

Hydro-Brake® Optimum

The Hydro-Brake® Optimum is Hydro International's flagship passive flow control device and the most advanced vortex flow control available.

Hydro-Brake® Optimum is the only vortex flow control for which the head and discharge relationship can be fine-tuned to optimise your design. Designers can size a Hydro-Brake® Optimum to achieve the perfect hydraulic performance curve and engineer the best possible passive flow control performance.



Surface water management and SuDS



Combined drainage systems and CSOs



Watercourse flood prevention



Sewer network optimisation



Wastewater treatment plants



- ✓ No external energy source.
- ✓ No moving parts.
- ✓ Future-proof.
- ✓ Large outlet clearances prevent blockages.

There is No Equivalent

Hydro-Brake® Optimum dispenses with the need to choose from a range of sizes and types and instead offers built-in flexibility to size each unit for absolute fit. Each Hydro-Brake Optimum® is individually-sized, so you achieve performance without compromise for every project.

Maximise Storage Savings

The increased hydraulic efficiency of the Hydro-Brake® Optimum means you can reduce on-site storage by up to 15% than if an alternative vortex control is used. With reduced storage, you can lower construction and excavation costs as well as saving project time and overall land-use.

Best Value for Every Project

Selecting the superior performance of Hydro-Brake® Optimum does not mean a higher cost for your project. On the contrary, because your upstream storage can be fine-tuned to achieve the smallest volumes, construction, excavation and material costs are reduced.

Easy to Install

Hydro-Brake® Optimum comes with a range of installation options and accessories to make construction and installation as simple as possible.

Setting the Standard

The Hydro-Brake® Optimum is the culmination of more than 35 years of research and development by Hydro International, and the company continues to take an international lead in vortex technology and expertise. Hydro-Brake® Optimum is the only vortex flow control to be independently certified by BBA and WRc.



Minimal Maintenance

With up to 20% larger outlet clearances compared to other vortex devices, there is significantly less risk of blockage with a Hydro-Brake® Optimum. With no power source or moving parts, it offers minimal, predictable maintenance.

Future-Proofed

Hydro-Brake® Optimum can be supplied with an adjustable inlet so flows can be altered by up to 40% post-installation, to allow for future changes in operating conditions, for example as a result of site expansion or climate change.

Flow Control Chamber

A Hydro-Brake® Optimum flow control can be supplied prefitted in a precast reinforced concrete chamber. Custom options including high level emergency bypass, rodding pipe and removable units are also available.

Case Studies



Tight Fit for New Homes

Engineers challenged to solve a “tight fit” surface water management challenge on a West Yorkshire housing development used the Hydro-Brake® Optimum Design Tool to calculate a solution that optimised the limited pipe storage area. Using conventional flow control devices would have required more back up storage than would fit in the space available, but by using Hydro-Brake® Optimum flood protection measures, challenging discharge limits were met for a 1 in 100 year storm.



‘Optimum’ Savings for Developer with 21st Century Drainage

The first phase of Edinburgh City Council’s 21st Century Homes project, the Gracemount development showcases sustainable construction. A major feature of the drainage solution is Hydro International’s high performance Hydro-Brake Optimum® to control surface water which saved the developers over 30% in storage construction costs.

Photo courtesy of Edinburgh City Council

Hydro-Brake® Optimum Selection Criteria

Suitability:	Most sites, from very low to very high flow rates		
Flow Range (l/s)	Head Range (m)	Ability to match greenfield discharge rate	On-site water storage requirement
0.7 – 550 *	0.4 – 4.0	Very good	Low
Moving Parts?	External Power?	Risk of blockage?	
No	No	Very low	

* lower flows may be possible (contact Hydro International to discuss)



Explore the Options with our Online Design Tool

Hydro-Brake® Optimum Flow Control Design Tool is an online sizing engine that gives you the flexibility to compare flow control design options, output detailed design drawings and hydraulic data and import the results into commercially-available hydraulic modelling software.

www.hydrobrakeoptimum.com