



# Improvements in Tunnel Safety - The Current Status of the Implementation of the



## Results

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AETOS 2007, Madrid, 05 - 07 November 2007





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# Cost-effective, Sustainable and Innovative Upgrading Methods for Fire Safety in Existing Tunnels



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## Structure of the presentation

- Introduction - The European context of tunnel research
- Basic data of UpTun
- Examples of UpTun achievements and implementation
- Internationalisation of tunnel research
- Conclusions





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The priority political and societal objective is:



# MOBILITY



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# MOBILITY

for passengers



and goods



# Tunnels are integral parts of the Trans-European Traffic Network



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# Current situation of existing tunnels

- Installations are not state-of-the art
- Traffic conditions had changed dramatically both in frequency and composition (more combustible and inflammable goods)
- Current safety level (especially fire safety) hamper the the use and the development of sustainable transportation systems, needed in a healthy European economy











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# Safety risks in general

## ➤ Technical risks

- Failure of any kind of technical installation
- Failure of the structure

## ➤ Risk factor human

- The human being as driver
- Wrong behaviour in critical situations



Safety risks in tunnels

Fatalities caused by catastrophic fires

High costs caused by long lasting  
tunnel shut-downs



Initiatives and projects on European level





**Current  
Knowledge  
2001-2004**



**D.A.R.T.S**

**New tunnel  
(design)  
2001-2003**



**UPTUN**

**"linked projects"  
National &  
International**

**Guidelines  
Legislation  
2002-2004**

**"linked  
projects"**

**Safety measures  
Existing tunnels  
2002-2005**



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## Main objectives:

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- Assessment of existing technologies
- Development of innovative upgrade technologies
- Practical demonstration of measures
- Knowledge transfer
- Supply of evaluation models about upgrading



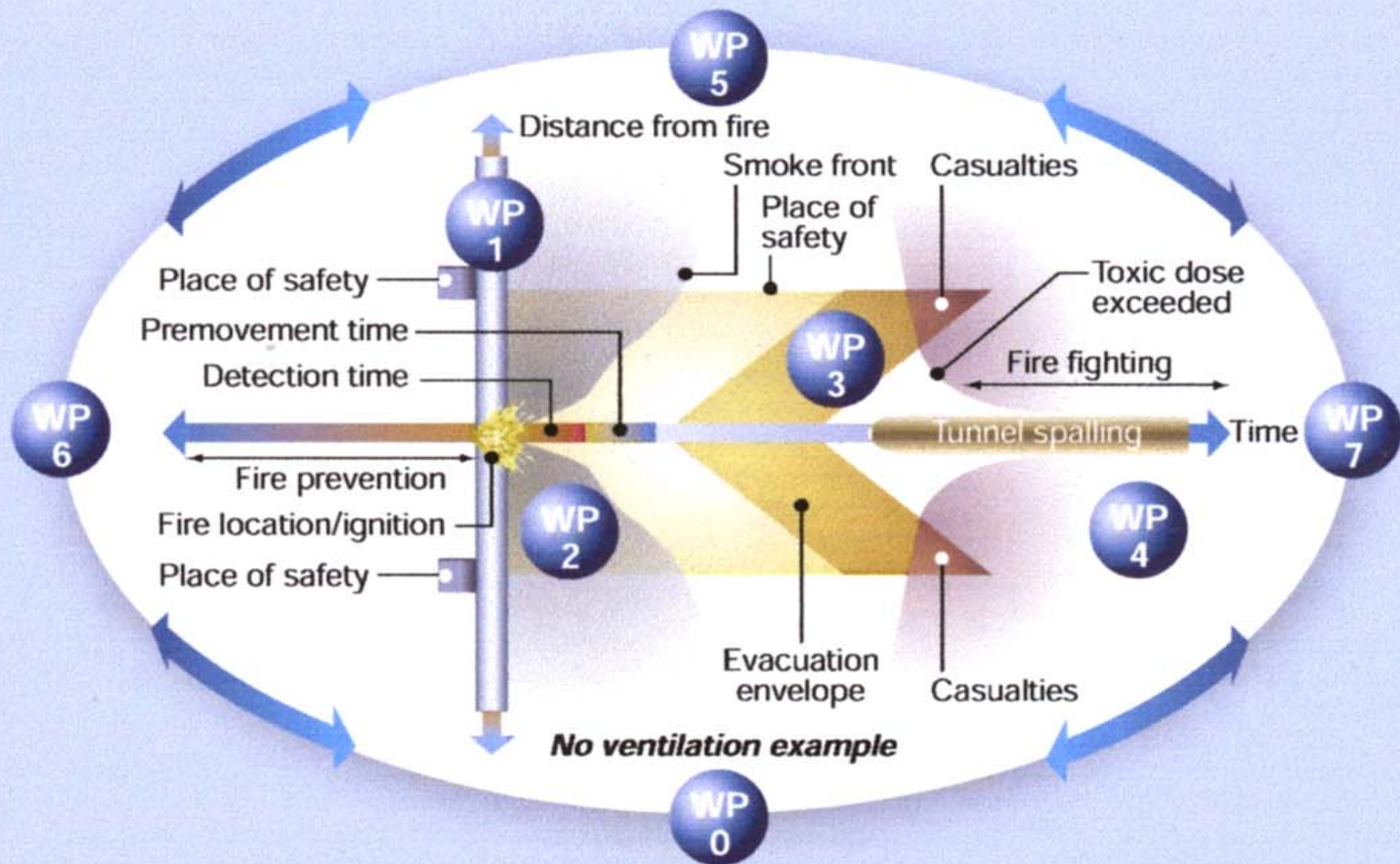


## Focus:

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- Technologies for fire detection and monitoring
- Technologies for mitigating fires
- Human behaviour in case of fire
- Protection of the tunnel structure
- Socio-economic factors
- Dissemination of upgrading know-how





- |      |   |      |  |      |   |      |                             |
|------|---|------|--|------|---|------|-----------------------------|
| WP 1 | Prevention, detection, monitoring   | WP 2 | Fire development & mitigation measures | WP 3 | Human response  | WP 4 | Systems-structural response |
| WP 5 | Global dynamic interactive fire safety evaluation and upgrading procedure | WP 6 | Demonstration                          | WP 7 | Promotion, dissamination, education/training, & financial socio-economic impact | WP 0 | Project management          |



## Desired spin-offs:

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- Restoration of faith in tunnels
- Levelling out of trade barriers
- Increased awareness of stakeholders







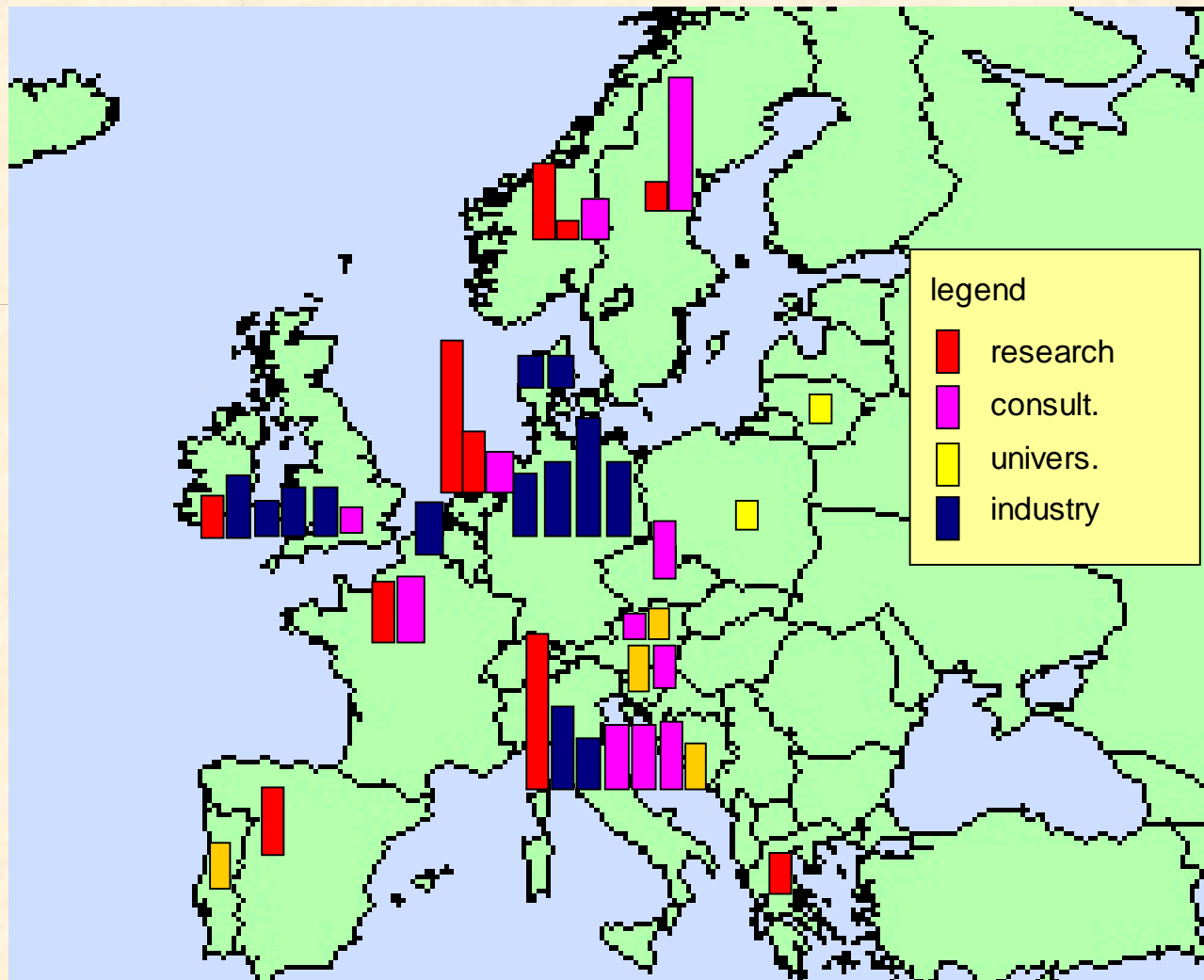
## General project data:

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- Duration: September 2002 to August 2006
- 41 Partners from 18 European countries
- 12 Mio € Volume (50% funding by EC)
- Approx. 950 man-months  
≈ 80 man-years of work



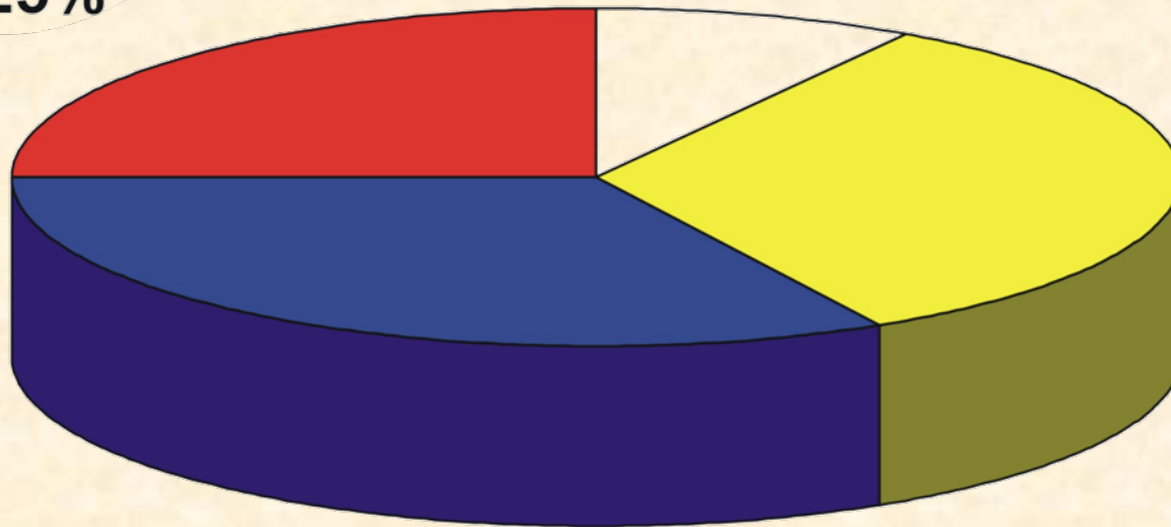
# The Consortium



# The **UPTUN** Consortium

Consultancy  
Tunnel owners  
**25%**

Education  
**9%**



Industry  
**33%**

Research  
**33%**



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- Holistic approach
- Development of suitable upgrading recommendations for existing tunnels
- Distinguish between the tunnel types (road, rail, metro)
- Main emphasis on innovation
  - Innovation relating to individual tunnel fire safety features (e.g. fire suppression)
  - Innovation relating to the fire safety of the tunnel as an integral unit (holistic approach)



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## Fire detection and monitoring

- Algorithm for detection of smoke and fires, especially moving fires by processing the images coming from CCTV



## Fire mitigation

- New knowledge about fire development and heat release
- Innovative mitigation technologies
  - Water mist systems
  - Tunnel plug
  - Water curtain system



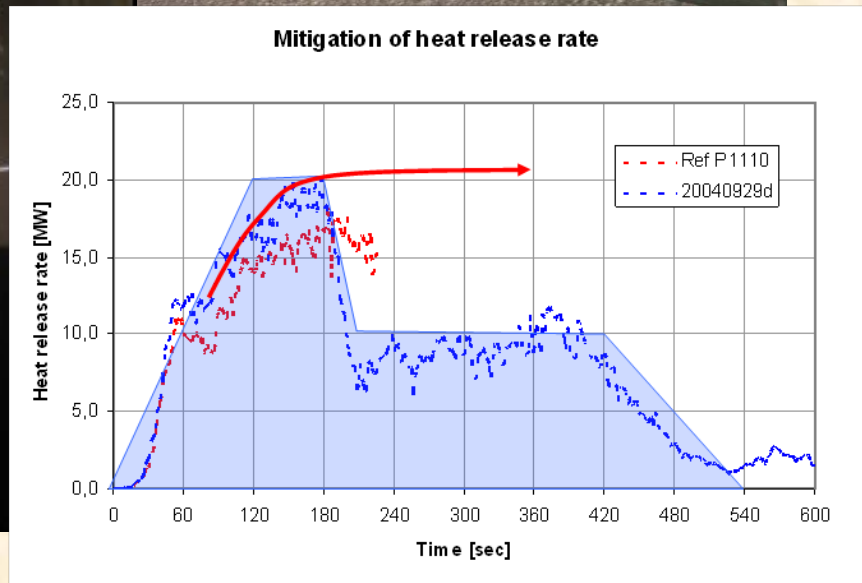
## Fire mitigation

### Runehamar tests



## Fire mitigation

### Water mist systems



## Fire mitigation

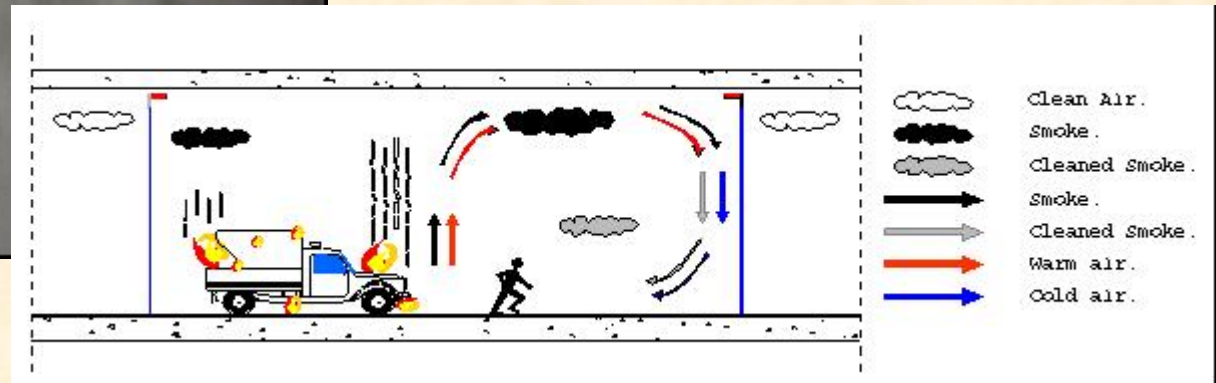
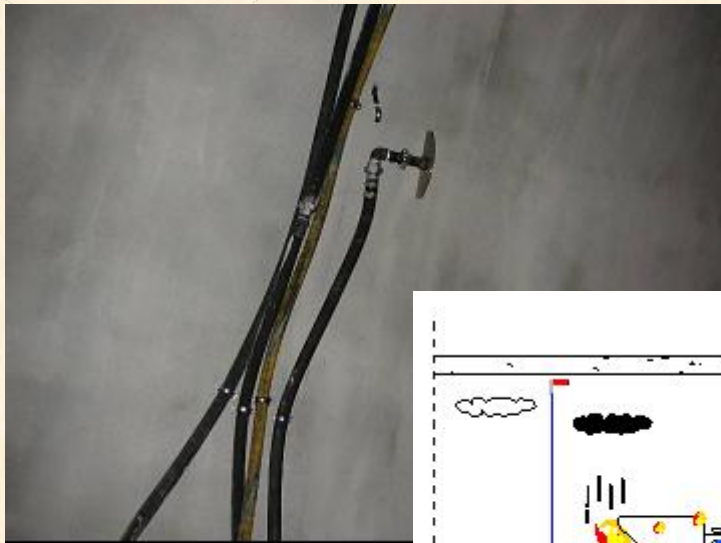
### Tunnel plug





## Fire mitigation

### Water curtain system



## Human response

- New knowledge about human behaviour in tunnel environment
- New knowledge about crowd movement
- Innovative egress model
- Innovative evacuation tools
  - “Evacuation beacon”
  - Sound beacon

## Human response



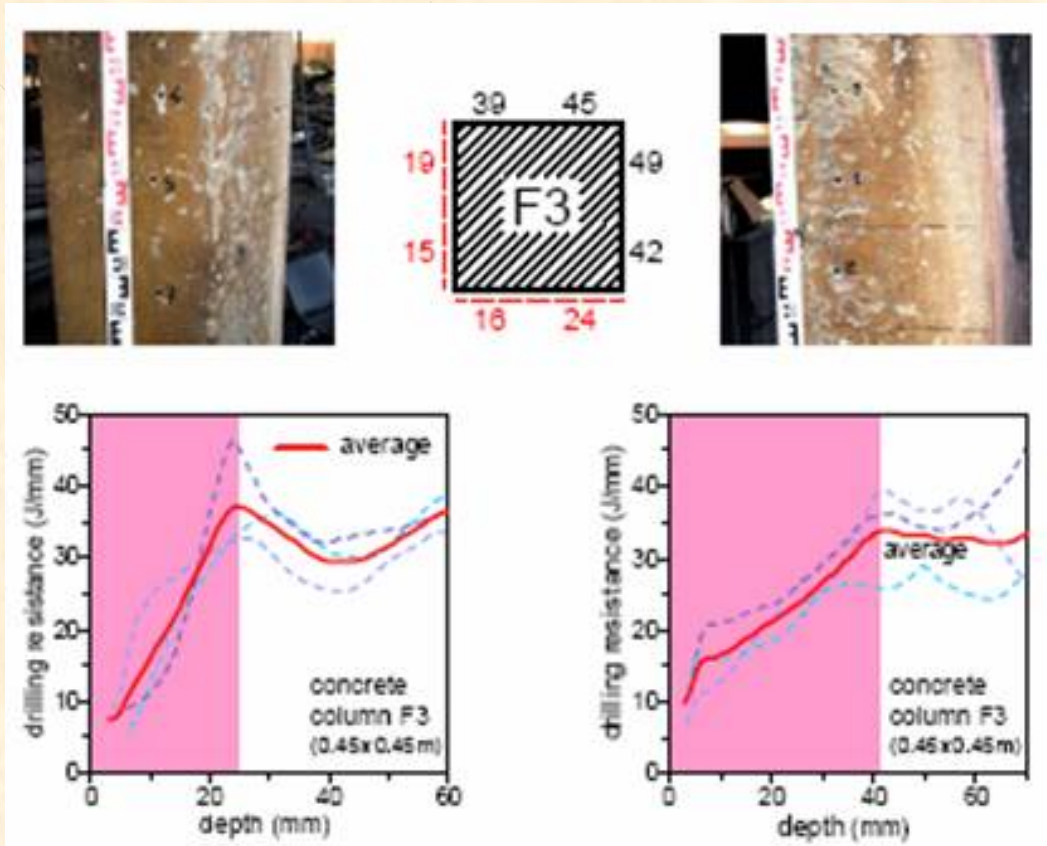


## Structural response

- New knowledge about behaviour and functional capacity of functional elements
- New damage investigation method
- Repair and recovery procedures including new repair material
- Review of explosive spalling
- Spalling assessment and design tool (HITECOSP 2)



## Structural response



## Holistic-dynamic evaluation and upgrading model

- Modelling the influence of suppression system on fire-smoke development
- Risk assessment of system-structural response
- Dynamic modelling of the human consequences for possible fire developments in the tunnel
- Use of constraint programming to optimise the number of options from the model
- Use of expert systems
- Use of logarithmic addition theory to optimise on safety levels
- Development of fire risk profiles for a tunnel as a whole for input into socio-economic model
- Socio-economic model



## Final remarks

- Not all results shown
- Much more tests and investigations have been carried out
- For more information please contact the project team members  
(see <http://www.uptun.net>)





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# Internationalisation



ITA-COSUF



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# Conclusions



- ... was a very successful project
- ... has achieved a lot of valuable and innovative results related to fire safety
- ... has now an international platform for dissemination





**Ladies and gentlemen  
thank you for your attention**



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