



The 4th Premiam Conference was held at the Natural History Museum in the Flett Theatre on the 21 June 2018. The theme of this year's Conference was "Looking back and moving Forward"

The aim of the 4th Premiam Conference was to provide a forum for scientists, regulators, environmental advisors and other professionals working in the field of marine oil/chemical spill monitoring and impact assessment to share experience, best practice and knowledge with the wider marine emergency response community. In line with theme of 'looking back and moving forward' this event will provide a unique opportunity to reflect what has been achieved so far and to investigate through expert presentations and discussion what are the key areas for development moving forward.

The Conference was opened by Sonia Phippard, Director General for Environment, Rural and Marine, DEFRA followed by Mark Kirby, Science Services Director, Cefas whom introduced Premiam and the Post-Spill Monitoring guidelines

This year's Conference showed a great international feel as speakers travelled from across parts of the Globe to present their work such as Keynote speaker Gary Shigenaka, Marine Biologist, NOAA from the USA who presented an interesting presentation of his career studying the consequences of catastrophes like EXXON VALDEZ, Deepwater Horizon and smaller lesser known F/V Deep Sea, Penn Cove. Gary's presentation explored the impact of these spills on the environment, wildlife and how these were managed in post spill monitoring. It looked at the length of time the environment and surrounding species has taken to recover or not recover following these spills and lessons learnt from them. He showed that there is still a lot to learn in post spill monitoring and restoration of the environment impacted.

Ivan Calvez, Biological Oceanographer, CEDRE travelled from France to present Post-Spill assessment in France, we were very grateful that he was able to give his presentation as he was not feeling 100% at the start of the Conference but give him praise for his efforts. His presentation focused on the Spills of Amoco Cadiz (1978) and Erika (1999), the presentation highlighted areas of improvement in post spill procedures and monitoring and what CEDRE are doing to improve the current post spill guidelines in France.

Along with Speakers from a Scientific and Industry background the conference hosted speakers from Academia with Keynote Speaker Tim Cooper, Social Historian from Exeter University and Environmental Biologists Terry McGenity and Boyd McKew from Essex University.

Tim Coopers presentation was an interesting twist on how one persons view of the catastrophe like the Torrey Canyon can be remembered and, in some cases, forgotten over one's lifetime and how it can shape the community and the individuals within that community.

Terry McGenity presented a joint presentation on the Molecular Microbial Tools for Future Oil Spill monitoring. The presentation focused on the affect microbes have on the degradation of hydrocarbons from a spill, what it means and how this information can be used on post spill monitoring using a variety of different devices to record microbial activity.

The conference was a great success with all the Speakers, Sponsors and Chairpersons having given interesting insight into the need for Premium and future conferences to voice past experiences in gaining knowledge and perspective of Post Spill Monitoring. Also having the time at the end of the Conference when all delegates had the chance to ask questions and debate answers shows a willingness to make improvements and learn from each other to move forward together to improve the strategies in Post Spill monitoring.

To learn more about Premium and future events please visit our website:

<https://www.cefas.co.uk/premium/guidelines/> and follow us on twitter @Premium_Spill

This article was featured in ENVIROTEC Magazine November addition, to read the article published please click [here](#)



2018 4th Premium Conference Speakers and Chairs



Start of the second Session of Speakers 2018 4th Premiam Conference



The start of the 4th Premiam Conference



Sponsors 4th Premiam Conference

