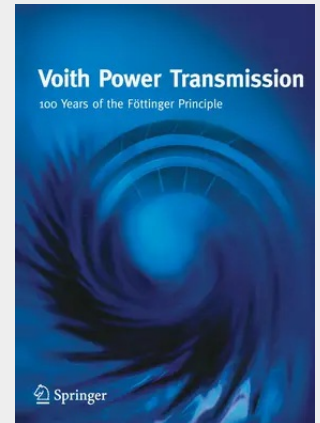


Voith Power Transmission

This richly illustrated book tells the story of Hermann Föttinger and his idea of hydrodynamic power transmission. Coverage follows the trail of technical milestones, from the industrial introduction of the idea to its further developments by Voith, marking the progress of hydrodynamic power transmission. The book illustrates the vast field of industrial applications in control and start-up processes and gives an account of the development of transmissions and retarders for buses, coaches and trucks. This retrospective from early experiments to today's successes is followed by a brief overview of the prospects of hydrodynamic drive systems in the near future.

The text is accessible for the general interest reader. All will find it encouraging to read about the inventor Föttinger, his brilliant idea and the enormous impact it had on the development of industry with Voith.

It was in Stettin on 24 June 1905 when Dr. Hermann Föttinger was granted Patent No. 2214 22 of the German Reich for a "hydrodynamic transmission with one or several driving and one or several driven turbine wheels for power transmission between adjacent shafts". Originally intended for marine drives, this hydrodynamic power transmission principle was at first celebrated as an "epoch-making" invention, only to be driven out of its field of application within a few years by mechanical units with improved gear technology. The German shipbuilding industry subsequently put the Föttinger principle "ad acta". A quarter of a century went past, before the "Maschinenbauanstalt Johann Matthaues Voith" in Heidenheim, south Germany, signed a licensing agreement with the inventor on 17 April 1929, enabling Voith to utilize his idea. What were the reasons behind this? Peter Edelmann, Member of the Board of Voith AG and Chairman of the As early as 1906, Voith engineers from the turbine department had support Board of Voith Turbo. ed Föttinger with their experiences. Through this contact, they became acquainted with the function and the possibilities of the Föttinger principle. Twenty years later, when Voith received an order for the pumps and the turbines of the "Herdecke" pumped storage plant, Voith resorted to the specific advantages of a hydrodynamic coupling to enable the transmission of 36 000 HP.



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