

Executive Summary for Workshop entitled "Oil spill mitigation measures and harvesting control of marine farming" 3-5 February 2003, Piraeus, Greece
by Environmental Protection Engineering S.A.

The workshop on "Oil Spill Mitigation Measures and Harvesting Control of Marine Farming" was assigned to Environmental Protection Engineering S.A. following its proposal in response to the Call for Proposals 2001 in the Framework of Community Cooperation against accidental or deliberate marine pollution of DG Environment Civil Protection unit (Marine Pollution)

It was attended by 11 participants from 6 E.U. Member States namely;

NAME	MEMBER STATE	INSTITUTION
Paolo Feliciotti	Italy	MINISTRY FOR THE ENVIRONMENT & TERRITORY
Vittorio Alessandro	Italy	Coast Guard Maritime Environmental Department - Environment Ministry
Jose Gouveia	Portugal	INSTITUTO HIDROGRAFICO
Mo Mathies	Ireland	BORD IASCAIGH MHARA (IRISH SEA FISHERY BOARD)
Eugene Clonan*	Ireland	Marine Pollution & Salvage Irish Coast Guard
Rudy De Clerck	Belgium	DEPARTEMENT VOOR ZEEVISSERIJ (FISHERIES DEPARTMENT)
Inge Overmeer	Belgium	MANAGEMENT UNIT OF THE NORTH SEA MATHEMATICAL MODELS (MUMM)
Mark Kirby	UK	Centre for Environment, Fisheries and Aquaculture Sciences (CEFAS) , Burnam Laboratory
Ian Laing	UK	CEFAS, Weymouth Laboratory
Markos Markidis	Greece	MINISTRY OF MERCANTILE MARINE, MARINE PROTECTION ENVIRONMENT DIVISION
Kiriaki Scandalou *	Greece	MINISTRY OF MERCANTILE MARINE, MARINE PROTECTION ENVIRONMENT DIVISION
Dimitrios Pettas	Greece	SELONDA S.A. Aquaculture Company
Christos Pappas	Greece	SELONDA S.A. Aquaculture Company

*: Nominated but not eventually attended

The workshop was designed as an expert's group exchange of expertise forum on the protection of aquaculture from oil pollution, by the Marine Pollution Unit. However some of the nominated participants did not hold expertise on these subjects - note here that Belgium does not have any mariculture facilities- a fact the partially affected the outcome of this action. Another point that should be made here is the lack of representation from the remaining seven maritime Member States of the EU and Norway and Iceland which resulted in lack of valuable expertise sharing from these States.

The actual schedule of the action is shown below:

FINAL PROGRAMME

<p>Introduction to the Workshop Opening Plenary session <i>Env. Protection Engineering S.A</i></p> <p>The current situation and the development perspective of mariculture in Greece <i>Mrs El. Parachristou Fisheries General Directorate Ministry of Agriculture of Greece</i></p> <p>Oil Spills in Portugal 1971-2001. Impact on Aquaculture <i>Mr. Jose Gouveia, Portuguese delegate</i></p> <p>Hydrocarbons direct and indirect impacts to marine farming with emphasis on tainting appearance and depuration <i>Dr. E. Papathanassiou National Center for Marine Research</i></p> <p>Oil Pollution Contingency Planning and Mariculture protection - Case studies from Greece <i>Volakis Stelios Environmental Protection Engineering S.A.</i></p> <p>Methods and techniques for oil spill containment, deflection and mitigation <i>Volakis St. & Mitropoulou Vas. Environmental Protection Engineering S.A.</i></p>	<p>Visit and guiding tour to the installations of SELONDA SA (Aqua culture production company)</p> <p>Presentation of “Applied measures and procedures to protect mariculture production in case of pollution emergency incidents”. <i>Mr. Dimitrios Pettas, SELONDA S.A. Dr Katerina Lytra, SELONDA S.A.</i></p> <p>Visit to Ancient Epidavros</p>	<p>Mariculture Damage Assessment and Compensation: Case studies of Iliad 1994 and La Guardia 1994 <i>Mrs Karveli Agrotiki Insurance</i></p> <p>Prestige Accident: Report to the Commission <i>Mr S. Volakis, Environmental Protection Engineering S.A.</i></p> <p>Scientific testimony (chemical analysis and sensory testing) for monitoring and controlling oil and other harmful substances impacts to mariculture <i>Dr. E. Cotou, Dr. M. Alexi National Center for Marine Research</i></p> <p>Presentation of pre-workshop gathered views and discussion <i>Vassiliki Mitropoulou, Environmental Protection Engineering S.A.</i></p>
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The main issues raised during the workshop include:

- the necessity of mariculture operators to have the appropriate means for protection at their premises, an issue not clearly given a positive or negative answer as the situation in the represented countries is different, and if the positive response would be given the issue of appropriate training of the personnel responsible for the deployment of equipment was raised.
- the selection of appropriate means for mitigation of the impact of an oil spill in the proximity of such a facility, and the management structure needed to inform and coordinate in the case of an oil spill, taking into consideration contingency planning.
- the impact on fish health and the subsequent impact on consumers, such as tainting. Novel methods for detection of damages to fish health after an oil spill incident, based on modern biotechnology, that already used in the UK were mentioned and

the need for information on that was recognised by all the participants. The UK delegates have kindly offered to inform the rest of the participants as well as the participating company of these and other novel techniques.

- the decision on market release and the financial impact to the mariculture companies in the case of stock affected after an oil spill. The compensation scheme was discussed and it was made obvious that a common approach around Europe should be implemented.
- Finally it was recognised that aquaculture is not usually seriously affected by oil spills incidents at least in the participating countries.

The event was realised in close cooperation with the Hellenic National Marine Research Centre and the help of SELONDA S.A.