

# Modernization of Hydropower plants

**Prof. François Avellan, Eng. Dr.**

**September 12, 2016**

**In cooperation with the CTI**

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**Energy**

Swiss Competence Centers for Energy Research

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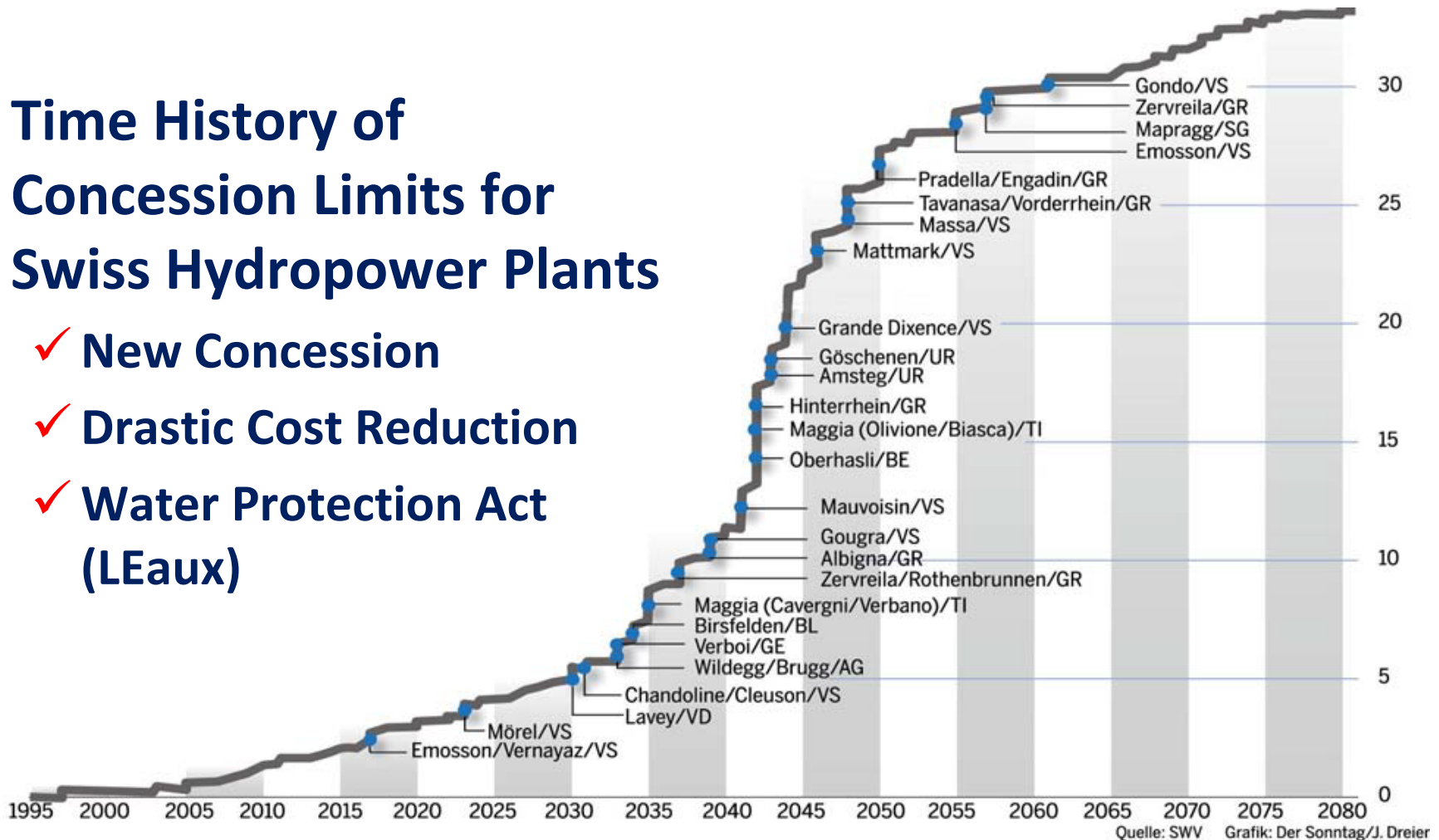
Swiss Confederation

**Commission for Technology and Innovation CTI**

## Reasons for Modernization

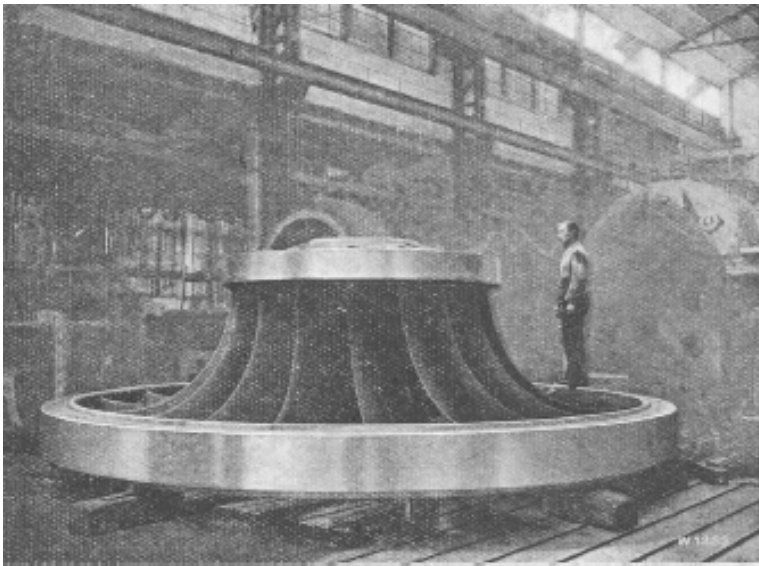
### ○ Time History of Concession Limits for Swiss Hydropower Plants

- ✓ New Concession
- ✓ Drastic Cost Reduction
- ✓ Water Protection Act (LEaux)



## Reasons for Modernization

### ○ Technology Obsolescence



Roue Escher Wyss de Chancy Pougny (GE)  
Bulletin technique de la Suisse romande (1924)

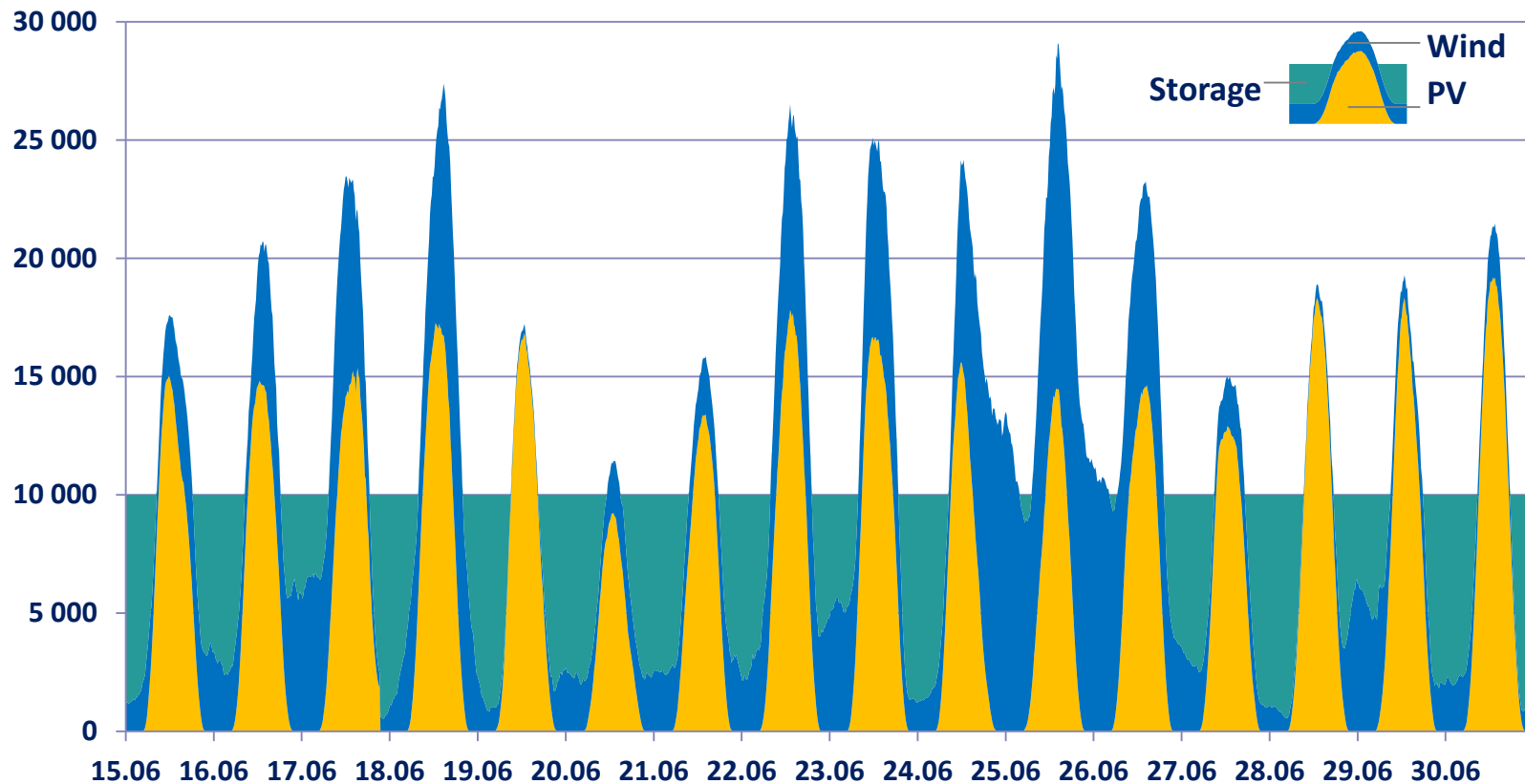
New Kaplan Unit ANDRITZ Hydro de Chancy Pougny  
HYDRO News n°17 , May 2010



## Reasons for Modernization New Power Generation Paradigm

- **Very Competitive Fossil Fuel Power**
  - ✓ Coal Energy as Cheap as 60 €/MWh
  - ✓ CO<sub>2</sub> Emission Certificate 5 €/t
  - ✓ Hydro Levelized Cost of Electricity  
80 €/MWh ÷ 120 €/MWh
- **Root Cause being:**
  - ✓ Low Economical Activity since 2008
  - ✓ Non Conventional Oil Development
  - ✓ Coal Abundance
  - ✓ Geostrategic

## Integration of Subsidized NREs in Europe ?



- Opportunity of Services to the Power System
- Non Dispatchable Generation
- Trading Pattern Disruption



## Balancing Services

Power plant outage



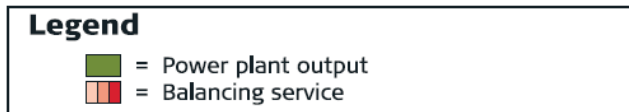
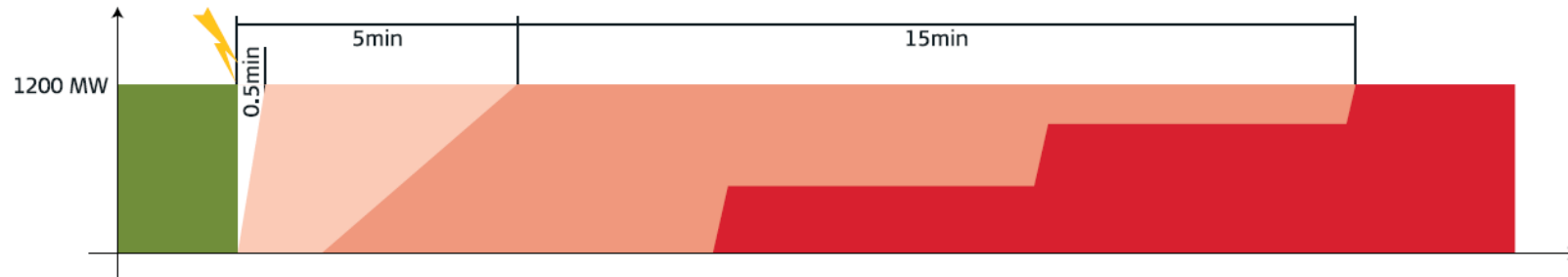
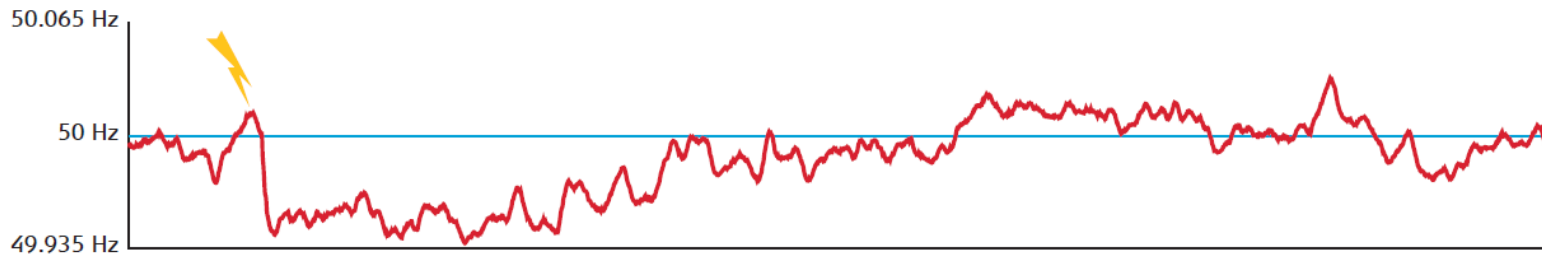
Primary control



Secondary control

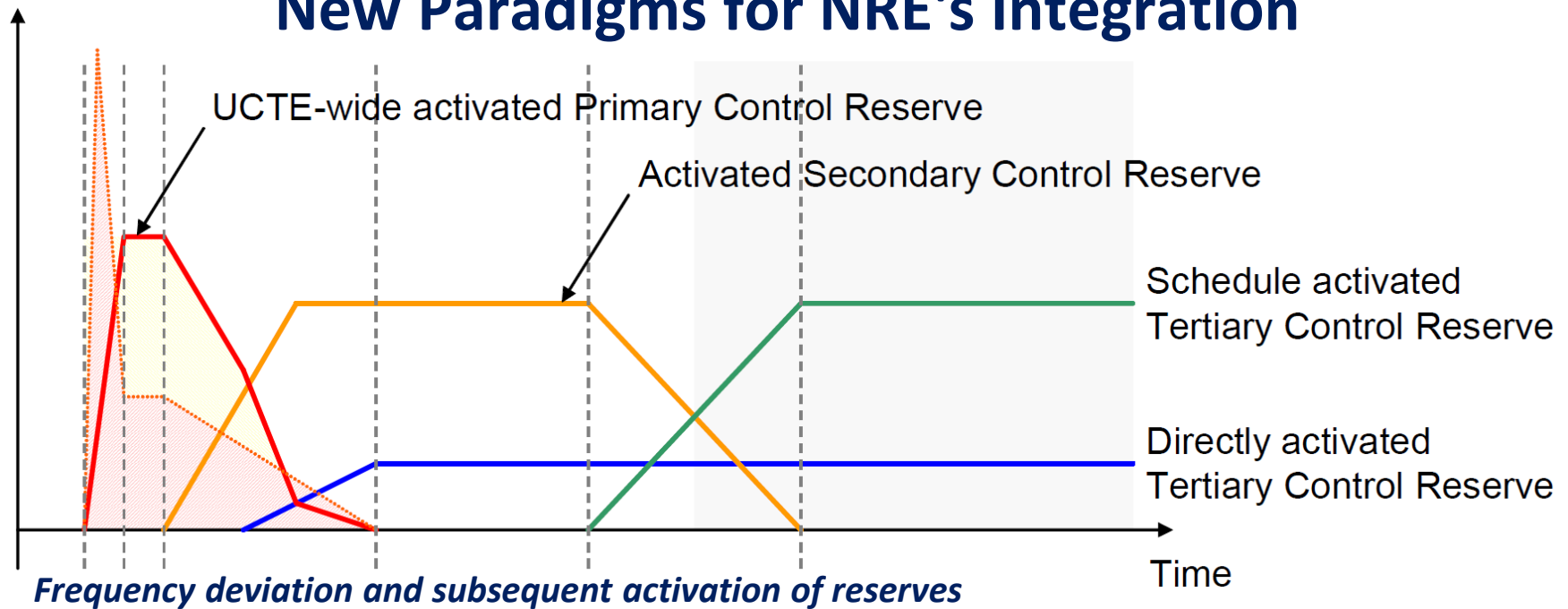


Tertiary control



© 2010 swissgrid ag

## New Paradigms for NRE's Integration



- **2012 UCTE** [www.entsoe.eu](http://www.entsoe.eu)
  - ✓ 30 s Sustained Primary Control
- **2016 UK nationalgrid**
  - ✓ 9 s Sustained Primary Control

<http://www2.nationalgrid.com>
- **UK nationalgrid invitation to tender for enhanced services**
  - ✓ 0.5 s to 1 s Response
  - ✓ 9 s duration
- **What to expect ?**

## Challenging Dispatchable Technologies

- Storage Hydropower Plants
- Pumped Storage Power Plants
- Gas Turbines
- Power Curtailment
- Compressed Air Energy Storage
- Battery Storage Banks
- Molten Salt
- Etc.

Linthal (GL) 250 MW Variable Speed Pump-Turbine Unit

ALSTOM Hydro





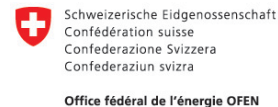
# Hydropower Modernization

- **Time Life Extension**
  - ✓ **Due Diligence**
  - ✓ **Not Only Equipment Refurbishment!**
- **New operation paradigm**
  - ✓ **Services to the Power System**
  - ✓ **Ancillary Services**
- **Production Flexibility**
  - ✓ **Storage Capacity Increase**
  - ✓ **Extended Operating Load Range**
  - ✓ **Fast Ramp Up/Down**
  - ✓ **Black Start**
- **Water Protection Act Compliance (Leaux)**
  - ✓ **Hydro Peaking Mitigation**
- **Drastic Reduced Costs vs. Greenfield Projects**



# RENOV Hydro

Methodology and tool development for hydropower  
potential evaluation and optimization



**SIMSEN**

In cooperation with the CTI



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## Hydropower Modernization Technical Challenges

### ○ System Approach

- ✓ Safety
- ✓ Reliability

### ○ Hydraulic Structure

- ✓ Dam Height Increase
- ✓ Water Ways Improvement
- ✓ Hydro Peaking Mitigations;

### ○ Generating Unit

- ✓ Turbine Digital Twin Enabling Flexible & Safe Operation



New Impeller Experienced Cracks at the Blade Roots due to Rotor-Stator Interactions in a 430 MW Modernized Pump-Turbine

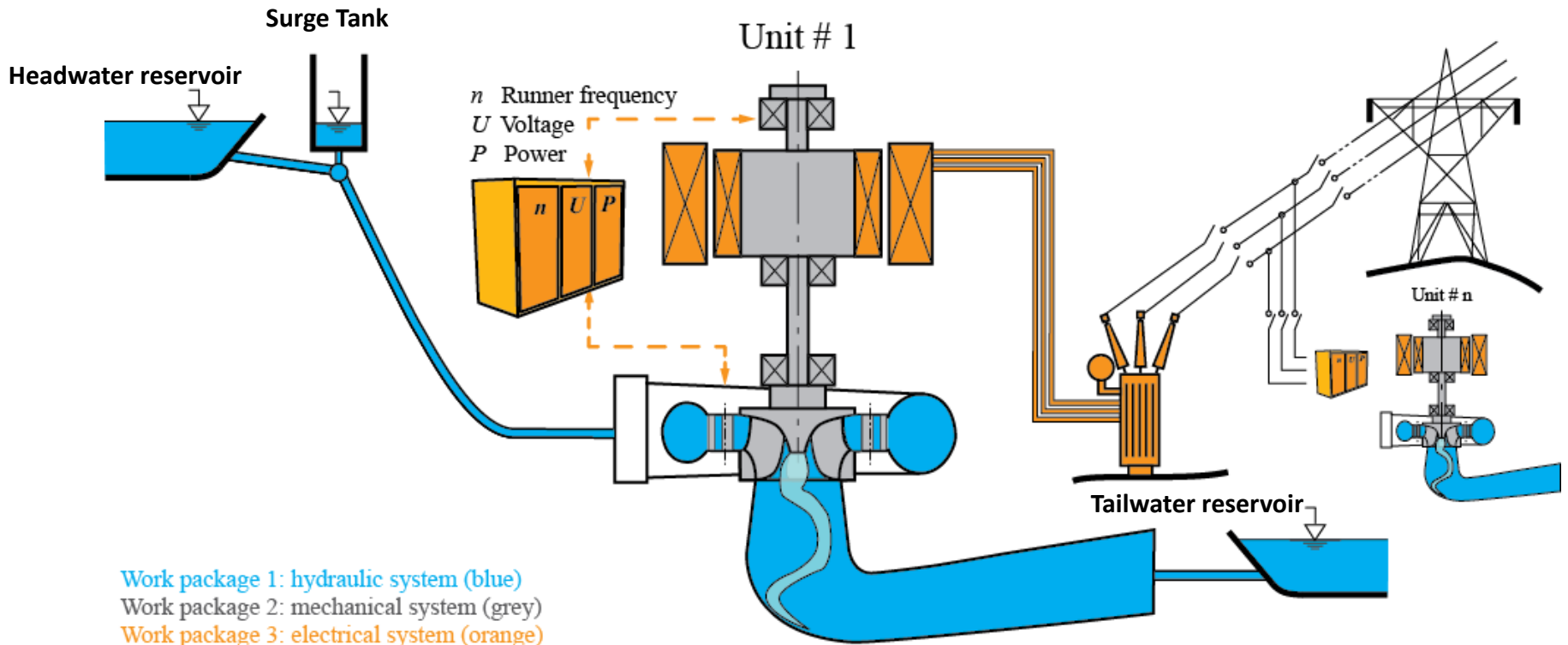
## HYPERBOLE

ERC/FP7-ENERGY-2013-1-Grant 608532

- HYdropower plants **PER**formance and flexi**BLE** Operation" towards **L**ean integration of new renewable **E**nergies
  - ✓ Dynamics of Francis Turbines & Pump-Turbines
  - ✓ 42 Months, 5 Mio EUR
  - ✓ 1<sup>st</sup> Sept. 2013 ÷ 28<sup>th</sup> Feb. 2017
- Consortium coordinated by EPFL

**ALSTOM** **ANDRITZ** **VOITH**  **Power Vision** *Engineering*

# HYdropower plants **PER**formance and flexi**BLE** Operation towards **L**ean integration of new renewable **E**nergies



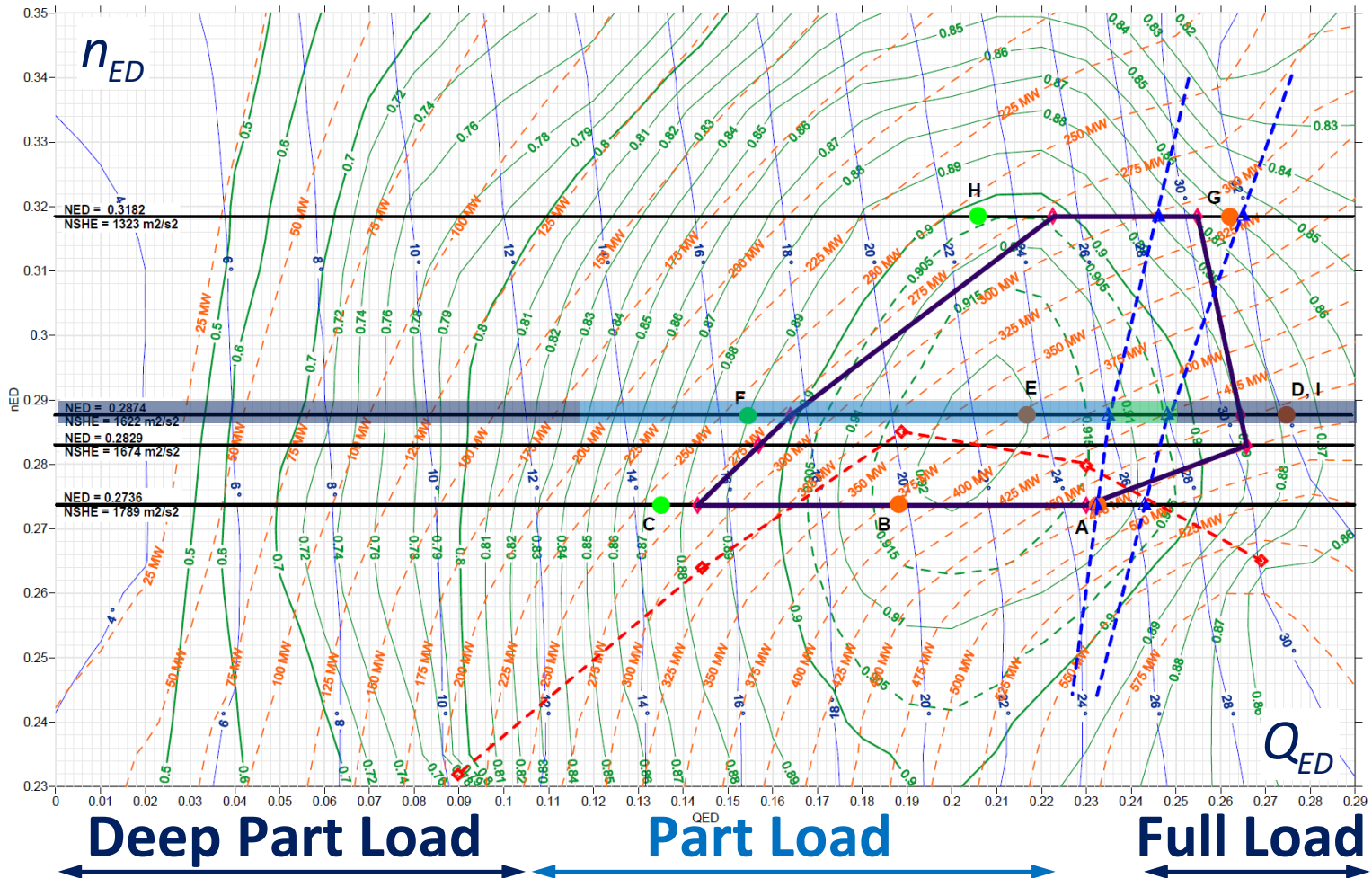
# HYPERBOLE

ERC/FP7-ENERGY-2013-1-Grant 608532



## Existing Turbine hill chart and operating range

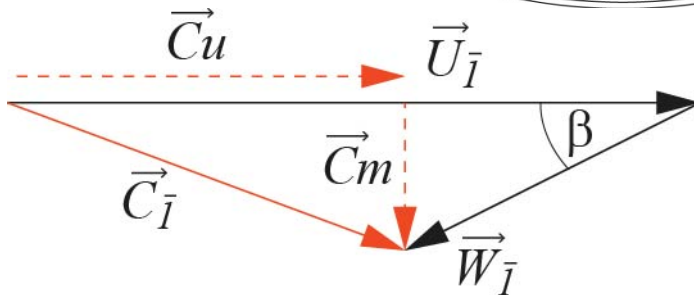
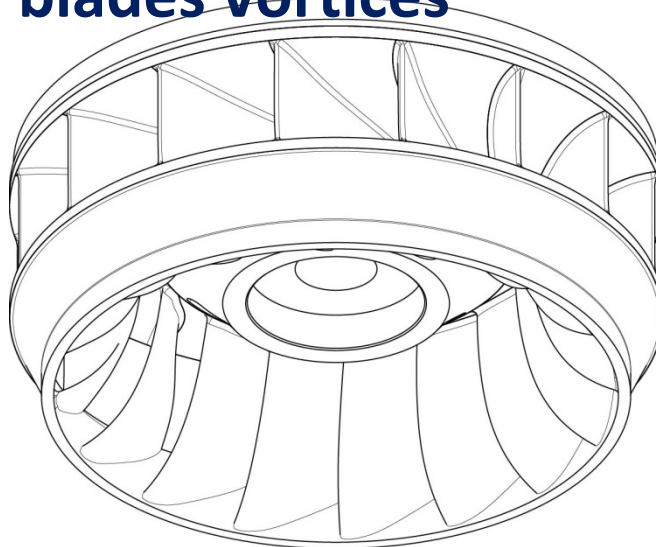
**HYPERBOLE**





## HYPERBOLE Deep part load operating conditions $Q \ll Q_{BEP}$

### ○ Inter blades vortices



Keita Yamamoto et al., "Guide vanes embedded visualization technique for investigating Francis runner inter-blade vortices at deep part load operation", 6<sup>th</sup> IAHR International Meeting of the Workgroup on Cavitation and Dynamic Problems in Hydraulic Machinery and Systems, Ljubljana, Slovenia, 09/2015; .

Keita Yamamoto et al., "Experimental method for the evaluation of the dynamic transfer matrix using pressure transducers", Jo. Hydraulic Research, 07, 2015;  
DOI:10.1080/00221686.2015.1050076.

## Deep part load Inter blades vortices

### Visualization

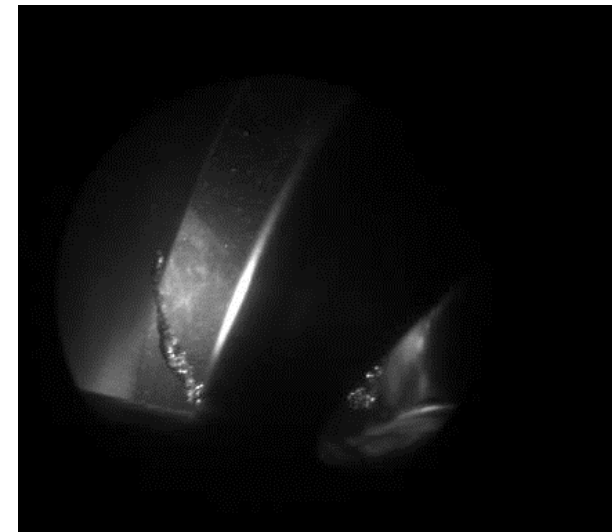
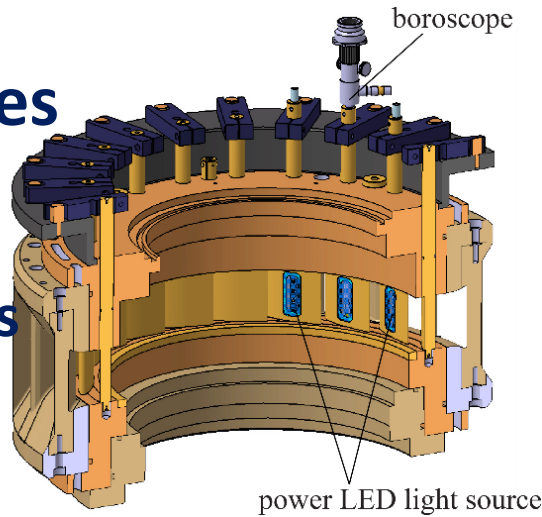
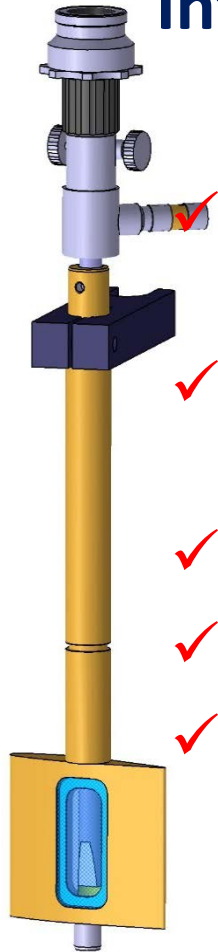
✓ Hollow guide vanes  
with window

✓ Boroscope  
with swiveling prism

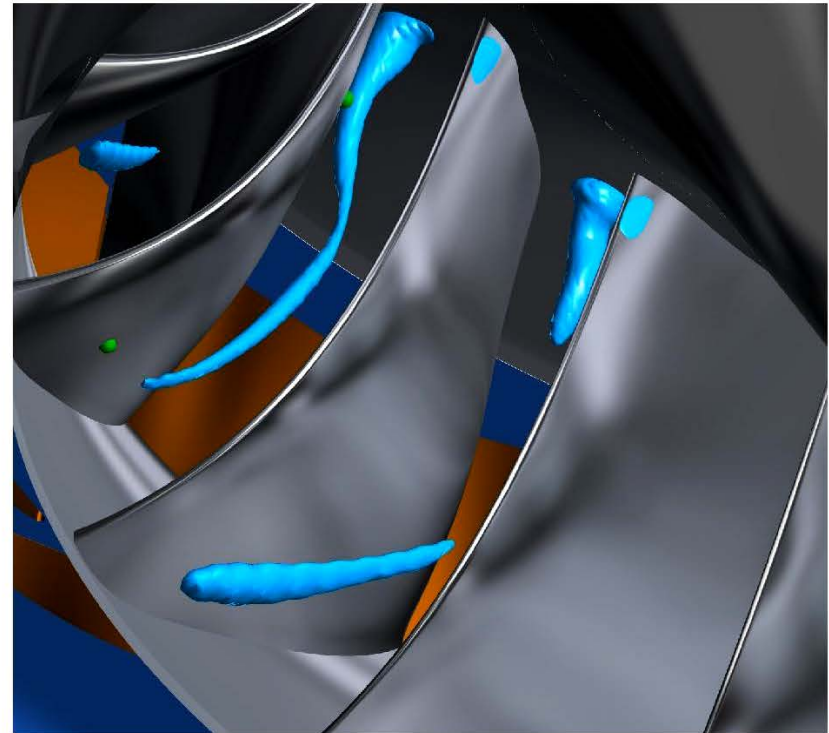
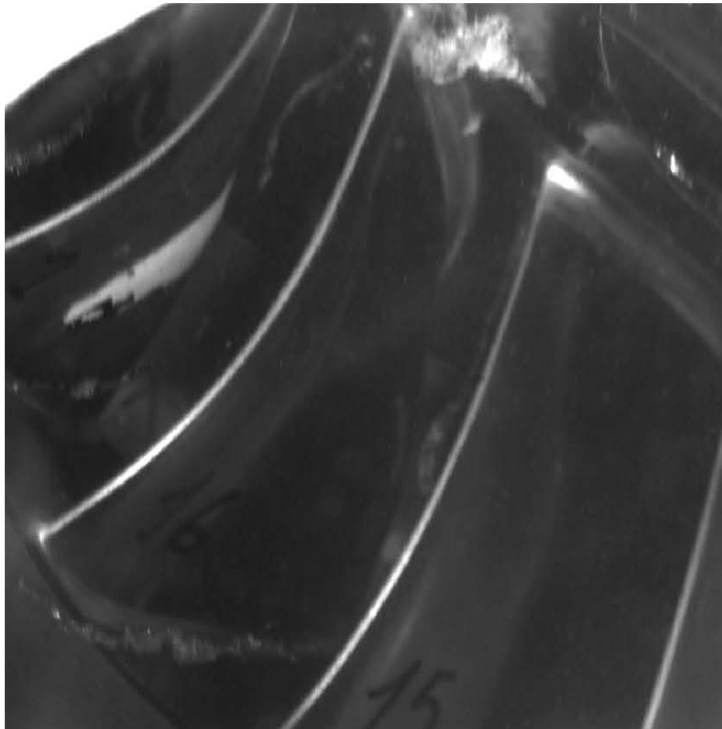
✓ High Speed Camera

✓ High intensity Xenon flash

✓ Compact power LED



○ **Flow Numerical Simulations**

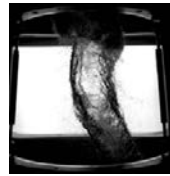


# Assessment of Hydropower Station Dynamics

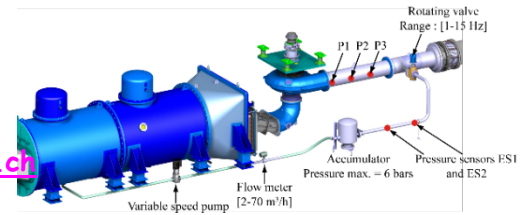
**HYPERBOLE**

*Reduced-scale physical model*

Model Testing  
(IEC 60193)



**SIMSEN**  
<http://simSEN.epfl.ch>



Test Results  
(Reduced Scale Turbine Model)

Draft Tube modelling

Natural Frequency Identification

Dimensionless Hydro-acoustic Parameters

Actual practice

Clouds of Unknowns  
Prediction Quality  
+/-30% ... +/-200%

*Full-scale turbine*

Power Unit Dynamics Simulation

Hydropower Station  
SIMSEN Model

Transposition to Prototype

Full Size Operating Conditions

Goal: prediction quality +/-20%

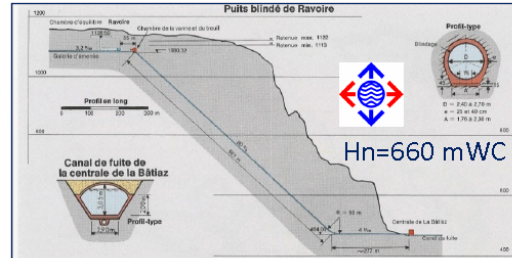
$$a^P = a^M \left( \frac{D_{ref}^P}{D_{ref}^M} \right) \left( \frac{n^P}{n^M} \right) \quad \mu^{nP} = \mu^{nM} \left( \frac{D_{ref}^P}{D_{ref}^M} \right)^2 \left( \frac{n^P}{n^M} \right)^2 \left( \frac{f_{natural}^M}{f_{natural}^P} \right)$$

## Power Station Digital Twin

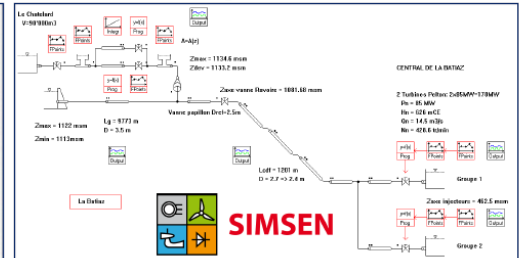
- Example of **HYDRO-CLONE®**

### Case Study EMOSSON SA: 2x85 MW La Bâtiaz Power Plant

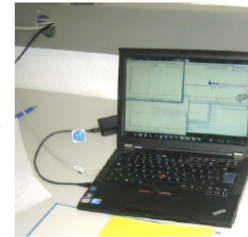
#### Input data



#### SIMSEN modeling and validation



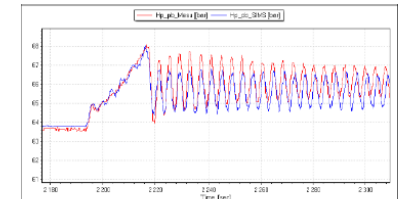
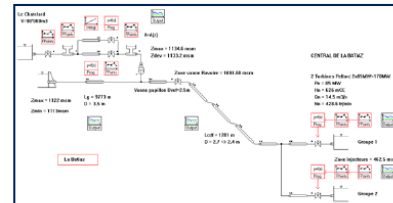
On-Site installation of  
Hydro-Clone  
Acquisition,  
Simulation,  
Comparison



Data  
(Modbus)  
 $f_{\text{sample}}=10\text{Hz}$



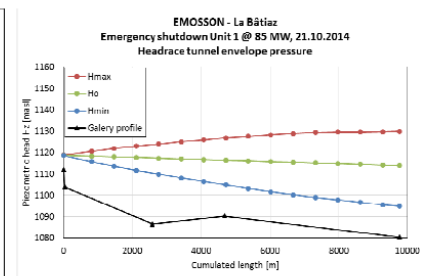
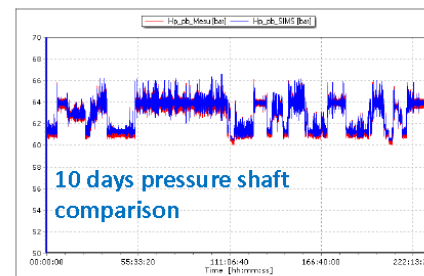
Comparison Simulation-Meas.



European Patent EP 2 801 879 A1, "Hydroelectric power plant real-time monitoring system and method", 7.5.2013

C. Nicolet et al., "Hydro-Clone: Innovative Real-Time Simulation Monitoring System for Hydropower Plant Transient Survey", Proc. of HYDRO 2015 Conference, Bordeaux, October 26 -28, 2015.

Long term  
transient  
survey and  
analysis



# Conclusions

- **To achieve safe and optimum operation complying new power generation paradigms**
  - ✓ **Energy vs. Services to the Grid**
  - ✓ **Environmental Requirements.**
- **Technology breakthrough to meet the market needs and to ensure and enhance the reliability, availability, maintainability and safety of the hydropower plants**
- **Modernization of hydropower scheme requires advanced risk analysis**
- **Is our knowledge and model accurate enough to develop a digital twin of generating units, hydropower plants and power transmission system??**



# **HYPERBOLE Consortium Convenes** **Porto Conference, Portugal February 2-3, 2017**

Large scale integration of new renewable energy sources in Europe is demanding for an increased role of hydro-power plants in order to contribute to energy balance and to mitigate its stochastic nature. Simultaneously, preserving the global system stability is also a key contribution where hydro power is expected to play a major role, exploiting both generation and pumping operation modes. The flexibility of these new technologies will demand for a new regulatory framework to foster its wide adoption.

Therefore, this international conference will be a forum for researchers and practitioners to present the latest research results, ongoing developments, best practices and applications related to the complex environment of hydro power technology, including:

1. **Hydro technology:** hydraulic, mechanical and electrical systems dynamics of several hydraulic machines configurations under an extended range of operations
2. **Electric power systems:** hydropower plants contribution to enable new renewable energy integration and opportunities to contribute to pump hydro participation in reserve markets
3. **Energy regulation:** future regulatory frameworks and market structures, the value of flexibility in deregulated power systems

Thank you for your attention



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