

*'The bane of knowledge  
is not putting it  
into practice.'*

Imam Ali bin Abi Talib

## MSC signs a contract with Kuwait Energy



The Consulting Bureau of the MSC has signed a contract with the Kuwait Energy Company which works in Iraq. The contract which extends for one year includes the Block 9, located in the east of Basrah governorate. The contract includes conducting laboratory analyses of soil and air within the oil field and an Environmental Impact Assessment. Air modelling will be conducted to minimize risk of air quality deterioration.

## An MSC laboratory accredited by the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA)



The MSC Microbiology Analyses Laboratory was accredited by the IAEA in testing the qualifications of laboratories in analyzing trace elements. That comes as part of the regional project RAS 17025 which is designed by the Monaco Laboratories of the IAEA.

## Prof. Dr. Ali AZ. Douabul achieves top stats of Research Gate



Prof. Dr. Ali AZ. Douabul, Director General of MSC, has achieved the top stats on the Research Gate Site for being the most viewed and followed researcher among the environment researchers during July 14th-21th, 2015. He has received a congratulation email from Research Gate team for this remarkable achievement.

## Graduate Students of the University of Basrah apply in the MSC



A group of graduate students from the Biology Department in the College of Science, University of Basrah, has started their summer training in the MSC Department of Marine Biology. The staff of the MSC Department of Marine Biology has given different theoretical and practical lectures for the applicants between July-August, 2015.

## MSC becomes a member in the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN): the world's oldest and largest global environmental organization

The Marine Science Centre (MSC) is delighted to announce that it has been selected recently as a member of the IUCN. We are proud of this recognition to our dedication and competence in the protection and conservation of natural resources and biodiversity, both within marine environments and terrestrially. The MSC will be actively supporting IUCN in scientific research, managing field projects and bringing together governments, non-government organizations, United Nations agencies, companies and local communities to develop and implement policy, laws and best practice.



Our work in Iraq gives us great insight into the balance and sustainability of ecosystem resources particularly with respect to the indigenous populations in Iraq. The management of natural resources is ultimately integral to survival of much of the population yet our ecosystem is uniquely vulnerable through climate and aridity and with threatened species in what was once extensive marshland teeming with flora and fauna. Although our membership with IUCN may be new, our devotion to the IUCN vision has been with us since our establishment in 1976. Clearly, we are dedicated to the IUCN vision and look forward to this affiliation with IUCN for future collaboration on the important and essential work ahead.

You are invited to visit the IUCN and the MSC websites ([www.iucn.org](http://www.iucn.org) and [www.msccbasra.org](http://www.msccbasra.org)) to learn more about both institutes.

## MSC Director General leads a meeting with RSK Group

MSC Director General, Prof. Dr. Ali AZ. Douabul, has led a meeting with RSK Group, the British consultation company. The meeting was attended by the Dean of the College of Engineering, Prof. Dr. Rabee'a Th. Al-Abbasi, and the Dean of the College of Oil and Gas, Dr. Mustafa Al-Fa'iz, University of Basrah. Several discussions have taken place during the meeting including plans to train members of the South Oil Company in collaboration between the MSC and the Engineering Colleges in the University of Basrah and the RSK Group.



Also, the meeting parties agreed upon establishing a joint training unit with the membership of the consulting bureau of the University of Basrah and the RSK Group. The unit is to be responsible for training about 6000 local workers in the Iraqi oil sector. This number is only a first plan to be increased in the future works of the unit.

## MSC Team installs Air Pollution Monitoring Stations

A scientific team from the MSC has succeeded in the deployment of air pollution monitoring stations (diffusion tubes) within Block 9 of the Shatt Al-Arab region. This comes as a component of the contract between the MSC Consulting Bureau and the Kuwait Energy Company



## The Rosenstiel School of Marine and Atmospheric Science celebrates the graduation of an MSC visiting Researcher

In honor of Dr. Mu'ayed M. Al-Bahadli, the MSC PhD candidate, who has recently completed his PhD study, the Rosenstiel School of Marine and Atmospheric Science/ University of Miami has celebrated this occasion by displaying his portrait in one laboratory. Dr. Al-

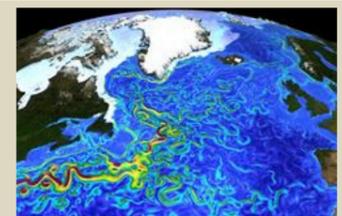
Bahadli has spent six months of his PhD study at the mentioned school under the supervision of Prof. Dr. Frank J. Millero.



## Scientific evidence on a qualitative change in the density of surface currents in the North Atlantic Ocean

By PhD student: Basil Ali-Bologna

Recent scientific evidence suggest the changes in the quality of the natural density of surface currents in the North Atlantic Ocean. This is illustrated by the recently published photo (taken on July 20th, 2015) of the distribution of densities calculated by mathematical models for the rotation and the movement of surface currents of the waters of the ocean by researchers from GEOMAR Helmholtz Centre for Ocean Research Kiel.



In GEOMAR, researchers discovered that the current surface coming from the equator toward the North Atlantic Ocean has recorded a high-density different from previous recordings which used to be regular and familiar. Researchers noted significant changes in the recorded densities in terms of measurement. This change is shown in red on the surface stream. It has reached the middle of the Atlantic Ocean on its way to Europe and Canada. It might be a high-salinity stream or thermal stream or an overlap between all the variables. So far, there is no accurate scientific proof justifying this phenomena, but researchers believe there is something that is changing causing such an event. The occurrence of this current with such great density is a first in the history of the Atlantic Ocean which indicates a change in the marine nature of the great oceans. Such issues call for further studies and ongoing monitoring through modern scientific means to find scientific and logical explanations.

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## ----- Contributions -----

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