

ITA COSUF Press Release 01-2015

ITA COSUF: 10 years for Safety and Security in Tunnels

Workshop and Anniversary at WTC in Dubrovnik/Croatia

Lausanne, 15 May 2015. **ITA COSUF, the Committee on Operational Safety of Underground Facilities, is the first of four Committees of the International Tunnelling and Underground Space Association (ITA) and the biggest network of Tunnelling Specialists worldwide. On their annual meeting in Dubrovnik (Croatia) COSUF will celebrate its 10th anniversary, host the General Assembly and also organize the specialists workshop "Aging Tunnels – Safety in operation and during refurbishment".**

10 Years for Safety and Security in Tunnels during Operation

ITA COSUF is a Centre of Excellence consisting of approx. 80 corporate member organisations and companies from 25 countries all over the world. COSUF was founded at the ITA-AITES World Tunnel Congress in Istanbul 2005 following a joint initiative of eight European Research Projects which intended to improve the safety for users of tunnels. The World Road Association PIARC is also supporting ITA COSUF. Since the very first beginning COSUF is a platform for communication on operational safety and security in underground facilities. Only the best specialists in the field of tunnelling are discussing in four different activity groups about the latest developments.

Workshop "Aging Tunnels" in Dubrovnik

One of the most important tools to discuss the topics of COSUF are the two workshops organized every year, one of which is only for members and one is open to all public. "Aging Tunnels – Safety in operation and during refurbishment" is a one-day workshop with presenters from all over Europe showing case studies, new technologies and new approaches dealing with the subject. Every tunnel owner has one main focus: How to guarantee user safety, structural reliability and security during tunnel operation. In the past

15 years comprehensive research has been done to provide decision-makers with sophisticated approaches and a steadily growing set of infrastructure and operational safety measures to make tunnels safer. With increasing aging infrastructure, safety upgrade and refurbishment during operation becomes more and more important. For this reason, the workshop tackles risk levels, common problems during operation and will as well present possible solutions.

ITA COSUF Award 2015

As a highlight of the workshop, the ITA COSUF Award 2015 will be presented to a young tunnelling researcher or professional. Awarded for the first time in 2009, the competition to win this prestigious price is increasing. Students, young professionals or researchers not older than 35 years are the applicants of the COSUF Award. The winner has to complete a research work in theory or in practice in the field of operational safety or security of underground facilities in the last 2 years. During the plenary session of the workshop the winner will present his/her own work. The prize includes the award certificate, travel and accomodation costs to attend the COSUF award ceremony and a handsome sum of 1,000 Euro.

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Download of Text in word, as pdf and pictures are available at

<http://www.ita-aite.org/en/wg-committees/committees/ita-cosuf/news-annoucements>



ITA COSUF

ITA Committee on
Operational Safety of
Underground Facilities

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