

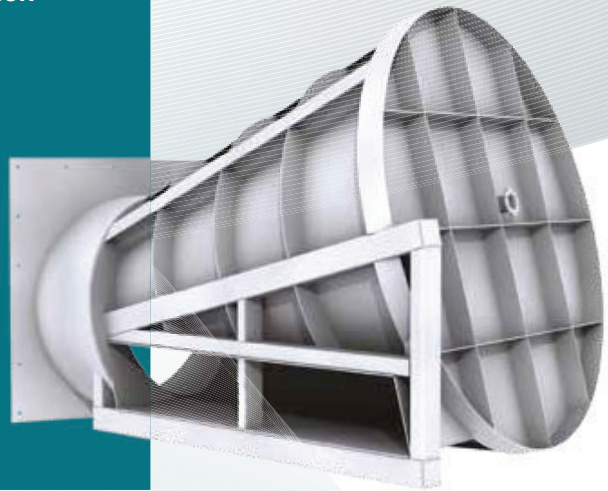
# Hydro-Brake® Flood

Hydro-Brake® Flood is a highly sustainable, precision-engineered vortex technology for preventing watercourse flooding.

Hydro-Brake® Flood flow controls have been installed at the heart of low-maintenance, self-activating flood defences since the 1990s, and now protect more than 6,000 properties from an estimated £200m of flood damage in pioneering schemes across the UK.



Watercourse  
flood prevention



- ✓ No external power.
- ✓ No moving parts.
- ✓ Upstream flood storage minimised.
- ✓ Minimal maintenance.

## Bespoke, Precision Engineering

Each Hydro-Brake® Flood is a bespoke solution that precisely manages watercourse flows, right up to major dams with pass forward flow rates of 30 m³/s. The same technology is used just as successfully in smaller, dispersed schemes.

Each Hydro-Brake® Flood scheme is purpose-designed to optimise flow control performance characteristics and precisely calculate the amount of upstream storage required. Using Hydro-Brake® Flood vortex technology can reduce the volume of floodwater to be stored by up to 30% compared to fixed orifice controls.

## A Simple, Elegant Solution

The internal geometry of Hydro-Brake® Flood is designed so that water can flow through it without restriction for as long as possible, minimising the upstream storage required. A self-activating vortex is created when the water reaches the pre-determined hydraulic head, holding back excess water, and releasing it at a controlled rate.

## Expert Design and Manufacture

Designing fluvial interventions, whether on a large or small scale, requires expert engineering and hydraulic modelling in line with the flood risk management strategy. Hydro International can support with detailed design using Computational Fluid Dynamics and structural design using Finite Element Analysis, scale testing and production of detailed design drawings and specifications.

Hydro-Brake® Flood vortex flow controls are manufactured in high-grade stainless steel to be structurally fit-for-purpose, using modern production and control methods to ensure the design and performance objectives are delivered.

## Low Impact, Minimal Maintenance

The Hydro-Brake® Flood has a large open area at all flow rates, resulting in a low risk of blockages. With no power or moving parts, the flow controls require minimal operational attention and maintenance.

## Future-Proofed

Hydro-Brake® Flood schemes can be designed to allow for future variances in fluvial flows. A facility for future adjustment to allow for climate change can be incorporated without necessitating new engineering or construction works.

## Monitoring

Flood alleviation at the fluvial level can be demonstrated to deliver a level of protection that is worth far more than the project costs. We can offer support and advice on post-installation monitoring of the value of the intervention.

## Case Studies



### Flood Prevention Scheme Protects 1,750 Properties in Glasgow

Glasgow City Council's £53 m White Cart Water Flood Prevention scheme protects 1,750 properties in the south of the city. Normally a shallow river, White Cart Water is prone to flash flooding. As little as twelve hours of rain can cause water levels to rise by six metres.

New manufacturing and installation techniques were developed as part of the project that saw the world's five largest-ever Hydro-Brake® Flood vortex flow controls installed in 3 dams in the highlands above the city. The final scheme controls flow rates and velocities up to a 1 in 200 year flood event, with a 45% maximum reduction in peak flows, holding back more than 2.5 billion litres of floodwater in upstream storage areas that make best use of the natural environment.



### Vortex Technology Protects Northallerton Homes and Businesses

In the North Yorkshire town of Northallerton, a £3.1 million flood alleviation scheme is using Hydro-Brake® Flood technology to protect 170 homes and businesses. Two large Hydro-Brake® Flood vortex flow controls were installed in refurbished culverts on town's outskirts.

They enable excess water to be held back in specially-built flood storage basins. Before the scheme was built, excess floodwaters could overtop the watercourse in the agricultural land on its approach to the culverts sending flows to cause flooding in the east of the town. Hydro International carefully-sized the flow controls to minimise upstream storage requirements.

## Hydro-Brake® Flood Selection Criteria

|                  |                                                     |                                            |                                   |
|------------------|-----------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Suitability:     | For rivers & watercourses; Flood storage reservoirs |                                            |                                   |
| Flow Range (l/s) | Head Range (m)                                      | Ability to match greenfield discharge rate | On-site water storage requirement |
| 550 – 12,000 *   | 1.5 – 10 *                                          | n/a                                        | Low                               |
| Moving Parts?    | External Power?                                     | Risk of blockage?                          |                                   |
| No               | No                                                  | Very low                                   |                                   |

\* higher flows and heads may be possible (contact Hydro International to discuss)