



MODELLING SPECIAL INTEREST GROUP

MINUTES OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2PM, WEDNESDAY 23RD SEPTEMBER, 2009

Sportsdrome, Energy Events Centre, Rotorua

PRESENT:

Bear	Marcel	Opus
Blackett	Nev	Waikato DC
Booth	Jeff	Jeff Booth Consulting Ltd
Chung	Priscilla	Manukau Water Ltd
Campbell	Joanna	Aurecon
Garside	Ian	CH2M Beca
Gibson	Andy	MWH
Jamieson	Tristan	Watershed Consultation Ltd
Joynes	Steven	Golovin
Krauliz	Peter	CPG
Lind	Myles	Watercare
Pennington	Mark	PDP
Rahmah	Hatitur	North Shore City Council
Robinson	Brian	Aurecon
Simpson	Nick	Aurecon
Stevens	Dan	Opus
Tokelore	Adam	Aurecon
Ward	David (Chairman)	Aurecon
Whyte	Greg	DHI

Apologies

Cantrell	Clint	Aecom
Milsom	Geoff	Aecom
van Lierop	Rene	Aurecon

In Attendance

Dawson	Hannah	Water New Zealand
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1. WELCOME AND APOLOGIES

Marcel Bear introduced himself and welcomed everyone to the Modelling Special Interest Group Annual General Meeting and then introduced David Ward the current chair of the committee. Dave Ward introduced the current 2009 committee and noted the apologies.

2. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS AGM – 24 September 2008

Motion:

It was moved by Dave Ward and seconded by Ian Garside

That the minutes of the 2008 AGM held at the Convention Centre in Christchurch, 24th September, be accepted as a true and accurate record.

Carried

3. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE PREVIOUS MINUTES

There were no matters arising.

4. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Dave Ward presented his Chairman's report.

Dave reported that it had been a productive year for the Modelling SIG, building on from the previous year. He mentioned that when he took over as chair of the Modelling Special Interest Group he wanted to achieve the following key things:

- 1) Stronger relationship with Water New Zealand and sister SIGS
Links with Water New Zealand and the other SIGs have definitely improved and as Dave aims to continue with the board for at least one more year he hopes that the relationships will grow and mature. Very recently the first SIG chairs forum was held and this was a great opportunity to compare notes and assist each other and support the members of our respective groups. We have a lot to learn from each other and the Modelling SIG has a significant amount to contribute to the wellbeing of all SIGs, who in turn are the life blood of Water New Zealand. He was especially encouraged by the prospect of collaborating with the Stormwater SIG, particularly in the areas of the Stormwater 2010 conference and the production of best practice guidelines for the modelling of stormwater systems.
- 2) Strengthen support to members
The committee had strengthened the support to members by improving web facilities, providing access to past conference papers and conducting regional events
- 3) Broaden areas of influence and debate
Modelling was much more main stream now. It was no longer 'fringe' or relegated to the world of experts alone. Modelling's profile had been raised and if the group continued to produce articles in the Journal and talk to the likes of the Water Services Managers Group this would only improve.
- 4) Streamline processes and ensure the SIG was well positioned to carry on vital work
The group now has established portfolios which are effective means of communicating progress in several areas. A new portfolio had been established called 'SIG management and future proofing'. This was intended to facilitate forward planning.
- 5) Lift modelling's profile:
Raise confidence levels as key professionals who would be instrumental in moving New Zealand forward through well considered water related infrastructure

investments. Water was vital to our well being. Economically viable infrastructure to support water needs was just as vital to our physical and fiscal well being. By lifting our profile the SIG was seeking proper and fair recognition of modelling as a profession. Negotiations with IPENZ are early and thus far favourable.

6) Continue to encourage training

Formal training sessions did not take place during the 2008/2009 term. However, valuable informal training did take place with regional events such as the flow monitoring lecture held recently. All these events provide valuable CPD and should not be overlooked.

David acknowledged the committee for all their help and support and their dedication that has helped to move the committee forward progressively and positively.

He also noted that this is the 10th anniversary of the Modelling SIG and the modelling dinner would be a celebration that would include the Best Paper Award. A first for this year is the field trip, showing the real world benefits of modelling. The new young author/presenter award recognised the efforts of our younger members and was intended to encourage other budding authors to come forward next year.

Dave then went on to thank the sponsors – Wallingford Software and DHI for supporting the dinner and the awards respectively. He trusted the modelling stream would receive continuing and strong support from all prospective sponsors.

5. PORTFOLIO REPORTS – a brief update from the portfolio champions

Conference:

Jeff Booth requested from the delegates any feedback regarding the modelling stream and if there were any areas that could be improved. Jeff thanked all those on the committee who helped out with the conference during the year.

Training:

Priscilla Chung reported that there had not been any formal training during the year, however training has been provided during various informal regional meetings. In the coming year there were plans to bring about more formal training and career path training as well as keeping the informal training via the regional meetings. The SIG are looking at working together with other organizations in this area. This also tied into the project of re-profiling modelling engineers in the industry. There was a summary paper on this that had been circulated and our comment and feedback was welcome.

Regional Activities:

Peter Krauliz reported that the SIG has held many successful regional meetings on a range of varied and specialised topics throughout the year including; two in Hamilton, two in Auckland and one in Dunedin. Thanks was offered to those Regional Champions who have helped to organise the evenings. The meetings had been attended by not just modellers but others with varied backgrounds, which had led to good discussions and sharing of knowledge and experiences.

Website:

Hannah Dawson reported that the modelling forum previously housed at Yahoo Groups had now been moved to the Water New Zealand Web Forum. This also hosted a number of other forums including: Stormwater, 3 waters, Backflow, Tradewaste and Small Water Systems. The idea of bringing these groups together is to create a more beneficial portal for discussion, with people sharing their experiences, information, and advice across all sectors of the water industry.

Water New Zealand was also currently in the process of updating the website, and launch day was expected to be in late October. This would bring about several changes making the website more pleasing to the eye and easier to navigate. The modelling webpage would be updated and better reflect the SIG and its activities.

Guidelines:

Myles Lind reported that considerable progress had been made on the guidelines in the previous 12 months with the revision and publication of an updated suite of water network and wastewater network modelling guidelines. This was a considerable undertaking and he thanked the SIG members for their efforts in this process. The previous 12 months had seen an increased focus on knowledge-uptake and use of the guidelines amongst modellers in the New Zealand marketplace. This work had been more difficult than expected task and it had been identified that a more structured and better resourced approach would be required going forward to achieve better market penetration.

The next 12 months will seek to significantly update and improve the guidelines. It was intended to align the existing SIG guidelines with other internationally recognised guidelines, possibly through the adoption and interpretation of international guidelines appropriate for the New Zealand market. This was seen as a major step forward in increasing the market potential of New Zealand modellers in the international marketplace, as well as advancing modelling practices within New Zealand. It would also provide opportunities for Water New Zealand to provide guidelines to other areas of water management such as stormwater and ground water modelling.

Liaison:

Dave added to what was already described in his chairman's report:

Links were being developed with IPENZ, and the SIG was also looking to strengthen the links with CIWEM. There had been an article by the president of CIWEM in the current Water New Zealand Journal. The SIG was also looking to strengthen links with the newly introduced WapuG Group – the urban drainage group. Myles Lind and Andy Gibson would be attending WapuG in 2010 – and hoped to use this as an opportunity to cement links with CIWEM

The SIG had the opportunity to work closely with them and introduce best practice international guidelines

6. ELECTION OF MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE 2009/2010

Dave thanked those who have served on the committee this year and those elected or co-opted whose term come to an end, namely Geoff Milsom, Jeff Booth, Mark Pennington, Andy Gibson, Clint Cantrell, Marcel Bear and Myles Lind; Dave Ward was also standing down at the end of the currant term.

The following were remaining:

Ian Garside
Brain Robinson
Greg Whyte
Peter Krauliz
Priscilla Chung

Nominations for the Committee were submitted and accepted and successful parties were:

Marcel Bear
Myles Lind

Nick Brown
Rathika Jebamony
Hywel Rys Lewis

Dave Ward particularly thanked Myles and Marcel for returning to the committee and providing much needed leadership and continuity. Dave then read out the Bios from each nominee.

Motion:

It was moved by Dave Ward and seconded by Marcel Bear

That all nominations are accepted as committee members.

Carried

6. Any Other Business

Marcel expressed thanks from behalf of the committee to Dave Ward, for his leadership as the chair and moving the committee forward progressively and positively.

7. CLOSE OF MEETING

The meeting closed at 2.30pm.