

EU Reference Document: Good Practices on Leakage Management

**CASE STUDY SALZBURG:  
SUSTAINABLE NETWORK  
MANAGEMENT PRACTICES**

**Joerg Koelbl**  
(Austria)

IWA Water Ideas Conference 2014  
Bologna, October 2014

blue

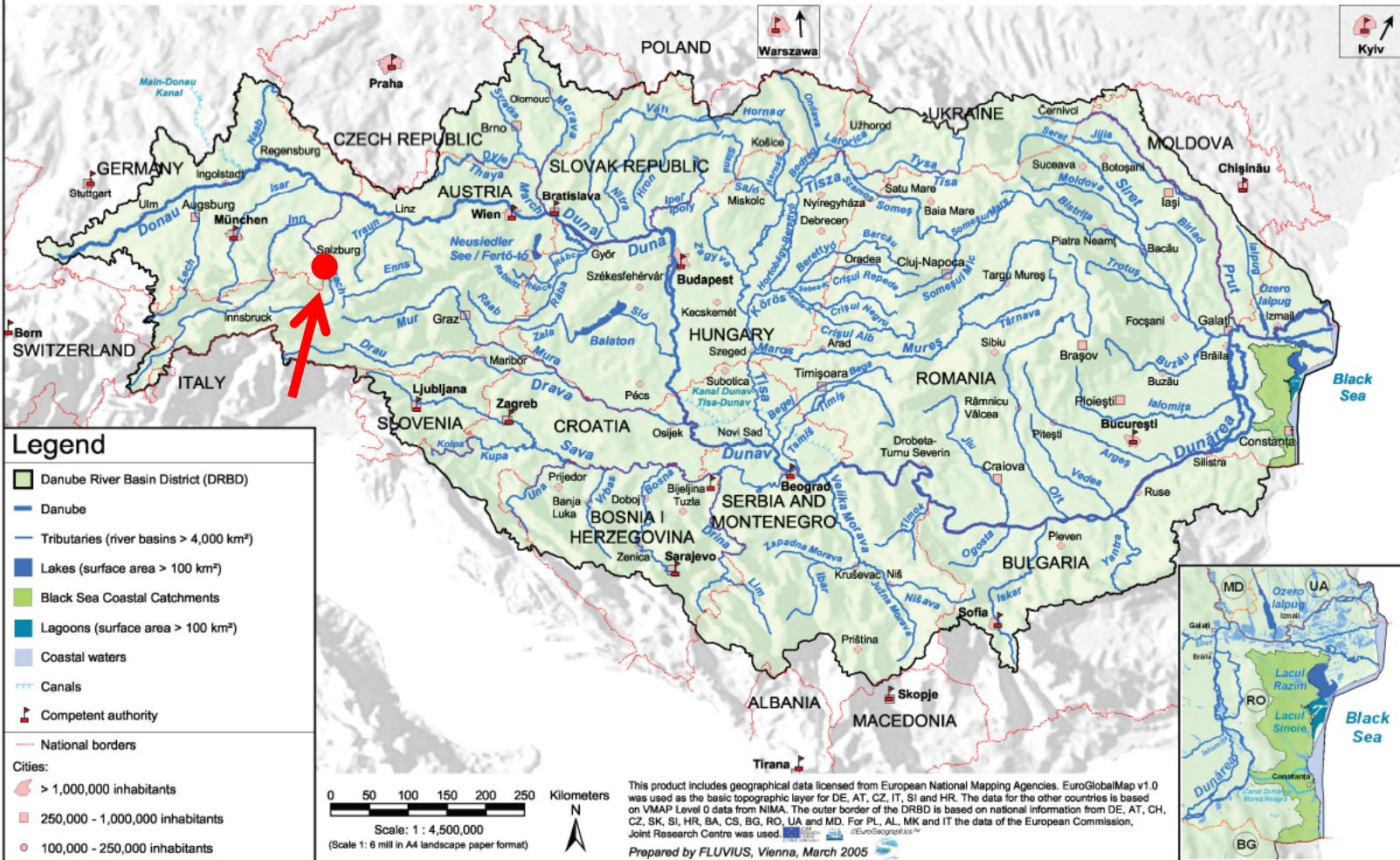
Consulting Engineers  
for Water Management and  
Environmental Engineering

networks

# OVERVIEW DANUBE RIVER BASIN

**Danube River Basin District**  
**Map 1: Overview**

Product of  
ICPDR (International  
Commission for the  
Protection of the  
Danube River), Vienna

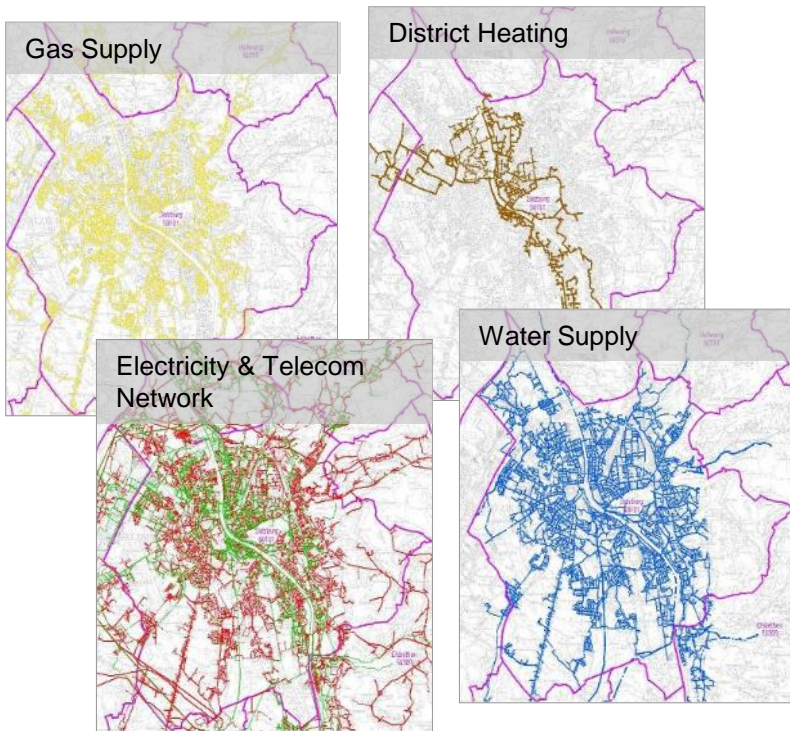


# SALZBURG AG AND WATER SUPPLY SYSTEM

Salzburg AG is a regional multi-utility corporation serving 260.000 clients with 2000 employees

Salzburg AG is operating:

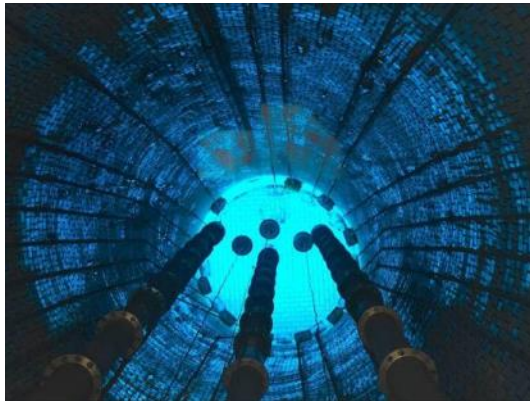
Electricity Network	15.300 km
Telecom Network	9.000 km
Gas Supply Network	1.900 km
<b>Water Supply Network</b>	<b>850 km</b>
District Heating Network	200 km



Salzburg AG Networks are managed in a **Multi-Utility Approach**

- one face to the clients
- one maintenance team for pipe networks

# SALZBURG'S WATER SUPPLY SYSTEM



*Courtesy of: Salzburg AG*

# DETAILS WATER PRODUCTION SYSTEM AND DISTRIBUTION NETWORK OF SALZBURG AG

Total number of staff: 2001

Staff directly involved in water operations: 49

2 main groundwater resources, connection to trans-regional bulk supply system

9 reservoirs, 2 main reservoirs

5 water treatment plants

6 pumping stations

155,000 inhabitants served

20,130 service connections

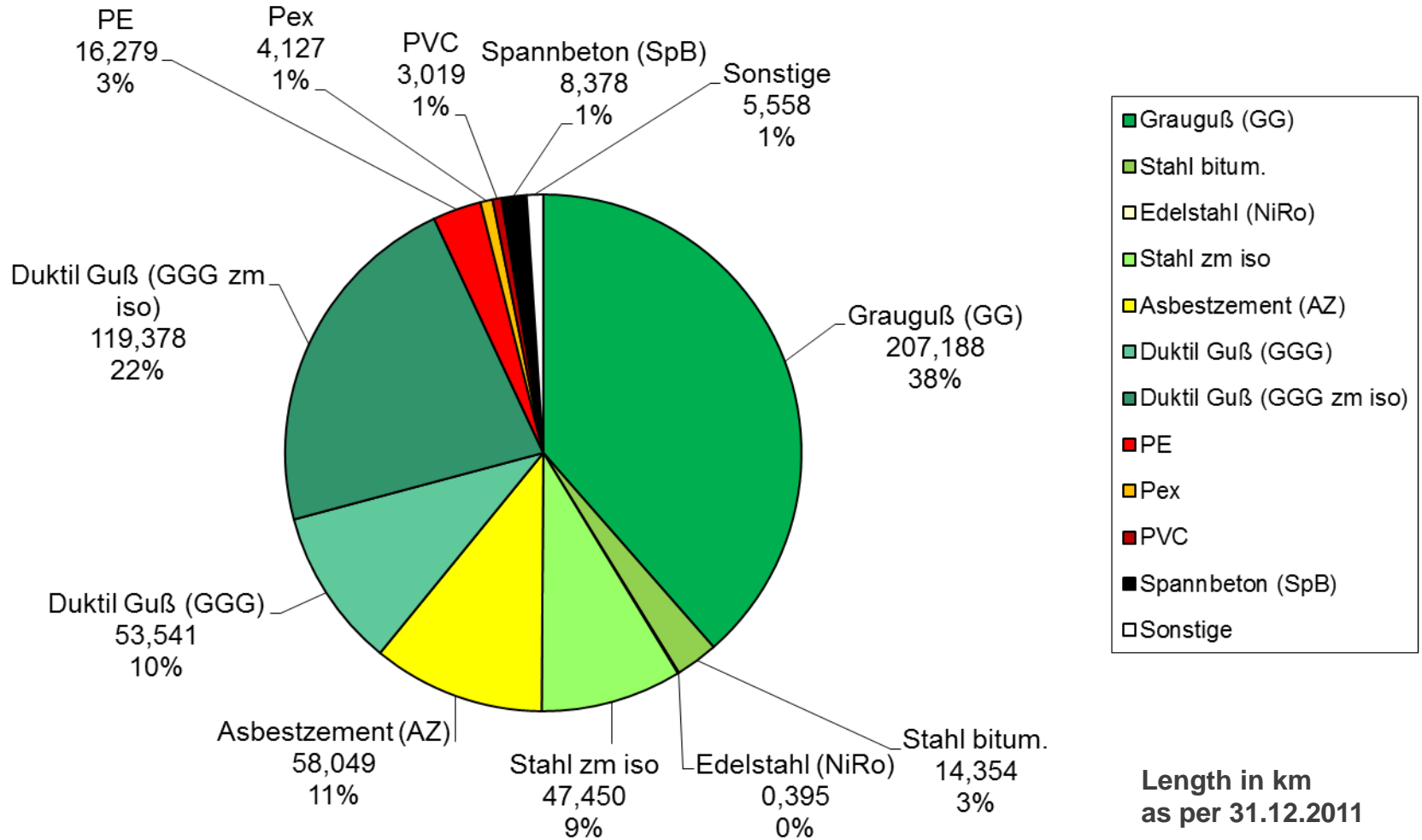
Average consumer price (excl. VAT): 1.468 €/m<sup>3</sup>



*Courtesy of: Salzburg AG*



# MAINS MATERIALS

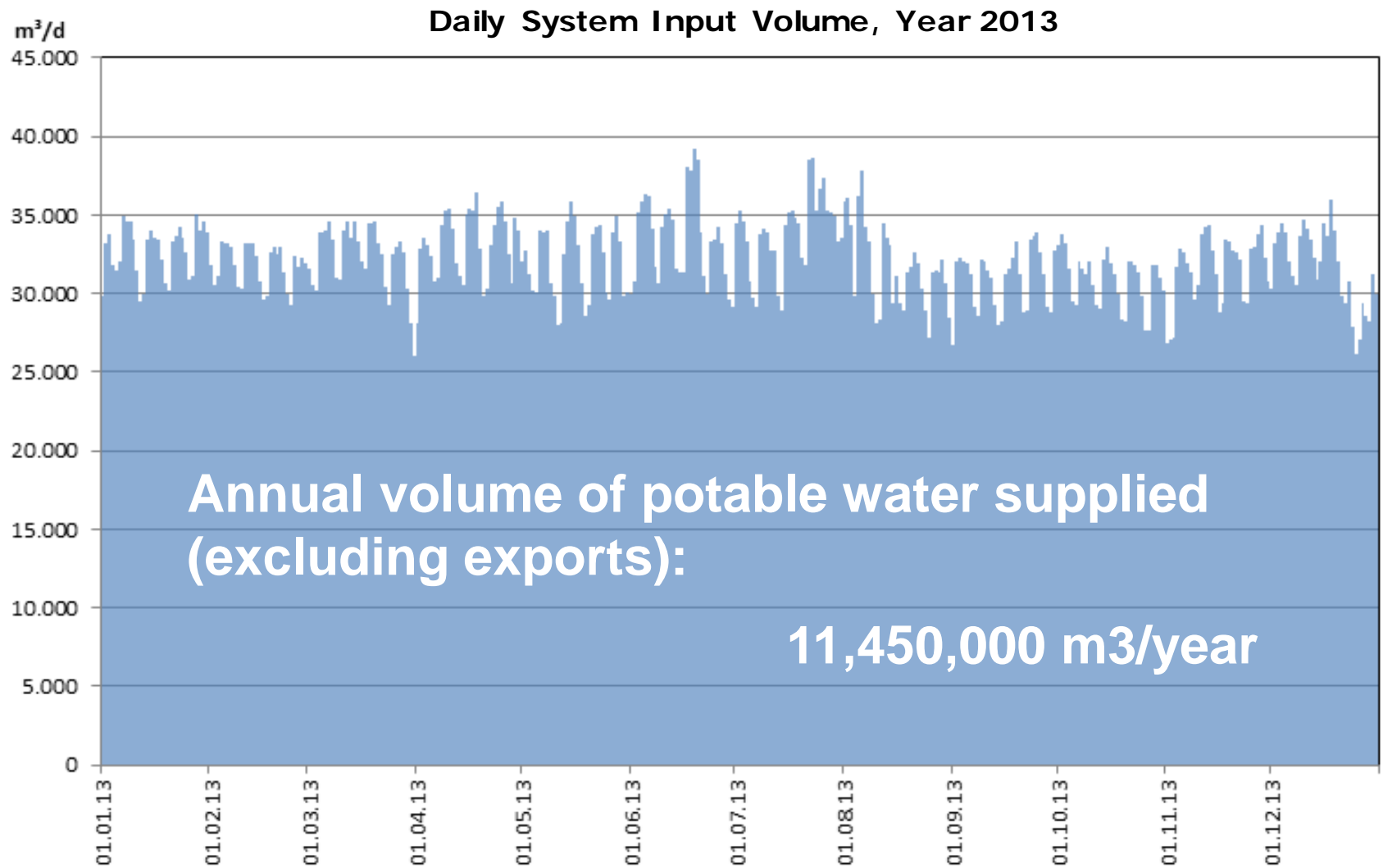


Length in km  
as per 31.12.2011

Courtesy of: Salzburg AG

> 80% metallic pipes

# DAILY SYSTEM INPUT VOLUME, YEAR 2013





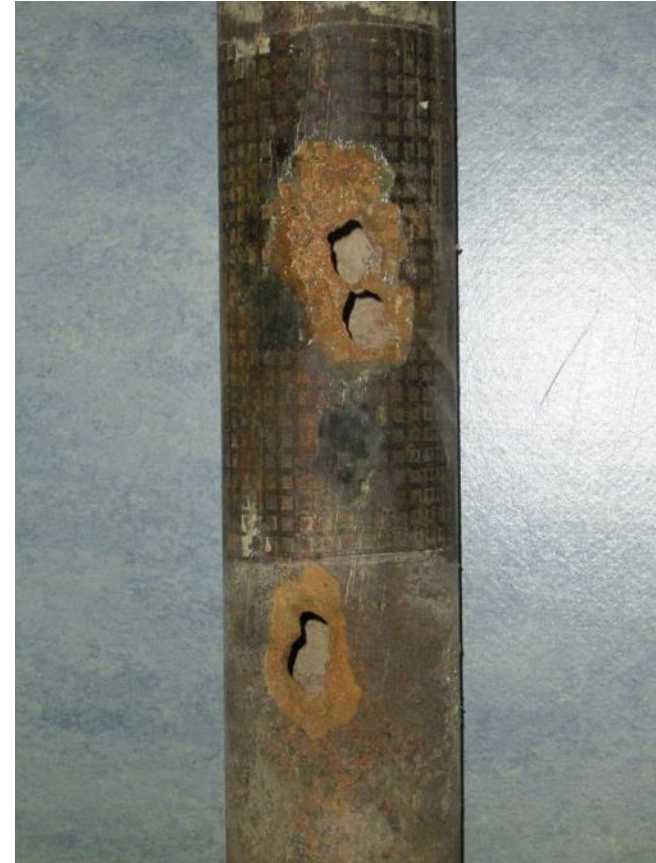
# CONDITION OF PIPE NETWORK

Two criteria are mainly characterising the condition of a pipe network:

- **Real Water Losses**
- **Failure rates**

Failure dynamics is influenced by:

- Structure of the network (e.g. rural or urban → service connection density)
- Type of soil and soil movements
- Traffic load
- Excavations near pipes
- Pressure variations, water surges, operating pressure
- Age



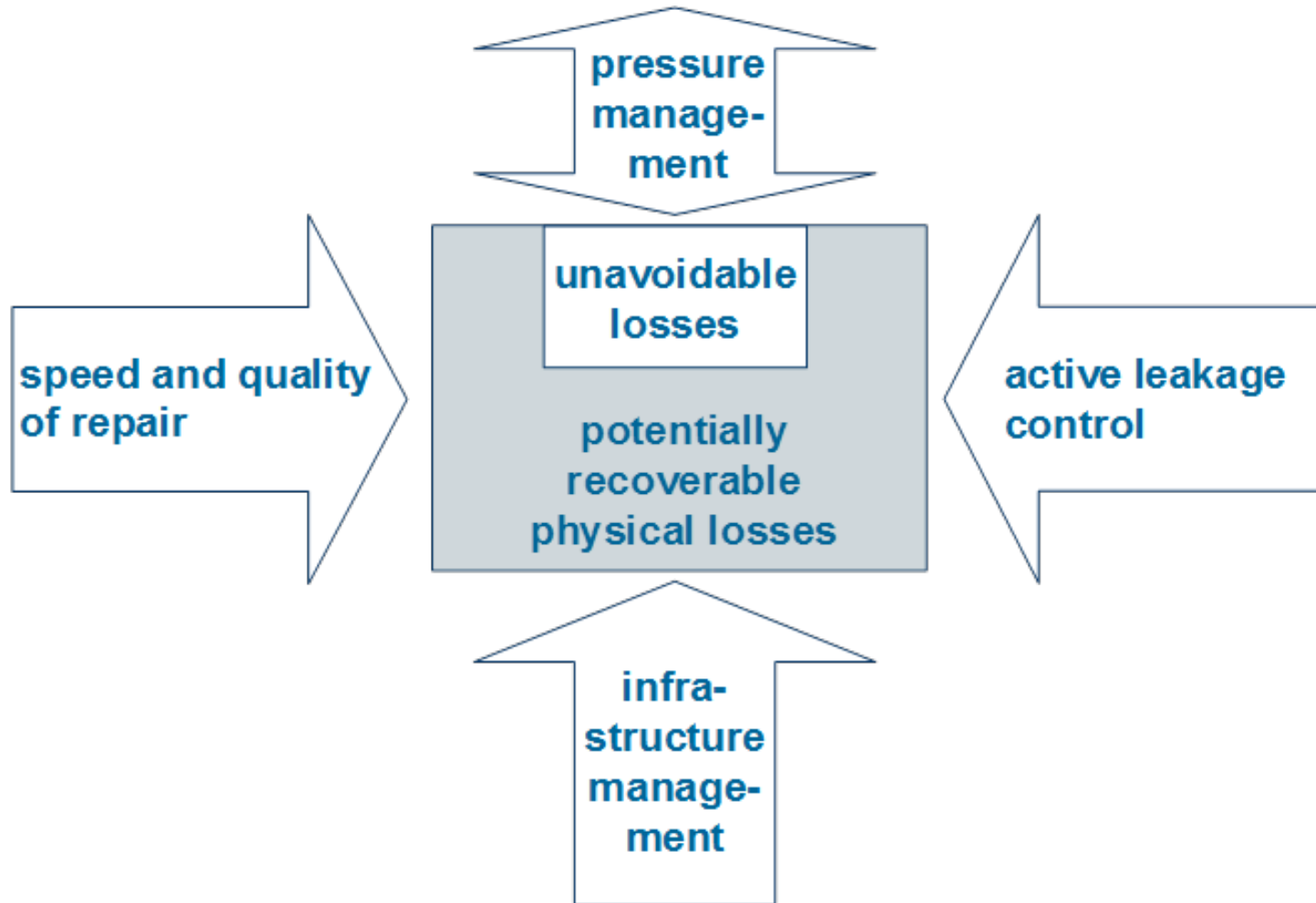
*Courtesy of: Salzburg AG*

# REAL LOSSES AND FAILURE RATES (2013)

Leakage Indicators	Value
Infrastructure Leakage Index (ILI)	1.14
Losses per connection per day	84 l/conn/d
Losses per mains length	0.13 m <sup>3</sup> /km/h
Non-Revenue Water as % of system input volume	6.3 %

Leaks on mains: 16.5 per 100 km/a  
Leaks on service connections: 3.73 per 1000 conn/a

# BASIC METHODS OF WATER LOSS MANAGEMENT



# SALZBURG'S ASSET MANAGEMENT

Adequate supply pressure required for sustainable infrastructure management;

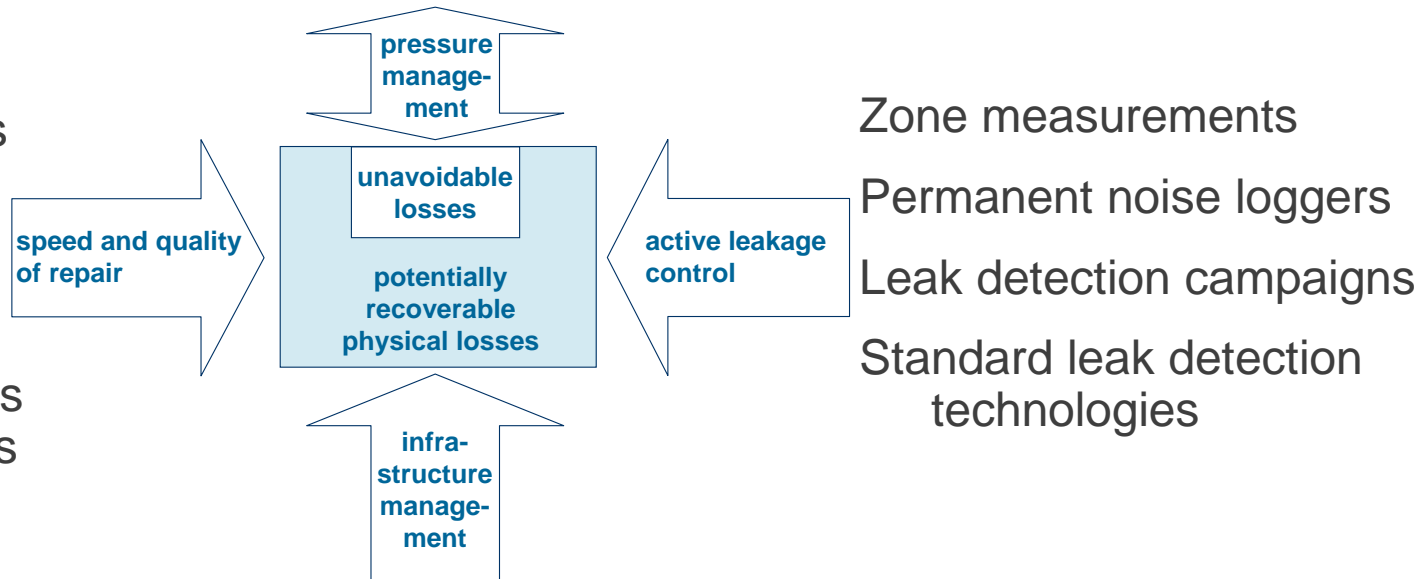
Basic pressure management implemented in main zones

Multi-Utility approach

High quality materials

High construction standards

Average repair time:  
mains: 1.5 days  
services: 2.5 days



Conservation of good network asset condition

Regular network inspection (~20% per year)

Rehabilitation Planning

Long-term cost optimization

# PERMANENT NOISE LOGGERS

**More than 80% of network consists of metallic pipes**

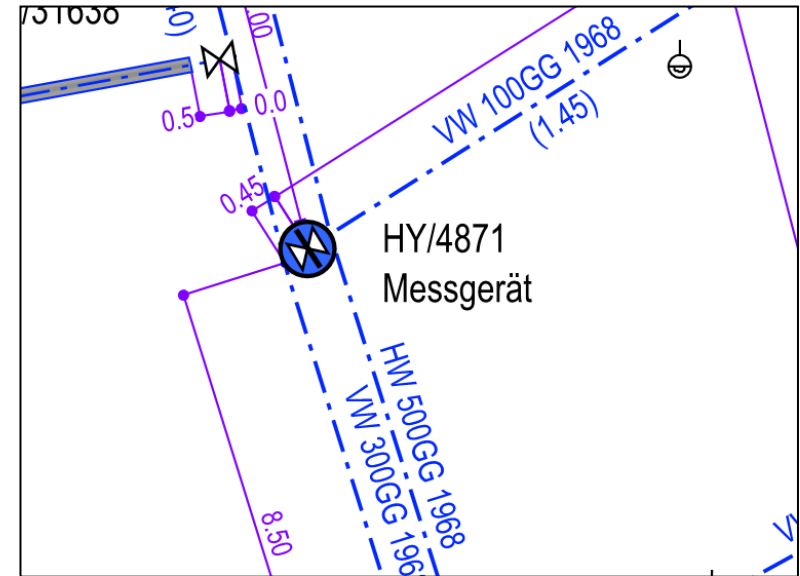
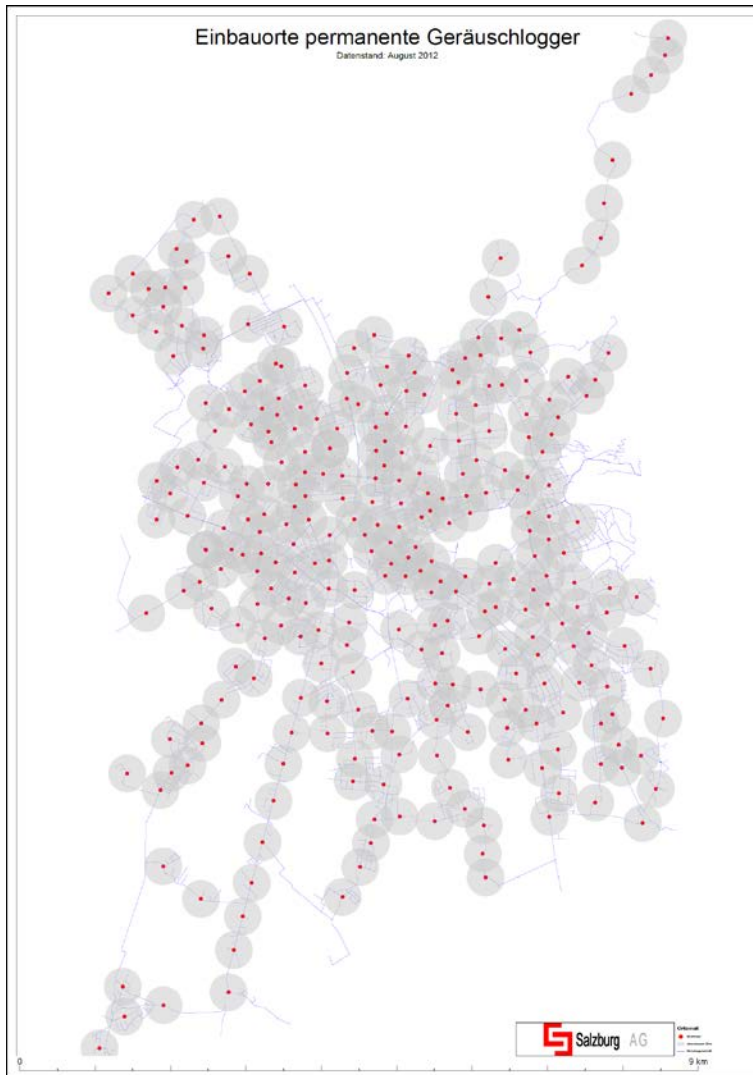
## **Stepwise implementation**

- At the beginning only the main traffic routes
- Since 2013 whole network covered by 300 permanent noise loggers

## **Noise loggers read by cars of maintenance teams**

- According to their daily routes and on demand
- At least every logger is read once a month

# PERMANENT NOISE LOGGERS



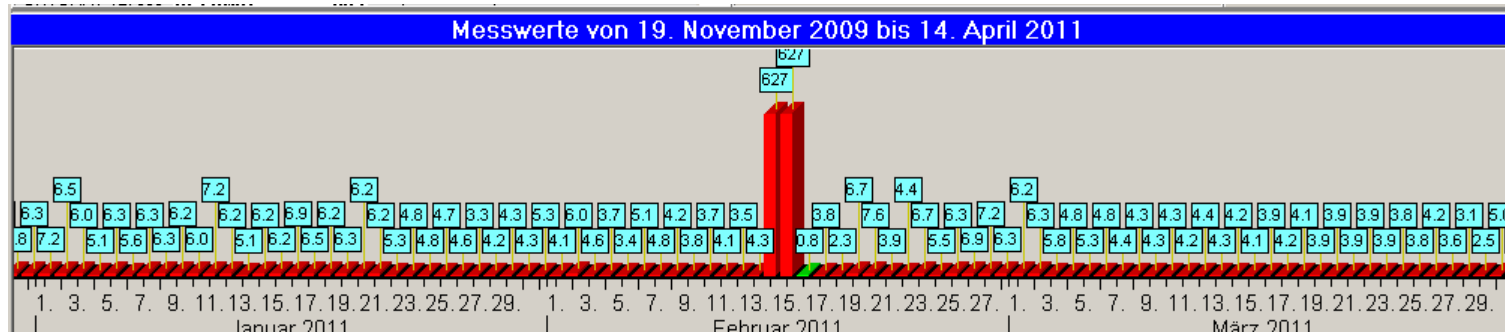
## Location of Noise Loggers in GIS

- to avoid damages during construction work

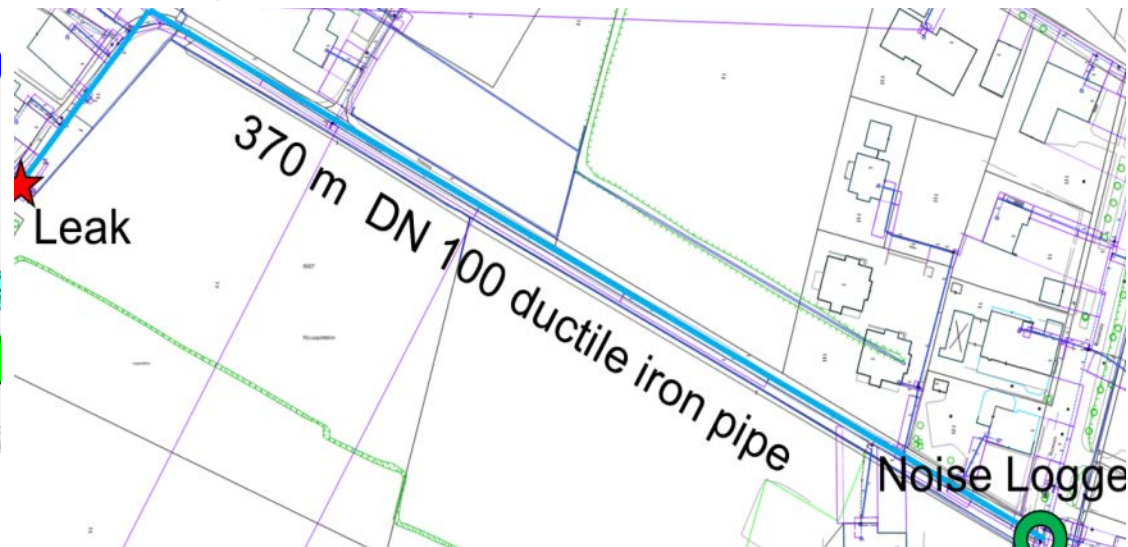
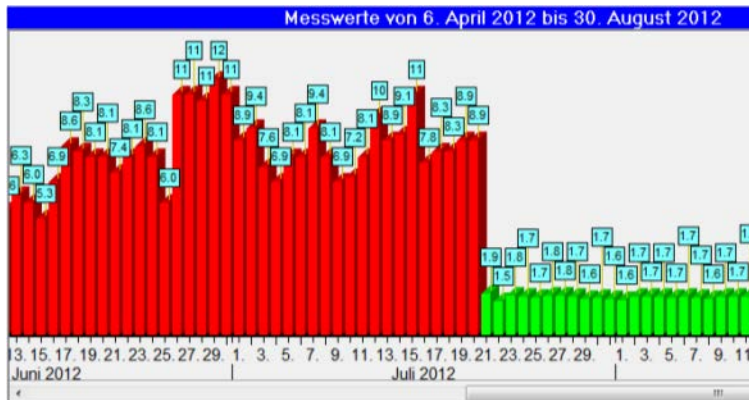
Courtesy of: Salzburg AG

# EXAMPLES OF NOISE LOGGINGS

## Unreported burst DN 125 Cast Iron Pipe



## Detection radius could be large:



Courtesy of: Salzburg AG

# PERMANENT NOISE LOGGERS

## Results after year 1 - detected by noise loggers only

- 16 out of 80 mains failures
- 8 out of 75 service connection failures, 26 not fully closed (leaking) hydrants
- In total about 50 leaks in one year, which **would not have been detected** before the next ALC campaign (every 5 years)

## Significant reduction of leak run times and losses

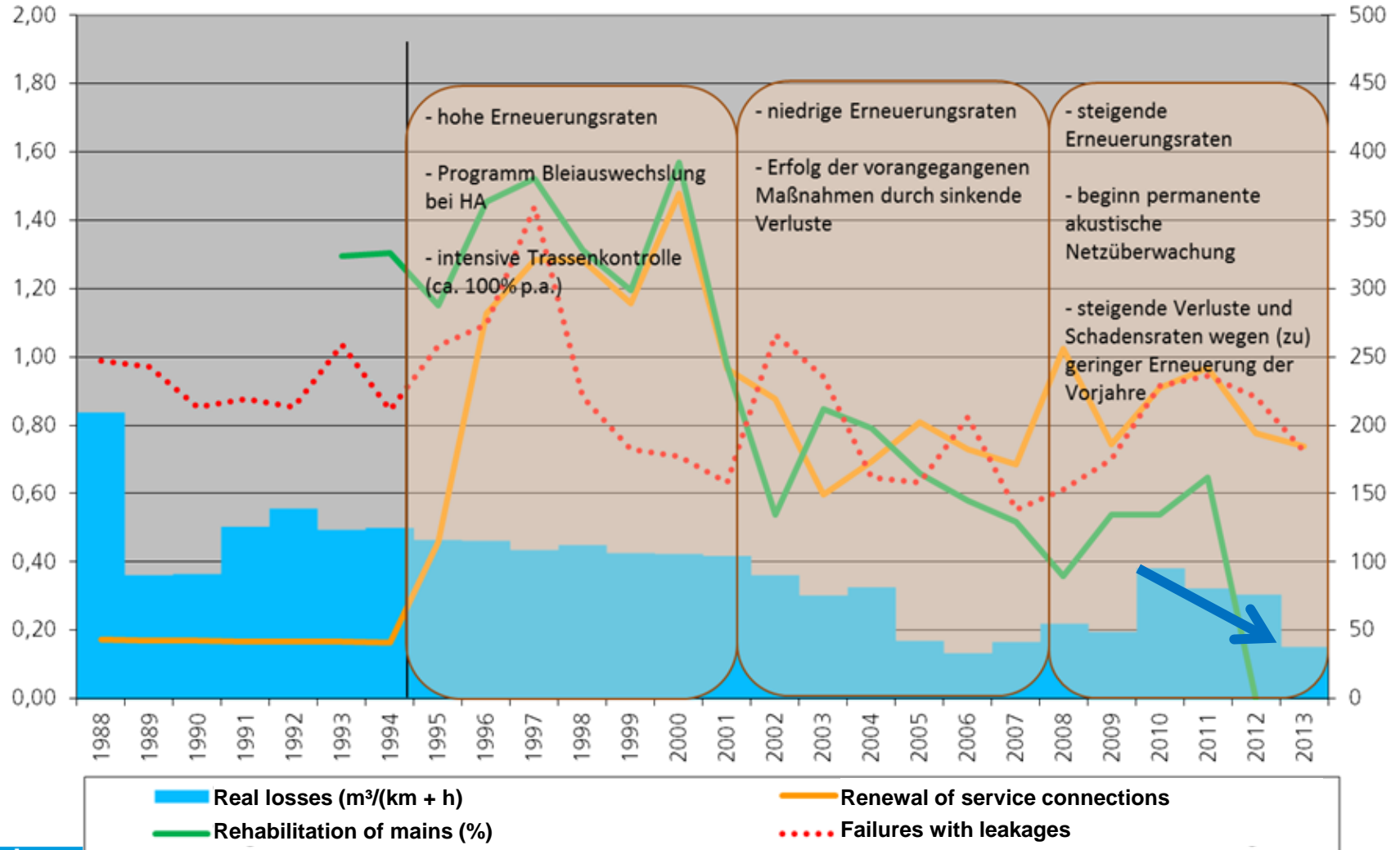
Risk reduction regarding consequential damage and disturbance of road traffic



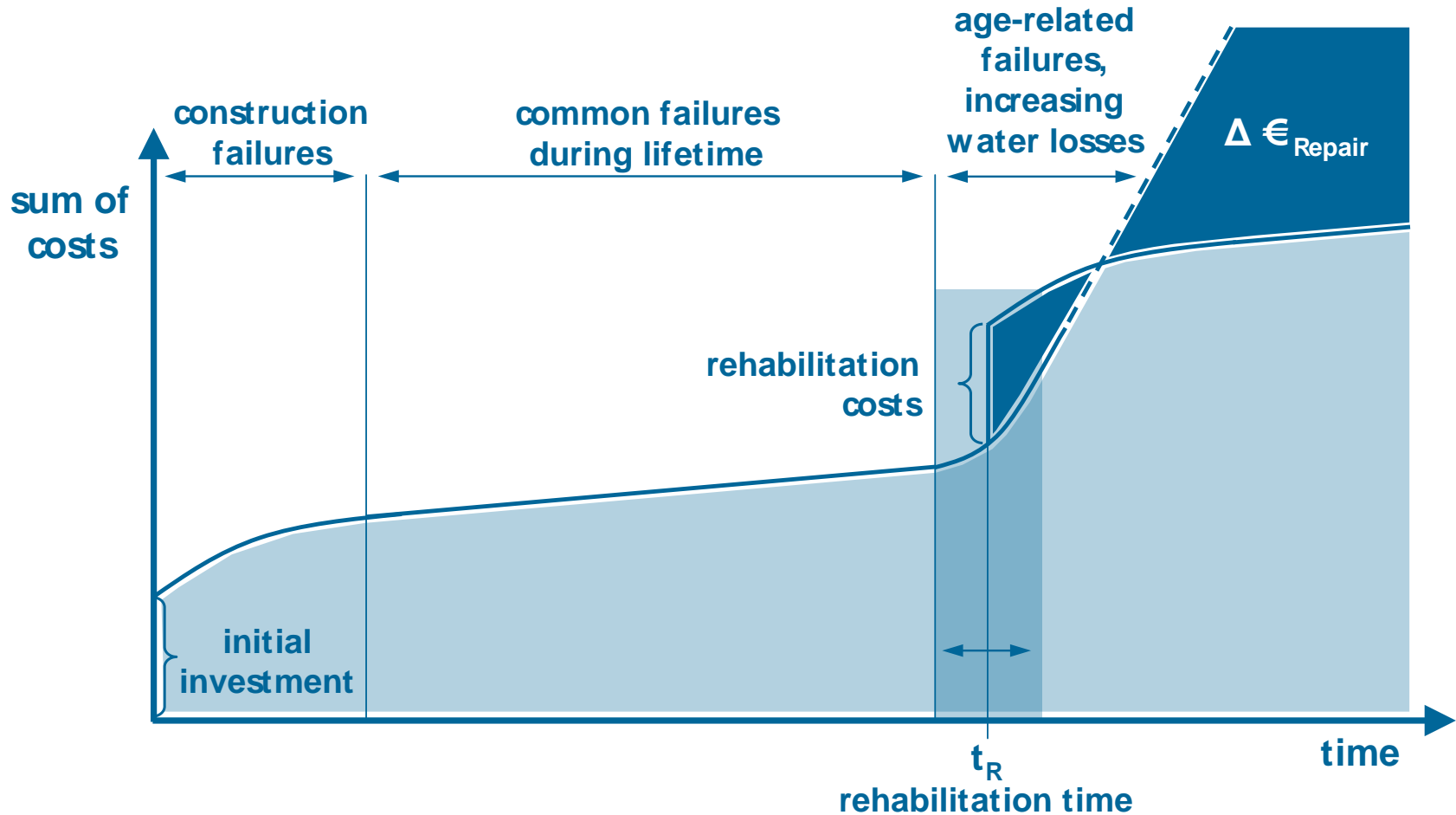
# LOSSES, FAILURES, AND RENEWAL RATES

[m<sup>3</sup>/(h\*km) and %]

[No.]



# WHEN TO REPLACE ASSETS



source: Koelbl (2011)

# SOFTWARE BASED REHABILITATION MANAGEMENT



Software based Decision Support System  
Rehabilitation planning of pipe networks

Developed at Graz University of Technology  
with leading Austrian water utilities  
including Salzburg AG

Mathematic Model

“Herz” function describes aging behaviour

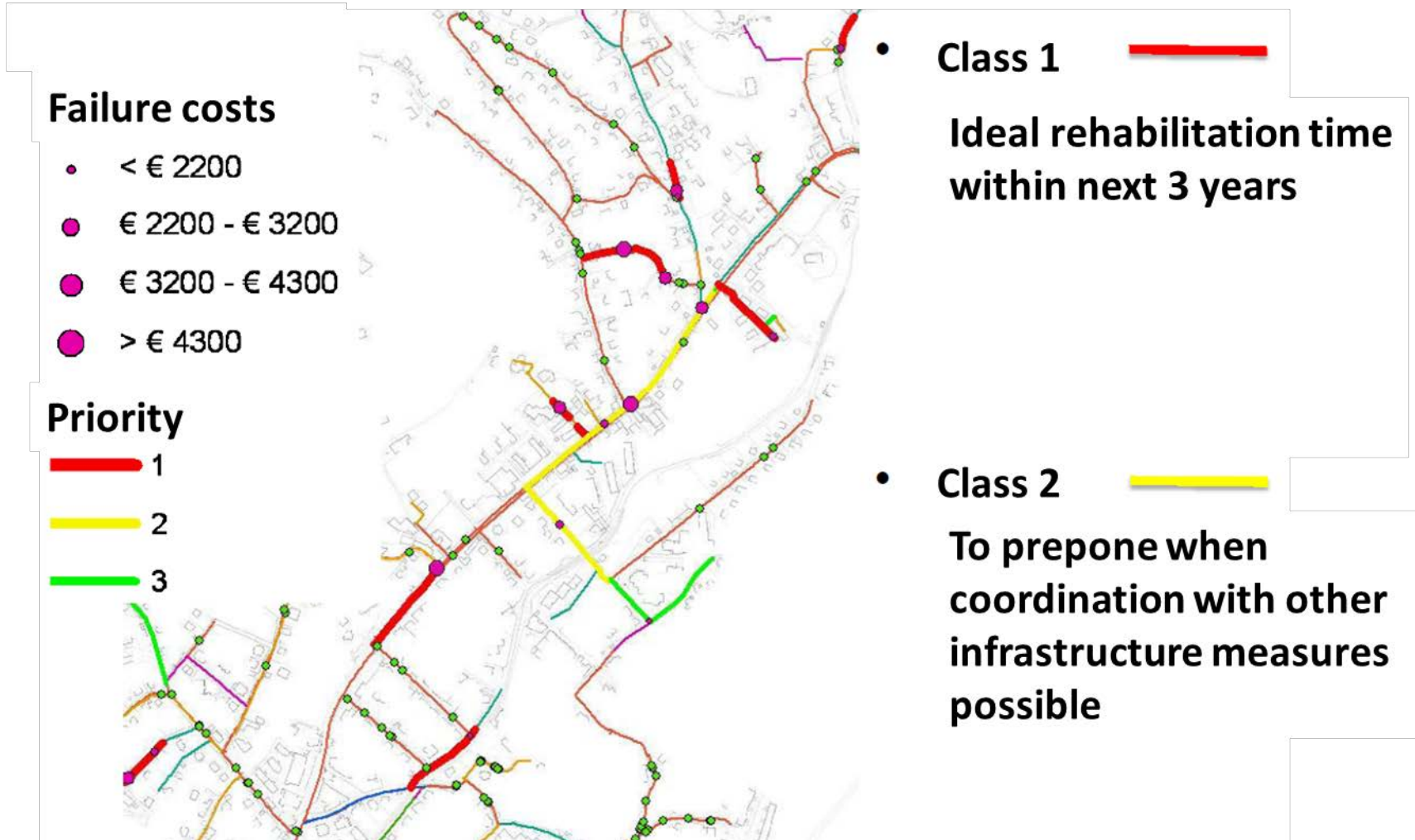
Standard Pipe Groups

Pipes with similar aging and failure behaviour

Mid- and Long-term rehabilitation planning

Economical ideal time for rehabilitation

# EXAMPLE – MID-TERM REHABILITATION PLANNING



# CONCLUSIONS

## **High quality materials and highest construction standards**

- Guidelines and standards for quality assurance
- Supervision of construction works and quality checks

## **Network monitoring and Water Loss Management**

### **Comprehensive asset and failure data base**

- Precondition for reliable analyses of network aging behaviour and rehabilitation planning

### **Long-term service contracts**

- To achieve long-term cost optimisation and minimised lifecycle costs

### **Long-term cost recovery** to ensure sufficient financial capabilities

- Cost recovering tariffs and minimum of non-revenue water

### **Continuous improvement process**

- Permanent performance analyses and orientation at national and international benchmarks