



July 2009

Dear members of ITA COSUF,

Last year I informed you twice about the activities of our ITA COSUF. I'm pleased to send you with this newsletter the first information in this year

ITA COSUF supported an L-surF workshop on 'New energy carriers in tunnels' in Frankfurt on 20.11.2009, where participants from the tunnel industry, scientist and representatives from the car industry discussed the up coming safety problems related to new forms of energy used in cars.

16. and 17. of March we had a Steering Board meeting and a meeting of the Activity Groups in Bochum, at the Ruhr University. The meetings as such were quite successful however it became apparent that for most of the ITA COSUF members it is to time consuming and costly to travel just for an Activity Group meeting. So we decided to combine Activity Group meetings with other ITA COSUF events (like workshops etc) in the future. This should make it easier for our members to participate.

The most important event of the last month was certainly the workshop on 'Operators and emergency services – an essential part of Safety and Security in Underground Facilities', jointly held with the General Assembly in Budapest on 28. May 2009. The workshop was quite well attended with some 70 participants. We were much pleased by the fact that we were able to approach that topic from various sides: Road tunnel safety officers, metro operators, road tunnel operators, fire-fighters etc. By doing so we actually lived up to the essential core of ITA COSUF, the interdisciplinary approach. We are convinced that such an approach brings a lot because it allows to think out of the box and to see how similar problems have been solved in other fields.

We certainly could leave a reference for a high quality workshop which is important for ITA COSUF. I would like thanking again everybody who has contributed to that success. All presentations, together with some snapshots from the workshop, will be burnt on a CD which will be sent to the participants and which will be on sale too.



Following the workshop, the General Assembly of ITA COSUF was held. Major topics of the GA were the reports on activities from the chairman and the activity group leaders, the outlook into 2009, the presentation of the balance sheet 2008 and the budget of 2009. The financial situation of ITA COSUF still looks by the way very well and has further improved since last year.

The full content of the GA presentations will be up-loaded to the member section of the ITA COSUF website and we recommend visiting this site for further information.

A very special touch was given to the workshop by the water mist demonstration which we could run together with the metro Budapest. It was an attractive event and found great interest also outside the ITA COSUF members.

The fact that the ITA COSUF workshop and GA was held together with the ITA World Tunnel Congress gave us a good opportunity to spread the name of ITA COSUF among the ITA members and we in fact got two new members who registered right on the spot. The GA also took notice that Marc Tesson stepped down as AG leader of the AG II. We all thank Marc for his great efforts and the support he gave to our committee and we wish him well. His post has been taken over by Stig Ravn (Atkins) and Peter Reinke (HBI) and we wish these two new AG leaders all the best and pro active group members for their activities.

The next meeting for you as member of ITA COSUF will be a workshop on: Safety Challenges and which will be held 4. / 5. November 2009 in Lyon. This will be a quite special workshop because ITA COSUF will be organizing in parallel the so-called 'European Forum of Road Tunnel Safety Officers'. With this forum we intend to offer a platform for the road tunnel safety officers where they can meet and discuss issues related to their day-to-day business. We are convinced that such a forum is a necessity and first reactions confirm that impression.

For the ITA COSUF members this closeness to the safety officers certainly is very interesting (and vice versa) because it gives first hand access to information, needs and topics under discussion. We all are very enthusiastic about these two events. Further information soon will be up-loaded to the private section of our website or will be given through the activity group leaders – in any case block the date in your agenda!



ITA COSUF also provided a training scheme to ITA CET, the ITA Committee on Education and Training which was established recently. ITA is receiving more and more queries from its member nations for educational programs in tunnel safety and it is nothing but logical that ITA COSUF is coming up with corresponding programs.

As you may see, there is a lot going on within ITA COSUF. We all work hard to keep the good momentum going and to add further speed to our committee. It is certainly worth it.

Looking forward to seeing you in November in Lyon

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'F. Amberg', is written in a cursive style.

F. Amberg, COSUF Chairman