A TECHNICAL PRIMER - PICTORIAL & ENTERTAINING

BRUCE B. SHARP

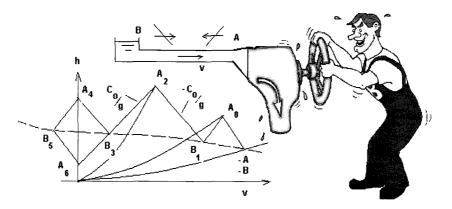
Director, Burnell Research Laboratory, Old Warrandyte Road, Donvale, Vic, Australia (Tel: +03-98945130, Fax, e-mail: bbsharp@iprimus.com.au)

Technical material, specifically text books, deal straight forwardly with the subject and the basic theory with examples and test questions.

It is important that the student is able to recall some of the important features in later engineering practice so that in planning and project management he or she can take account of key issues to ensure best practice. Present project development often assumes that at some stage a 'technical expert', often the computer, will ensure that these objectives are met. The writer's experience suggest that this is not the case as key technical matters are forgotten and this submission proposes that there needs to be a Primer which is pictorial and entertaining so that the key issues remain in memory.

An example from the experience of difficulty of teaching dynamic transients (water hammer) will be used to illustrate this approach with human representation.

As an example the operation of a valve closure can produce significant water hammer because the expedient thing is to close it as soon as possible and to ask the most able person to do this. The illustration suggests that a weakling to close the valve would be the better choice and the art of graphical analysis is most useful as well.



Refer: A Water Hammer Primer by B.B. Sharp (publication pending).