

International SURF Groups and Partners

23rd October 2012 teleconference

3 – 5pm Australian Eastern Standard Time

Representatives:

- SuRF-ANZ – Garry Smith: Chair
- SuRF-UK – Jonathan Smith
- SURF-USA – Karin Holland
- SuRF-NL – Hans Slenders
- NICOLE – Sarah Mackay and Lucy Wiltshire
- Secretariat – Nicola Harries, CL:AIRE

Invited:

Paul Nathanail – University of Nottingham

Apologies received:

- SuRF-Italy - Claudio Albano and Alessandro Battaglia
- SuRF-NL – Laurent Bakker
- SuRF-Brazil - Sander Eskes
- SuRF-Canada – Stella Karnis
- Chinese Soil and Groundwater Network – Menfang Chen

AGENDA

1. **Welcome**
2. **Recent progress updates**
3. **Upcoming conferencing opportunities**
4. **Opportunities for joint initiatives:**
 - Proposal from Paul Bardos re a peer review journal/book SR publication.
5. **Actions to drive consistency between SuRF initiatives:**
 - Update on ISO on Sustainable Remediation outline proposal
 - Training/Webinars/Seminars opportunities:
6. **October special topic of interest:**

‘Regulatory Advocacy – Stakeholder Engagement’

 - What approaches work in UK versus USA?
 - Other regions status of this topic;
 - Who can provide case material ?
 - How can topic discussion continue?
7. **Next telecon meeting options.**

ITEM		ACTION
1.	<p>Welcome</p> <p>Garry Smith welcomed all. Apologies were received from SuRF-Italy - Claudio Albano, SuRF-NL – Laurent Bakker, SuRF-Brazil - Sander Eskes, SuRF-Canada – Stella Karnis and Chinese Soil and Groundwater Network – Menfang Chen.</p> <p>All agreed that they were happy with the proposed agenda.</p>	
2.	<p>Recent Progress Updates</p> <p><u>SURF-US</u></p> <p>Karin Holland (KH) explained SURF- US focus is the upcoming SURF 21 meeting in Washington in December where it will have a large international participation to learn what different groups are undertaking in relation to sustainable remediation. They are also working on a preparing a white paper on international work.</p> <p><u>SuRF-UK</u></p> <p>Jonathan Smith (JS) explained that SuRF-UK is working on Phase 3 activities which includes the publication of a series of case studies using the framework, developing guidance for assessors to help them undertake simple qualitative assessments and develop guidance on generic best management practices that can be applied to remediation projects. These will be undertaken alongside stakeholder workshops to ensure engagement with the whole of the industry which will occur in early March 2013.</p> <p><u>SURF-ANZ</u></p> <p>Garry Smith (GS) confirmed that SURF-ANZ has now launched their website www.surfanz.com.au which has posted a number of materials that draw on SURF-US and SuRF-UK. They have set up four working groups working on tools & metrics, regulatory & jurisdiction, planning & urban town planning and case studies. Two groups have reported and the remaining two will be reporting shortly. SURF-ANZ will also be helping to support Clean Up 2013 conference in Melbourne, Australia.</p> <p><u>SURF-Netherlands</u></p> <p>Hans Slanders (HS) confirmed that SURF-Netherlands are continuing with organising a series of workshops to help spread the work about Sustainable Soil Management. Their last workshop was in June/July. Another workshop will be focussing on contractors presenting case studies and they are organising a conference in December. With the economic downturn it is difficult to get more buy in. SURF-NL are looking to set up a website to help spread the word.</p> <p><u>NICOLE</u></p> <p>Lucy Wiltshire (LW) explained that the NICOLE Road Map for sustainable remediation does not have official endorsement by the European regulators but NICOE is now looking to develop a joint position statement with the Common Forum on sustainable remediation.</p>	

<p>3.</p>	<p>Upcoming conferencing opportunities</p> <p>GS asked people to confirm conferences that people had recently attended or planned to attend where there maybe opportunities to present about sustainable remediation. The following were confirmed:</p> <p><u>Conferences past</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Soil Rem and Site Rem September 2012 – Paul Nathanail confirmed that he had presented at this conference that was hosted by Menfang Chen • RemTech September 2012, Ferrara Italy – Jonathan Smith confirmed that he had presented. <p><u>Upcoming Conferences</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Taipai International Conference on Remediation and Management of Soil and Groundwater Contaminated Sites – Taiwan 29th October 2013 – 3rd November. • Sustainable Remediation 2012 – Vienna • SURF 21 – Washington • AquaConsoil – Barcelona April 16-19th 2013. Hans Slenders confirmed that a special session on SURFing the globe is being co-ordinated by Paul Bardos. • Clean Up 2013 – Melbourne: Jonathan Smith and Paul Nathanail confirmed their attendance • Battelle 2013 – Florida June 2013. Paul Nathanail confirmed that he and David Ellis have been asked to organise a session on sustainable remediation. Karin Holland confirmed that she is on Battelle steering group and will be reviewing abstracts. • Green Remediation Technologies Workshop NICOLE June 2013 • Sustainable Remediation at the Americana Conference March 19-21 2013. <p><u>Sustainable Remediation 2012 – Vienna</u></p> <p>KH confirmed that the organisers of the Sus Rem 2012 have made a room available for SURF groups to meet ahead of the meeting on Wednesday 14th November 2012 to allow a chance for the SURF groups to meet face to face and develop some more long term initiatives. KH asked all for ideas to discuss and she will formulate an agenda and circulate closer to the date.</p> <p>Hans Slenders confirmed that a Special Session on SURFing the globe is being organised at this conference. This will give an opportunity for the wider sustainable remediation community to understand the work of the SURF groups. The special session will also have case studies presented.</p>	<p>All</p>
<p>4.</p>	<p>Opportunities for Joint Initiatives</p> <p><u>Proposal from Paul Bardos re a peer review journal/book SR publication.</u></p> <p>Jonathan Smith presented on behalf of Paul Bardos about a concept that he has developed as r3 (not SuRF-UK) to produce an extensively reviewed special publication in a peer reviewed journal on Sustainable Remediation. With the growing literature on the subject of sustainable</p>	

	<p>remediation it is felt that a one place repository to inform assessors should be gathered.</p> <p>JS confirmed that this would not duplicate what is being prepared for the ISO standard or ASTM.</p> <p>The idea is to publish in a high impact factor journal with open access for readers. It is hoped that some papers would also be commissioned and written by selected authors and ensuring that academic projects are also linked to the journal.</p> <p>Extensive discussion was then had on the proposal. It was agreed that a high impact peer reviewed journal would be an advantage but to ensure that it is not duplicating on other initiatives. It was believed that there is space in the market to develop a repository of state of the art information on sustainable remediation. It was also felt that a repository of general technical information in one place would be useful.</p> <p>JS confirmed that this would not be a SuRF-UK output, it is very much Paul Bardos of r3 and it would look to link to all the different SURF initiatives. However JS happy to provide updates to its progress through the International SURF meetings.</p> <p>PN explained that open access is becoming more common with the university paying the publisher for this to occur, University of Nottingham often does this. For a repository of information in one place would benefit the ISO standard greatly. Sustainable Remediation is a very rapidly evolving subject area so it will be difficult to stay current. PN felt that it was less important for a high impact factor journal especially as the main focus would be to have open access. JS asked for all comments about Paul Bardos proposal to be sent to him and he will forward to Paul Bardos.</p>	All and JS
5.	<p>Actions to drive consistency between SuRF initiatives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Update on ISO on Sustainable Remediation outline proposal • Training/Webinars/Seminars opportunities • Different SURF Governance Models <p><u>Update on ISO on Sustainable Remediation outline proposal</u></p> <p>Paul Nathanail (PN) provided an update on the ISO on Sustainable Remediation proposal. He confirmed that Mike Smith – UK representative for Technical Committee 90 assisted in getting the proposal formally tabled for the last T90 meeting which was held in September 2012 in Helsinki.</p> <p>PN confirmed that the National Members now vote on the proposal with the voting window closing in November 2012.</p> <p>As far as PN is aware there is broad support for the proposal. If approved then he will be contacting those that indicated an interest in being involved in its preparation to work up a drafting team. PN believes that it will take in excess of 2 years to prepare an ISO. He plans to give an update at SURF21 as to the progress.</p> <p>PN then explained that the purpose of developing an ISO is to make sustainable remediation concepts more visible globally to practitioners and regulators. ISO standards apply across the world internationally. The aim of the ISO is not to duplicate work that has already been</p>	

	<p>undertaken but to signpost.</p> <p>There was concern that politics could get in the way as has happened with the ASTM and now two documents are being developed – Sustainable Remediation and Green Remediation. It is hoped that this will not occur as ASSI are the USA ISO representative.</p> <p><u>Training/Webinars/Seminars opportunities</u></p> <p>Garry Smith (GS) confirmed that SURF-ANZ is keen to develop internal training to help regulators and practitioners.</p> <p>Nicola Harries (NH) confirmed that CL:AIRE as part of SuRF-UK work developed a webinar on presenting the SuRF-UK framework and are now looking to develop further e-learning training modules on Sustainable Remediation. As soon as they know that they are progressing they will let the group know.</p> <p>NH also confirmed that USEPA had successfully run a series of webinars following on from CONSOIL Sustainable Remediation Special Sessions. These have been on Green and Sustainable Remediation. These are all accessible through CLU-IN website and have previously given updates on the different SURF Initiatives.</p> <p>Karin Holland (KH) explained that in the USA webinars are a good method of raising standards and helpful in getting messages across to a multinational community. JS confirmed that they run internal training across their business through webinars, however as always language is a barrier. PN explained that outside of Europe, Australia and North America visibility of sustainable remediation in non english speaking communities is not there.</p>	NH
6.	<p>October special topic of interest:</p> <p><u>'Regulatory Advocacy – Stakeholder Engagement'</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ What approaches work in UK versus USA? ■ Other regions status of this topic; ■ Who can provide case material ? ■ How can topic discussion continue? <p>GS explained that he is interested to hear how other jurisdictions have approached regulatory advocacy.</p> <p><i>SuRF-UK</i></p> <p>JS provided the UK perspective in relation to regulatory advocacy. He explained from the outset that SuRF-UK Steering Group has always had regulators on the steering group to help provide their view. This consists of Environment Agency and also Homes and Communities Agency – who are the brownfield regeneration agency for the English government. He confirmed that they have been in place since the outset and have helped to mould the thinking of the framework. The documents that SuRF-UK produce are not government policy and do not have official status but the framework does have a signed forward by the different government departments in England and regulators across the devolved administrations.</p> <p>Much of key government policy is geared to sustainable development in the UK so SuRF-UK documents are tools that practitioners can use to</p>	

	<p>help them meet sustainable development criteria.</p> <p>SURF-US</p> <p>KH gave the US approach and confirmed that SURF-US had unfortunately not been able to bring the USEPA along with them when developing their thinking. There is tension between green and sustainable remediation however bridges are being built. SURF-US are now engaging with state level regulators.</p> <p>NICOLE</p> <p>Lucy Wiltshire explained that NICOLE working group on sustainable remediation have not got regulators on board when developing their roadmap but are now looking to develop a joint position statement with the Common Forum on sustainable remediation.</p> <p>SURF - AUSTRALIA</p> <p>GS confirmed with the multiple levels of government make it challenging to get complete regulatory buy in, however they are engaging will multiple stakeholders to try and advance the thought process.</p> <p>SURF-NL</p> <p>Hans Slenders (HS) confirmed that sustainable remediation is a widely accepted concept at a national level in the Netherlands however it is at a local level that acceptance is difficult. SURF-NL believes that the only way to get greater buy in is to provide examples which is why they are focussing on providing case studies.</p> <p><u>Who can provide case material ?</u></p> <p>All groups are looking to provide case studies with a number being presented at forthcoming workshops. It would be useful to share successes across the international arena but it was acknowledged that examples in their own regulatory environment are more powerful. It then makes it much easier to get regulator buy in. It was also agreed that getting more regulators as part of the stakeholder engagement is important.</p> <p><u>How can topic discussion continue?</u></p> <p>It was agreed that this topic needs further discussion and it was felt that perhaps there may be an opportunity to discuss further at the face to face meeting in Vienna. SURF-ANZ confirmed that they feel that regulatory advocacy is really important and they are looking at dedicating part of their framework document on engaging with the regulator.</p> <p>KH agreed that this should be discussed further and will add to the list of items to be discussed in Vienna.</p>	KH
7.	<p>Next Meeting</p> <p>With no further business GS thanked everyone for their time and closed the meeting. NH will liaise with the next chair and arrange the next meeting.</p>	NH

