



**COMMITTEE ON
OPERATIONAL
SAFETY OF
UNDERGROUND
FACILITIES**



**ITA -
INTERNATIONAL
TUNNELLING
ASSOCIATION**

Successful 2nd International Symposium “Safe & reliable Tunnels” and Inauguration of the ITA COSUF.

The 2nd International Symposium “Safe & Reliable Tunnels -Innovative European Achievements” was held in Lausanne, at the EPFL. It gathered during two days some 160 participants coming from more than 20 countries.

The symposium was a joint initiative of two major European projects UPTUN and SafeT and the ITA Committee on Operational Safety of Underground Facilities (COSUF).

To follow up the work done during the first symposium held in Prague in February 2004, this second symposium highlighted the safety and response management as well experience for and from the practice, with recent examples. Another important topic has been the latest developments in design and equipment for safe tunnels.

The symposium offered latest research results and state of the art overviews with high quality presentation from research consultancies, industry and tunnel operators.

The symposium has been opened by Harvey Parker, ITA President, and Alfred Haack, Chairman of COSUF and former president of ITA.

A panel discussion has been organized to point out “needs for the future”. Three themes have been evoked : Are emergency response teams, tunnel operators and end-users enough involved in research projects?; can Europe succeed in a common research agenda for safety in underground facilities?; is there a necessity for a large scale research infrastructure?

All papers presented during the symposium will be available on the ITA website (www.ita-aites.org)

At the end of the symposium the inauguration of the ITA Committee on Operational Safety of Underground Facilities was celebrated.

COSUF is created under the umbrella of ITA to keep the drive and the unique accumulation of scientific and pragmatic potential developed by the 8 research projects dealing with matters of safety (DARTS, FIT, UPTUN, SafeTunnel, VirtualFires, SafeT, Sirtaki and L-Surf). More information on COSUF is available on ITA website (www.ita-aites.org) or contact cosuf@ita-aites.org.