

Report on International Conference and Exhibition on Tunnelling and Underground Space 2015 (ICETUS 2015)

TUNNELLING AND UNDERGROUND SPACE TECHNICAL DIVISION



reported by

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Ir. Dr Ooi Teik Aun is the Founder Chairman of IEM TUSTD and Chair of the Organising Committee of ICETUS 2015. He is, also the current Chairman of the IEM Dispute Resolution Practice Subcommittee. He is an Honorary Fellow of IEM, Fellow of The Institution of Civil Engineers, and is currently the ICE Country Representative for Malaysia. He is also the President of Southeast Asian Geotechnical Society (2010-2016).



IEM President Dato' Ir. Lim and VIPs at the exhibition booths

The Third International Conference and Exhibition on Tunnelling and Underground Space was successfully organised by The Institution of Engineers Malaysia (IEM) on 3-5 March 2015 at Dorsett Grand Subang Hotel, Subang Jaya, Selangor.

The conference, with the theme Sustainable Transportation In Underground Space Development, was attended by 207

participants from all over the world. It was supported by The Institution of Civil Engineers (ICE) and many of its members attended the conference.

The International Tunnelling and Underground Space Association (ITA) gave a strong show of support by holding its executive committee meeting in Hilton Hotel Petaling Jaya to coincide with the ICETUS 2015. A pre-

conference workshop titled "Tunnels For Transport In Urban Areas" was also jointly organised by Tunnelling and Underground Space Technical Division of IEM and the ITACET Foundation on 28 February and 1 March 2015 at the Tan Sri Prof. Chin Fung Kee Auditorium, Wisma IEM, Petaling Jaya, Selangor Darul Ehsan, attended by 40 participants.

Technical Session 1 started with ITA President Mr. Søren Degn Eskesen delivering two papers: "Why Go Underground In Urban Areas" and "General Aspects Of Urban Tunnelling – Environmental Issues". ITA Honorary Treasurer and President of Amberg Technologies Mr. Felix Amberg then presented his paper on "Presentation Of The Different Tunnelling Methods In Urban Areas And Elements For The Choice Of The Method".

During Session 2, Mr. T. Babendererde's lectures were on "Slurry Shield, EPB, Soil Conditioning" and "Segmental Lining Design For Mechanized Tunnelling". Papers on "Excavation Methods And Basics Aspects Of Design" and "Ground Reinforcement, Support, Lining" were presented by Mr. T. Celestino in Session 3.

In Session 4, Mr. Eskesen delivered a paper on "Risk Management For Urban Tunnels", Mr. D. Peila on "Site Investigation" and "Health & Safety" by Ms. R. Haug while Ms. E. Chirioti presented her paper on "Geotechnical Monitoring" and Mr. Amberg delivered his lecture on "TBM Monitoring".

Session 6 started with Case Studies 1 on "TBM Solution & Leak Sealing Repair" by Mr. Kah Fai Lee and Case Studies 2 on "Metro Case Studies – SYSTRA" by Mr. E. Leca.

Mr. Gusztav Klados spoke on "KVMRT Project: TBM Procurement And Tunnelling" and Ir. Dr Ooi delivered his lecture on "Site Investigation, Advance Works Before Tunnelling And Instrumentation And Monitoring For KVMRT Project".

The workshop ended at 6.30p.m. on 1 March 2015 and Ir. Dr Ooi presented mementos and Certificates of Appreciation to all the speakers.

At the opening ceremony of ICETUS 2015 on 3 March 2015, Ir. Dr Ooi delivered his welcome speech, after which Mr. Eskesen reported that:

1. More than 1,600 delegates and participants from the ITA family met in Iguassu in Brazil in May 2014 for the ITA 40th General Assembly and World Tunnel Conference 2014 (WTC2014).
2. The General Assembly had approved the ITA Strategic Plan going forward to 2016. As part of the strategy it has decided on an updated vision: The ITA Vision: "ITA - the leading international organisation promoting the use of tunnels and underground space through knowledge sharing and application of technology."

IEM President Dato' Ir. Lim Chow Hock then delivered his address and declared opened the conference, followed by a visit to the exhibition booths.

After the morning tea break, Mr. Eskesen delivered the opening keynote lecture titled "Construction Challenges For Urban Tunnelling - The Copenhagen Metro Circle Line". After that, Professor Yong Kwet Yew, Chairman of Association of Geotechnical Societies in Southeast Asia & Vice President (Campus Infrastructure) at the National University of Singapore, gave his Keynote Lecture 1 titled "Learning Lessons From The Construction Of Singapore Downtown Line".

Mr. Amberg gave Keynote Lecture 2 titled "Sustainability Through Value Preservation Of Underground Infrastructure".

Professor Jenny Yan, ITA Council member and The China Railway Southwest Research Institute Co. Ltd. gave Keynote Lecture 3, titled "Key Issues Of Urban Tunnels For The Changsha-Zhuzhou-Xiangtan Intercity Railway".

In addition to these were six special lectures, 2 technical sessions and 1 special session by MMC-Gamuda on KVMRT Underground/Tunnelling Works (SBK Line) consisting of 27 papers.

Through this conference, we are able to successfully share our experiences and innovations of tunnelling projects in Norway, Switzerland, Germany, Hong Kong, Thailand, Singapore, Malaysia and Taiwan and enable transfer of technology to be effected.

There was also a technical visit to the KVMRT Tun Razak Exchange Site in Kuala Lumpur on 5 March, 2015.

The conference attracted 13 exhibitors of wide ranging tunnelling activities. MMC-Gamuda was the main sponsor. China Railway Engineering Equipment Ltd Corp and Herrenknecht AG were the gold sponsors, Sepakat Setia Perunding Sdn Bhd was the silver sponsor and BSG Construction (Malaysia) Sdn Bhd was the bronze sponsor.

On the whole, the ICETUS 2015 and the pre-conference workshops were a big success. ■
