

## **SPILL BRIEFS**

**15-03**

[www.scaa-spill.org](http://www.scaa-spill.org)

**April 18, 2003**

- ◆ It is with a heavy heart that we report on the passing of a friend and colleague, Bob Grimm, who died in a car accident on Thursday, April 10, 2003 while driving in Kuwait. He was on special duty for International Response Corporation (“IRC”) as part of a special assessment and oil spill clean up team. During his extensive career, he worked on a number of major spills and incidents that occurred in the U.S., and many people in our industry came to know and respect Bob for his expertise and straight-shooting personality. A good friend to many, he will certainly be missed. Our thoughts and condolences are with Bob’s wife, family, and friends. Viewing will take place on April 19 & 20, with the funeral April 21 in New York. *(If you would like to receive the details of the viewing or funeral service, please let us know via e-mail [[mikes@scaa-spill.org](mailto:mikes@scaa-spill.org)] and we will forward the information to you immediately.)*
- ◆ Congress recently passed the Emergency Wartime Supplemental Appropriations Act 2003 (H.R. 1559), which contains numerous provisions in addition to funding for military activities in Iraq. These provisions include: \$39 million for homeland security expenses of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers; \$333 million for the Bureau of Customs and Border Protection for conducting Operation Liberty Shield; \$20 million to the Transportation Security Administration for port security grants; and \$228 million to the Coast Guard for conducting Operation Liberty Shield and other purposes. (Source: *Maritime Items*)
- ◆ A new system that has been developed by Penn State University and private sector researchers can help drinking and wastewater managers monitor the drinking water supply in the event of a terrorist attack. The system uses buoys and transponders that send signals through the air – using cell phone transmitters, for example – directly to a recipients’ computer. Pollution-detecting sensors generate the transmitted data as pollutants drift by the buoy. By using this universal platform, scientists can develop their own sensors to test for different types of agents without any modifications to the platform. (Source: *Emergency Preparedness News*)
- ◆ The U.S. Department of Energy (“DOE”) recently filed suit against the state of Washington’s Department of Ecology over its attempts to influence shipments of radioactive wastes to and from the Hanford Nuclear Reservation. According to DOE officials, the suit was filed because Washington state officials within the Ecology Department imposed deadlines on some of the cleanup of the site’s existing transuranic waste. This is the latest round in a battle between state and federal officials who disagree about the progress being made to clean up the wastes stored at the site. In February, the state of Washington sued the DOE, challenging its shipment of radioactive wastes to the Hanford site and contending that the DOE should get rid of the sites existing wastes before accepting any more. (Source: *Environment News Service*)
- ◆ Last week, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency announced a new national initiative that was developed to incorporate land reuse into the Superfund, Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (“RCRA”), Brownfields, and underground storage tank hazardous waste cleanup programs. The voluntary initiative is a comprehensive plan aimed at building partnerships that can fuel land redevelopment. It outlines some 60 items that the EPA can use to integrate land reuse into its cleanup program, including the review of policies and practices regarding liability

issues and leveraging grant resources across multiple federal cleanup programs to facilitate area wide cleanups. (Source: *Environment News Service*)

- ◆ The White House recently released a number of names as nominees for key positions within the Homeland Security Department. These include: (1.) Robert J. Liscouski as the Assistant Secretary for Infrastructure Protection. He is currently the Director of Information Assurances at Coca-Cola Co. and a member of the Intelligence Board. (2.) Paul J. Redmond as the Assistant Secretary of Information Analysis. He is currently a consultant to the Director of the CIA. (3.) Joe D. Whitley as General Counsel. He currently serves as an equity partner in a private law firm. (4.) Eduardo Aguirre Jr. as Director of the Bureau of Citizenship and Immigration Service. He is already serving as acting director of the Bureau. (5.) Michael J. Garcia as Assistant Secretary of Homeland Security (Bureau of Immigration and Customs Enforcement). He is already serving as acting Assistant Secretary in this capacity. (6.) Lt. Gen. Frank Libutti (USMC-Ret.) as Undersecretary for Information Analysis and Infrastructure Protection. He is currently Deputy Commissioner of Counter-terrorism for the New York City Police Department. (Source: *Homeland Defense Journal*)
- ◆ With International Maritime Organization (“IMO”) Secretary General William O’Neil set to vacate his position in January 2004, the IMO Council is set to elect his successor in June. Three strong candidates, including IMO Assistant Secretary-General Efthimios Mitropoulos of Greece; IMO Conference Division Director Monica Mbanefo of Nigeria; and Magnus Johannesson, Secretary-General of the Icelandic Ministry of Environment, are competing for the position. (Source: *Lloyd’s List*)
- ◆ The Maritime Security Expo USA 2003 will take place at the Jacob Javits Center in New York City on October 29-30, 2003. The conference is expecting to draw some 3,000 government and industry officials from more than 40 countries, and boasts 250 exhibitors from five countries. For more information on this event, visit the conference web site at [www.maritimesecurityexpo.com](http://www.maritimesecurityexpo.com).
- ◆ **Work/Life/Health:** Some companies feel that the small business market is too difficult to identify and even harder to sell, and ignore the more than 21 million small businesses in the U.S. that are potential buyers of their products and services. Start your efforts to market to these small businesses by eliminating the companies that are barely conducting business at all and are unlikely to buy what you’re selling. Then follow these tips to help sell to your potential buyers: (1.) Segment businesses into categories based upon potential profitability. (2.) Target companies that are buying more of your product or services from competitors than from you. (3.) Try to think like owners, and respond appropriately. (4.) Remember that selling to an owner is like selling to a salesperson. (5.) Be prepared to give one-on-one account management. (6.) Understand that you can be successful by giving them outstanding service. (Source: *The Selling Advantage*)
- ◆ **Quote of the Week:** “When men have realized that time has upset many fighting faiths, they may come to believe even more than they believe the very foundations of their own conduct that the ultimate good desired is better reached by free trade in ideas – that the best test of truth is the power of the thought to get itself accepted in the competition of the market, and that truth is the only ground upon which their wishes safely can be carried out. That at any rate is the theory of our Constitution. It is an experiment, as all life is an experiment.” - Oliver Wendell Holmes, Jr. (1841-1935), *Abrams v. United States*, 250 U.S. 616, 630 [1919]

*Disclaimer: Although the Spill Control Association of America has made every effort to be accurate, unintentional errors may appear.*