

TWO NEW SERVICE CONTRACTS FOR STAND-BY OIL SPILL RECOVERY VESSELS

Following the conclusion of a procurement procedure which was launched by EMSA in January 2015, two contracts were signed in November. These cover the provision of **oil spill response services** for two geographical regions. For the Canary Islands and Madeira: an oil tanker, Mencey (contracted from Petrogas), certified to recover oil with a flash point below 60°C. The vessel, which is based in Tenerife, transports oil within the Canary Islands. In addition to the standard set of equipment for mechanical recovery this response arrangement will be provided with dispersant application capability. For the Southern Baltic Sea: an oil tanker, Norden (contracted from Stena), which is based in Gothenburg and is involved in bunkering activities in the Southern Baltic Sea. The vessels are expected to enter the stand-by (operational) phase of their contract with EMSA by mid-2016, following the conclusion of a preparation phase.



The Mencey will provide coverage around the Canary Islands and Madeira



The Norden will provide coverage for the Southern Baltic Sea

PREPARATIONS UNDERWAY FOR NEW DISTANCE LEARNING SOFTWARE

On 24-25 November EMSA organised a training course for staff from all member states who will be responsible for managing national users in the context of the elearning project. During the training participants were introduced to a new version of the software in support of the learning material, including changes to user management, course management and the creation of learning material and full courses. Explanations were provided by EMSA staff while participants were offered the possibility to do guided and unguided hands-on exercises. The training was well received and considered well placed to facilitate the roll-out of the software in February 2016.



LATEST OVERVIEW OF MARINE CASUALTIES AND INCIDENTS JUST PUBLISHED

EMSA has just made available the second annual overview of marine casualties and incidents. This publication gathers **information on accidents that happened from 2011 to 2014**, as extracted from EMCIP, the European Marine Casualty Information Platform. Based on data provided by the accident investigation bodies of EU and EFTA member states, EMCIP has become the main data source to analyse safety issues raised by marine casualties and incidents. A total of 9180 occurrences were reported to EMCIP over the four years. During the period, more than 390 persons lost their lives and 3250 were injured, leading accident investigation bodies opened more than 530 investigations and published 410 reports. The data available in EMCIP will be used for the improvement of maritime safety and the prevention of pollution by ships.



The four-year overview is currently available for download on EMSA's website

CONTINUITY ASSURED FOR COOPERATION WITH ENLARGEMENT COUNTRIES

On 23 October, EMSA signed a grant contract with the European Commission's DG for European Neighbourhood Policy and Enlargement Negotiations. The contract allows continued participation of the enlargement countries in EMSA's work. The grant was signed within the framework of the Instrument for Pre-accession (IPA II), adopted by Regulation (EU) No 231/2014 and ensures a budget of €300,000 over a period of 30 months for various activities aimed at strengthening of the ability of enlargement countries to fulfil the obligations stemming from possible membership in the field of maritime safety, security and pollution prevention. The main activities include: training sessions, workshops, seminars, general assessments of the enforcement and implementation of EU maritime legislation, participation of national experts from enlargement countries in specific meetings, events, conferences, working groups, etc., organised by EMSA and which are usually attended by EU member states.

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PROCUREMENT: ICT services related to the design and development of EMSA's Earth Observation Data Centre (deadline: 4/01/2016); Services related to primary and secondary internet connection, fixed telephony ADSL/Fiber back-up connection (deadline: 18/11/2015)

CAREER: Spring 2016 traineeship notice (deadline: 23/11/2016)