



# ITOPF R&D Award

**A unique opportunity to take part in the shipping industry's new initiative to support research and development**

The International Tanker Owners Pollution Federation Ltd. (ITOPF) is recognised and respected globally as a source of objective technical expertise in the area of accidental spills of oil and chemicals from ships. Its mission is to promote effective response to marine spills of oil, chemicals and other substances. Investing in R&D is one way to enable this objective to be met and, to this end, ITOPF's Board of Directors, who represent the vast majority of the world's tanker tonnage, has established the 'ITOPF R&D Award'. The purpose of the initiative is to encourage organisations worldwide to inspire innovative thinking among their students and to present ideas that could provide realistic solutions to some of the challenges faced in spill response and environmental monitoring.



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## Background:-

Each year, over 7800 million tonnes of oil, chemicals, raw materials and finished goods are safely delivered by sea. Nevertheless, from time-to-time accidents do occur that result in pollution of the marine environment by oil or chemicals. The severity of the pollution depends upon many factors. Continuous improvement in the understanding of the fate and effects of these substances will lead to improvements in accepted 'best practice' for spill response and environmental monitoring.

ITOPF's shipowners and their Protection and Indemnity (P&I) insurers recognise the importance of nurturing good quality R&D in these areas and, for this reason, have established the annual '**ITOPF R&D Award**'. Each year up to £50,000 will be made available to fund R&D projects that make a valuable contribution to improving the knowledge and understanding of issues related to accidental marine pollution.

## To qualify:-

The '**ITOPF R&D Award**' is open to any reputable R&D establishment or other organisation world-wide intending to fund a candidate (individual or project team) to undertake post-doctoral research or, in some cases, a doctorate. Applications are invited from all academic disciplines, although preference will be given to those with an applied scientific focus, such as marine biology, chemistry, ecology, physics, engineering, economics, etc.

## Assessment procedure:-

Applications for the '**ITOPF R&D Award**' will be assessed by the ITOPF R&D Committee comprising:

- The Technical Director of ITOPF as the Committee Chair
- A well-respected external and independent member of the scientific community as the Committee Secretary
- At least one other independent, objective scientist jointly selected by the Committee Chair and Secretary
- One other member of ITOPF's technical staff

## How to apply:-

Candidates wishing to apply for the '**ITOPF R&D Award**' should visit the ITOPF website at [www.itopf.com](http://www.itopf.com) where further information and an electronic application form is provided.

**Deadline for applications: - 31<sup>st</sup> December 2011**