

# A NEW YEAR, A NEW HYDROLINK

EDITORIAL BY MICHELE MOSSA

At the IAHR meetings which I have had the opportunity to attend, I have always underlined that the present and future challenges of our association consist in taking into account all the changes in the scientific, engineering and technological communities. In fact we must propose activities in a background that, whether we like it or not, sees us as part of a globalized world. Therefore, in this context, the activities of IAHR require prompt replies to new pressing and fascinating challenges.

Hydrolink is listed in the Web of Science and is the membership magazine of IAHR, with a circulation of about 2500 water scientists and engineers. Starting with Issue 2 in 2010, Hydrolink became a new magazine, a sort of completion of the renewal policy of the entire association, which was also highlighted with its name change.

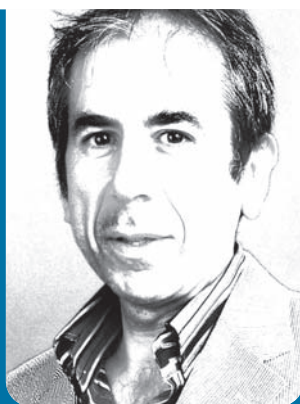
In order to reach the aforementioned goals, we started with new editorial guides such as 1) the presence of a topical article to which the issue of Hydrolink is mainly devoted, 2) the typical article "10 questions to..." where we ask some famous researchers or engineers to reply to 10 questions regarding his/her research topics, development and results and their possible valuable effects on the industry, economy and society and 3) some stylistic changes in the format of the pages.

However, in my first editorial I pointed to other possible innovations. In fact, from now on Hydrolink will be published quarterly, but the number of pages will be increased. This will enable us to have more time to prepare articles. Furthermore, the reader will receive an issue with a closer examination of the featured topic, with more than one or two articles devoted to the subject.

I am also glad to inform the reader that, thanks to the help of Estibaliz Serrano, in the near future the publication will see further innovations. In particular, Hydrolink will have its own part under the e-library section of the IAHR website, currently under development. It will also be shown on the homepage, with a link to the inside pages. It will be possible to download past issues from our on-line store currently under development, whereas for the more recent ones we will try to give some "tags" so they can be easily found. From this issue onwards the cover and a table of contents will be provided and the issues will be deconstructed in separate PDF files of each article; in this way the reader will be able to search and download separate articles (not the full PDF issue). Furthermore, the full PDFs will be shown on the page so that people will be able to print them.

We are also planning to develop an RSS system (web feed), in order to keep our readers up to date with new articles.

As is well known, RSS is a family of



**Prof. Michele Mossa**  
Technical University of Bari (Italy)  
Editor of Hydrolink  
m.mossa@poliba.it

web feed formats used to publish frequently updated works, such as editorials, articles, interviews, audio and video in a standardized format. The system allows the information to be published once and viewed by many different programs. RSS benefits readers who want to subscribe to timely updates from favorite websites or to aggregate feeds from many sites into one place. In particular, the IAHR Hydrolink RSS system will contain news and information useful for the writers and the readers of the magazine.

We are considering to use new technologies as the QR System. This is a two-dimensional matrix barcode consisting of black modules arranged in a square pattern on a white background. Users with a camera phone equipped with the correct reader application can scan the image of the QR code to display text, contact information, connect

to a wireless network, or open a web page in the telephone's browser.

I would like to conclude this editorial by underlining that this issue is mainly devoted to Global Water Security, a subject of growing international concern and which is introduced in Roger Falconer's article. We examine how water security affects other areas, such as agriculture and food production and industry, and we hear from important organizations with a key interest in the subject, such as the Global Water Partnership and the World Bank. Another aspect to be in consideration is Desalination and Water-Reuse.

This issue also contains several conference reports including the IAHR Kuwait Summit on Advances on Oil Spill Modelling, the first activity of the new IAHR Oil Spill Modelling Working Group of the Kuwait Summit on Advances on Oil Spill Modelling, the first activity of the IAHR Oil Spill Modelling Working Group, which took place in November. Oil spills are a major source of pollution, rendering the water inadequate for consumption and creating difficulties for desalination; spills affect the biota, which in turn can affect vegetation and shoreline stability, thereby affecting sediment erosion.

This shows how IAHR is moving ahead facing the global challenges.