ORFEUS User Workshop
Gaz de France, Paris
13th and 14th Sept 2007

Summary Report

Some 62 delegates enrolled for the event, from a wide range of countries and business interests. About two weeks before the event we placed a note on the web site advising would be delegates that the event was over subscribed due to venue capacity. Had we continued accepting bookings then the delegate numbers would have increased to about seventy.

The first afternoon consisted of a visit to the research labs at Gaz de France where we had presentations on new trenching and reinstatement techniques, looked at test facilities developed to stress test samples of materials and pipes, and at the covered test site used to verify the performance of various GPR systems in controlled conditions. Presentations were given by the individual research leaders, and delegates were invited to ask questions.

The evening of the first day included an excellent dinner, arranged through the advice of Gaz de France in the centre of Paris in a private room of a small restaurant. The arrangement provided a good opportunity for delegates to meet, and exchange business cards and information. In, what is arguably the gastronomic capital of the world it is almost unnecessary to say that the meal and wines were excellent, and the ambient environment completely fitting for such an event!

The conference day was mainly directed towards education, as the ORFEUS project work had yet to complete any major milestones. After an opening from our hosts, two user presentations give the view of agencies that perform GPR surveys for utilities. These gave an insight to weakness and strengths of current technology. A presentation on the technology of GPR explained how it worked. All these presentations are available on CD-ROM, and were also distributed to delegates.

The afternoon workshop sessions were arranged in three groups, facilitated in two languages, and one with simultaneous translation.

Gaz de France are thanked for providing excellent facilities and hospitality.