



Dietmar Reiner

After a brief construction period of little more than 30 months, and only four years after concluding the concession agreement, we are now celebrating the inauguration of Ashta hydropower plant. It is the largest investment in the Albanian energy market in the last 30 years. As to the procedure and the circumstances we found here, we are more than satisfied. Even so, project implementation within a new market was a terrific challenge which we met with hard work and commitment. Thanks to the great effort of our staff in Vienna, Tirana and Ashta, the necessary permits for construction and operation were obtained and the tenders as well as the construction and contract

management were able to be achieved and implemented to the greatest satisfaction of the owners. With a high level of professionalism, open communication and reliability as well as excellent collaboration with the Albanian authorities, we were able to finalise this project in record time and with the highest standards of quality, environmental protection and safety.



Peter Stelzer

The particular challenges facing a construction project like the Ashta hydropower plant are, among other things, its international nature and multilingualism, the allocation of tasks across several locations in different countries and the huge logistical coordination efforts required. Thanks to the professional commitment of Energji Ashta, EVN and VERBUND and that of all contractors, these requirements were able to be accomplished in a highly responsible way. We are particularly proud of the low rate of accidents at our construction sites which would not have been possible without our contractors and their conscientious staff. The floods that hit the surroundings of Shkoder at the start of construction activities in 2010, which submerged the entire region and adversely affected the progress of construction work

proved to be a serious test. After that, we did everything in our power to reduce to a minimum the effects on our owners and licensors.

In retrospect, we are more than satisfied with the procedure and the results we have achieved, and we are delighted to welcome so many guests from at home and abroad at the opening.

## Milestones 2008-2012



Model of Hydropower Plant  
Ashta 1, 2009



Ashta 1 has been erected within  
30 months

Ashta hydropower plant is the fourth-largest power plant in Albania. For its construction, employees of Energji Ashta and the affiliated companies processed 7,000 tons of construction steel in 900,000 working hours, excavated more than 3 million cubic metres of ground soil and filled up a whole football

field with concrete to a height of 15 metres. And now the 45 matrix turbines at Ashta 1 can turn 3,500 bathtubs full of water into clean electricity - every single second.

Sep. 30, 2008	Concession agreement signed
Dec. 17, 2008	Energji Ashta Shpk founded
Apr. 30, 2009	Environmental Impact Assessment completed
Jan. 14, 2010	Building permit granted
Jan. 18, 2010	Start of construction work
Aug. 27, 2010	Shareholders' agreement signed
Sep. 11, 2010	Start of concreting work
Oct. 12, 2010	Financing agreements signed
Sep. 06, 2010	Bottom of foundation finished
Oct. 06, 2010	First draft tube installed
May 2011	Delivery of Hydromatrix turbines started
July 2011	Topping-out ceremony for power house
August 2011	First Hydromatrix turbine mounted
Apr. 15, 2012	Construction pit flooded
May 15, 2012	Trial operation started
June 02, 2012	Electricity supplied to the grid for the first time
Sep. 18, 2012	Power Plant is commissioned and inaugurated



Hydropower Plant Ashta 1, 2012