



The Archimedean Screw

Fish friendly
hydropower generation

Joule Centre Conference
Penrith - April 2008



Archimedean Screw

Operational Range

- Capacity from 100l/s to 10,000l/s
- Full capacity with reduced head
- Hydraulic head from 1m to 10m
- No head loss from screens or pressure pipes
- 87% hydraulic efficiency
- 77% 'Water to Wire' efficiency
- Operation down to 15% max flow
- 1 kW to 350 kW





Archimedean Screw

Advantages

- High efficiency across large flow variation
- Fish friendly
- Floating objects and debris simply pass through with no need for expensive fine screening
- Robust, simple machinery. Low maintenance
- Design life 25 to 40 years.
- No complex control system – the speed is set by the grid connection or by the available flow.



Case Study: River Dart Country Park

Ashburton, Devon

The Site

Weir and 600m long open leat

Kaplan system installed in 90's

- Leaf and debris blockage
- Mechanical failure

Site Advantages

- Plenty of water
- Abstraction licence in place
- Grid connection in place
- Power can be used locally



Options

Appraisal carried out Spring 2006

- Refurbish original scheme
- Replace with a new system

Decision to use Archimedean screw Summer 2007

- Fish friendly
- No need for fine screen which traps debris
- Efficient
- Suited to site layout



Construction

September 2006 – January 2007

Preparing the site





Foundations for concrete
trough laid





Concrete trough complete
Ready for the screw





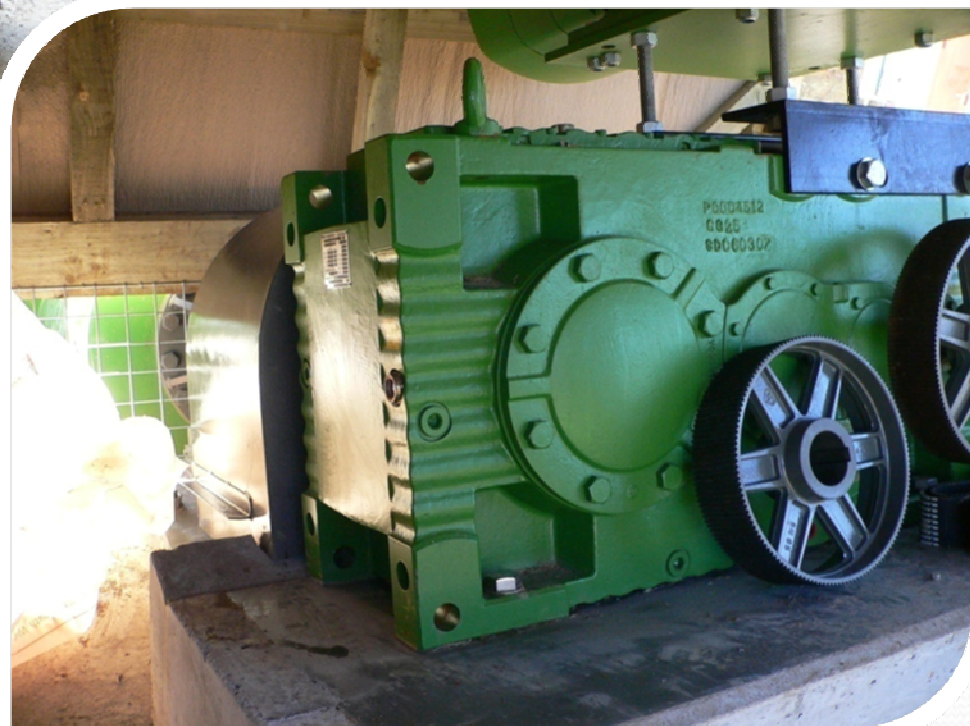
Positioning





Preparing gearbox support

Installing gearbox





Completed
January 2007



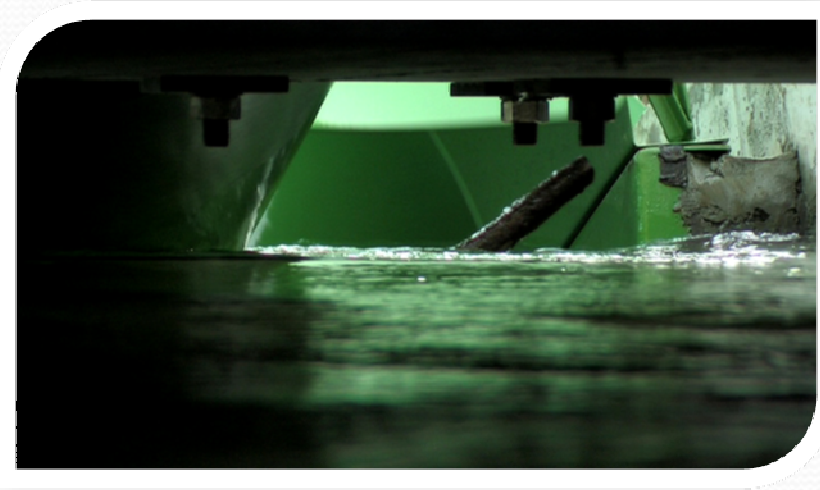


Live fish trials

Spring 2007

Fish and debris testing

- EA approved fish test proposal
- Independent fish biologist, EA supervision
- Over 1000 successful live fish passages
- Different species and sizes



Live fish photographed, and
checked before introduction



Every fish caught and rechecked
after passing through



Extensive underwater video
footage to show behaviour of
fish both entering and leaving
the screw



A kelt 98cm long and 7.5Kg
passed through unharmed





EA and SEPA experience

- Ashburton, River Dart – permitted to operate for one year with no screening while fish testing took place. No requirement to now fit any screening.
- Osbaston, River Monnow – 100mm screening agreed, but EA have recently requested that this be increased to allow even the biggest fish through.
- Strathdon, River Don – 90mm screening agreed, with monitoring programme now completed. No requirement to fit screening.
- Howsham, River Derwent – 125mm screening agreed, with monitoring programme to assess coarse fish and lamprey.
- New Mills, River Goyt – no fish screening required.
- Linton, River York Ouse – no fish screening required.



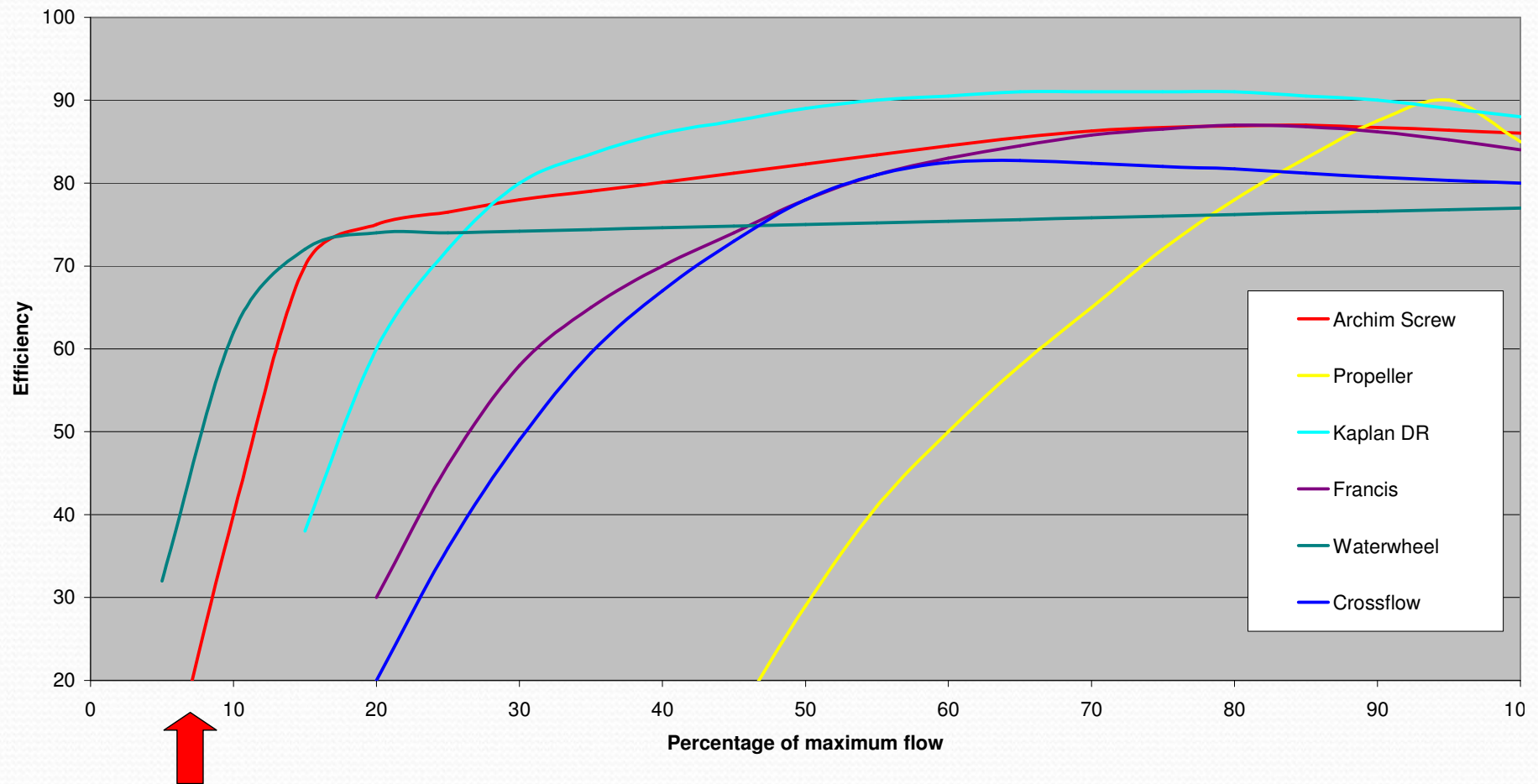
Performance tests

Summer 2007

Efficiency

- Independent verification of performance
- Very accurate ultrasonic flow meter used
- Results matched quoted specifications:-
 - Screw efficiency of 87%
 - 'Water to wire' efficiency of up to 77%
 - Highly efficient down to 20% of maximum flow
 - Variable speed system offers significant benefits

Turbine Efficiency Comparison





Customer satisfaction

- System has operated reliably for over 1 year
- Minimal maintenance required
- Output between 35kW and 52kW depending on river flow
- Previous Kaplan system never achieved over 45kW
- EA very pleased with fish test results
- Proving quite a visitor attraction

New projects

- **Strathdon** 70kW – **commissioned** December 2007
- **Glencullen** 5kW – **due for commissioning** April 2008
- **Bilstone** 6kW – **under construction** June 2008
- **Monmouth** 150kW – **under construction** June 2008
- **New Mills** 70kW – **under construction** July 2008
- **Linton** 130kW – **due to start construction** June 2008
- **Rocester** 50kW – **due to start construction** June 2008

