

Lausanne, Wednesday 25th March 2015

ITA-AITES launches the 2015 ITA Tunnelling Awards

With the growth of infrastructure needs and requirements for better use of space and resources, the development of underground options have often proved to provide relevant solutions to these challenges.

As part of this endeavour, the International Tunnelling and Underground Space Association (ITA) has taken the initiative to launch its own dedicated Tunnelling Awards to **identify outstanding achievements in the field of tunnelling and underground space use**, and **provide international recognition to these remarkable contributions**.

ITA has identified **9 categories** of awards which candidates will register via the website. This initiative will demonstrate the recent achievements of major projects that aim to improve sustainability of cities and life comfort of inhabitants.

Through these awards, ITA will demonstrate the achievements of the organizations, people and recent innovations.

The candidates who have been preselected, by a panel of tunnelling and underground space experts, will present their projects during a one day conference and the winners will be announced during a dinner the same evening.

ITA, which is a recognized Non-Governmental Organization (NGO), is engaged with the United Nations in several programs of UN Habitat and UN ISDR. ITA is the place where the tunnelling community is sharing knowledge and promoting the use of underground space.

For its very first organized Awards event, ITA has chosen a unique underground location. The conference and the awards banquet will take place in the **Hagerbach** test gallery in **Switzerland, which is a fascinating underground world comprising numerous tunnels and caverns that can be used for conferences and creative events**.

Categories :

- Outstanding Tunnelling Project of the Year - up to €50m
- Tunnelling Project of the Year - between €50m and €500m
- Major Tunnelling Project of the Year - over €500m
- Renovation/Upgrading project of the Year
- Technical Innovation of the Year
- Environmental Initiative of the Year
- Safety Initiative of the Year
- Innovative Use of Underground Space
- Young Tunneller of the year

Practical information: The website to register your entry, in the respective category, will be available from April 10th until August 14th. The conference and the dinner, will take place in Hagerbach, Switzerland, on Thursday November 19th. Registration for the conference and the banquet will open in July. awards.ita-aites.org

The International Tunnelling and Underground Space Association (ITA) is a non -profit and non-governmental international organization (NGO), which aims at promoting the use of underground space as a solution to sustainable development. Founded in 1974 and operating out of Lausanne, Switzerland, ITA currently associates 71 Member Nations, 200 affiliated members, 15 Prime Sponsors and 50 supporters.



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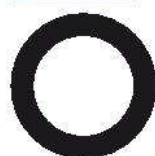


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ASSOCIATION
INTERNATIONALE DES TUNNELS
ET DE L'ESPACE SOUTERRAIN
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ASSOCIATION