SLICKS DRIFT PREVISION AND PUBLIC EXPECTANCY IN THE *ERIKA* INCIDENT

By Mr. Pierre Daniel
Météo-France - Service Central d'Exploitation de la Météorologie
42 avenue Gaspard Coriolis – 31057 Toulouse Cedex – FRANCE
Tél: 05.61.07.82.92 – Fax: 05.61.07.85 38 - pierre.daniel@meteo.fr

Météo-France and marine pollution

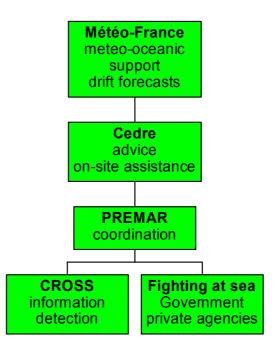


24 h/day support capacity in case of marine pollution emergency operations

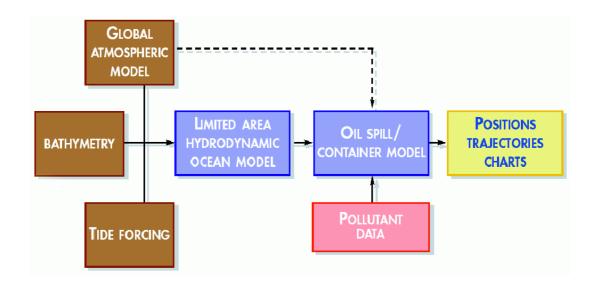
- Weather and wave forecasts.
- Pollutant drift forecasts.
- → At a national level: Agreement with CEDRE
- At an international level: MPERSS

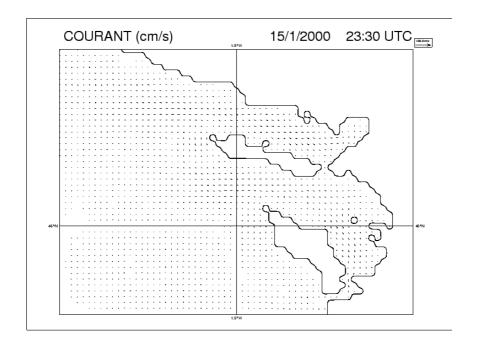


National level



MOTHY: Modèle Océanique de Transport d'HYdrocarbures





In operation since 1994

- → Agreement with CEDRE since 1996
 - About 10 interventions per year
- **Examples**:
 - December 7, 1999: REMPEC exercice in Mediterranean Sea.
 - Since December 12, 1999: Erika
 - December 14, 1999: Exercice in French Polynesia.
 - ➤ January 8, 2000: Accidental parafin release in the Channel.

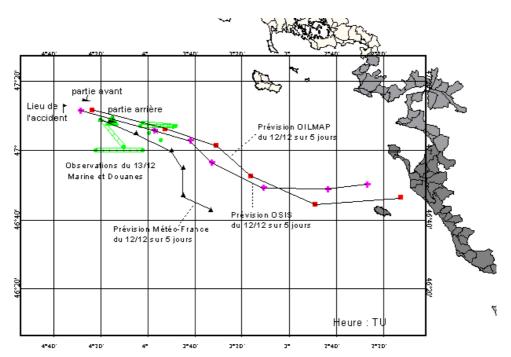
Erika: December 12, 1999

07:30 UTC: reception of a fax from CEDRE

08:40 UTC: we send the first drift forecasts with a weather

bulletin

First model predictions



Situation des observations et premières prévisions de dérives, le 12 décembre

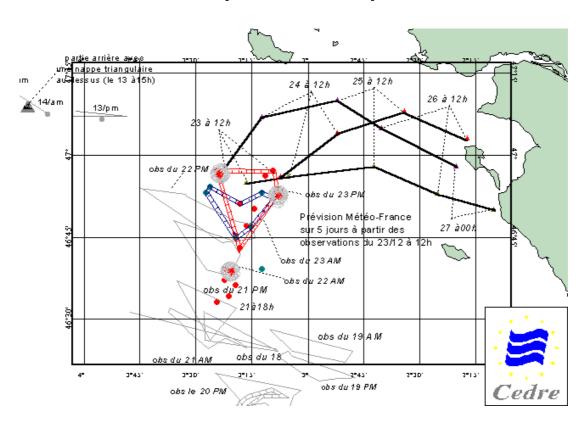
Models and simulations before oil beaching

- ≥ 10 days forecasts with ECMWF ensemble predictions.
- **▶**5 days forecasts with ECMWF.
- → 4 days forecasts with ARPEGE.
- Transmission of the information through Internet.

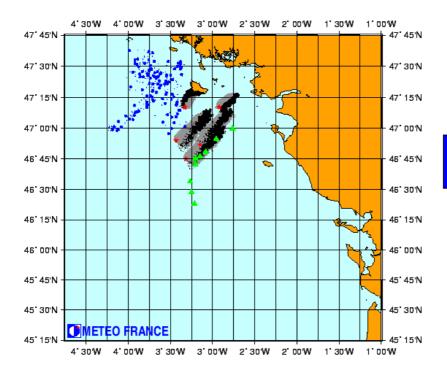


Buoys drop

Initial position: one point

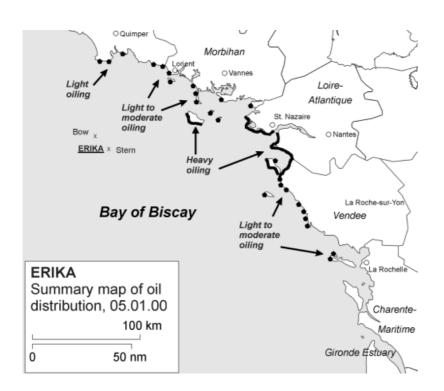


MOTHY: Prévision pour le 25/12/1999 à 00 utc



Erika: 2 weeks operations

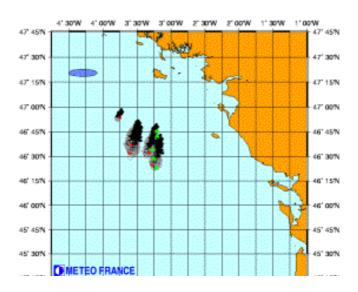
Summary map of oil distribution



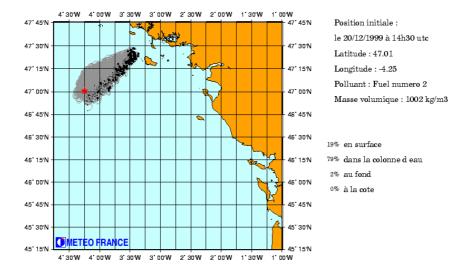
(Source: ITOPF)

Forgetfulness

MOTHY : Prévision pour le 23/12/1999 à 00 ute



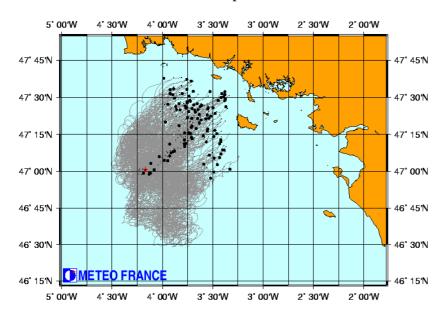
MOTHY: Prévision pour le 25/12/1999 à 12 utc



Models and simulations after oil beaching

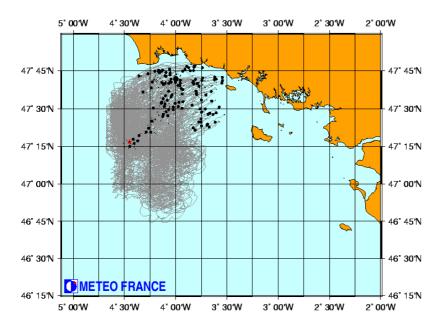
- Refloating and redeposition:
 - Backwards simulations.
- Beaching from Penmarc'h to Belle Ile:
 - Continuous release from the wreck.
 - Continuous release before the break.

MOTHY/ARPEGE: Prévision pour le 25/12/1999 à 00 utc



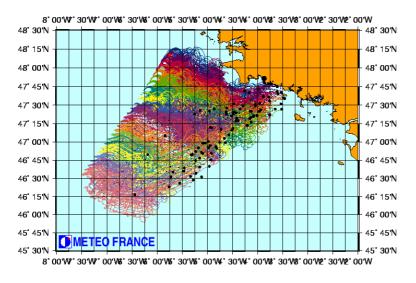
Continuous release from the stern

MOTHY/ARPEGE : Prévision pour le 25/12/1999 à 00 utc



Continuous release from the bow

MOTHY: Prévision pour le 25/12/1999 à 00 utc



Continuous release before the incident

Debriefing

- Before Erika : identified, technical axes
 - Dynamics
 - Weathering
- After Erika: new, organisational aspects
 - Observation
 - Transmissions
 - Integration

The operations continue

- Drift forecasts from the wreck
- Weather and waves forecasts on the wreck area.



http://www.meteorologie.eu.org/mothy/