

# **DAMS**

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# **in Germany**

Editor:  
Peter Franke



**Deutsches TalsperrenKomitee**  
**German Committee on Large Dams**

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# Preface

Dear Reader:

This book, *Dams in Germany*, was published on the occasion of the 69<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the International Commission on Large Dams (ICOLD) which was held in Germany for the first time. The City of Dresden and the German ICOLD Member Committee (DTK) hosted the meeting from 9<sup>th</sup> to 15<sup>th</sup> September 2001.

Germany, though only a small country, has a rich history relating to the design, construction and operation of dams of nearly all types. The history of dam construction in Germany dates from the Middle Ages. In more modern times dams have been designed and constructed all over the country for the purpose of water supply, flood protection, electricity production and to make German rivers navigable all the year round.

The know-how developed from the design and construction of dams in Germany enjoys a high reputation worldwide, and German firms have participated significantly throughout the world in all types of engineering works related to dams.

Safety has always played a major role in the construction and operation of dams in densely populated Germany. High standard criteria for design and operation were developed decades ago and have been updated and improved since then, taking the latest technical and scientific state of the art into consideration.

Rehabilitation of older dams has played an important role in this context. Again German engineers have been found at the forefront of the development of technologies to expand the service life of dams.

Besides more general descriptions of the development of dams in Germany and applied design standards, a number of dams will be presented in great detail. The presentation gives a perfect overview with particular emphasis on types of design and service as well as geographical location.

I thank all those who contributed to compiling this rich reference book on German dams. They invested a lot of time after office hours and dedicated their time, knowledge and skills to getting the book crafted and printed in time.

I am particularly grateful to Professor Peter Franke, the editor of this book and co-author of articles and statistics. I do hope that all of those attending the 69<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of ICOLD will enjoy reading this book. Moreover, I am convinced that the book will be used as a reference manual all over the world.

*Dr.-Ing. Herbert Lütkestratkötter*  
President of the  
German Committee on Large Dams



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