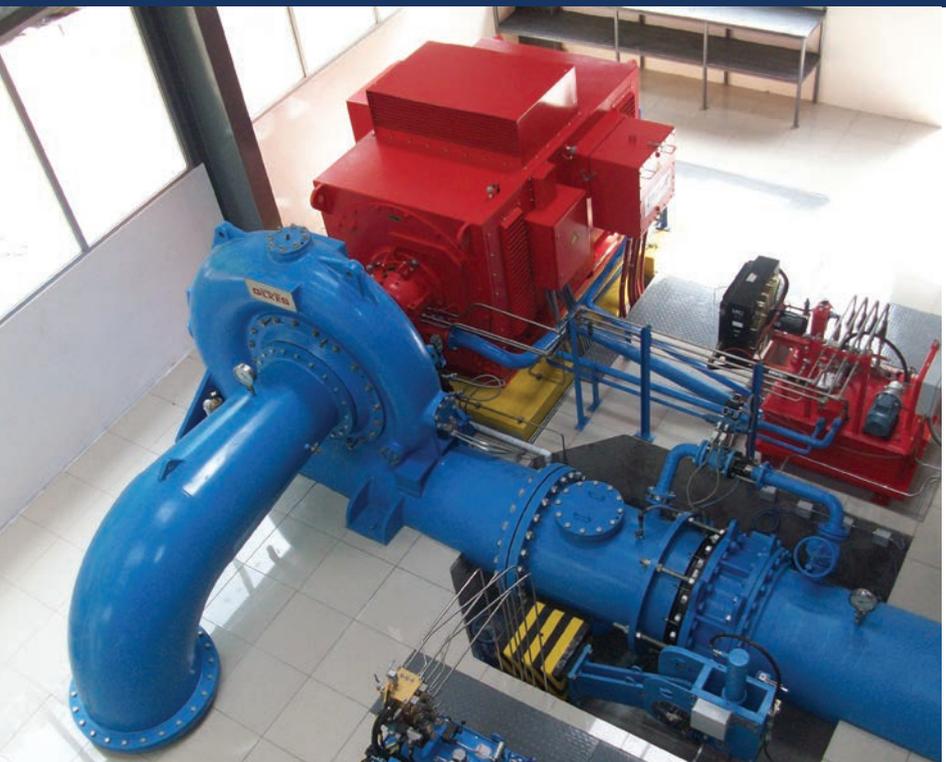


CASE STUDY

VARA BLANCA - Heredia, Costa Rica



KEY STATISTICS

Net head: 135m

Flow: 2.2 m³/sec

Turbine type: Horizontal Francis
(2 piece machined runner)

Turbine installed capacity: 2650kW

Speed: 900rpm

Project commissioned: 2012

Estimated annual energy production: 14.35GWh

Generator and Switchgear: 4.1KV

CH Vara Blanca is a small hydroelectric scheme located in the province of Heredia, Costa Rica, near the town with the same project's name. This project was developed by Suerkata S.R.L. a local company with a 20 year experience in the private power production market.

Ground breaking began in August 2009, civil construction initiated on May 2011, commissioning and start up started January 2012 and full production capability was reached on April 2012.

The project uses a maximum of 2200 litre per second from the San Rafael river, which is then transported through a penstock of nearly 2km with a 135m net head, to the Gilkes electro-mechanical equipment package at the powerhouse. For this project Gilkes worked with Ingeteam and Indar.

The highest standards were a requirement of the developer for all aspects of the project including construction, equipment supply and ongoing operational technology to monitor the schemes electrical generation.

CONTACT

Email: hydro@gilkes.com Tel: 01539 720028 Fax: 01539 732110

www.gilkes.com

Gilbert Gilkes & Gordon Ltd, Canal Head North, Kendal, Cumbria LA9 7BZ. Registration No.173768 London

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