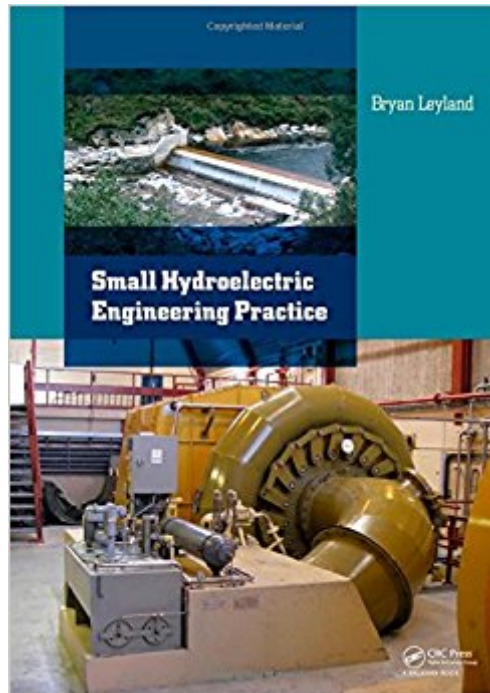




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Small Hydroelectric Engineering Practice



Synopsis

Small Hydroelectric Engineering Practice is a comprehensive reference book covering all aspects of identifying, building, and operating hydroelectric schemes between 500 kW and 50 MW. In this range of outputs there are many options for all aspects of the scheme and it is very important that the best options are chosen. As small hydroelectric schemes are usually built against a limited budget it is extremely important that the concept design is optimum and every component is designed to maximise the benefit and minimise the cost. As operating costs are often a high proportion of the income it is very important to make sure that everything is designed to be simple, reliable and long lasting. The book is based on the experience gained over 45 years on the overall and detailed design, construction and commissioning of more than 30 small hydropower schemes. It includes contributions from experts in the field of intakes, water diversion structures, geology, canals, painting and other aspects of hydropower development. It is intensely practical with many drawings and photographs of schemes designed and commissioned by Leyland Consultants and others. There are also sections on preparing specifications, tender assessment and operation and maintenance. The book includes a CD with spreadsheet programs for analysing aspects of small hydropower development and many arrangement drawings and detail designs for gates, penstocks, electrical systems and control systems. Typical specifications for generating plant are also included. The spreadsheets will be useful during the feasibility stage and the drawings will enable designers to scale the designs as needed for their own projects. Consultants, developers, designers, builders and operators of small hydroelectric schemes will find this book invaluable..

Book Information

Hardcover: 254 pages

Publisher: CRC Press; 1 edition (February 19, 2014)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1138000981

ISBN-13: 978-1138000988

Product Dimensions: 1 x 6.8 x 9.8 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.5 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 5.0 out of 5 stars 6 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #1,363,474 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #15 in Books > Engineering & Transportation > Engineering > Energy Production & Extraction > Alternative & Renewable > Hydroelectric #321 in Books > Engineering & Transportation > Engineering > Energy Production

Customer Reviews

The book takes you from start to finish through the evolution of a hydro scheme. From initial site assessment, hydrology, environmental, banking and finance through the many layers of detailed design work to detailed analysis of the many types and configurations of turbine plant and generators available. Small Hydroelectric Engineering Practice is a thoroughly readable and enjoyable book for anyone interested in small hydro. It is an essential book for anyone working with small hydro whether a first time developer or an experienced hydro engineer. Dave MacKay, Inchbonnie Hydro

The structure of the book follows the full project cycle, starting with the preliminary study feasibility study and refining the design.... many sketches, drawings and pictures illustrate the technical information. The practical approach includes useful spreadsheet for calculations, addressing helpful computer programs, empirical formulae providing good estimations and tables that can act as checklists for identifying barriers and problems. Prof Bernhard Pelikan, European Small Hydropower Association

Published in Hydropower and Dams, Issue Six, 2013

We are a group of individual investors who are trying to tap into the small hydro space. At the moment we are working on two small hydro schemes. None of us are engineers by trade, so our strategy has been to lean heavily on a reputable consultant with experience and know-how. (...) Now that the consultant is entering into the tender drawings phase, We are trying to raise many of the design considerations highlighted in this book to them. As we debate each item, I cannot help but feel extremely relieved to have bought and read this book. At the very least, even though we are led by our consultant on the designs, we are not completely blind and have working knowledge to influence the designs. This book has been invaluable to our business. The contents in the book are having a real life impact here in our projects. I highly recommend this book to anyone who is about to enter into the small hydro space. Alan Jenviphakul

The book takes you from start to finish through the evolution of a hydro scheme. From initial site assessment, hydrology, environmental, banking and finance through the many layers of detailed design work to detailed analysis of the many types and configurations of turbine plant and generators available. Small Hydroelectric Engineering Practice is a thoroughly readable and enjoyable book for anyone interested in small hydro. It is an essential book for anyone working with small hydro whether a first time developer or an experienced hydro engineer. Dave MacKay, Inchbonnie Hydro, New Zealand

A book, based on tradition, full of experience and presenting recent developments. Supported by many pictures, sketches and tables it is very comfortable to read and to learn in one run. Several pages dedicated to "learning

from failures" and operational recommendations should be highlighted. A "must" in the library of a hydropower engineer! Prof. Dr. Bernhard Pelikan, University of Natural Resources and Applied Life Sciences, Vienna, Austria; Vice President of the European Small Hydropower Association. This is a unique and comprehensive collection of practical engineering advice that should be essential reading for anyone involved in the development of a small to medium sized hydro-electricity resource. It covers all engineering disciplines and is based on a lifetime of involvement in this industry by the author. He should be commended for sharing both ingenious design solutions and the sometimes painful lessons learned, with others who might be fortunate enough to also be involved in harnessing these often overlooked renewable energy resources. Ir. W.L. Mandeno, FIPENZ, CPEng, Int. PE. Wellington, NZ. By systematically explaining the different scheme components, Mr Leyland's book caters to a range of readers and keeps the book highly readable. He explained logically about the important decisions required when developing a scheme and suggests how to avoid repeating past mistakes. This lays the foundation for the subsequent detailed discussions including job specifications, contracts for procurement and installation. The book also includes a CD of eight spreadsheets to assist consultants, engineers, owners and development of small hydro electricity schemes. It reads well using clear, conversational language to explain a complex subject without a lot of jargon. As a fellow hydropower enthusiast, I believe this book is an excellent reference. Robert Shelton, MIPENZ

Bryan Leyland trained in New Zealand and then went overseas for nine years. During this time he worked on power projects all over the world. He returned to New Zealand in 1970 to work for Lloyd Mandeno, an outstanding hydropower engineer. In 1974 Bryan set up his own consulting firm and spent most of the next 25 years working on the overall and detailed design and commissioning of 26 small hydropower schemes totaling 250 MW and the refurbishment of 27 schemes in New Zealand and overseas. Ten of the schemes won awards as "engineering projects of outstanding technical significance". On three occasions he was involved in the repair and recommissioning of schemes that had suffered catastrophic failures. This gave him a valuable insight into the need for high quality geotechnical and civil engineering. He has also acted as a consultant to the World Bank and to the Asian Development Bank on hydropower investigations and on dam safety. He has written many papers on hydropower development, power systems and electricity markets. In 2009 he was listed by Waterpower and Dam Construction as one of the 60 most influential people in the hydropower industry worldwide.

This book is filled with examples of innovative designs and practical experience. The CD of drawings and programs are an added bonus.

Very useful book

We are a group of individual investors who are trying to tap into the small hydro space. At the moment we are working on two small hydro schemes. None of us are engineers by trade, so our strategy has been to lean heavily on a reputable consultant with experience and know-how. Unfortunately, despite carefully screening the consultants, our mandated consultant appears to be reluctant to explore anything new. Their approach has been to give us pretty much off-the-shelf drawings "customized" to our sites. I guess if it works, it wouldn't matter if they are off-the-shelf, but we constantly have urge them to look at the total picture i.e. cost, ease of construction, time savings and longer term maintenance savings. For example, when I asked them if we should consider 1 turbine instead of the more traditional 2, they gave the 40% output reason pointed out in the book which was widely accepted by all. Discussions about using different materials other than steel for penstocks also didn't go too far. Now that the consultant is entering into the tender drawings phase, We are trying to raise many of the design considerations highlighted in this book to them. As we debate each item, I cannot help but feel extremely relieved to have bought and read this book. At the very least, even though we are led by our consultant on the designs, we are not completely blind and have working knowledge to influence the designs. This book has been invaluable to our business. The contents in the book are having a real life impact here in our projects. I highly recommend this book to anyone who is about to enter into the small hydro space.

If you are the developer, designer, constructor, owner or operator of small hydro plants then ignore this book at your peril! For anybody with an interest in the subject, this is an immensely readable book filled with invaluable information and experience, including drawings. I particularly enjoyed the various lessons learned paragraphs dotted throughout the book, which help illustrate the various sections covering pretty much everything needed to create a successful project. Bryan's enthusiasm and considerable knowledge of the subject is very clear and it is to his great credit that he's prepared to share this with the industry. If experts in other generation technologies would do the same then our electricity would undoubtedly be cheaper and more reliable! Of course the book doesn't claim to have all the answers, but if it just helps readers identify and understand the issues so they can ask the right questions then it's done its job.

This book is a "must-have" for anyone working in the hydropower sector. Especially for all engineers starting in this area of business. It is a comprehensive compilation of everything one needs to know about small hydroelectric plants plus a valuable source of information on a variety of topics in the hydropower sector. Definitely a very useful and valuable book to have in one's technical library

In a word: Amazing !!!

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