

PHONE AND EMAIL MIGRATION

Over the past 3 months, EMSA's IT team has been busy transferring IT services from the European Commission's systems to its own. Starting in February, EMSA staff were allocated new e-mail addresses ending in @emsa.eu.int instead of the @cec.eu.int used by the Commission. After a transition period where both addresses were active, the old @cec.eu.int addresses for EMSA staff are no longer being used (as of 24/4/05). In a similar fashion, EMSA has also migrated to its own telephony system with a corresponding change in telephone numbers. As with the email addresses, there will be a transition period from 1/4/05 until 10/5/05, during which the old numbers will continue to work. The new contact details can be found on www.emsa.eu.int under the title of "Contacts"

OIL POLLUTION RESPONSE QUESTIONNAIRES

The Agency's Oil Pollution Response Unit has recently sent questionnaires to EU Member States, plus Norway and Iceland, in order to obtain information on their contingency plans in this area. The principal interest areas are: the use of satellite imagery; the discharging of oil recovered at sea and; the use of dispersant as a national policy to respond oil pollution at sea. Replies to the questionnaires have been requested by 22nd April.

SAFESEANET: MORE FULL MEMBERSHIPS

The French maritime administration has launched a series of trials associated with connecting the Trafic 2000 national maritime network to SafeSeaNet. Poland has also begun a series of trials, and the Polish administration is currently determining the national competent authority which will take responsibility for the system. The current full members of SafeSeaNet are Finland, Sweden, Norway and 2 Dutch ports. In addition, 6 other Member States are either undertaking, or have completed, their trials.

NEW PAGES ON THE WEBSITE

Frequent observers of the EMSA website will have noticed a number of new pages. A new Technical Assistance "chapter" has been created, which gives information on activities and training sessions in the area. The Oil Pollution Response section now provides useful and precise information on the major oil spills that have affected the European coastline

since 1984. Also of note is the improved information on workshops.

EUROPEAN AGENCIES BROCHURE

EMSA now appears in an EU brochure titled: "European agencies working across Europe for you." This publication provides an overview of the EU Agencies and contains key information on 16 current, specialised and de-centralised institutions. Although the tasks are very different, there are a number of themes which cover some or all of the organisations, such as: EU harmonisation and/or coordination; monitoring of legislation; technical assistance; scientific advice and product approval.



If you wish to subscribe to this electronic newsletter, please contact EMSA External Communications: Louis Baumard (louis.baumard@emsa.eu.int) or Andrew Stimpson (andrew.stimpson@emsa.eu.int)