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1. Message from the new Chairman

Dear friends,

In the continuity of the last years, 2018 is a very active year for ITA COSUF with two promising events on the agenda.

The first event will be the Tunnel Safety Officers Forum (TSO5) in Madrid on 17th -18th of May 2018. For the first time, the TSO forum is open for all ITA COSUF members and many registrations of Tunnel Safety Officers have already taken place.

A second event will be the PIARC Conference on 3rd - 5th October 2018 in cooperation with ITA COSUF and other partners in Lyon. The General Assembly 2018 will also be held in Lyon the day before this event. And like in previous years, during the General Assembly the ITA COSUF Award 2018 will be hopefully granted again to a young talent who has recently completed an outstanding research work in the area of operational safety of underground facilities.

Like other workshops of ITA COSUF, the Activity Groups will also meet on these events, your AG leader should have already sent you the program for these meetings on the afternoon of 16th June 2018 before TSO5. If you have registered for TSO5 already and you are not yet active within one of the AG of ITA COSUF you may see this opportunity to attend also one of the meetings of the AG to get an insight view of their activities. So flying out to Madrid in May, or to Lyon in October will get you energized on ITA COSUF activities on all levels and we are looking forward to welcoming as many of you as possible.

One of the focus points of ITA COSUF is the impact of New Energy Carriers (NEC) on operational safety of road tunnels. In this Newsletter you can read more about initiatives to launch a workshop on this topic in the future.

Finally, I would like to invite you to save the date for the PIARC conference.

I am looking forward to meeting you there,

Yours sincerely



Max Wietek





2. 5th European Tunnel Safety Officers Forum (TSO5) in Madrid

The theme of TSO5 (17th – 18th May 2018) is 'From historical events to future trends' and the main purpose is to review the aspects of the TSO role by sharing good practices and lessons learned. Because of many early registrations, it is no longer possible to register at this moment. Highlights of the program are Keynote speaker Arnold Dix (lawyer, technical and scientific expert) to review the legal position and challenges of TSO's, a presentation and open discussion on TSO Guidelines prepared by AG4, a site visit to project Madrid Calle 30 Tunnels and an open discussion on significant Tunnel Incidents, lessons learned and improvements.



3. Report of the Activity Groups

AG2 has been active in producing a fifty page draft Report with Recommendations on Cross Passages in Rail Tunnels and wants to plan a new workshop on this topic. A core group coming out of AG3, together with some external partners like the Universities of Lund or Edinburgh, have prepared a proposal for a Marie Curie-ITN. The feedback from the commission is expected on short notice. An M.Sc. Student is willing to work on the topic of scenarios for new energy carriers in road tunnels. She is going to collate the scenarios and to work on impacts and possible threats. The task assignment for the student will be sent to the members of the steering board to get approval for financial COSUF support. AG4 has been working hard on the preparation of TSO5 and the TSO Guideline document. The Guideline document is expected to be presented during TSO5 and will be finished later in 2018.

In Madrid the Activity Group Meetings will be on 16th June 2018 in the afternoon. In Lyon the Activity Group Meetings will be on the 2nd of October 2018.



4. Preparation of a future New Energy Carrier Workshop organised by COSUF

COSUF is interested to create new opportunities and identify new research topics for public bodies and authorities. In the AG3 Meeting in Paris in November 2017 the impact of new energy carriers (NEC) on operational road tunnel safety was considered as very relevant and urgent for research and development. RISE has recently carried out a study on new energy carriers and their possible impact on road tunnel safety. RISE has allowed AG3 to use this study to develop a list of risk-scenarios with a possible future involvement of new energy carriers. In Paris, the members of AG3 agreed on the following approach going further:

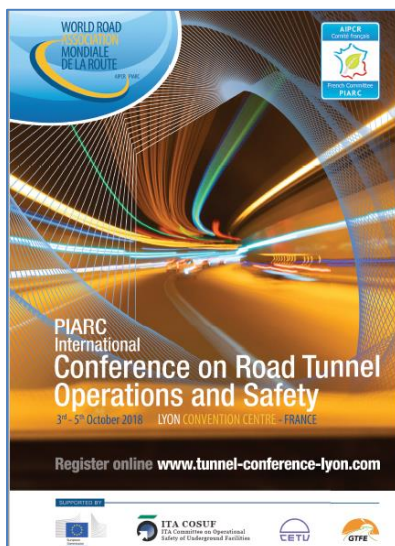
Step 1: (RUB-TLB) is going to use the RISE/SP-study to develop a table of risk-scenarios where we envision future tunnel accidents or/and fires with the involvement of new energy carriers such as battery driven cars, hydrogen driven cars, hybrid cars, fuel driven cars etc.

Step 2: The table will only have a predefined structure, consisting of the specific scenario description and possible influence and impact on the users, as well as the equipment or the first responders etc. AG3 would like to iterate and to develop this table further.

Step 3: In the future AG3 is going to prepare a workshop with a selected group, during which the table will be run through and “some flesh will be put to the bone”, meaning that figures and concrete scenario descriptions are added to the table. This will lead to insight in what we know about the topic and – more precise – what we don't know about the topic.

During the workshop, AG3 will also mandate one member from COSUF who is going to prepare the white paper based on the results from the Cologne workshop.

5. PIARC International Conference on Road Tunnel Operations and Safety



Registration is open!!

To promote the latest knowledge on current key issues and to facilitate technical discussions and debate amongst industry stakeholders, PIARC and its French National Committee have decided to organise their first “International Conference on Road Tunnel Operations and Safety”. This event is organised with the support of the European Commission, ITA COSUF, the French Centre for Tunnel Studies and the French-speaking Working Group of Road Tunnel Operators. It is aimed at tunnel owners, operators, rescue services, designers, tunnel safety officers, equipment suppliers and installers.

The conference will be held in France, at the Lyon Convention Centre, from 3rd to 5th October 2018. It will include two days of technical sessions and round table discussions, followed by a day of optional technical tours to tunnels in the Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes region. An exhibition will take

place in parallel at the conference venue, enabling suppliers, equipment installers and engineering consultants to showcase their expertise.

Registration is open on

<https://www.tunnel-conference-lyon.com/en/>.

Seats are limited in number; don't miss out !



6. ITA COSUF member introduction: Tunnel Safety Officer Peter Kole (RWS)



My name is Peter Kole and I would like to introduce myself and refresh maybe your memory about my organisation Rijkswaterstaat (RWS), which has been an ITA COSUF member since the founding of ITA COSUF.

RWS is responsible for the design, construction, management and maintenance of the main infrastructure facilities in the Netherlands. This includes the main road network, the main waterway network and water systems. The road network contains:

- 3,046 km of motorways;
- 1,428 km of access and exit roads and connecting roads;
- 2,749 viaducts, 13 ecoducts;
- 22 tunnels;
- 743 bridges.

The Dutch mobility policy serves two goals: reliable journey times and a better accessibility. In 2020, motorists travelling in rush hours must be able to arrive punctually 95% of the time, despite increased mobility and unexpected congestion. The Dutch economy relies heavily on transport and logistics, the main economic centers must remain accessible.

Road tunnels are important chains in the road network and safety and availability are crucial for the operation of this road network. For the twenty two in-service tunnels and four more new tunnels under construction I have been the one and only Tunnel Safety Officer (TSO), since 2017. Six Tunnel Managers are responsible for the operation, respectively commissioning of these in-service and new tunnels. As a TSO I have tasks stated by law in reviewing and supervising the operational safety of these in-service tunnels or tunnels under construction:

- Formal advise;
- Incident evaluation;
- Supervise education, training and exercises;
- Asked and unasked independent advice to each of the six Tunnel managers;
- Knowledge sharing with all the stakeholders involved in the operation of RWS tunnels.



Fortunately, I have a professional TSO office team around me, consisting of four technical consultants and a management assistant. I have been an ITA COSUF member since 2017 and I have experienced ITA COSUF as a group with a nice mixture of practical and theoretical knowledge. So practical questions can be brought into a more academic perspective. ITA COSUF is the right platform to share valuable information concerning operational safety. I am also the chair of Activity

Group 4 of ITA COSUF. Within Activity Group 4 we discuss the issues and events you have to deal with as a TSO. It is therefore an excellent and professional network for knowledge exchange. In fact every TSO should be a member of ITA COSUF!

Information about RWS: <https://www.rijkswaterstaat.nl/english/highways/index.aspx>

Information about TSO RWS and annual report (Dutch);

<https://www.rijkswaterstaat.nl/wegen/wegbeheer/tunnels/tunnelveiligheid/bureau-veiligheidsbeambte.aspx>



7. Future ITA COSUF events

ITA COSUF workshops and Activity Group meetings

16th – 18th May 2018

5th Forum for Tunnel Safety Officers (open for all COSUF members)

3rd – 5th October 2018

International Conference on Road Tunnel Operations and Safety

PIARC/ITA COSUF joint event, Congress centre Lyon, France

Other events organised or endorsed by ITA COSUF

For all enquiries to ITA COSUF membership please contact Ben van den Horn ben.vandenhorn@arcadis.com