



A small hydroelectric power station in harmony with nature and the environment

The municipality of Unterbäch, a village in the Swiss canton of Wallis, has for many years been operating a small hydroelectric power station that uses the water of the Milibach stream to generate electricity. Up until two years ago the water, having passed through the turbine, flowed back into the Löübbach without any further use being made of it. That needed to change. What the village, which is situated on a plateau to the south of the valley of the river Rhone, planned to do was to collect this unused water, together with the cleaned waste water from the water treatment plant, and put it through another turbine in the hamlet of Turtig. TMH Thomas Hagenbucher, BGW's Swiss sales and distributing partner, supplied DN 500 ductile cast iron pipes with a sulphate resisting cement lining for the 1,609 metre long pressure pipeline. For the sections of the pipeline that had to be laid in rock, the decision was made to use the proven cement mortar coating. The pressure pipeline passed all the tests without giving any cause for complaint. In December 2008, the municipal news-sheet "Dreiblatt" (Cloverleaf) proudly reported: "Thanks to the exemplary work that was done in planning and constructing the small hydroelectric power station in Turtig, electricity has been produced over the past year without any real problems."

