ITAWTC 2015
Application for the 41st General Assembly and Congress of International Tunnelling Association ITA-AITES

PROMOTING TUNNELING IN SEE REGION

ITA CROATIA
Croatian Association for Tunnelling and Underground Structures
www.itacroatia.eu
**Proposal Letter**

**Tunnelling in Croatia**

**Underground HPP Ombla, Dubrovnik**

**Location and Connections**

Dubrovnik - UNESCO World Heritage

**Congress Venue:** Lacroma Valamar Congress Centre, Dubrovnik

**Invitation Letter to Joint Dinner**

**Contents**

Proposal Letter

Tunnelling in Croatia

Underground HPP Ombla, Dubrovnik

Location and Connections

Dubrovnik - UNESCO World Heritage

Congress Venue: Lacroma Valamar Congress Centre, Dubrovnik

**Invitation Letter to Joint Dinner**

Proposal Letter

**Tunnelling in Croatia**

**Underground HPP Ombla, Dubrovnik**

**Location and Connections**

Dubrovnik - UNESCO World Heritage

**Congress Venue:** Lacroma Valamar Congress Centre, Dubrovnik

**Invitation Letter to Joint Dinner**

**Proposal**

Application by Croatia to Host the 2015 ITA/AITES World Tunnel Congress

Dear Colleagues:

The Croatian Association for Tunnels and Underground Structures – ITA Croatia invites the ITA-AITES to hold its World Tunnel Congress and General Assembly in Dubrovnik from May 22-28, 2015. We confirm our acceptance of Chapter V of the Bylaws of ITA-AITES: the Congress and General Assembly will be organized in accordance with Chapter V.

Croatia is located in the middle of South-East Europe and is in preparation to join the European Union in July 2013. South-East Europe is the EU region with the most expectations and plans in developing infrastructure in next 2 decades in Europe. Therefore choosing Dubrovnik with its location in the middle of the South-East Europe region and in the heart of Europe we would like to make the sign to all other member nations where to go and where to intensify their activities in the soon future. So far none of SEE countries have had opportunity to organize on World Tunnel Congress and this happening may strongly help further development of underground infrastructure in the future.

Dubrovnik is the old city, port on the Adriatic coast, center of tourism and a congress center that is able to take more thousands of guests at the same time. It is also one of centers of the infrastructure works with unique underground solutions (underground HPP Ombla, city road tunnel, light rail to airport, new road roundabout) that will all be in construction in 2015. Dubrovnik will provide an excellent technical and social setting for the World Tunnel Congress 2015.

Croatia’s proposal to host WTC2015 is supported by the ITA Croatia’s corporate and individual members, Chamber of Civil Engineers and several Ministries who will all be an active full partner in the preparation and organization of the Congress.

Yours sincerely,

President of the Croatian Association for Tunnels and Underground Structures - ITA Croatia

Davorin Kolić, PhD, PE, CE

Under Aupiscie:

- Ministry of Construction and Physical Planning
- Ministry of Regional Development and EU Funds
- Ministry of Maritime Affairs, Transport and Infrastructure
- Ministry of Economy, Labour and Entrepreneurship
- City of Dubrovnik
Dear Prof. Lee,

City of Dubrovnik is glad to have the possibility to invite International Tunnelling Association ITA-AITES to have their “General Assembly and Congress of International Tunnelling Association” in our city in 2015. We are prepared to make all the necessary arrangements which will provide high quality accomplishments for your event.

We understand that strong underground infrastructure could give important benefits to development of the city and the entire region. In that sense we are already active on using our own cities underground space for public traffic projects, like City Road Tunnel or Metro that are to be developed in coming years. Therefore, this event will be warmly welcomed and supported in Dubrovnik with our strong support for all the Assembly and visiting guests, delegates and honorable persons.

If the ITA-AITES decide upon Croatia to host the event you can rely on our official and practical support that will guarantee enjoyable stay for all attendees. Together with ITA Croatia we will invest efforts for the benefit of the General Assembly and Congress in 2015 in Dubrovnik.

Yours sincerely,

Mayor
dr. Andro Vlahušić
Letter of Support

Croatian National Tourist Board

In-Mo LEE, Prof,
President
International Tunnelling and
Underground Space Association ITA-AITES
Lausanne, Switzerland

Subject: General Assembly and Congress of the International Tunnelling Association

Dear Prof. LEE,

The Croatian National Tourist Board institutionally supports the holding of international meetings in our country Croatia. We are ready and very much willing to make on required and necessary arrangements for the high quality performance of such events. Our long time experience will secure satisfaction of all participants, visitors and honourable guests to the event.

Therefore it is a great pleasure to be able to cooperate with ITA-AITES and ITA Croatia on the possibility to prepare the General Assembly and Congress of the International Tunnelling Association that should be held in 2015. We are sure that Croatia is the place that could represent intentions and wishes of the region SEE and can fulfil all requirements for numerous guests and visitors.

If your decision will be for Croatia to organize your event Croatian National Tourist Board will assure high quality promotional materials including brochures, CDs, DVDs and posters.

We do hope to see you in Dubrovnik, Croatia on the occasion of WTC2015!

Yours sincerely,
Niko Bulić, M. sc.
Managing Director

Letter of Support

Dubrovnik Tourist Board

Prof. In-Mo LEE
President of the
International Tunnelling and Underground Space Association ITA-AITES
Lausanne, Switzerland

Dear Prof. LEE,

Dubrovnik Tourist Board institutionally supports the holding of international meetings in our city Dubrovnik. We are ready and very much willing to make on required and necessary arrangements for the high quality performance of such events. Our long time experience will secure satisfaction of all participants, visitors and honourable guests to the event.

Therefore it is a great pleasure to be able to cooperate with ITA-AITES and ITA Croatia on the possibility to prepare the General Assembly and Congress of the International Tunnelling Association that should be held in 2015. We are sure that Dubrovnik is the place that could represent intentions and wishes of the region SEE and can fulfill all requirements for numerous guests and visitors.

We do hope that your final decision to hold General Assembly of ITA 2015 will be Dubrovnik, Croatia, and you can rely on our official support and co-organization to guarantee excellent service to all you delegates and guests. Dubrovnik Tourist Board will provide assistance to meeting and conference organizers and gives free and impartial advices in event planning, complimentary venue finding service, give a support to fam & inspection trips within a destination, and provide with promotional material.

We do hope to see you in Dubrovnik, Croatia on the occasion of WTC2015!

Yours sincerely,
Nikolina Vicelić
Director
Our target:
**Promoting and developing tunnelling in Croatia and South-East Europe (SEE) countries**

SEE region has more than 150 million inhabitants and a great need for underground infrastructure. This region will be the part of the Europe with most of investments in infrastructure in next 15-20 years.

Thursday, March 24, 2011

The TBM "Heidi" had a breakthrough at the section Sedrun-Faido of the Gotthard Base tunnel in West (Switzerland). Among numerous participants on project some of them are from Croatia as well.

More than 1200 km of highways in Croatian with numerous tunnels provide basis for the application of new tunnelling technologies and methods.
Beside different used tunnelling technologies a lot of effort has been put in the tunnel safety measures. Tunnels are equipped with the state of the art traffic surveillance and management system. They are equipped with video cameras that display situation on monitors in MTC centre and provide the possibility of automatic detection of congestion, driving in opposite direction, recording the number of vehicle. The system provides the traffic operator accurate data in order to prevent congestion.

Tunnels contain numerous safety recesses that are equipped with emergency phones connected to MTC Centre. All tunnels are constructed as a double-tube tunnels with lay-by for vehicles 40 m long and 3.5 m wide. Pedestrian cross-adits as emergency escapes are constructed as a link between two tubes and are located on 240 to 300 m distance along the tunnel. Tunnels as a part of traffic highway network in Coratia are important part of the development of tourism on the Adriatic cost bringing thousands of tourists each year to the Adriatic sea of Croatia.
In 2007 the Brinje Tunnel was declared to be the safest tunnel in Europe in 2007 by the FIA and the German motoring club ADAC as the part of European Tunnel Assessment Programme -Euro TAP.

**Underground Multipurpose Project and HPP Ombla**

The Ombla Multipurpose Hydropower System project in Croatia is conceived as a power generation and water supply project. The concept is based on power-generation harnessing of the water from the underground Ombla river springing at the Adriatic coast near Dubrovnik. The Ombla system backbone is a hydroelectric power plant which differs from the conventional power plants by its underground reservoir and the fact that the water pressure needed to harness the water for power generation is built-up on an underground dam constructed with in the Ombla underground spring area.

Other power plant structures are also located in the underground. The Ombla system is also planned for potable water supply the City of Dubrovnik, the future regional water supply, and the water export to the Mediterranean countries. The project is an example how a demanding structure, such as hydroelectric power plant, can be placed under the ground to prevent intrusion into the landscape. Further, the underground project accommodation enables higher power output and cost-efficiency of the entire system.
The Ombla Multipurpose Hydropower System concept is a completely new approach to the water power harnessing in power generation. Such a concept can only be implemented under adequate hydro-geological conditions typical primarily for the karst area. Since the project site is located in the tourist area of magnificent landscape, the project concept is pervaded by the environmental conservation idea. Thus, all the power plant structures need to be underground and the intrusions into the spring area kept at minimum. Locating of the entire facility under the ground reduces the construction costs, and most importantly, prevents its environmental impact. This is an approach that should be adopted when building hydroelectric power plant in the environmentally vulnerable areas, such as the nature parks, in tourist resorts and urban areas.

Distance airport to hotel: 22 km
Towards the southern tip of Croatia lies the Old Town of Dubrovnik, the priceless jewel of the Dalmatian Coast and a world famous UNESCO World Heritage Site steeped in history and culture. George Bernard Shaw once wrote, “those who seek paradise on Earth should come to Dubrovnik”, due to its profound beauty and historic magic.

Dubrovnik is also, without doubt, currently one of Europe’s most fashionable conference destinations. A surf of modern facilities combined with unique activities for delegates make this a popular choice for event organisers.

The best way to get a sense of Old Town is to walk its thick fortification walls, which are 80 feet high at some points and pass through a plethora of fortresses and turrets. The one-hour stroll affords great views of tiled rooftops, hidden monastery courtyards, and the surrounding coastline. (1/2 day tour)

Boat excursion to Elaphiti
The Elaphiti Islands or the Elaphites is a small archipelago consisting of several islands stretching northwest of Dubrovnik in the Adriatic sea. Only the three largest islands are permanently inhabited but they attract large numbers of tourists during the summer tourist season due to their beaches and pristine scenery. They are connected with the mainland via daily ferry lines operated out of Dubrovnik. (1/2 day tour)

Cavtat
Cavtat is a Croatian city with a long history. The original city was founded by the Greeks in the 6th century BC under the name of Epidaurus. Today Cavtat is a popular tourist destination, with many hotels and private homes that rent rooms and apartments. The seafront is filled with shops and restaurants. A ferry boat connects the town to neighbouring Mlini and Dubrovnik. There are often many private luxury ships along the strand. (1/2 day tour)

Island of Korcula
The island has an area of 279 km2 (108 sq mi); 46.8 km (29.1 mi) long and on average 7.8 km (4.8 mi) wide — and lies just off the Dalmatian coast. Its 16,182 (2001) inhabitants make it the second most populous Adriatic island after Krk. (1 day)

Lokrum
Lokrum or Lacroma is one of the islands off the city of Dubrovnik about 600 metres from the coast stretching from the northwest to the southeast, in the Adriatic Sea, Croatia. Its highest point above sea level is at 96 m. The Austrian archduke Maximilian once had a holiday home on the island. A monastery and a botanical garden survive from his era. (1/2 day tour)

Medugorje & Mostar
Medugorje is a town located in western Bosnia and Herzegovina close to the border of Croatia. Since 1981, it has become a popular site of religious pilgrimage due to reports of apparitions of the Virgin Mary to six local Catholics. Mostar is a city and municipality in Bosnia and Herzegovina, the biggest and the most important city in the Herzegovina-Neretva Canton of the Federation. Mostar is situated on the Neretva river and is the fifth-largest city in the country. Mostar was named after “the bridge keepers” who kept the Stari Most (Old Bridge) over Neretva river. During the Ottoman era, the Old Bridge was built and became one of the symbols of Mostar. (1 day)
Dubrovnik Attractions

City walls
Dubrovnik’s most important feature and the most visually dominant symbol of the town; an impressive Middle Age construction where the corner towers of Minčeta, Revelin, Bokar and Sveti Ivan create the city’s famous historical shield.

Franciscan Monastery of the Friars Minor
Built in 1317 under the city ramparts near Minčeta. Part of the monastery contains a very rich library that has a large number of preserved manuscripts of invaluable cultural and historical value. Asides from the ancient library, the monastery has also got one of the oldest pharmacies in Europe (1317).

Dominican monastery
The oldest monastery in Dubrovnik (1225) is an extremely valuable historical building, and also houses an important treasury of ancient Dubrovnik artwork, including 239 incunabula.

St Blaise church
The patron saint of Dubrovnik. This majestic church is located at the intersection of two main thoroughfares, where public gatherings in Dubrovnik are held – ‘Placa’ and ‘pred dvorom’. It was built by the Venetian architect and sculptor M. Gropelli at the beginning of the 18th century.

Old port
Another witness of the times, once the main trading and maritime hub, today a picturesque part of Dubrovnik.

Dubrovnik Events

The Feast of St. Vlaho (also known as St. Blaise)
Where: Dubrovnik, Old town
When: 03.02.

The Festival of St Blaise, Dubrovnik patron saint, has been a special holiday for the City of Dubrovnik ever since the year 972. Since then people started to celebrate it. Beginning on Candlemass Day with the solemn procession of numerous congregation members, the Festival includes a series of church and secular concerts, exhibitions, book presentations and theatre guest performances dedicated to the patron saint of Dubrovnik, whose statues look at us from the city walls and gates and whose caring hand has protected Dubrovnik on his palm for more than a thousand years.

Dubrovnik Carnival Fest
Where: Dubrovnik, Old town
When: February

Dubrovnik Carnival Fest is an international cultural manifestation, connecting Croatian and regional carnival towns, adding colour and joy to Dubrovnik winter and reviving the town’s centuries old cultural and traditional carnival heritage. Dubrovnik Carnival Fest offers plenty of happenings - masked competitions both for “small” and “big”, best mask awards, a musical programme with the chosen carnival songs, best compositions awards- all accompanied by lots of laughter and joy.

9th Mediterranean healthy food and medicinal herbs fair
Where: Dubrovnik, Babin Kuk, Tirena Hotel***
When: March/April

The Mediterranean Health Food and Medicinal Herbs fair is considered to be one of the most important organic-agricultural and entrepreneurial fairs of the kind in Croatia and in the Dubrovnik-Neretva County. Every year the Fair attracts a larger number of exhibitors, and both national and international visitors. A number of educational round tables, lectures, presentations, attractive cultural and gastronomic events will be held during the Fair. The Mediterranean table will be organized un-

Dubrovnik cathedral
The Baroque cathedral was built between 1673 and 1713 and was designed by the Italian architect Bufalini on the site of the Roman cathedral that was heavily damaged in the earthquake. The people of Dubrovnik named it Gospa Velika.

Orlando’s column
Located in the centre of Dubrovnik. The fact that for four centuries the flag of freedom of the Republic of Dubrovnik flew on it makes it one of the most important symbols of Dubrovnik's independence and freedom.
Dubrovnik Summer Festival
Where: Dubrovnik, The Old Town
When: June

The festival is named after and organized in the memory of the world famous tenor Tino Pattierra born on June 27th, 1890 in Cavtat, a town situated about twenty kilometers away from Dubrovnik, where he died April 24th, 1966.

Dubrovnik International Opera Festival
Where: Dubrovnik, The Old Town
When: June

The festival is named after and organized in the memory of the world famous tenor Tino Pattierra born on June 27th, 1890 in Cavtat, a town situated about twenty kilometers away from Dubrovnik, where he died April 24th, 1966.

Easter Festivities
Easter programmes in Dubrovnik present the spirit of tradition and the Catholic spirit of the people who piously attend celebrations of the Holy Week, particularly the ceremonious procession under the Cross on Good Friday, and share gifts such as painted eggs, plaited palm leaves and olive twigs, the pinca (a special Easter cake), and a table groaning with organic food and medicinal herbs from the Mediterranean Healthy Food and Medicinal Herbs Fair.

Julian Rachlin & Friends Festival
Where: Dubrovnik, Rector’s Palace
When: August/September

Julian Rachlin and Friends is a chamber music festival traditionally held in Dubrovnik at the beginning of September. The founder and spiritus movens of the festival is the Austrian violinst and violist Julian Rachlin who has been gathering his friends such as pianist Itamar Golan, cellist Mischa Maisky, violinst Janine Jansen, violinist, violist and conductor Maxim Vengerov and many other well-known musicians, to play together in the atrium of the Rector’s Palace.

Christmas Fair
Where: Dubrovnik, Old Town
When: December

The Christmas Fair is taking place in the Old Town presenting traditional crafts (and handicrafts), Christmas decorations, candles, toys, glassware, embroidery, ceramic, porcelain and all the objects which the skilled artist’s hands manufactured for Christmas. In the specially decorated little houses the caterers offer Christmas cookies, sweet delicacies, mulled wine, brustulani mjenduli (candied almonds) and the traditional Dubrovnik sweet delicacies including kotonjata (quince cheese), mantala (must cheese), prkile (doughnuts), hrostule (deep fried biscuits) and other delicacies prepared for this holiday time. Entertaining programmes for all generations are taking place throughout the Christmas Fair.

Dubrovnik New Year’s Party
Where: Dubrovnik, Old Town
When: December 31st

On New Year’s Eve, the musicians of Dubrovnik will see the old year out with traditional Dubrovnik carols and a music programme lasting all day, which will be the best possible introduction to the wildest night. Numerous visitors to Dubrovnik will begin the New Year entertained by Croatian stars. Traditional Dubrovnik Symphony Orchestra’s New Year’s concert in the Stradun on 1 January is also a special gift to the City’s visitors.
Experience contemporary styling and 21st century facilities at Dubrovnik’s largest conference hotel. Nestled in glorious seclusion amidst the lush greenery of the Babin Kuk peninsula, this ultra-modern resort sets the standard for MICE hospitality and lies just minutes from the city’s enchanting old quarter. With capacity for over up to 2000 delegates, you can make a big impression at the Valamar Lacroma - Dubrovnik with both small meetings and larger events.

Valamar is the first Croatian hotel brand that combines International service standards, great Mediterranean dining experiences and traditional elements of Croatian hospitality.

8 reasons for choosing Valamar Lacroma Dubrovnik Hotel**** and Dubrovnik for WTC 2015:

- Dubrovnik’s largest conference hotel, situated within a green oasis the Babin kuk peninsula, and surrounded by clear Adriatic waters
- Wide choice of meeting facilities, from state of art large congress hall for more than 1200 people to smaller board meeting facilities
- 1500 m² exhibition area (including exhibition tents). Modular extended exhibition area of 4500 m² or more (including exhibition tents
- Valamar guarantee of high quality, with diverse choice of 5*, 4* and 3* hotels within walking distance accommodating more than 2000 delegates. Numerous other hotels in walking distance vicinity
- Only 22km from International Airport Dubrovnik and just 15 minutes’ drive from the Old Town of Dubrovnik
- Mild Mediterranean climate and 2,600 hours of sunshine per year
- Stunning historic and natural surroundings for memorable meetings and events
- A broad choice of special programmes in unique settings
The exhibition area enables huge possibilities for companies willing to present their capacities and products. Modular character of the exhibition units enables the use of exhibition area within the hotel as well as using modular tents with full equipment that adoptable to all exhibiting requirements.

Accommodation capacities of Valamar group consider using of 5 hotel units and different quality classes: Hotels President, Lacroma, Tirena, Argosy and Valamar Club providing place for more than 2000 guests.

Dubrovnik Hotels
Today, Dubrovnik is a modern tourist city with high-quality accommodation for both business and pleasure, and a host to many international gatherings every year. The majority of Dubrovnik’s hotels are prestigious establishments with modern facilities and state-of-the-art equipment for meetings and events for over a thousand participants. They offer exceptional and inspiring working environments as well as excellent service.

### Hotels *****
- Hotel Ariston
- Radisson Blu Resort & Spa
- Hotel Argentina
- Villa Sheherezade
- Hotel Bellevue
- Hotel Dubrovnik Palace
- Hotel Excelsior
- Hotel Hilton Imperial Dubrovnik
- Hotel Rixos Libertas Dubrovnik
- Hotel Kazbek
- Hotel More
- Hotel The Pucić Palace

### Hotels ****
- Hotel Valamar Dubrovnik President
- Hotel Valamar Lacroma Dubrovnik
- Grand Hotel Park
- Hotel Lapad
- Hotel Neptun
- Hotel Uvala

Dubrovnik Special Venues
Another attraction for the participants in gatherings and congresses in Dubrovnik is certainly the possibility to organize business meetings in the inspiring historic venues, renaissance palaces and medieval forts. The more relaxed part of congresses and gatherings in Dubrovnik includes a selection of special events at the top class restaurants and on terraces with unforgettable views of the Adriatic Sea and sunsets, while the mild climate enables the enjoyment of nature all the year round. The incentive and team-building programmes will get a new dimension in Dubrovnik and become, like the city itself, a memorable experience.

- Fort Revelin
- Fort Lovrjenac
- Rector’s Palace
- Ethnographic Museum – Rupe Granary
- Marin Držić Theatre
- Sponza Palace
- St. Claire’s Convent
- Inter-University Convent
- Medieval ship Karaka
Promoting tunneling in See region

ITA WTC 2015 CROATIA

Modular Exhibition Area

Conference rooms

cocktail dinner

business center

exhibition area
Croatian Society for Tunnels and Underground Structures - ITA Croatia

would like to invite you and your guest to a joint dinner.

Date: Tuesday 22 May 2012
Time: 7:00 pm to 9:30 pm
Venue: Sheraton Grande Sukhumvit
250 Sukhumvit Road,
Bangkok, 10110, Thailand
http://www.sheratongrandesukhumvit.com/

I am looking forward to seeing you in Bangkok

Yours sincerely

Dr.sc.Davorin KOLIC, CE, PE
Society president
ITA Croatia
Trnjanska Street 140
10 000 ZAGREB
Croatia /Europe
www.itacroatia.eu
info@itacroatia.eu
SEE you in Dubrovnik