

SPILL BRIEFS

14-03

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April 4, 2003

- ♦ ***Congratulations!*** to the following people, who were elected by the membership to serve on SCAA's Board of Directors for the next two years: **Cliff Berry II** (CBI), **Steve Candito** (NRC), **Rich Hobbie** (WQIS), **Mike Hobin** (SPC), **Mark Miller** (MEG), **John Parker** (IMS), **Les Stanfield** (Acme), **Don Toenshoff** (MSRC), **Dave Usher** (MPC), and **Jim Weber Jr.** (SWS). Four alternate members of the Board of Directors were also elected, listed as follows: **Ralph Bianchi** (JBF), **Chad Clay** (CEP), **Nelson Fetgatter** (OOPS), and **Diana Ludwig** (SROI). The new Board of Directors is now tasked with nominating and electing the President, Vice President, Treasurer, and Secretary of the Association, the results of which will be announced in this newsletter.
- ♦ The next meeting of the Planning Committee for SCAA's "Homeland Security –Great Lakes Region" conference (formerly the Inland Spills Conference) will be held on April 22, 2003 at The Lodge Sawmill Creek Resort. The Committee would like to receive input from SCAA's membership with regard to topics and speakers for this event, and asks that you forward any comments or suggestions to Marc Shaye at shayemk@aol.com or marcs@scaa-spill.org as soon as possible! More information on the conference can be found on SCAA's web site at www.scaa-spill.org.
- ♦ This week, the International Tanker Owners Pollution Federation ("ITOPF") announced that Dr. Ian White would be retiring as the groups Managing Director in December 2003. Dr. Tosh Moller, who is currently one of the ITOPF's Technical Team Managers, will succeed him. Dr. White has been with the ITOPF for 26 years, the last 16 of them as its Managing Director. ***In our dealings with Ian over many, many years, we always found him to be a gentleman even when we disagreed on various issues. Although still months away, we wish him all the best in his retirement!***
- ♦ The Chemical Transportation Advisory Committee ("CTAC") and its Hazardous Cargo Transportation Security Subcommittee will meet to discuss various issues relative to the marine transportation of hazardous materials in bulk. The CTAC will meet on Thursday, April 17, 2003 from 9:00 a.m. until 3:30 p.m. in room 2415 of the U.S. Coast Guard Headquarters in Washington, DC. The Hazardous Cargo Transportation Security Subcommittee will meet on April 14 (1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.), April 15 (8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.), and April 16 (8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.) in room 6244 of the DOT Headquarters in Washington, DC. It should be noted that these meetings may close early if all business is finished. All meetings are open to the public. For more information, contact CDR James Michalowski, CTAC Executive Director, or Sara Ju, Assistant to the Executive Director, at telephone 202-267-1217, facsimile 202-267-4570. (Source: *Federal Register* and *Maritime Items*) ***As a sign of confidence in our profession, CTAC has appointed Dr. Manik Sardessai of Marine Pollution Control as a member of the committee.***
- ♦ For the first time in nearly 50 years, the Labor Department has proposed federal regulations that could drastically change which workers qualify for overtime wages. It is estimated that some 22 million Americans could be affected by the new definitions of "white collar" and "blue collar" workers, costing businesses between \$870 million and \$1.57 billion. For the first time, employers would be required to pay overtime to as many as 1.3 million salaried, lower-income workers who

put in more than 40 hours a week. The proposals are subject to a 90-day comment period, but require no congressional action. As such, they could become official late this year or in early 2004. For a copy of the *Federal Register* notice announcing this action, click this web link: <http://www.dol.gov/esa/regs/fedreg/proposed/2003033101.htm>. Comments on the proposals are due by June 30, 2003. (Source: *USA Today*)

- ◆ The Secretary of Homeland Security has established the Homeland Security Advisory Council ("HSAC"), effective April 1, 2003. The Secretary (Tom Ridge) has determined that the HSAC is necessary and in the public interest in connection with the performance of his duties. The primary purpose of the HSAC is to provide advice and recommendations to the Secretary on matters relating to homeland security, acting only in an advisory capacity. The HSAC will terminate in April 2005 unless extended by the Secretary. The council's charter will be filed later this month. (Source: *Federal Register* and *Maritime Items*)
- ◆ The University of Tulsa - Continuing Engineering & Science Education is hosting a series of workshops entitled "Bioremediation of Oil Spills Made Easy" that will be held in Albuquerque, New Mexico (June 11-12); Wichita, Kansas (June 18-19); and Calgary, Alberta (August 20-21). More information on these workshops can be obtained by calling 918-631-3088, or by sending e-mail to cese@utulsa.edu. Thanks to the EPA's Nick Nichols for providing us with this information!
- ◆ This week, the U.S. government announced a \$34 million settlement with Colonial Pipeline Company, which violated the Clean Water Act on seven separate occasions. In all, the company spilled 1.45 million gallons of oil from its 5,500-mile pipeline in South Carolina, Georgia, Tennessee, Louisiana, and North Carolina. The settlement is the largest civil penalty a company has paid in the history of the U.S. EPA. In addition to the settlement, Colonial – the largest volume pipeline transporter of refined petroleum products in the world - has also agreed to spend about \$30 million to upgrade environmental protection on its pipeline. The settlement agreement is subject to a 30-day comment period and final court approval. If approved, the \$34 million civil penalty will go the U.S. Oil Spill Liability Trust Fund. (Source: *Environment News Service*)
- ◆ The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration ("NOAA") announced this week that it had completed its Strategic Plan for FY2003-FY2008 and beyond, which can be found on-line at <http://www.osp.noaa.gov>. In their press release, NOAA stated that they had received support from more than 1,000 external and internal stakeholders across the country that helped shape the plan's goals, strategies, and performance measures, and that the plan was further strengthened by feedback received during the public comment period.
- ◆ **Work/Life/Health:** Getting a prospect to change vendors isn't always an easy task, but here are three ideas that may help in this arena: (1.) **Sell results, not just a product or service.** Remember that a product or service is an expense, but what it can do for a buyer makes it an investment. (2.) **Share insights with prospects before they become customers.** Any insight that can be provided to make the prospect's job easier and faster will be appreciated, and will help demonstrate value. (3.) **Speak in the prospects language.** Become familiar and comfortable with the numbers they use regularly and their industry's jargon. (Source: *The Training Desk*)
- ◆ **Quote of the Week:** "I find it fascinating that most people plan their vacations with better care than they plan their lives. Perhaps that is because escape is easier than change." – Jim Rohn
Disclaimer: Although the Spill Control Association of America has made every effort to be accurate, errors may appear and are unintentional.