

Society of Public Health Engineers (SoPHE)



SoPHE Newsletter Issue No.4 March 2004

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The Society of Public Health Engineers is a part of the Chartered Institution of Building Services Engineers (CIBSE):

Chairman: Martin Shouler

Email shoulerm@bre.co.uk

Honorary Secretary: Chris Northey

Email cnorthey@zbp.co.uk

Launch of the New CIBSE Guide G



The new CIBSE Public Health Engineering Guide G is due to be launched this spring, following in the footsteps of the successful First Edition.

This first major update to Guide G has been carried out mainly in response to numerous new regulations and standards, which have come into force since the first edition was published. In particular the new Water Regulations have impacted on many of the sections bringing in new fluid categories, backflow protection and water saving measures. Every British Standard Code of Practice relating to both building and site drainage has been replaced by a BS EN and this again has affected many sections.

Energy efficiency and water conservation measures now play an important role in public health services design and this new edition provides guidance on these important issues.

A one-day seminar is to be held on Thursday 27 May with the emphasis on highlighting the main changes between the new and previous edition while outlining how these changes will impact on the day-to-day operations of the building services industry. For more information and booking details, please contact CIBSE or look on the CIBSE website: www.cibse.org/events

MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRMAN

Welcome to the fourth edition of our newsletter. The first six months of our new Society have been busy as we review applications for prospective members including a number from overseas. Areas such as education and training, the status of the industry and recruitment have been under review. Also, we have been more active within CIBSE including liaison with the Regional Groups. This will strengthen the position of Public Health Engineering within the wider field of Building Services.

I hope you will agree with me that we had a superb series of technical seminars during 2003 and our programme for this year is as impressive and forms a solid foundation for Continuous Professional Development (CPD). If you have CPD needs please let us know. In addition, we are hoping to host technical presentations in locations outside London.

I am pleased to announce the launch of a new promotional leaflet for our Society (available on our website - www.cibse.org), which I encourage you to distribute to further promote our work.

As you will be aware, we have allowed a transitional period, for existing members of our predecessor, The Public Health Engineering Group, to apply for membership of SoPHE. During this period, members of the Group have been allowed access to SoPHE events and information. This transitional period must come to an end shortly. I would encourage those who have yet to apply for membership of SoPHE to do so.

Continued from Page 1....

Only through a strong membership can we fully represent the needs and aspirations of the Public Health Engineering community. Application forms are available from CIBSE or on our website.

My thanks goes to all those worked hard to bring this edition to you.

Martin Shouler, Chairman SoPHE

EVENTS

Forthcoming Technical Presentation Evenings

Date: 27th April 2004
Venue: O'Neills Function Room
Conway Street, London
(subject to confirmation)

Presenter: **Spel Products**
Paul Polcox

Surface water/Foul water Puraceptors, Stormceptors, both full retention and by-pass types. Sizing, Alarms, Regulations and update on the latest Rivers Authority Requirement etc

Date: 18th May 2004.
Venue: O'Neills Function Room
Conway Street, London
(subject to confirmation)

Presenter: **Buckingham Pools**
Dennis Ledbrooke

Design principles for swimming pools. The presentation will include an overview, design considerations, chlorine, UV, monitoring etc.

Date: 22nd June 2004.
Venue: O'Neills Function Room
Conway Street, London
(subject to confirmation)

Presenter: **BRE**
John Griggs
Control of Legionella Bacteria in water systems.

Future Industrial Visits:

Geberit Terrain would be happy to host a visit to their Maidstone factory to see their test rigs for sanitary and symphonic rainwater pipework. If you are interested (probably October/November 2004) please advise David Shaw on:
[www.dshaw@geneverandpartners.co.uk](mailto:dshaw@geneverandpartners.co.uk)

OTHER OPTIONS BEING CONSIDERED FOR FUTURE PRESENTATIONS

- A) Understanding and evaluating Health & Safety Risk Assessments relating to PHE work.
- B) Contract documents for PHE works with regard to responsibilities, duties and penalty clauses, etc.
- C) Asbestos and the risk associated (H & S).
- D) Sizing of small/medium sewage treatment package works, BOD, COD, etc.
- E) Sizing principles of syphonic rainwater systems.
- F) Roof drainage, assessing risk, intensity etc. under BS EN 12506-3
- G) Vacuum Drainage presentation
- H) Syphonic Rainwater systems
- I) Marrioff Hi-Fog Mist fire extinguishing systems.

PREVIOUS TECHNICAL EVENTS THIS YEAR (2003)

- 1 **TYCO/WORMALD FIRE SYSTEMS.** Life and building fire protection
Contact: www.wormald.co.uk
- 2 **MARLEY PLUMBING.** Sanitation sizing to BS12056, Part 2.
Contact: www.marleyplumbinganddrainage.com
- 3 **HYDROTEC UK LTD.** Technical overview of physical water conditioners and ultra violet disinfection.
Contact: www.hydrotec.co.uk
- 4 **A O SMITH (WATER PRODUCTS Co).** Assessing, sizing of direct and storage type hot water heaters for commercial/industrial applications, giving consideration to latest building regulations.
Contact: www.hotwater.com
- 5 **VERNAGENE.** Chlorine dioxide, Disinfection. Understanding the principles of dosing with consideration to health and safety aspects.
Contact: www.vernagene.com
- 6 **NEW HADEN PUMPS.** The design and sizing of both foul and surface water pump sump chambers and stations.
Contact: SouthEast@NHPumps.com
- 7 **ALLAN AQUA LTD.** design principles for boosted cold water and fire services relating specifically to high rise buildings.
Contact: www.allanaqua.co.uk
- 8 **THAMES WATER PLC.** Discussions on items within the Regulations which required clarification.
Contact: www.thames-water.com
- 9 **CLAY PIPE DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION LTD.** An overview of Building Regulations 'H', Parts H1-H6 Drainage and Waste Disposal.
- 10. **KSB LTD.** Grey Water Re-cycling for various types of buildings. General over view on the design principles with advantages and disadvantages on the possible options for re-using water

PUBLICATIONS

CIBSE Commissioning Code W:
Water Distribution Systems

WRAS Information and Guidance Notes:
Cold Water Storage Cisterns – Design
Recommendations for Mains Supply Inlets
December 2003

WRAS Information and Guidance Notes:
Water Supplies to Washing Machines and
Dishwashers.
October 2001
(Not a new document, but of some interest)

BRE Information Paper
Preventing Hot Water Scalding in Bathrooms: Using
TMV's

A complete list of CIBSE Publications and price list is
available from the CIBSE website www.cibse.org

NEWS AND INFORMATION

1. Building Regulations Part L will be revised in April 2005. This will include raising standards for all new and replacement boilers to the level of A and B rated condensing boilers. About 5 million condensing boiler installations will be needed by the year 2010.

2. New Rainwater Roof Drainage Design software NimbusPro has been launched by Aqua Software. This new software concentrates on gravity rainwater design systems to comply with Code of Practice BS EN 12056-3:2000. For further information, contact info@aquasoftware.co.uk

3. The Child Accident Prevention Trust (CAPT) has been working closely with the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister on the revision of Section (4) Hot Surfaces and Materials, of version (2) of the draft guidance to the Government's Housing Health and Safety Rating System (HHSRS), which was due for issue for consultation in late 2003. This section will provide local authorities, social and private landlords with information on potential scalding hazards within housing and will help them to determine the risk probability and health.

4. The long-awaited TMV2 Scheme was officially launched on November 6 2003 at the DTI Conference Centre in London. The scheme sets standards for the use of thermostatic mixing valves (TMV's) in dwellings, an area where no legislation currently exists. The TMVA and its members were proud to have helped establish this important initiative that will undoubtedly reduce scalding accidents in the home.

5. Water companies could face a huge bill to cut foul smells from sewage water treatment works following a high court ruling. The ruling allows local authorities to prosecute water companies for failing to control water sewage smells. Two High Court judges ruled for the first time that odour nuisance from water

NEWS AND INFORMATION CONTINUED.....

company SWTs should be controllable under the 'Environmental Protection Act 1990'

6. A National Working Group that includes representatives from government, industry and professional bodies has produced a consultation document on the future of sustainable drainage schemes (SUDS). To overcome issues of the provision and maintenance of these systems, it "sets out how these responsibilities can be organised under current legislation, and opened a debate about how the legislative framework could be improved in the future".

7. Access to the Environmental Protection Agency's 'Towards setting guideline values for the protection of groundwater in Ireland' can be found at: www.epa.ie/pubs/docs/Protection%20of%20Groundwater.pdf

8. There has been a legislative change to the Water Supply, Water Quality Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2002. It deals with the monitoring of water supply with details of sampling, some regulations relating to disinfections and other treatments. The change in regulations were made on 31 October 2002 but have come into force on 1 January 2004.

MEMBERS FORUM

This section will enable members to raise or ask questions relating to specific projects or design items for comments or guidance. This would enable other members to assist by explaining or giving design advice, considerations, or stating where/which BS Codes or authorities could be contacted in answering original questions.

With regards to a letter posed in the last News Letter regarding companies that carry out Soakaway Permeability tests, a number of responses were received. Two of the responses have been printed below:

- In the past I have used Spaflow Utilities Ltd for permeability tests and similar work, with good results. Their e-mail address is: www.spaflow@aol.com, or ring their director David Wood-Heath on 07802 770125 (David Carroll)
- There are many companies who specialise in lab and site work for soakaways. Depending where the project is in the country you could look at the following companies: -

Southern Testing – 01342 333 100
Integrale Ltd – 01275 815 0580
Albury S.I – 01428 684 836

MEMBERS FORUM CONTINUED.....

The testing should be carried out to the only current standard available for permeability, BRE 365. This note requires that 3 tests are completed to full emptying in each trial pit and the average k value used. Practically this rarely happens and the engineer needs to make a judgement. You should also consider looking at geo maps and establish a k value through knowledge of what you are likely to find on site. This will give a better understanding of the sub strata. There are also hydrogeological maps that you can peruse which show all surface drainage, river catchment flows and sections showing likely sub strata you will encounter.

(Simon Dent - Infrastructure Services Ltd.)

Many thanks for these useful responses.

These additional questions have been posed by members, if any body has any suitable suggestions please write in.....

1. Has anybody had any experience in sizing swales for a sustainable urban drainage system, could anyone suggest a suitable guideline to help with the design process?
2. I am currently looking at installing a StormCell surface water retention system at a site as part of a SUDS scheme. Has anybody had any experience with this sort of system with regards to performance levels and maintenance issues?
3. Could anybody suggest suitable retention periods for rainwater passing through a Terram roof build-up?
4. A contractor recently proposed using a plastic 'corrugated' WC waste pipe to connect to the WC float on a small commercial development. I have been told that they are recognised by German Standards but how are they viewed by British standards?

Please forward any questions, comments or answers you may have to the above points to:

awatson@cibse.org
ionathan.qaunt@arup.com

FEEDBACK

We would welcome any comments on this newsletter or contributions to future editions, in particular with regards to:

- Future events for consideration
- What should SoPHE be providing to our members
- Items or comments you think may be worth raising or informing your fellow members
- Technical articles from members, giving situations encountered and how they were overcome.

Please email comments to Alan Watson awatson@cibse.org or write to Alan at 222 Balham High Road. London SW12 9BS.

SoPHE GOES NORTH

SoPHE is spreading! We are in the process of setting up regular meetings in the North West, with meetings to be held in Liverpool and Manchester. In a similar manner to the regular meetings in London, the aim of the meetings will be not only to learn about a particular topic, but also to get to know your fellow colleagues from other firms and practices around the region. Technical and social evening all rolled up into one! What more could you ask for?

All are welcome, from architects to construction workers, consultants to facilities managers. Topics will range from fire suppression systems and domestic water installations, to siphonic rainwater, grey water systems and drainage systems. Not every meeting will be of interest to everyone, but we hope you will join us at different times across the year.

The first meeting is currently being arranged and it is hoped will take place in the Spring of 2004.

If you haven't yet received a letter and would be interested in coming along to any of the meetings, please fill in the form attached to the back of the newsletter, or contact Kate Longley:
Email: Kate.Longley@arup.com

SoPHE GOES GREY

Over 40 people attended the recent SoPHE meeting on grey water systems. Alan Bell of KSB Ltd, a company specialising in grey water systems, gave a detailed presentation on the subject.

The first point he made is that in the UK there is no variation in regulations between grey (i.e. waste water) and rain water: the systems he described only covered the use of rain water. Grey water from baths, showers, etc. includes solids, body fats and phosphates and as such is not fit for most uses in buildings without first being treated.

At the moment there is no UK regulation relating to the use of rain water and therefore systems operate to UK bathing water quality standards. The water can be used for laundry, garden irrigation, toilet flushing and car washing: these uses account for about 50% of domestic water usage.

Rain water systems include a four-stage filtration and cleaning process. The temperature of the water in storage tank should be kept under 16°C and for this and other reasons the tanks are normally installed below ground.

Currently there is a limited demand for such systems in the UK because of the long payback period, but growing environmental pressure, rising water prices and future government regulation will encourage much greater use of rain water utilisation in the future.

Vacancies

- The Society of Public Health Engineers Steering Committee requires a member to take on the role of Honorary Treasurer for the society. If you are interested in taking on this role, please contact Martin Shouler (shouler@bre.co.uk) directly for further information.

USEFUL WEBSITES and e-mails.

www.cibse.org

Society of Public Health Engineers

www.cibse.org/sophe

Technical Group:

Alan Neall

Membership Group:

Martin Shouler - shoulerm@bre.oc.uk

Communication Group:

Alan Watson - awatson@cibse.org

ODPM Building Regulations:

www.safety.odpm.gov.uk/bregs/brads.htm

Qualified Water Technology List:

Details on water products which qualify for Enhanced Capital Allowance

www.eca-water.gov.uk

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Wednesday 30 March/Thursday 1 April:

NEMEX 2004 National Energy Management Exhibition
National Exhibition Centre
Birmingham

Thursday 1 April:

Chlorination as an Aspect of Water Treatment

7:00 for 7:30 Start

Ipswich

Contact Colin Bowen for details (Tel: 01473 272277)

Wednesday 14 April:

Water Hygiene and AGM

Alan Hambridge of Controls Assurance Ltd provides essential information to help you comply with HSE Guidance on controlling Legionnaires' disease.

6:00 for 6:30 Start

Chamber of Commerce

Birmingham

Autumn 2004:

SopHE Annual General Meeting

Location to be confirmed

For technical evening dates, refer to 'Forthcoming Technical Presentation Evenings'.

New SopHE Members

Associate

M Sampson

Member

K Longley

I S Armour

R C Baker

A L Davis

P Flynn

R E Goodchild

S S Hammond

D C Harris

S Mackenzie

S C Modasia

D Read

W L H Roberts

D S K Tang

K B Willoughby

L A Wilson

V H J Jackson

Fellow

P J White

Student

L A Wilson

THE STEERING COMMITTEE

Chairman: Martin Shouler
shouler@bre.co.uk

Honorary Secretary: Chris Northey
cnorthey@zbp.co.uk

Communications Group: Alan Watson
Jim Buckmaster

Technical Group: Alan Neall
Alison Franklin
Roger Baker
David Shaw
Jonathan Gaunt

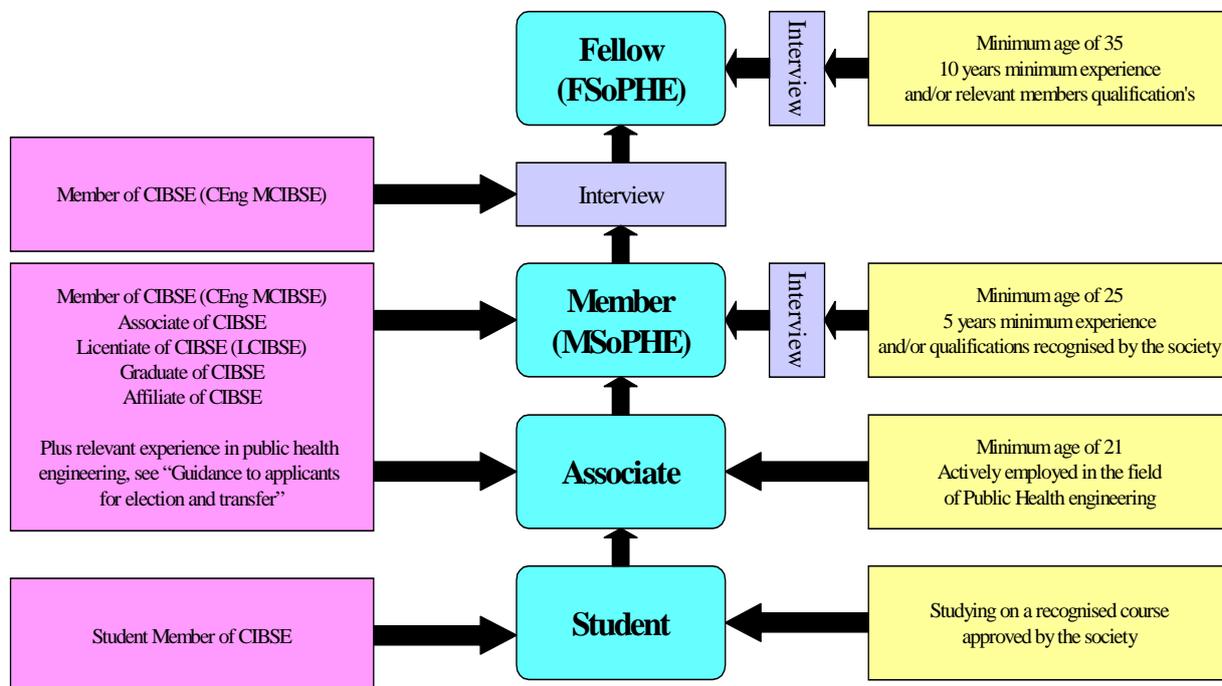
Membership Group: Martin Shouler
Chris Northey
Bill Bumstead

Regional Committee Contacts

Manchester: Kate Longley
kate.Longley@arup.com

Cardiff:

The Society of Public Health Engineers Membership Tree



To find out more about CIBSE and the Society of Public Health Engineers go to the CIBSE website www.cibse.org/sophe or write to:

CIBSE
Society of Public Health Engineers
222 Balham High Road
London
SW12 9BS, UK

Tel 020 8772 3643
Fax 020 8673 3302
E-mail scaplan@cibse.org

Application forms can be downloaded from the SoPHE Web site (www.cibse.org/sophe), along with all subscription rate details.

Those wishing to join SoPHE who are already members of CIBSE should complete the Membership Form M2 while those wishing to join SoPHE who are not members of CIBSE should complete the non-CIBSE member form M1.