS GET UNDERWAY FOR INTERSPILL 2015

On 19 September, EMSA hosted the Interspill Steering Committee meeting which discussed key issues relating



Interspill's tri-party committee comprises European Oil Spill Industry Trade Associations, IPIECA and EMSA

to the management of the 2015 event. EMSA's Executive Director, Markku Mylly, opened the meeting by welcoming the participants and praising the cooperative work undertaken by this Committee so far. Interspill is a key

international conference and exhibition event held every three years in Europe, addressing spill prevention, preparedness, response and restoration.

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Documents: Study on the Delivery of Ship-generated Waste and Cargo Residues to Port Reception Facilities in EU Ports

Procurement: Framework service contract for the provision of H24 ICT operations support services (Deadline: 30 Oct)

Careers: Project officer for Integrated Data (Deadline: 17 Oct)