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March 16, 2001

- ◆ There are several upcoming conferences and/or events this year besides the International Oil Spill Convention (March 26-29, 2001 in Tampa, Florida) and the 25th Annual Inland Spills Conference (September 24-26, 2001 in Kings Island [Cincinnati], Ohio). These include:
- 1.) **Nor-Shipping 2001** – The 18th Annual International Shipping and Maritime Exhibition and Conference will take place May 29 through June 1, 2001 at the Sjølyst Exhibition Center in Oslo, Norway. More information can be obtained by contacting Norway Trade Fairs at +47 22 43 91 00, facsimile + 47 22 43 19 14, e-mail nv@meese.no. You can also visit the conference web site at www.messe.no/nor-ship/
- 2.) **In-Situ and On-Site Bioremediation - The Sixth International Symposium** will take place June 4-7, 2001 at the Sheraton Hotel and Marina in San Diego, California. More information on this event can be obtained by calling 1-614-424-5461, faxing to 614-488-5747, or sending e-mail to conferencegroup@compuserve.com. The web address for the conference is www.battelle.org/biosymp/default.htm. Erin Brockovich is the keynote speaker for the event.
- 3.) **The Marine Environment: How to Preserve** – Sponsored by The Institute of Marine Engineers, this event will take place September 26-28, 2001 will take place in Rotterdam, The Netherlands. Further details can be obtained by calling +44-20-7382-2636, faxing + 44-20-7382-2667, or sending e-mail to sh@imare.org.uk. The web address for the Institute of Marine Engineers is www.imare.org.uk
- 4.) **The International Work Boat Show** – This event will take place November 28-30, 2001 at the Ernest N. Morial Convention Center in New Orleans, Louisiana. The web site address for the conference is www.workboatshow.com. It is interesting to note that U.S. Department of Commerce (“DOC”) has selected this event for its International Buyer Program for 2001. Under the program, the DOC works with trade show organizers to attract international buyers and personally match them with the appropriate exhibiting companies.
- 5.) **The EPA Region III Chemical Emergency Preparedness and Prevention Conference and the EPA Headquarters Hazmat Spills Prevention Conference** – With the theme “2001 – The Odyssey Continues”, this event will take place December 10-13, 2001 at the Baltimore Marriott Waterfront Hotel in Baltimore, Maryland. More information on the event can be

obtained by calling the conference hotline at 1-800-364-7974 or contacting conference director Alan Brown at 1-215-814-3302.

- ◆ ***Sounds familiar . . .*** Beginning April 6, 2001, the Australia Maritime Safety Authority will require ships of 400 gross tons or more that are carrying oil as a cargo or bunker to have a “relevant insurance certificate” on board when visiting an Australian port. The requirement will not apply to tankers that are covered under the International Convention on Civil Liability for Oil Spill Damage 1992, and for most vessels, a standard P&I Club Certificate of Entry will suffice. Beginning July 1, 2001, international ships calling on Australian ports will be required to exchange ballast water at sea or use a new Australian ballast water “Decision Support

System” that provides the Australian Quarantine and Inspection Service with details of the ballast water uptake and its intended discharge. Ballast water deemed “low risk” under the system would not require treatment. (Source: *Maritime Items*)

- ◆ **On the move . . .** Seacor Smit Inc., parent company of SCAA-member National Response Corporation (“NRC”), recently bought Gilbert Cheramie Boats in an all cash deal valued at \$61 million. The company will acquire one newly delivered offshore supply vessel, fourteen mini-supply vessels, and eight utility vessels through the purchase. Seacor Smit Inc. also acquired SCF Corporation, a company that owns and operates inland river barges and is primarily owned and controlled by certain Seacor directors. SCF owns 43 barges and is the 50% owner of a partnership that owns eleven additional barges – the barges and partnership interest are valued at about \$7.5 million. SCF also manages a barge fleet of 262 units and owns 254,380 shares of Seacor’s common stock. (Source: *Lloyd’s List* and *Maritime Reporter*)
- ◆ The National Pollution Funds Center (NPFC) is offering two of its popular two-day Funds Use Seminars in 2001. The first will take place May 1-2, 2001 at the Omni Corpus Christi Hotel, Marina Tower, 707 North Shoreline Boulevard in Corpus Christi, Texas. The second will take place June 26-27, 2001 at the Doubletree Hotel-Jantzen Beach, located at 909 North Hayden Island Drive in Portland Oregon. An additional seminar is planned for Spring 2002 at the Four Points Sheraton Hotel in Myrtle Beach, South Carolina. The program has been expanded to four concurrent sessions that will cover a broad array of topics, including financial management, Coast Guard and EPA cost documentation, claims, COFRs, state removal cost claims, contracting, and NEW topics including natural resource damage claims, an integrated NRD case study, and legal issues for abandoned oil wells. Registration information is available on the NPFC website www.uscg.mil/hq/npfc/npfc.htm. Anyone requiring additional information, please contact Jan Vorhees, Outreach Coordinator, USCG National Pollution Funds Center, 4200 Wilson Blvd., Suite 1000, Arlington, VA 22203, (202) 493-6719, ivorhees@ballston.uscg.mil.
- ◆ At the web site www.equasis.org, you can have free access to a database that logs essential information on over 66,000 ships. Information listed for the vessels include the name of the P&I Club, classification society, list of port state controls, registered owner and/or ship manager, previous ship managers, IMO number, call sign, and more. To gain access to the information and searchable database, users simply need register to obtain a user name and password. The web site is funded by the European Commission (“EC”) and the French government, and is operated under a memorandum of understanding signed by the EC, the maritime administrations of the UK, France, Japan, Spain, Singapore, and the U.S. Coast Guard. (Source: *Lloyd’s List* and Equasis web site)
- ◆ **Work/Life/Health:** As a team leader/supervisor, you can give your team members/employees the chance to shine by limiting your involvement in both routine and creative tasks. Ask yourself this question when wondering about delegating a task: “Can anyone but me do this?” If the answer is yes, then delegate. This will ensure that you focus your time and energy on tasks only you can do while providing subordinates the opportunity demonstrate their knowledge and skills. (Source: *Team Management Briefings*)
- ◆ **Quote of the Week:** “The future offers very little hope for those who expect that our new mechanical slaves will offer us a world in which we may rest from thinking. Help us they may, but at the cost of supreme demands upon our honesty and our intelligence. The world of the future will be an ever more demanding struggle against the limitations of our intelligence, not a comfortable hammock in which we can lie down to be waited upon by our robot slaves.” – Norbert Wiener (1894-1964), *God and Golem, Inc.* [1964]