

Media Release

Voith Hydro

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Voith and digital specialist Ray Sono launch digital service product for station management in the small hydropower sector

- Cloud-based solution “Hydro Pocket” provides real-time data from small and medium-sized hydropower plants directly on mobile devices
- Investors and operators can increase the performance of their assets through intelligent digitalization
- First customer in Indonesia already impressed with the new solution

HEIDENHEIM, GERMANY. Digitalization is now an indispensable part of daily life. While it has been possible to control other technical installations from a smartphone, this has not previously been an option in hydropower. Voith, in conjunction with digital specialist Ray Sono, has now developed a solution to achieve this. The use of real-time data and intelligent analysis permits faster and better decisions.

Hydro Pocket is a smart, all-in-one solution for small and medium-sized hydropower plants, which offers operators greater efficiency, flexibility and security. The cloud-based solution will now enable them to manage the system data on a “smart” basis. Thanks to the transparent view of assets, assistance in the form of intelligent analysis methods, maintenance and repair planning can be optimized and faults or unplanned downtime can be reduced. As a result, management of the system is simplified and communication requirements are reduced.

“The application can be intuitively operated via a clearly configured dashboard, and can map individual power units, complete stations or even entire fleets. These can be displayed on a computer, smartphone or tablet,” explains Dr. Tobias Keitel, Chief Operations Officer at Voith Hydro.

Unique development process

There are currently three different types of digital solution providers in the hydropower market. So-called OEMs (Original Equipment Manufacturers) offer supplementary products, which are suitable for their hardware, but in most cases are unable to offer a customized solution. Third-party providers supply retrofit solutions, but do not possess any technical expertise. As a result of the high outlay and investment costs involved, only very large companies can often rely on the third variant of internal development.

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“With Hydro Pocket, all of these aspects were taken into account during the development stage. While Voith has around 150 years of experience in hydropower, we at Ray Sono were able to contribute our expertise in the design and implementation of digital applications,” explains Sebastian Krüger, Executive Board member of Ray Sono, in describing the process.

Work was also carried out directly on the Indonesian pilot project Sion. The valuable findings made during this project contributed significantly to the expansion and configuration of the functions and features. “In addition to focusing on user experience, user interfaces, and the technical stability of the application, feedback from initial customers was also taken into account to develop a market-ready solution,” Krüger continues.

Easy installation

Hydro Pocket can be adapted to individual needs and user requirements, but is also quick to install and easy to configure. The user receives a starter kit to assist in this process, and attaches the hardware contained in the kit to the power plant. The task of configuring the system is subsequently performed by Voith, with the entire process taking less than four weeks to complete.

Three pillars

The three pillars covered by the product are the monitoring, analysis and management of the system. This offers operators various advantages, which span the need to increase efficiency and flexibility, and make optimum use of manpower, to the transfer of knowledge, and the security and modernization of the aging infrastructure. Hydro Pocket is a holistic and contemporary solution, which guarantees optimal operation of small or medium-sized hydropower stations.

“In addition to the 12 MW system at Sion, in Indonesia, which has been using Hydro Pocket since March 2022, there are also six other systems in Europe and Southeast Asia, which are already putting Hydro Pocket to the test,” Keitel adds.

About the Voith Group

The Voith Group is a global technology company. With its broad portfolio of plants, products, services and digital applications, Voith sets standards in the markets for energy, paper, raw materials, and transport & automotive. Founded in 1867, Voith today has around 20,000 employees and earns €4.3 billion in sales. It has locations in more than 60 countries and is one of Europe's major family-owned companies.

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Voith Hydro Division is part of the Voith Group and a leading full-line supplier and reliable partner for hydropower plant equipment. Voith develops customized long-term solutions and services for large and small hydropower plants all over the world. Its range of products and services covers the entire life cycle and all the main components for large and small hydropower plants, from generators, turbines, pumps and automation systems to spare parts, maintenance and training services and digital solutions for intelligent hydropower.

About Ray Sono

Ray Sono, founded in 1992, shapes the digital world of businesses and organisations of all sizes and industries. Locally, nationally, and globally. In the interplay of strategy, concept, design and technology, the digital expert transforms ambitious ideas into tangible digital content, products, and services. Ray Sono continuously develops this in the digital ecosystem of its customers and ensures smooth operation. Ray Sono counts leading brands such as Audi, Austrian Airlines, Bayern Tourismus, BMW, BSH Hausgeräte, BVG, Deutsche Bahn, E.ON, MAN, McDonald's, Paul Hartmann, Telefónica, Voith, WMF, Zeppelin u.v.m. zu seinen Kunden.among its customers.



For more information:

www.hydropocket.de



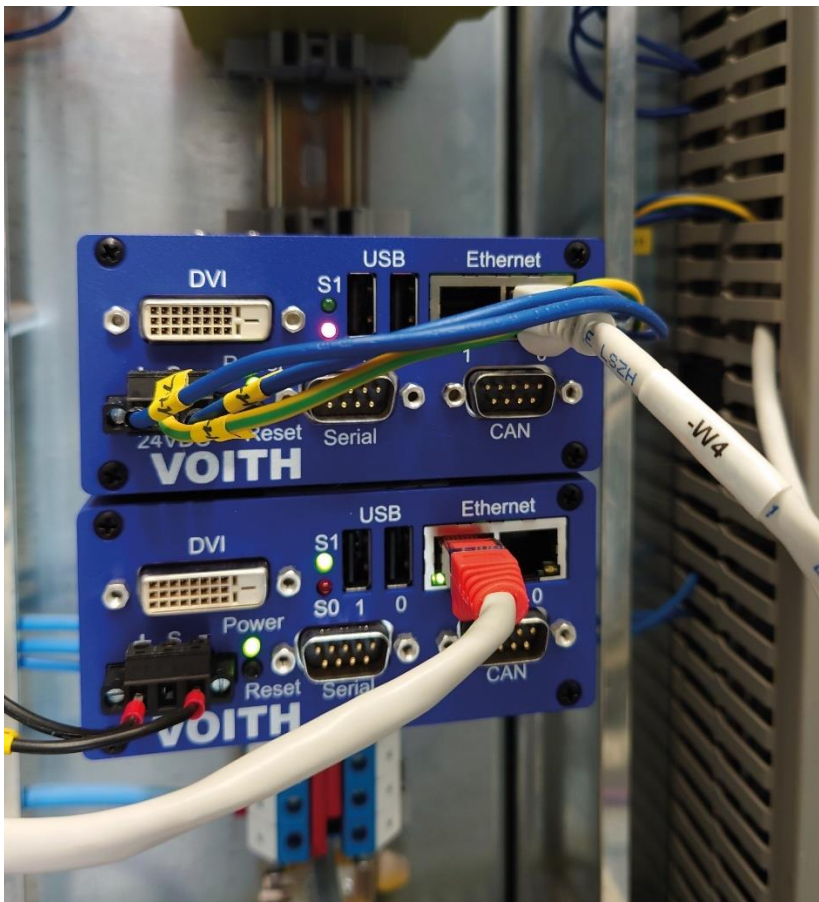
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Thanks to the transparent view of assets and assistance from intelligent analysis methods, maintenance and repair planning can be optimized and faults or unplanned downtime can be reduced



*The starter kit includes the hardware to be installed at site –
The configuration of the system is completed by Voith experts*



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Intuitive dashboards permit the monitoring, analysis and optimized performance of individual machine units, complete systems, or entire fleets in a single application

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