

Slide No. 140
 Micro power plant destroyed
 by avalanche



Amount of Loss	CHF 780,000
Cause	A mudslide hit and covered a power plant, which is situated 830 m above sea level, with 1 m of dirt.
Short Description	The building (16 m / 9 m, reinforced concrete) housing the power plant with two Francis Turbines (340 kw and 740 kw), was partially destroyed, allowing a mixture of soil, stones and snow to enter and damage generators, switchboard, turbines etc.
Comments	The reconstruction of the two turbines caused a delay of six months. The site was approved for construction by the authorities and at first glance did not appear to be very exposed to mudslides or to avalanches since it is situated only 830 m above sea level and seemed to be well protected by the wooded mountain slopes.
Conclusion and Loss Prevention	Even if the site lies within an area approved by the authorities for construction, principals should carry out their own safety checks with respect to surrounding exposures.

Slide No. 141
View of the site after
removal of debris



Slide No. 142
A close-up of the above
site gives a better view of
damage to the installations.

