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NHA Presents Henwood Award to American Hydro's Selim Chacour *Award honors Chacour's dedication, innovation, and contribution to hydro industry*

Washington, D.C. (April 27, 2010) – The National Hydropower Association is pleased to announce that it has presented Selim Chacour, president of American Hydro Corporation, with the prestigious Dr. Kenneth Henwood Award for individual achievement.

"Selim Chacour has made significant contributions to the hydropower industry during his more-than 40-year career, not only by pioneering computer technology for hydro turbine designs, but also through his executive leadership at Allis-Chalmers and American Hydro," said Linda Church Ciocchi, NHA's executive director. "Chacour's talents have contributed to the entire industry through his ingenuity to provide hydroelectric operators options for using new turbines that increase plant efficiency."

A licensed professional engineer who received his engineering degree from Cairo University, Chacour has dedicated his career to the design of thousands of hydropower turbines and managing hydropower manufacturing facilities. Chacour was the principle founder of American Hydro and has led it from a small entrepreneurial enterprise to one of the industry's leading turbine manufacturers, employing 130 people. Last year Chacour was elected to the prestigious U.S. National Academy of Engineering.

"We were pleased to select Selim Chacour for this award," said Leslie Eden, a NHA past president and Henwood selection committee chair. "His work – from advancing turbine design to fostering a successful manufacturing company – embodies the dedication and forward-thinking that will help this industry meet the challenge of doubling its energy contribution in the next 20 years."

The Dr. Kenneth Henwood Award is the hydropower industry's most prestigious individual achievement award. NHA established the award in 1990 in memory of Kenneth Henwood, an NHA board member, engineer, and developer who died while working on a project in California. Henwood winners must show persistence in the face of institutional obstacles, exhibit fair dealing and plain speaking, and depict an appreciation of the relationships between project engineering, the environment, and economics.

"In honoring Selim Chacour with the Henwood award, the selection committee is recognizing an unsung hero of the hydropower industry. In fact, his engineering accomplishments will benefit not just the industry, but the millions of Americans who count on clean, affordable hydropower," said Church Ciocchi. "On behalf of NHA and the entire industry, I'd like to congratulate Selim Chacour on this award and thank him for his contributions."