Wealth Creation without Pollution
Designing for Industry, Ecobusiness Parks & Industrial Estates

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Content

• What can we learn from history?
• Effluents, accidents and incidents
• Diffuse pollution & industry
• Minimising adverse impacts
• How to shape our future for business & environment?
• Conclusions
• References
WHAT CAN WE LEARN FROM HISTORY?

Why sharing experiences is essential

• There is a real risk, especially as the world is entering a dangerous period of trade wars and ‘me first’ nationalistic politics, that the lowest level of environmental protection will become the business standard.

• Many business leaders have no personal experience or insight into environmental issues and how they are associated with business inefficiency
The classic pollution horror stories

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Example</th>
<th>Problem</th>
<th>Pollutants</th>
<th>Cost to business</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bhopal, India <em>Union Carbide</em></td>
<td>Leak &amp; explosion &gt;3,800 deaths</td>
<td>pesticides</td>
<td>$470M</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hinkley, California <em>Pacific Gas &amp; Electric Co.</em></td>
<td>Storing toxic liquid in <strong>unsealed tank</strong> for years over groundwater supply of local people</td>
<td>Chromium chronic exposure in water supply</td>
<td>&gt;$333M [the Erin Brokovich story, but US Geol. Verification &amp; ref.]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Minamata &amp; Niigata, Japan <em>Chisso Corporation</em></td>
<td>Effluent discharge over decades 100s of deaths, congenital impacts</td>
<td>Methyl mercury bioaccumulation in food chain</td>
<td>$86M in compensation by 2004</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sweizerhalle, Switzerland <em>Sandoz</em></td>
<td>Fire at pesticides factory R Rhine polluted through 4 countries</td>
<td>Mercury &amp; other chemicals</td>
<td>Led to EU legislation.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tianjin, China <em>Ruihai Logistics</em></td>
<td>Fire &amp; explosion at factory 173 deaths, Fish mortalities</td>
<td>Cyanide, [40 different hazardous substances]</td>
<td>$360,669 paid to families of firefighters killed (95 deaths)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Pollution = is bad business practice

ICI: lesson in poor business practices

- “We don’t need to bund” [ICI 1970s]
- The largest chemicals company in Britain & one of the worst polluters
- Effluent from one plant was **often pH 1-12**!
- One of their discharges (A) corroded and destroyed the water intake for another of their plants (B) downstream on the same canal
- **ICI eventually collapsed** in economic failure

Effluent treatment now = resource recovery

- Distillers in UK: solids from process → animal feed; soluble organic effluent → biofuel; main product = whisky & other spirits
- Potato logistics company, UK: *off-spec. potato → ethanol* for distribution fleet, solids → animal feed
- In Thailand 6 companies on one eco-business park making products similarly to above based on sugar cane crop
- **Waste minimisation and resource recovery is replacing effluent treatment**

Canal: effluent from A tracked along edge to intake of B
Shocking waste of resources, loss of resource for others, & public incurs costs for restoration

- Peerless Refinery, Bootle, Liverpool (1970s-80s) UK
- **Single product manufacture** from oil nuts
- The oil fraction required was extracted in a process using $\text{H}_2\text{SO}_4$
- All non-product material dumped to public sewer, which collapsed (dissolved concrete, into **local stream** $\rightarrow$ pH1)
- Company has gone *(uneconomic)*

Environment & business culture

**European**
- Rhine incident, Switzerland,
- A major fire in a pesticide store, polluted the River Rhine through France/Germany and Netherlands.
- Company sent a Director to Britain for example for a seminar with representatives of Fire Services and UK Environment agencies to share and LEARN FROM THE EXPERIENCE

**USA**
- **Denial**
- Multi-million dollar legal costs
- Multi-million dollar compensation payments after years of adverse impacts
- Examples: Hinkley, Bhopal
- Litigation culture is expensive and counter to learning from experience of avoidable problems
3 Types of Industry Impacts on the Water Environment

1. **Process effluents**
2. **Accidents & incidents** (can happen on a class A river as they can on a polluted one)
3. **Diffuse pollution** – 2 impacts of industrial activity:
   - (a) contamination at centres of production (on the premises, around industrial estates)
   - (b) contamination by products in use (widespread, even global, e.g. plastic, PCBs, DDT, anti-fouling paints, etc).
PROCESS EFFLUENTS

Calculating cost of effluent treatment...

e.g. BOD removal $X/kg \cdot [\text{BOD kg load}] \rightarrow \text{cost of treatment} = \text{Waste of resources!}

Distilleries in Scotland in 1980s were mono-product focused - disposed of everything else to rivers.

- Now highly profitable exemplars of sustainable industry
- by-products $\rightarrow$ animal feed, bio-energy,
- Supply-chain impacts too
- Eco-industry and waste minimisation have changed the approach to waste and resources


Effluent & pollution prevention

Company analysed process activities

Identified cause of each peak concentration:

- Leaking valve on product tank
- Cracked reactor vessel
- Leaking transfer pump
- Damaged containment walls

Net result after corrective actions was elimination of peaks
AND reduced baseline concentration to within discharge limit

Average total phosphorus (TP) concentrations in the main inflows, 1985-2015*

Impact of P-bleaching at textile mill

*CEH data, from the four 10-yearly intensive P surveys of inputs to Loch Leven (Linda May 2018) [NB concentrations here, not loads]

The textile mill, Kinross: effluent to trib. stream

Cashmere products, 2018

The mill & Loch Leven, 2018
Pollution control at the textile mill, Kinross

**Phosphorus (best practice* standard)**

- **The largest** input of P (1985)
- Discharge in breach of consent limit; FRPB enforcement action taken (1987).
- **Consent reviewed**; P limit lowered from 10mg/L to 2mg/L.
- **Process changes** made, prohibiting P in processes on site

*EU Workshop on P control, Perugia, Italy

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**Toxic chemicals (EQS approach)**

The Consent review also set limits on concentration of **moth-proofing chemicals** – in effect precluding use at the mill.

- Company saved money, environment improved.

Further improvements since then:

- biodegradable dyes (no toxic metals)
- ban on toxic agents (previously) used in China on raw wool

*The mill has increased it’s market share and is still the biggest employer in Kinross (August 2018)*


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The basis of UK oil storage regulations

5 year dataset, 1986-1980, records of incidents by source

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Source of reported oil pollution</th>
<th>% of all reported incidents</th>
<th>Comments</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Storage installations</td>
<td>53%</td>
<td>Failed &amp; over-filled tanks, pump-sets, fill-points, open valves</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Factory pipelines</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>e.g. filter valves left off when pumping resumed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total containable in a bund</strong></td>
<td><strong>78%</strong></td>
<td>If filter on feed-line is located within the bund</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Boiler-house, factory unit</td>
<td>4%</td>
<td>Corrosion, contact &amp; breakage, feed-line filters</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oil Drums</td>
<td>4%</td>
<td>Full and ‘empty’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Road traffic accidents onsite</td>
<td>4%</td>
<td>Leaking vehicle tanks or loads</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other incidents</td>
<td>13%</td>
<td>Miscellaneous causes</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Source: Allcock et al 1991, quoted in D’Arcy and Taylor 2018*
Housekeeping measures

Drips & spills at fill-points (external to bunded tanks) can only drain to stream.

Good guidance readily available
But pollution risks still often discovered...

1984 poster
Diffuse pollution

Definition:

“diffuse pollution is landscape or atmospheric contamination transported into the water environment by weather conditions”

DIFFUSE POLLUTION ON THE PREMISES

Extensive areas of contamination preclude simple containment
SUDS needed

RIVER MERSEY ESTUARY

Pollution Problems 1970s
• Untreated sewage
• Industrial effluents
• Industrial estates
  (contaminated surface drainage)

Pollution Problems 2000s
• Industrial estates
  (contaminated surface drainage)
• Diffuse pollution

Industrial estates on separate sewer system

22 industrial estates surveyed
1984: 21 caused deterioration in river quality
### Types of pollutants identified in surveys of industrial estates in England & Scotland

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Industry</th>
<th>Typical contaminants of surface runoff</th>
<th>Comments</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Haulage fleets (a feature of several different industries)</td>
<td>Detergents, oil, PAHs, toxic metals</td>
<td>Contamination by deposition and wear exacerbated by <em>ad hoc</em> steam cleaning</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Metal finishing</td>
<td>Toxic metals, cutting oil, lub. oil</td>
<td>Toxicity, high BOD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Packaging</td>
<td>Sediment, COD</td>
<td>Waste materials &amp; vehicle fleets are main contamination sources</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Food industries</td>
<td>BOD, COD, H/Cs, sediment</td>
<td>Spills: grain, sugar, beer, etc</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Retail outlets/commercial</td>
<td>Sediment, H/Cs &amp; metals</td>
<td>Car parks, vehicle unloading areas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Steam cleaning plant components in yard (many industries)</td>
<td>Detergents &amp; oil, SS, BOD</td>
<td>Strictly= a trade effluent &amp; needs a licence, but often <em>ad hoc</em>.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>All, especially construction</td>
<td>Soil &amp; suspended solids</td>
<td>everywhere</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Example ecological impacts, Scotland

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>BMWP</th>
<th>ASPT</th>
<th>Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Dechmont Burn below (d/s) Deans Industrial estate</td>
<td>BMWP 14</td>
<td>ASPT 3.5</td>
<td>Brox Burn u/s Dechmont confluence BMWP 80 ASPT 6.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dedridge Burn d/s Brucefield Industrial estate</td>
<td>BMWP 45 – 84</td>
<td>ASPT 5.00 – 5.25</td>
<td>Investigational samples</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Red Burn d/s Cumbernauld (mean 2003-2010)</td>
<td>D/s industrial estates &amp; u/s Dunnswood STW: BMWP 25-50</td>
<td>ASPT 4.42</td>
<td>&gt; 20 years of intensive clean up efforts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Caw Burn d/s Houston Industrial estate</td>
<td>Spring 2010: BMWP 20</td>
<td>ASPT 2.86</td>
<td>Twice yearly samples. Best quality after summer low flow period</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Autumn 2010: BMWP 50</td>
<td>ASPT 3.85</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Translated by: {translator_name}
DIFFUSE POLLUTION AT POINT OF USE

• Impacts widespread
• Can be catchment and global scale
  e.g. Anti-fouling paints (TBT, organo-copper)
  e.g. Plastic, pesticides, toxic metals
• Bioaccumulation
• E.g. PCBs, micro- and nano plastic particles

MINIMISING DIFFUSE SOURCE IMPACTS
Minimising Impacts from diffuse sources

- Capture the pollutants
- Optimise capture features for in-situ degradation
- Product substitution (metals, plastic...)
- Contingency planning (design & operations)
- Synergies & multi-purpose features
- Partnerships, regulatory regimes & enforcement

Two super-classes of diffuse pollutants

**Natural contaminants**
- Soil /Sediment
- Nutrients (NPK, traces of Cu, etc)
- Natural organic matter
- PAHs derived from natural fires
- Cyanobacteria
- Faecal pathogens

**Man-made materials**
- Pesticides
- PCBs
- Fire-retardants
- Solvents
- Plastic
- Micro-plastic
- Nano-particles Including heavy metals, PAHs
- Toxic forms of metals in many materials
- Impossex substances (hormone surrogates)
- And many more...

Even if complete change away from anthropogenic persistent substances, SUDS/LID still needed
Problem pollutants in problem quantities

Persistent pollutants
- Prevent losses
- Reduce use
- Re-use
- Recycle
- Recover

Product replacement*
- e.g. Pb in petrol
- Pb in wheel balancing weights
- Cu in brake pads
- Cl-H/C pesticides
- TBT anti-fouling paints
- Plastic...

For foreseeable future:
- Runoff contamination will continue
- Capture in drainage [LID] features

TAKES YEARS & SIGNIFICANT DAMAGE
Pre-requisite for action = widespread use
EVIDENCE of adverse impact needed
Then more evidence, in more places
Development of alternative chemicals


How to achieve a multi-functional landscape for water management?

- The landscape is an important part of the land-use management challenge.
- Landscape determines pathways for pollution and pathways for flooding.
- Landscape also determines public acceptability of development proposals

Above: Raingarden in Cardiff, UK, 2018 – already discarded plastic & other litter

Left: grass is above the level of the road; built on assumption runoff -> road gully
Treatment trains & Constructed Wetlands for industrial estates (e.g. Lockerbie, Scotland)

- **Treatment trains**: grass swales -> sedimentation basin -> wetland
- **Contingency planning**: e.g. catch spills before

**HOW TO SHAPE THE FUTURE?**
Water wise cities & businesses: aspirations

‘Water as a risk’ issues
- Flood risk
- Lack of enough water
- Diffuse pollution
- Inability to insure property
- Inability to sell property
- Development/redevelopment constraints

‘Water as an asset, a resource’
- Rainwater harvesting
- Groundwater recharge
- Pre-treatment prior to water treatment plant & potable supply
- Other ecosystem services

Passive stormwater management [LID]
- Control of diffuse pollution
- Management of flood risks
- Natural flood management u/s
- Creation of amenity habitats
- Resilience planning
- Resource capture & protection

Water as part of place-making:
- Amenity habitats & well-being
- Informal recreation
- Angling/fisheries
- Property values
- Freedom from drainage constraints - > redevelopment, improvements

20+ years of innovative thinking

- Novotny et al & Cities of the Future
- Blue-grey cities
- Sponge cities
- Water wise cities

KEY IDEA = integration & multiple benefits
The sponge city

- Prof. Kongjian YU* says
  “The concept of Sponge City is... approaching water and other environmental issues at different scales, including stormwater management, flood control, water purification, supplementing groundwater, restoration of brownfields and urban habitats, improvement of green spaces and urban micro-climates”


The sponge city: made in China, but now being used all over the world...

The sponge as a bioreactor too?

- Not enough to just capture diffuse pollutants in landscape features
- What happens to them there?
- Intermittently dry landscape features favour biodegradation in soil*.
- Design the landscape features for optimal removal therein by uv light and in aerobic soils*.


Top: detention basin, Dunfermline.
Above: Fiona Napier field and lab. investigation of fate of pollutants in SUDS
Low Impact Development, LID

1998 sustainable drainage triangle sought to encourage multiple benefits features, integrated within landscape planning.

Now an even broader mindset is needed, as scale and severity of problems has increased

Problems increasing faster than solutions...

Landscape design for low impact is vital

Lifting the Lid on LID...

Requirements of landscape:
- Built-in filtration
- Built-in pollutant capture
- Built-in flow attenuation

This is the challenge for developing the LID concept

Polluting runoff contaminates water resources.
Sealed surfaces preclude groundwater recharge
Intensive rainstorms -> flooding
Green infrastructure to address diffuse pollution & manage stormwater

Needs to be on a city & catchment scale:
1. Passive systems
2. Capture contaminants
3. Degrade degradable ones within the infrastructure
4. Pollution management strategies require at source and successive physical measures (treatment trains)

• The technology and planning policies which produced the problem will not supply the answers...

• “Build as usual” then add a raingarden or a pond...

Accidents & fires

• Major accidents AND flooding risks:
  the risk of such incidents might be 1:30 or 1:50 years.
  But not simultaneously!
• Detention facilities should be designed as contingency features for major incidents
• the receiving point for contaminated fire-water (for safe disposal off-site as appropriate).
When it’s got really bad…enforcement

Enforcement is simple, inexpensive and saves all parties money eventually and maintains essential water resources for all.

How to persuade people that a radical, approach is needed?

An international consensus supported by
Strong, clear evidence of the problems is a pre-requisite for action

The application of structural
BMPs/SUDS/LID needs to be routine
for land-uses, as basic multi-purpose landscape features

• C.f.:
[In the UK, the CIWEM report* on Diffuse Pollution Impacts set up a decade of action from 2000:
Implementation of measures
Monitoring & research
Policy & regulation]

IWA Land-Use & Water Quality Task Group

- **Primary aim** greater interest in diffuse pollution globally, at a sufficiently high level to influence policies & actions by governments, environment agencies, and others.
- The group believes that will require publication of a high impact report [2020]

- Target readership needs: EVIDENCE
- Currently seeking sponsors to allow a contract to be let
- Contact: Dr BJ D’Arcy
  - B.darcy@btinternet.com

Growth of plastics production, Zalasiewicz et al (2016) *Anthropocene* 13, 4-17

Recommendations

- **Teaching** next generation of industrial chemists and engineers about the problems & risks – role for universities in mainstream higher education
- Holistic research? New products & environmental implications co-researched?
- Development of new, safe & sustainable products
- **Ecobusiness parks** – must be about water and environmental pollution risks too, not just nice architecture with a few trees and energy efficient walls or a green roof or recycled bits here and there... water environment often missing from eco-architect’s agenda.
- **Market development** for cleaner environment (SUDS as routine)
- LID for new industrial, commercial and other land-use developments: ROUTINE techniques for all developments
- Research projects to look at benefits, barriers and feasibility for new and retrofit situations
- Make **Monitoring for performance evaluation & improvement, long term** as well as short-term, a research priority
- Review papers plus topical research on urban diffuse pollution impacts needed (e.g. for Novatech 2019, and DIPCON, Korea 2019)
Recommendations (2)

- Greater effort needs to be made to explain and note the significance of diffuse pollution events.
- International efforts to provide and publish evidence of diffuse pollution impacts (2020) should help raise interest in the radical attenuation (pollutants and flows) role envisaged here for a developed and expanded LID role.

- High impact case study review papers (land use & water quality) are needed in 2018-19:
  - High level state of the water environment - national summary papers
  - Ecological impacts case studies
  - Resource impairment, economic impacts case studies and examples
  - Impacts on Water utilities

References


A Life’s Work...