NEWSLETTER

No. 237



QUALITY SHIPPING, SAFER SEAS, CLEANER OCEANS

MARCH 2025

MAR-ICE SERVICE EXTENDED TO SAFEMED V, BCSEA II AND IPA III PROJECT BENEFICIARIES

EMSA, in close cooperation with the European Chemical Industry Council (Cefic) and the Centre of Documentation, Research and Experimentation on Accidental Water Pollution (Cedre, France), maintains a network of experts in the framework of the Marine Intervention in Chemical Emergencies Network (MAR-ICE service). On request, these experts (MAR-ICE Network) can provide product-specific information and specialist advice on chemicals involved in maritime emergencies through remote means (MAR-ICE level 1). EMSA is currently implementing three European Commission funded projects, namely SAFEMED V, Black and Caspian Sea II and IPA III. These projects are funded by the European Commission's Directorate-General for the Middle East, North Africa, and the Gulf (DG MENA) and the Directorate-General for Enlargement and the Eastern Neighbourhood (DG ENEST) respectively. To assist in widening the existing pollution response portfolio of the project's beneficiary countries, the MAR-ICE Network was made available at the start of 2025 on a 24/7 basis to the beneficiary countries of the SAFEMED V, BC SEA II and IPA projects implemented by EMSA. The MAR-ICE Network will contribute to raising the response capacity for marine pollution involving chemical products in the beneficiary countries. It can be accessed via a dedicated single "MAR-ICE contact point" and is based on the voluntary Intervention in Chemical transport Emergencies (ICE) network of the chemical industry, which provides a similar type of assistance for land-based chemical incidents. National authorities of the beneficiary countries can now benefit from 24/7 access to a specialised expert, whom they can consult for professional information, documentation and advice on chemical products, and their associated risks, and who can support them with expert information and substance-specific advice during the response to chemical spills. The service provides product and incident-specific information and advice on chemical products and their associated risks, within 1 hour from the written request, and more detailed information shortly thereafter



CURRICULUM FOR PORT STATE CONTROL OFFICERS AT EMSA

The final phase of the Curriculum for Port State Control Officers, organised by the EMSA Academy, was held at the start of March. Thirty participants from across the European Union, Canada, and the United Kingdom gathered in Lisbon for the four day in-person section of the course, which represents a critical step to ensure maritime safety and compliance standards remain robust all over the Paris MoU area. The presential course builds on the foundation established in the online programme which began in January of this year. Designed to meet the Paris MoU training policy, it offers participants the chance to improve harmonisation and practical knowledge, both relevant steps to uphold their professional credentials as Port State Control Officers. This part of the curriculum highlighted practical inspections, compliance updates, harmonisation, and networking, and ran until Thursday, 6th of March.





Delegates from across the EU, Canada, and the UK, gathered in EMSA's headquarters for an intensive training session on a variety of Port State Control topics

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AWARENESS SESSION ON RBAT FOR MASS TAKES PLACE IN EMSA

In March, experts from all over the EU and EFTA countries gathered in EMSA for an insightful Awareness Session on RBAT for MASS. With a dynamic agenda full of hands-on exercises, live demonstrations, and in-depth discussions, participants explored the Risk-Based Assessment Tool (RBAT)—a crucial tool for assessing risks in Maritime Autonomous Surface Ships (MASS). The first day of the workshop included modules on setting up and customizing RBAT assessments, conducting risk evaluations without mitigation, and interactive exercises on function analysis. On the second day, participants got the chance to be introduced to the Mitigation Module of the tool, and to apply detection mechanisms and fallback functions. Participants also got hands-on practice in refining assessments and reporting. The engagement and experience of all who attended made the event a huge success.





The two-day RBAT awareness session brought together delegates from all over the EU to EMSA's headquarters in Lisbon.

JOINT EMSA-SEA EUROPE WORKSHOP GETS UNDERWAY AT EMSA'S HEADQUARTERS IN LISBON

EMSA's Executive Director Maja Markovčić Kostelac welcomed members of SEA Europe (Shipyards' & Maritime Equipment Association of Europe) for a joint workshop, held at the Agency's Lisbon premises. The workshop was the 12th organised jointly between EMSA and SEA Europe, and it provided an opportunity for delegates to to exchange views on matters of common interest. During the session, a wide range of topics related to sustainability, digitalisation, and safety were discussed, and experts from EMSA, SEA Europe, industry, and international organisations gave presentations on key and current issues in shipping.



EMSA's Executive Director welcomes SEA Europe delegates to our Lisbon headquarters.

emsa.europa.eu

VACANCIES: Reserve List for an Officer - Visits and Inspections (08/04/2025); Reserve List for an Officer - RPAS Services (17/04/2025); See website for more.

PROCUREMENT: Provision of underwater services (27/05/2025). See website for more.