



An impulse turbine

Typical impulse turbines operate when a jet of water is directed at cups mounted around the edge of a wheel. These turbines are sometimes called Pelton wheels after their inventor. They run in an open (i.e. not sealed) unit, and with an open-air connection to the water inlet pipe. An impulse turbine may or may not have a connection to a water outlet pipe. This type of turbine needs protection from water flooding. They are typically installed in higher water head applications, of up to 10 metres water pressure head, and are more common than reaction turbines for domestic applications.