



# BRITISH TUNNELLING SOCIETY

## INFORMAL DISCUSSION

Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> October 2006 at 6.00pm

at

The Institution of Civil Engineers

One Great George Street, Westminster, London SW1P 3AA

## Design and Construction of the Dublin Port Tunnel, Ireland

### Presented by:

**Tim Brick**

**Deputy City Engineer for Dublin City Council  
and Employer's Representative for the  
Dublin Port Tunnel**

**Stephen Thompson**

**London Bridge Associates (on the Dublin Port  
Tunnel with Nishimatsu CC)**

**Geoff Featherstone**

**KBR**

Dublin Port Tunnel is a 5,6km motorway link, from Dublin Port to the C-ring orbital motorway around the city of Dublin, of which most is in tunnel. The primary purpose of the project is to remove heavy goods vehicle 'through' traffic from the City centre and residential areas by providing a high quality access route to and from the Port. The key feature of the project is the construction of twin tunnel bores each of 4,5kms in length. Tunnel construction comprised of 2.25km of twin bore tunnel by hard rock machine, 0.35km by an open face shield with the balance of some 1.9kms being constructed by cut and cover techniques. Tunnelling machines had a diameter of nearly 12m and the hard rock machine was configured to work through Dublin boulder clay and the underlying limestone whilst the open face machine worked exclusively in boulder clay. Other underground excavations included for large diameter vehicle cross passage, between tunnel bores, with limited rock cover and the tunnelling under the main Dublin to Belfast railway line under the protection of a jacked pipe canopy.

The speakers will provide an overview of the project and its development, will describe the main design items associated with the bored tunnel works including lining design, will describe details of the integration of construction requirements into the design process and highlight construction issues of interest.

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**Tea and biscuits will be available at 5:30pm**

**In case of any query please contact**

**The Secretary, BTS tel: 020 7665 2233 or e-mail: [bts@ice.org.uk](mailto:bts@ice.org.uk)  
or visit <http://www.britishtunnelling.org>**