

Do You Think You Manage Your Source?

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The historical problems of soil contamination are so big, we have to manage them and control the risks until remediation can be started. The presentation will focus on uncertainties in soil investigation, lab analysis and risk evaluation. Results will be presented of a round robin organised among laboratories. This round robin was the final test to be accredited to carry out soil analyses in Flanders. The results are rather shocking. Up to now, Flanders is the only European region demanding success in a round robin to get an accreditation. What's the value of a soil investigation or risk evaluation if variations in analysis results are as high as the measured concentration? Many companies pay a lot of attention to find the most cost-effective remediation concept. Making the ground fit for use, isolation concepts and natural and stimulated attenuation seem quite interesting for large contaminated sites at short notice. The presentation will focus on uncertainties in modelling long term behaviour of pollutants, on long-term organisational and maintenance problems and costs of the most frequently used source management concepts. The main aim of the presentation is to get the audience thinking about what consultants or contractors try to sell them.