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An approach to the implementation of European Directive 2007/60/EC on flood risk management in the Czech Republic

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Abstract. Directive 2007/60/EC of the European Parliament and of Council of 23 October 2007 on the assessment and management of risks (the Flood Risk Directive) signifies that flood risk analysis is gaining ground in EC Member States and, therefore, also in the Czech Republic (CR). Procedures of flood risk analysis have been developed in the Czech Republic since the catastrophic floods of 1997 in line with European and worldwide trends and have been tested and applied in hundreds of case studies to date. Currently, the Flood Risk Directive Guideline is being implemented. Past experience with flood risk analysis applications is being processed.

The aim of the paper is to present flood risk analysis procedures and specially developed techniques for the assembly of flood hazard, danger and flood risk maps. Methods related to flood risk management planning are briefly mentioned as well. The following particular problems are discussed in more detail: an application and extension of the "danger matrix" approach, the definition of residual danger, the formulation of effective criteria and preliminary multi-criteria flood risk assessment. These were tested in practical applications at pilot locations in the Czech Republic. Present experience provides evidence that the flood risk methods used in the Czech Republic are in harmony with the requirements of the Flood Risk Directive. The proposed and applied methods are primarily based on existing available data such as flood extent maps, cadastral maps, the Register of Census Districts and Structures and others.

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