



# **Research and Development**

Optimization of products and services

## Always a flow ahead -

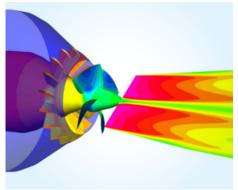
# ASTROE development and testing laboratory

With ASTROE, center for hydraulic engineering and laboratory, we have an internationally renowned institute for hydraulic development work at our disposal. Optimization on the computer as well as numerous laboratory tests form the basis of the high technical quality of the pumps and turbines from ANDRITZ HYDRO.

## Hydraulic design and CFD

Hydraulic design requires an understanding of complex physical phenomena. Numerical flow simulations (Computational Fluid Dynamics – CFD) and mechanical calculations (Finite Element Analysis – FEA) provide

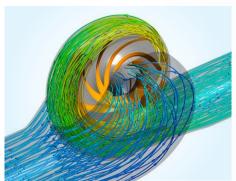
▲ Radial-flow pump



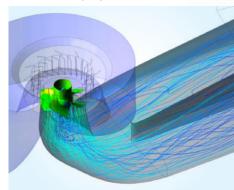
▲ Bulb turbine

essential insights into the flow pattern and mechanical structure properties of essential components such as impellers or blades. The quality of the analysis methods and the underlying mathematical models are subject to continuous further development.

During the design process, the hydraulic components are optimized both in terms of hydraulic performance, efficiency, and safety margin to cavitation as well as in terms of mechanical lifetime. Detailed numerical analyses serve here to identify and prevent instability, vibration, and resonance in the early design phase.



▲ Double-suction pump



▲ Kaplan turbine

## Range of services

- Numerical flow simulation (CFD)
- Program development for numerical analyses
- Hydraulic design and development of hydraulic components for
  - Engineered pumps and pumps produced in series
  - Pump turbines for pumped storage hydro power stations
  - Axial-flow turbines
- Optimization of efficiency
- Enhancement of safety margin to cavitation pitting
- Cost optimization while maintaining the hydraulic characteristics

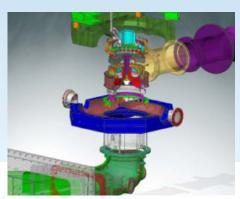
## **Strategy**

 Increased prediction accuracy of numerical methods through constant comparison of simulation and experiment



## Model testing in the hydraulic laboratory

In the hydraulic laboratory, water turbines and pumps can be tested in model scale and customer acceptance tests are conducted. We attach great importance to achieving highest measuring accuracy using the latest measuring instruments, which are calibrated and checked regularly. All test stands and models fulfill the requirements of the IEC 60193 test standard "Hydraulic turbines, storage pumps and pump turbines – Model-acceptance tests."



▲ Model design and engineering - CAD



▲ Pump model of a multi-stage storage pump



▲ Manufacturing in the machine shop



▲ Testing hall

## **Range of services**

- Model design
- Development of special measuring technology (hydrostatic bearings)
- Development and acceptance tests for all pump and turbine types (except Pelton turbines)
- Two 4-quadrant-capable universal test stands
  - Measurement of hydraulic characteristics
  - Cavitation observations
  - Axial thrust and radial force measurements
  - Pressure pulsations

#### **Strategy**

- Highest quality and accuracy
- Reliable data basis for hydraulic design and mechanical construction of prototypes

# Prototype testing and plant measurements

The hydraulic characteristic data of our series-production and prototype machines are validated on suitable test stands and within the scope of plant measurements. Pump test stands and a large pump test field are available for this purpose with individually configurable test options. Optimized and continuously developed measurement methods are used in large plants and various field tests. These procedures comply with approval standards ISO 9906 "Rotodynamic pumps - Hydraulic performance acceptance tests" and IEC 60041 "Field acceptance tests to determine the hydraulic performance of hydraulic turbines, storage pumps and pump turbines" and serve to ascertain and verify the hydraulic performance data.





### Hydrodynamic shaft seals

ANDRITZ is a technology leader for hydrodynamic mechanical seals installed in reactor coolant pumps for nuclear power plants. Extremely short maintenance times are possible thanks to the maintenance-friendly sealing cartridge system. Due to the special contour on the main sealing parts, a sealing gap of just a few micrometers forms when the pump shaft rotates, permitting consistent low leakage and a reduction of around 50 bar pressure per stage. Due to the three sealing stages that make up the sealing cartridge, the system pressure of 160 bar is reduced step-by-step until it reaches the ambient pressure. In an emergency, each individual stage can also absorb the entire pressure of 160 bar. This has proved to be one of the most efficient and safest solutions for seals in reactor coolant pumps – some sealing stages have been in use now for more than 20 years. Station blackout tests have shown that the mechanical seal can even withstand a worst-case scenario.







## ANDRITZ HYDRO

## Technology leader for generations

ANDRITZ HYDRO is a global supplier of electromechanical equipment and services for hydropower plants and one of the leading suppliers worldwide in the market for hydraulic power generation.

The company's long history contains many famous company names as well as those of outstanding researchers and developers in the hydropower sector (Escher-Wyss, Kaplan, Bouvier, Pelton, ELIN, GE, etc.).

ANDRITZ HYDRO develops customtailored designs as well as standardized, cost-efficient solutions for most diverse requirements in large new plants (e.g. Rio Madeira, Brazil - 90 bulb turbines) or small hydropower plants. For the replacement, modernization, and extension of existing largescale plants (e.g. Simon Bolivar II, Venezuela - 770 MW) as well as for small plants, ANDRITZ HYDRO supplies special solutions optimized according to the 3-phase concept (Diagnosis - Analysis - Therapy). In mainly smaller modernization projects, a large number of these turbine designs are created exclusively on a computer without any model testing.

Every location has a clearly defined research and development focus. Direct integration of R&D staff in project development, proposal management, and project execution is an essential factor in achieving commercial success. Customers and consulting engineers can access the R&D know-how directly and, at the same time, current market feedback is incorporated right away into future developments.

## **Project highlights**

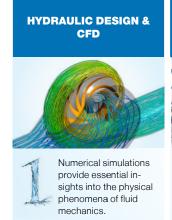
Bieudron, Switzerland (H = 1.869 m, P = 423 MW): World record-holding Pelton turbine

Goldisthal, Germany (P = 380 MVA): Large pump turbines; first large, variablespeed motor generators outside Japan

Häusling, Austria (H=734 m, P=180 MW): World record-holding Francis turbine

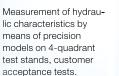
Aschach: Largest Kaplan plant in Austria

## ANDRITZ HYDRO – Research & Development



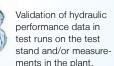






# **PLANT MEASUREMENTS**

**PROTOTYPE TESTS AND** 







Development and testing of hydrodynamic shaft seals with proven record lifetime.











ANDRITA



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