

## **OptTek VP of Research Invited by EPA to Advise on Optimizing Urban Watershed Management Practices**

**Boulder, Colorado, August 10, 2006**— OptTek Systems, Inc. the world leader in optimization solutions for simulation software, today announced that VP of Research Dr. Manuel Laguna, was invited to attend a workshop in Fairfax Virginia, September 15-16, 2006 to explore developing improvements in watershed and stormwater management and to evaluate how best to address environmental quality restoration and protection needs in urban and developing areas. The workshop will include several other experts in operations research, civil engineering and environmental management drawn from major universities to discuss and report the current state-of-the-art in optimization concepts and methods for watershed-scale decision making of best management practices selection and placement.

Urban land area in the nation was increased by 330% and paved road mileage by 280% between 1945 and 1997. Research indicates that when the percentage of impervious cover exceeds 25 to 30% of the watershed, streams tend to no longer support diverse fish and aquatic life and have poor water quality. Significant investments are needed to protect and restore water quality, address total maximum daily loads, and evaluate and design sustainable stormwater management systems. Various structural and non-structural stormwater best management practices have become the national focus for the mitigation of stormwater pollution. Best management practices types include ponds, bioretention facilities, infiltration trenches, grass swales, filter strips, dry wells, and cisterns.

Dr. Laguna is also Professor of Operations Management in the Leeds College of Business at the University of Colorado at Boulder. He received masters and doctoral degrees in Operations Research and Industrial Engineering from the University of Texas at Austin. He has done extensive research in the interface between computer science, artificial intelligence and operations research to develop solution methods for problems in areas such as production planning and scheduling, routing and network design in telecommunications, combinatorial optimization on graphs, and optimization of simulations. Dr. Laguna has more than ninety publications, including academic journal articles and books. He is editor-in-chief of the Journal of Heuristics, is on the international advisory board of the Journal of the Operational Research Society and has been guest editor of the Annals of Operations Research and the European Journal of Operational Research. Dr. Laguna has received research funding from government agencies such as the Air Force Office of Scientific Research, the National Science Foundation, the Office of Naval Research and the Environmental Protection Agency.

**About OptTek Systems, Inc.** — OptTek Systems, Inc. is a Boulder, CO based optimization software and services firm. From its inception in 1992, OptTek has become the leading provider of optimization software to simulation companies and employs state-of-the-art techniques based on many years of research in the area of optimization, in which OptTek's founders are internationally recognized leaders. OptTek specializes in developing and customizing its software to enable solutions for business problems characterized by significant uncertainty and complexity. With over 60,000 licenses sold, OptTek's software is used by hundreds of firms including Fortune 500 companies for diverse applications including portfolio optimization, customer relationship management, financial and strategic planning, logistics and transportation, and telecommunications. OptTek's website is [www.OptTek.com](http://www.OptTek.com).

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