

MODEL VERIFICATION WORKSHOP

Both workshops were well attended and very interesting discussions developed on both occasions. It was noticeable that the discussions followed similar lines in each session but that both were very different from the previous workshop in Blackpool. The contributions to the workshops showed that many people had considerable experience of verification and were now pondering more fundamental issues.

From the discussions four main points emerged:

1. If rural runoff was occurring then WASSP would be unable to simulate this other than by a variety of fudges none of which were very satisfactory. It was expected that WALLRUS would help to address this problem but special attention would still be required to isolate the rural element.
2. The answer to the question of how many monitors to use and how well the model should match the observed flow was dependent on the use to which the model was being put. It was felt that some cost/benefit studies looking at savings in construction costs available from increased accuracy in modelling would be useful.
3. A great deal of interest was expressed in the various post-construction monitoring exercise that has come to light during the conference. The need for data to refine design methods was generally acknowledged and some form of national co-ordination for these monitoring exercises was suggested.
4. Discussion on levels of confidence in model predictions and the difficulties of flow monitoring under certain circumstances led to the suggestion of quality assured procedures for sewer flow surveys. There was general support for taking steps to achieve a consistent standard of data even if this increased costs slightly. Many delegates expressed reservations about choosing the lowest cost contractor as the resulting data might be worthless. Quality assured procedures might be a way to address this problem. A suggestion was made that we might also move towards quality assured models.

R Chapman
Workshop Chairman

D.Wall

Going back to R & D, how, for example, is WRC research directed ? There seems to be little representation of Sewerage Engineers on committees.

M.Osborne ; HR

Regarding funding, only North-West Water is prepared to pay for further research in the hydrology model used in WALLRUS.

A.R.Eadon

WaFUG should use its influence more on the funding of research. One of the first tasks for the WaFUG committee is to re-define the problems raised at this meeting and to direct them to the WAA.