



COLLECTIVE MEMBER 2019: €250
INDIVIDUAL MEMBER 2019: €115

ABTUS-BVOTS

Association Belge des Techniques et de l'Urbanisme Souterrains ASBL.
Belgische Vereniging voor Ondergrondse Technieken en Stedenbouw VZW.

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Member of ITA-AITES

International Tunnelling and Underground Space Association.
www.ita-aites.org



Association Belge des Techniques et
de l'Urbanisme Souterrains

Belgische Vereniging voor
Ondergrondse Technieken en Stedenbouw

Belgian Association for
Underground Techniques and Town-planning





CREATION

The Belgian Association for Underground Techniques and Townplanning (ABTUS-BVOTS) was born, on March 9, 1977, by the fusion between the Belgian Grouping for Underground Techniques and Townplanning, created in 1959, and the Belgian Tunnelling Association, set up in 1976 under the sponsorship of the Ministry of Public Works.

AIM OF THE ASSOCIATION

The ABTUS-BVOTS has set its aim as to promote the knowledge about the study and the realisation of inderground works of all kind: transport tunnels (road, metro and rail), sewers and technical galleries, shopping centres, car parks and underground factories, main underground structures as power and storing plants, etc.

Its interest goes thus to all sectors of science and technique linked with problems as stability of underground works, construction techniques, organisation of underground works, specific material for these works, classical and spatial townplanning, knowledge of the environment, juridical and administrative aspects, economical and social questions, etc.

These aims and new orientations need to bring together

- › the public institutions:
 - Federal and regional administrations
 - Universities
 - Transport companies
 - Research centres

› and the private institutions:

- Contractors
- Consultants
- Architects and town planners
- Control offices

The presence of these various sectors in its Board gives the Association a particularly efficient representativity in a wide range of activities.

The ABTUS-BVOTS carries out all activities that can contribute to its aims, as:

- › the dissemination of information on doctrines, sciences and techniques, on the basis of a common terminology;
- › the concertation in order to define, in the framework of its capabilities and after coordination with the other relevant bodies, research and development aims;
- › the participation in the national and international bodies dealing with underground works;
- › the information of the members, the collectivities and the public on sur les problems concerning the use of the underground.

MEANS OF ACTION

To reach these various aims, the ABTUS-BVOTS organises inter allia conferences, study-days, symposia and site visits.

It promotes also the organisation of international congresses, periodical and others, and participates actively in them.

It keeps relations and collaborates with the international, foreign and national, public and private organisations that cope with similar or related problems.

It distributes to its members the magazine "Tunnels et Espace souterrain", official publication of the French sister-association "Association française des Tunnels et Espace Souterrains".

SCIENTIFIC PRIZE

This prize, with a value of 1.250 euros, has been created in 1983, and is aimed to recompense remarkable master thesis from last year students civil engineer or townplanner from a Belgian University or similar institution, that fall in the frame of the aims of the ABTUS-BVOTS. These works have to be proposed and supported by the professor who followed their redaction.

MEMBERS

The number of members is permanently moving, and depends largely on the general economic trend and particularly on the one of the infrastructural works. The ABTUS-BVOTS had (2017) around 110 members (60% corporate, 40% personal), spread out as follows:

- › Public authorities (national, regional, local): 15%
- › Consultants: 17%
- › Universities, laboratories, research and control centres, professional associations: 10%

- › Contractors: 37%
- › Suppliers: 15%
- › Others, and private persons: 10%

These members include inter allia the recent laureates of the Scientific prize, the Dutch and French sister-associations, and the Belgian sections of the international sciebtfic associations of Soil Mechanics, Rock Mechanics and Engineering Geology.

NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

At the inland side, it is the wish of the ABTUS to bring together in a dynamic, homogeneous and multidisciplinary team all the people an organisations that are concerned -close or far- with the use and the operation of the underground, ad there are the public authorities, the consultants and engineers, the architects and townplanners, the specialists in geology and ground mechanics, the general and specialised contractors, the equipment suppliers, the laboratories and research, control and certification institutes, the teaching institutes, the scientific associations, etc.

At the international side, it has to maintain the international reputation of Belgium in the field of underground works, and thus tries to carry out and to amplify the contacts with the most eminent foreign specialists. In this view, it represents Belgium in the international Tunnelling and Underground Space Association (ITA), for which it organised already in 1980 the annual General Assembly and the World Tunnel Congress.