

Tekeze Hydropower Project Named Project of the Year

The Tekeze Hydropower Project has been named the Best Renewable/Sustainable Project of the Year by Power Engineering magazine. The \$350 million government-funded project—and tallest dam in Africa at 188-meters-high—generates 300 megawatts of hydroelectric power, 40 percent more energy than was previously generated for the country's 80 million residents.

The Tekeze hydropower project provides a clean, renewable source of power for a rapidly growing population and has created opportunities for sustained social and economic growth. Local infrastructure was greatly improved as a result of the project, including construction of more than 40 kilometers of roads and the first installation of communications links from the area to the outside world. Education and training was a determined focus during construction, which generated schools, vocational facilities and training programs for local workers.

"It is a great honor to see Tekeze honored as the best of the best in the power industry," says Alan Krause, President and Chief Operating Officer of MWH. "Our project team worked on this project for nearly 11 years, and this award is a testament to their excellence and dedication, as well as outstanding partnerships throughout the duration of the project."

The project is owned by the Ethiopian Electric Power Corporation (EPCO). MWH joined the effort in 1998, providing design review, preparation of construction drawings, bid packaging and evaluation, and on-site construction management services for the project.

Ralph Watt, Derrick Penman, Allan Marshall and Sara Heinlein joined EPCO CEO Miheret Debebe, EPCO Tekeze Project Manager Oways Ibrahim and Eyob Tolina from the Embassy of Ethiopia at the ceremony to accept the award.

The project includes a double curvature concrete arch dam, an underground powerhouse containing four 75 megawatt Francis Turbines, and a 105-kilometer-long transmission line constructed through rugged, mountainous terrain with minimal environmental impact to connect to the Ethiopian national grid. Inaugurated in November 2009, the Tekeze dam is located in northern Ethiopia along the Tekeze River, a tributary of the Nile.

Power Engineering's Project of the Year awards honor excellence in design, construction and engineering of power generation facilities worldwide in four categories: coal-fired, gas-fired, nuclear and renewable.

Congratulations to the entire project team on this outstanding achievement!.

For more information on the Tekeze Hydropower Project:

http://www.mwhglobal.com/MWH/projects/Tekeze_River_Hydropower_Project.html