

Optimisation of distribution of hydrographic data: implementation of CARIS Bathydatabase.

Besides a significant internal use of hydrographic data, the Flemish Hydrography also provides hydrographic data to other users and divisions within the Flemish Government.

Validated bathymetric data is distributed to the dredging division in order to steer and control the dredging activities and to the Flanders Hydraulics Research division in order to perform additional hydraulic and scientific research. At the moment, most of the data is still being distributed as ASCII or Arcview format on CD-rom.

A new complete and integrated system, which will be implemented from October 2006, will manage and distribute the bathymetric data in an efficient database oriented way. Within the Flemish Hydrography a file server will be used to manage the raw and validated data (survey data). The Caris Bathy Database (**server** and **manager licences**, see picture below) will allow to distribute reduced data (bathymetry) together with all the relevant metadata to the internal users in a quality improved manner.

