

WATMOVE

Europe travels by road. Over 92% of all travellers' journeys take place by road and 72% of all freight travels on them. So it's important that our roads perform efficiently, reliably and economically. Engineers try to ensure this happens, but they face a serious enemy! Water – water from rain and from the ground.



This water weakens the road structure so that the road cracks or ruts faster than it should, and it sometimes carries contaminants from the construction into the surrounding ground and into streams and lakes. For this reason a co-operative group of 18 European countries came together with the help of a little EU COST support (COST = Co-operation in the field of Science and Technology). The group called itself "WATMOVE" and studied best practice and combined research outputs so that we could provide the best advice possible on:

- maximising road material performance,
- managing water flows in and out of the road construction,
- controlling movement of contaminants by water in the road pavement and immediate surroundings.

The work was completed in Spring 2007 with publication of a text book "Water in Road Structures" (published by Springer) in Autumn 2008. You can find out more about our work at www.watmove.org or you can email our chairman, Andrew Dawson at andrew.dawson@nottingham.ac.uk

