



PRESS RELEASE

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Turkey's pride project adds yet another to its internationally-recognized awards **INTERNATIONAL ROAD FEDERATION (IRF) GIVES EURASIA TUNNEL 'GLOBAL ACHIEVEMENT AWARD'**

Eurasia Tunnel which connects Asia and Europe for the first time with a double-deck road tunnel crossing from under the seabed was found worthy of the big prize in the 'Construction Methodology' category of the 'IRF Global Achievement Award' held by the International Road Federation (IRF). The Awards Ceremony held in Dubai was attended by the Ministry of Transport, Maritime Affairs and Communications, Deputy Director General of Infrastructure Investments Şamil Kayalak, Yapı Merkezi İnşaat and Eurasia Tunnel Chairman Başar Arıoğlu, and Eurasia Tunnel General Manager Sungjin Lee.

Eurasia Tunnel, built in Kazlıçeşme-Göztepe line by *Avrasya Tüneli İşletme İnşaat ve Yatırım A.Ş. (ATAŞ)* (Eurasia Tunnel Operation Construction and Investment Inc.) - a joint venture of Yapı Merkezi and SK E&C - in accordance with the tender held by the Ministry of Transport, Maritime Affairs and Communications, Infrastructural Investments Directorate General, has been receiving many awards each passing day.

Founded for the purpose of encouraging and supporting the development of worldwide road networks, International Road Federation (IRF) selects at its annual 'IRF Global Achievement Awards' the excellent innovative projects ensuring the improvement of infrastructural projects and the successful people working for this. As a result of this year's evaluation, Eurasia Tunnel whose construction and operation processes has been followed with interest all over the world was found worthy of the big prize in the 'Construction Methodology' category.

Infrastructural Investments Deputy General Director Şamil Kayalak, Yapı Merkezi İnşaat and Eurasia Tunnel Chairman Başar Arıoğlu, and Eurasia Tunnel General Manager Sungjin Lee received the prize of the Eurasia Tunnel in a ceremony held at Dubai Waldorf Astoria Hotel.

Global benchmark in transportation technology

Eurasia Tunnel stands as a global benchmark with its state-of-the-art technology, excellent engineering work, unique location between two continents, and its route passing 106 meters under the Bosphorus, and its operation in international standards.

- Stretching on a total of 14.6 kilometers together with its approach roads, Eurasia Tunnel project's 5.4-kilometer section is made up of a double-deck tunnel constructed under the seabed using a special technology, and connecting tunnels constructed with other methods.



- Eurasia Tunnel was completed 8 months earlier than planned by 14 million man/hour work of 700 engineers and more than 12,000 employees without any accidents involving death or personal injury.
- The Tunnel Boring Machine (TBM) with 13.7 meter diameter which was specially designed for the excavating works of the under-the-sea tunnel ranks first in the world with a cutting head power of 3.3 kW/m², second with a design pressure of 12 bars and sixth with a cutting head area of 147.3 m².
- The seismic rings mounted for augmenting the resilience against any major earthquake, the geometrical dimensions and the potential seismic activity it may be subject, marked the **'first' practice** in the TBM industry with these features.
- The excavated materials would fill 788 olympic pools. The amount of the concrete used would be enough to build 18 stadiums and the amount of iron would build 10 Eiffel Towers. 80,000 cubic meters of segments were produced. More than 60 experiments were performed.
- Ninety-five percent of the project was built by the Turkish employees and it provides employment for 1800 people per day. The tunnel will save a total of 160 million TL (38 million liters) of fuel annually. This will reduce 82,000 tons of emission caused by the cars each year.
- Thanks to the drop of the travel time from 100 minutes to 15 minutes during rush hours in Istanbul, the amounts of emission and fuel consumption as well as vehicle maintenance costs will decrease, thus providing a "positive contribution" to the national economy

World's most prestigious awards

Some of the other awards given to the Eurasia Tunnel due to its construction characteristics are as follows:

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- ✓ Engineering News Record (ENR) 'The Global Best Tunnel Project of 2016'
- ✓ European Bank of Reconstruction and Development (EBRD) 'Environmental and Social Best Practice 2015'
- ✓ The International Tunneling and Underground Space Association (ITA) 'ITA Major Project of the Year - 2015'
- ✓ IES (Illuminating Engineering Society) '2017 – Illumination Award of Merit'

Avrasya Tüneli İşletme İnşaat ve Yatırım A.Ş. About ATAŞ (www.avrasyatuneli.com)

Avrasya Tüneli İşletme İnşaat ve Yatırım A.Ş. (ATAŞ) was founded by **Yapı Merkezi of Turkey** and **SK E&C of South Korea** in 2009 for the realization of Istanbul Bosphorus Tube Road Crossing Project. Eurasia Tunnel was also constructed by Yapı Merkezi and SK E&C joint venture led by Yapı Merkezi. ATAŞ is responsible for financing and construction of the Eurasia Tunnel Project as well as its operation for a term of 25 years.

Dilay Letafet Ok ATAŞ Corporate Communication Manager dilay.ok@avrasyatuneli.com - 0216 474 05 20



Gizem Sevinç Selvi Zarakol İletişim - gizem@zarakol.com.tr – 0549 786 22 22(232) 488 61 00