



18-01

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May 11, 2001

- ◆ We were sorry to hear of the recent passing of William (Bill) J. Mackie, and extend our sincere condolences to his friends and family. A long time representative of the Canadian government on spill control issues, Bill suffered a heart attack while finishing a training course in Abu Dhabi (UAE) two weeks ago. Dave Usher recalls working with Bill during Desert Storm, wherein they both were providing advice and assistance to various governments in the Middle East regarding the clean up of oil spilled in the Persian Gulf during the war.
- ◆ Sorbent Product Company ("SPC") recently introduced their newest product, the "Barrier Battlemat™". It has a camouflage look and an exclusive 2-ply poly backing that prevents liquid penetration while providing a non-slip surface. This product is able to absorb oil, water, coolants, solvents, acids, and bases. It draws moisture through its resilient, scratch-resistant upper layer into its center layer, and the moisture is prevented from leaking out to the floor by an impermeable bottom layer. For more information on this product or any other offered by SPC, contact Jill Kelly by phone at 1-800-333-7672, facsimile 1-732-302-0969, or via e-mail at kellyj@sorbentproducts.com.
- ◆ A satellite monitoring system is being set up by the Spanish government in an effort to tackle recurring pollution caused by tankers that are flushing their tanks as they sail through the Strait of Gibraltar in southern Spain. The Strait is known for its strong currents and volatile weather conditions. The system will enable Spanish authorities to trace the origin of any oil slick, including when the oil was released and who released it, irrespective of weather conditions or time of day. (Source: *Lloyd's List*)
- ◆ ***That satellite system could come in handy in the United Arab Emirates*** ("UAE"), where officials believe ships have been illegally dumping oil residue generated from tank washings in the wake of the sinking of the tanker "Zainab" on April 14th off the coast of Jebel Ali. They believe irresponsible tanker owners are taking advantage of the oil slick resulting from the sinking of the "Zainab" to hide their own illegal discharges. Since it is not uncommon to have up to 100 ships at anchorage within a half a mile of each other in the UAE's territorial waters, and considering rapid oil dispersion rates, it is very difficult for UAE officials to pinpoint which ship or ships are responsible for the discharges. (Source: *Lloyd's Casualty Reporting Service*)

- ◆ The States/British Columbia Task Force will be accepting nominations for their 2001 Legacy Awards until May 18, 2001. An electronic version of the nomination form, which includes the award categories, award criteria, and award process is available upon request (see contact details below). The nominations can be mailed, faxed, or e-mailed to Jean Cameron, Executive Director of the States/British Columbia Task Force, 811 SW Sixth Avenue, Portland, Oregon, 97204-1390, telephone 1-503-229-5720, facsimile 1-503-229-6954, e-mail cameron.jean@deq.state.or.us.
- ◆ ***Jones Act in the news . . .*** U.S. shippers will be urged by shipping interests in Europe and Japan to speak out against protectionist maritime legislation during an upcoming meeting in Washington. Representatives from the Consultative Shipping Group ("CSG") – which

represents 13 European countries and Japan – will meet with officials of the Bush administration to discuss the Jones Act. As you know, the Jones Act in part prevents foreign ships from operating coastal trade services in the U.S. The group will also meet with officials from the National Industrial Transportation League, which represents U.S. shippers, and are expected to encourage them to speak out on the added cost to business of anti-competitive laws. (Source: *Lloyd's List*)

- ◆ ***On the move again . . .*** SEACOR SMIT, Inc. and Stirling Shipping Holdings Limited recently announced that they had closed the acquisition by SEACOR of all the outstanding share capital of Stirling Shipping. As you may recall, the companies signed a letter of intent in March 2001 for SEACOR to acquire all of the issued share capital of Stirling Shipping and certain subsidiaries. (Source: *Press Releases*)
- ◆ It was reported earlier this week that President Bush had drafted an executive order that would put the Federal Emergency Management Agency (“FEMA”) in charge of all federal efforts to combat terrorism. The order would essentially establish an Office of National Preparedness within FEMA that would respond to terrorist incidents involving weapons of mass destruction. Many questions about how the new agency will run, and how its head will be appointed, have been raised and will likely be answered in the weeks ahead. (Source: *MSNBC News*) ***Editor's Note: This may give us some answers on the potential use of private sector response organizations in WMD incidents.***
- ◆ ***Dalton Scholarship Update:*** To date, we have received \$12,350.00 from our membership to fund the initial endowment for the Dalton scholarship, and have another \$2,500.00 pledged but not received. ***We need to raise \$25,000 to make this scholarship a reality!!*** If you have already made a contribution to the scholarship fund, ***thank you for your support!*** If not, please consider contributing to this worthwhile endeavor – ***We can't do it without you!***
- ◆ The Washington State Department of Ecology recently reported that it had issued penalties totaling \$271,800 during the first quarter of 2001. A listing of all penalties issued during that time amounting to \$1,000 or more are posted on the Department of Ecology's web site at www.ecy.wa.gov/. Once on the web site, follow the link to their “News” section. In the News section, the link to the penalty listing appears under the May 7, 2001 heading. (Sources: *Maritime Items* and Dept. of Ecology web site)
- ◆ ***REMINDERS:*** We're still looking for your input on the contractor's forum – Are you interested in participating in a contractor's forum wherein common problems faced by companies in our industry are discussed? We will set up such a forum if we can generate enough interest from our membership. Also, if you haven't sent us your corporate information for posting on the web site, please send it along ASAP! ***We want to post all information on all our members in good standing on the web site – make sure you are represented!***
- ◆ ***Work/Life/Health:*** When trying to fill an open position with a candidate that appears to have a lot of experience in your industry, you need to be careful about giving a stamp of approval based upon “paper” qualifications alone. To avoid problems with “experienced” new hires, remember the following during the interview process: (1.) Some potential candidates pick up bad habits at previous jobs – often without realizing it. (2.) Small differences between the ways your company does things and the way they're done elsewhere can add up to big differences in quality for both products and services. (Source: *Quality Manager's Alert*)
- ◆ ***Quote of the Week:*** “We may affirm absolutely that nothing great in the world has been accomplished without passion.” – Georg Wilhelm Friedrich Hegel (1770-1831), *Philosophy of History* [1832], *Introduction*