

# Iceland

**Name:** The Icelandic Tunnelling Society

**Type of structure:** Independant Society of corporate and ordinary members, founded 1974.

**Number of members:** A total of 17 corporate members and 45 ordinary members (individuals)

## MAIN ACTIVITIES

Every year about four board meetings, and one annual meeting with invited speakers are held, with occasional seminars.

### WGs:

Four corresponding members in four working groups.

## MAIN WORKS OF THE YEAR 2016:

**Vadlaheidi Tunnel:** Excavation continued on this 7.2km long road tunnel (66m<sup>2</sup>) in North Iceland. At the end of year 2016 some 6.6km had been excavated. Problems due to geothermal activity and hot water inflows (up to 65°C), a fault collapse, and large cold water inflows delayed works for at least one and a half years.

**Nordfjörður Tunnel:** Breakthrough reached in September 2015 on this 7.5km long road tunnel in East Iceland (54m<sup>2</sup>). Final rock support, water protection and other installation work ongoing in 2016. Will be opened for traffic in 2017.

**Bakki Tunnel:** Excavation started in March 2016 for this 1km long industrial transport tunnel in North Iceland (75m<sup>2</sup>) and was completed in August. Installation work ongoing at the end of the year 2016.

**Burfell II Hydroelectric Plant** in South Iceland (100MW). Work started in April 2016 and involves underground powerhouse, access and tailrace tunnels and two shafts. Tunnel excavation mostly completed at the end of 2016.

## FUTURE ACTIVITIES

Some further tunnels are planned in the future:

Bids opened in January 2016 for the 5.6km long **Dyrafjörður Tunnel** in NW Iceland. Excavation expected to start summer 2017. Other road tunnel projects being investigated such as the **Fjardarheidi Tunnel**, approximately 13km long in East Iceland. Other hydro electric projects involving tunnelling work are being planned.

