



## Information about the initiators

The OpenDA software has been developed by a cooperation of Delft University of Technology, research institute Deltares and the scientific engineering company VORtech.

At Delft University of Technology, the Mathematical Physics group ([ta.twi.tudelft.nl/wagm](http://ta.twi.tudelft.nl/wagm)) of the faculty of Electronics, Mathematics and Computer Science was involved in the development of OpenDA. This group has several decades of experience in developing data-assimilation methods and applying them to all kinds of applications. OpenDA allows the group to make new developments available in such a way that users can apply them right away. Reversely, interested parties can more easily ask the Mathematical Physics group to help them apply data-assimilation since it no longer requires such a significant investment.

Deltares ([www.deltares.nl](http://www.deltares.nl)) is an independent research institute for water, soil and subsurface issues, developing knowledge for safe and sustainable living in deltas and coastal regions. In 2002, Deltares started the development of a user-friendly software environment for data-assimilation. In the course of this development, it was decided to combine this effort with a similar development that was started by the other two OpenDA originators. Deltares already applies OpenDA extensively, for example for flood predictions and computations for sewer systems. By making the software publicly available, Deltares hopes to stimulate a broad acceptance of the software and third-party contributions to its further development. This allows Deltares to concentrate more on applying the software and the user friendliness for end-users, in line with its role as research institute.

The scientific engineering company **VORtech** ([www.vortech.nl](http://www.vortech.nl)) has also delivered a significant contribution to the development of OpenDA. VORtech specializes in the development of computer models, in particular for large scale simulations. Several of its customers felt the need to use observations to improve the computer models. This led VORtech to participate in an effort to create a generic environment for data-assimilation. Now that OpenDA is available, VORtech can serve its customers' need for data-assimilation for a reasonable budget. VORtech hopes to be involved in projects that want to use OpenDA and to be hired for extending and improving the OpenDA software.

