

HYDRAULIC MEASUREMENTS AND EXPERIMENTAL METHODS 2002

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Preface

Two important factors are presently driving new developments in the practice of hydraulic research and experimentation: (1) an explosion of new instrumentation technologies, particularly in the fields of acoustics and particle-image tracking; and (2) an expansion of international collaboration due to the efforts of professional societies and the ease of information exchange created by the Internet and related technologies.

In this environment, experts from more than 20 countries convened in Estes Park, Colorado for this Specialty Conference on Hydraulic Measurements and Experimental Methods, the second such meeting sponsored by the EWRI Technical Committee on Hydraulic Measurements and Experimentation. The first three-day Symposium took place in Buffalo, New York in August 1994. This second three-day meeting was a collaborative effort of the Environmental and Water Resources Institute (EWRI) of ASCE and the International Association of Hydraulic Engineering and Research (IAHR). This EWRI/IAHR collaboration was the first since the formation of the EWRI, and was the primary contributor to the international participation that made the conference such a success.

The primary factors that prompted the formation of the Technical Committee and the conduct of the successful Buffalo Symposium are still at work: a need to provide a sound understanding of established and developing technologies, the desire to disseminate and exchange information about new methods and applications, and the hope that an exchange of information between users, developers, and manufacturers of hydraulic instrumentation will promote continued growth in the field.

Many people contributed to the success of this Specialty Conference. The members of the EWRI Technical Committee conceived and proposed the idea and then saw it to fruition. Marian Muste supported the proposal as the Chair of the Instrumentation Committee of IAHR. The other members of the Conference Steering Committee, Todd Cowen, Warren Frizell, Tatsuaki Nakato, John Replogle, Helmut Knoblauch, and Alan Ervine, contributed greatly to the planning and success of the conference. Darrel Zimbleman provided planning support for local activities, including post-conference tours. The support of the staff of EWRI, Autumn Richter, Brian Parsons, and Stacy Gardiner, was greatly appreciated, as was the assistance of Angela Medina and Cheryl Rieniets of the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation. Bill Romer provided valuable assistance with operation of the web site used to process abstract and paper submissions.

Ultimately, the authors' presentations and posters provided a firm foundation for a successful conference, and the assistance of the Session Moderators helped to focus the active discussions that accompanied many of the presentations. Finally, these Proceedings and the papers contained within them are the conference legacy. They will provide a valuable reference for the profession, and the authors' efforts in their preparation are greatly appreciated. Each of the papers included in the Proceedings has been reviewed and accepted for publication. All papers are eligible for discussion in the Journal of Hydraulic Engineering, and all papers are eligible for ASCE awards.

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