



Cutting Edge Conference

Advances in Tunneling Technology | November 18 – 20, 2019 | Miami, FL

HOSTING THE ITA TUNNELLING AWARDS 2019

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For more information please contact:

Tara Davis
Program Manager
davis@smenet.org
(303) 948-4215

Daniel Lee-Billinghurst
Sponsorship Sales
daniel@tunnelingjournal.com
+44 1892 522585

Laura Johnson
Conference Coordinator
johnson@smenet.org
(303) 948-4222

Emma Salditt
Sponsorships
sponsorships@smenet.org
(303) 948-4224

Amanda Foley
Program Coordinator
amanda@tunnelingjournal.com
(603) 452-7065
+44 1449 710005

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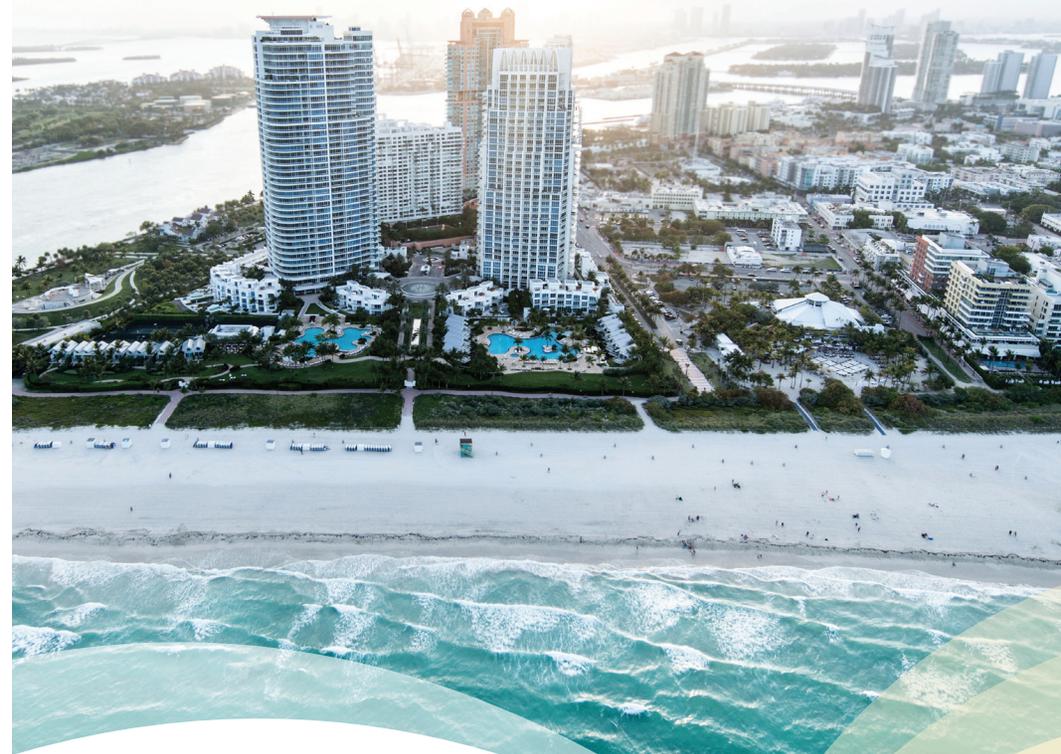
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The Cutting Edge Conference is organized in partnership with North American Tunneling Journal and the UCA of SME

Save the Date!

November 18 – 20, 2019 | Miami, Florida



Cutting Edge Conference

Advances in Tunneling Technology

HOSTING THE ITA TUNNELLING AWARDS

LOCATED AT THE HILTON MIAMI DOWNTOWN

Where Innovation Meets Practical Experience

Registration Opening Soon

ucaofsmecuttingedge.com



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About Cutting Edge 2019

From the East Coast to the West, North America's tunneling industry is flourishing. In 2019, the eighth annual Cutting Edge conference will convene in Miami, Florida, to look at the latest advances in Pressurized TBM Tunneling technology and how they can be harnessed to assist upcoming projects.

Organized in partnership by North American Tunneling Journal and the UCA of SME, the Cutting Edge conference features a tailored high-end, single-track program of subject-specific presentations that focus on innovation and practical experience, as well as the extended in-depth industry discussion sessions that have become a trademark of this conference. The 2019 event is fast approaching and is a great opportunity to find out about the next generation of underground construction projects in North America and meet the owners that are building them.

The intimate setting of the Cutting Edge conference has proven to provide unparalleled networking opportunities amongst the leaders of the North American tunnel construction industry. With a dedicated exhibition that hosts the conference's social functions, and this year's addition of the International Tunnelling & Underground Space Association (ITA-AITES) 2019 Tunnelling Awards Program and Banquet Awards Dinner – which will take place the day before the conference – there will be a wealth of networking opportunities available.

The Hilton Miami Downtown

Cutting Edge attendees receive exclusive conference discounts! Book your hotel through ucaofsmecuttingedge.com/hotel

2019 ITA Tunnelling Awards

Monday, November 18, 2019

ITA Awards Conference Program
& Awards Banquet Dinner

In 2019, the Cutting Edge conference will host the 5th ITA Tunnelling Awards, organized by the International Tunnelling & Underground Space Association (ITA-AITES). This event will take place on November 18 and includes a one-day program of international presentations from the Awards Finalists followed by the Awards Banquet Dinner in the evening.

Finalists will present their achievements and describe the unique and innovative features that convinced the 2019 judging committee to short-list their entries. A broad array of impressive tunneling works, as well as innovations and excellence in engineering, safety, sustainability initiatives, and uses of underground space from around the world will be presented.

The Banquet Dinner will close the 2019 Tunnelling Awards event, during which the winners will be announced, and the awards presented.

The Awards Finalists Program and Banquet Dinner will be held at the Hilton Miami Downtown, prior to the 2019 Cutting Edge conference, which will commence the following morning.

The ITA Awards categories are as follows:

- Major Project of the Year – over €500 million
- Project of the Year – between €50 million and €500 million
- Project of the Year (including renovation) – up to €50 million
- Technical Project Innovation of the Year
- Technical Product or Equipment Innovation of the Year
- Innovative Underground Space Concept of the Year
- Safety Initiative of the Year
- Young Tunneller of the Year
- Lifetime Achievement Award

The final list of nominations will be announced in mid-July.

For more information on attending the 2019 ITA Awards Program and the Awards Banquet, please visit the Cutting Edge web site: ucaofsmecuttingedge.com

2019 Cutting Edge Conference Program

Tuesday, November 19, 2019

7:30 am – 8:00 am
Continental Breakfast & Coffee

8:00 am – 8:10 am
Opening Remarks
Conference Chair: Bob Goodfellow, Aldea Services

8:10 am – 10:00 am
Keynote Session:
Pushing the Envelope of Pressurized TBM Tunneling

This opening session will feature prominent industry speakers such as International Tunnelling & Underground Space Association (ITA-AITES) Vice Chairs Dr. Arnold Dix and Lars Babendererde, who will present on "The Future of TBMs for Faster Excavation and Minimized Human Risk" and "Face Support in XXL Soft Ground TBMs," respectively, in addition to a keynote from a major international project featuring challenging pressurized face TBM tunneling conditions.

10:00 am – 10:30 am
Coffee Break & Exhibition

10:30 am – 12:00 pm
Cutterhead Interventions:
from Saturation to Elimination

This state of the practice session will look at the challenges of accessing the TBM cutterhead during pressurized TBM tunneling, from recent advances in high pressure compressed air working and saturation diving techniques, to safe-havens and reducing the need to access the cutterhead entirely.

12:00 pm – 1:30 pm
Buffet Lunch & Exhibition

1:30 pm – 3:00 pm
Ground Control, Face Support & Monitoring
This dedicated session will feature presentations from key industry figures on the important topic of controlling the ground. The subject of tunnel settlement is a hot topic on all urban tunnel projects – but settlement is a symptom of the degree of ground control. This session will shed light on the root causes, and how best to minimize, ground settlement during construction.

3:00 pm – 3:30 pm
Coffee Break & Exhibition

3:30 pm – 5:00 pm
Big Data and Who Wants it?
This Panel Discussion session will focus on the critically important topic of managing the abundance of data generated by modern design and construction projects. A selection of industry experts will discuss developments in data management and presentation; and they will discuss with the audience how the industry can and should adapt to the current capabilities with specifications and contract requirements.

5:00 pm – 6:30 pm
Exhibit Hall Drinks Reception

Wednesday, November 20, 2019

7:30 am – 8:00 am
Continental Breakfast & Coffee

8:00 am – 10:00 am
Developments in Tunnel Lining Design, Testing & Manufacturing
From innovations in tunnel lining design and current R&D by contractors, to cutting edge research on segment corrosion, manufacturing challenges and project case histories, this session will look at developments in tunnel linings internationally.



10:00 am – 10:30 am
Coffee Break & Exhibition

10:30 am – 12:00 pm
New Ideas and Faces: Young Members Session
The Young Members group of the UCA of SME will head up this session, which includes a selection of presentations from the next generation of tunneling industry leaders, including finalists of the 2019 ITA Awards "Young Tunneller of the Year" category.

12:00 pm – 1:30 pm
Buffet Lunch & Exhibition

1:30 pm – 3:30 pm
Advancements in TBM Operation & Excavation Technology
This state of the practice session will look at the challenges of TBM operation, including soil conditioning and TBM operator training, volume loss control and include presentations from US and international tunneling projects.

3:30 pm – 4:00 pm
Coffee Break & Exhibition

4:00 pm – 5:30 pm
TBM Operation & Face Support
This Panel Discussion session will focus on how important the TBM operator is on a soft ground tunnel project. Further questions and discussion on how the TBM operation is a critical component in controlling the ground. Training of operators and operational constraints will also be discussed with the audience in a vibrant debate and interactive discussion session.

5:30 pm
Closing Remarks
Conference Chair: Bob Goodfellow, Aldea Services

Visit ucaofsmecuttingedge.com for regular updates.