

Technical summary

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Best Management Practices for Urban Drainage R&D Technical Summary P2-136/TS

The Environment Agency has identified that an increased uptake of Sustainable Drainage Systems (SUDS) would have positive environmental benefits, through improved water quality and resource, decreased flood risk and improved water based amenity features. Following the completion of work on the CIRIA guidance documents on SUDS (published in 2000), those involved in the project recognised the need to gather further information on SUDS and to disseminate it in order to further promote the uptake of SUDS.

This project has seen the establishment of a steering group with representatives from industry, regulators, research bodies and universities with the specific objective of furthering the use of SUDS. This objective will be met through the provision of readily available information on the effectiveness of SUDS and on their design.

A web site has been established, www.ciria.org.uk/suds which provides case studies, newsletters, a review of SUDS related research and background on SUDS. It has been recognised as a central information source for SUDS by all the principal organisations involved. 2,700 visits were recorded in its first month of operation (December 2001) and there are now over 3,000 visits per month.

Other initiatives include:

- The publication of a biennial SUDS newsletter, Sustainable Drainage News, which is widely distributed through CIRIA and other organisations represented on the steering group as well as being available on the web site.
- The recruitment of a journalist, who will produce a number of appropriate articles each year for inclusion into a range of magazines and journals.
- A number of training courses and conferences have been organised.

The steering group is funded until December 2005, however, the principle outputs from this project are

now available. Further news will be published, and the web-site will be regularly updated.

This R&D Technical Summary relates to information from R&D Project P2-136.

All outputs (other than training courses and conferences) may be viewed on the SUDS web site, www.ciria.org.uk/suds

Internal Status: Released to Regions
External Status: Released to Public

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