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Latest Advances in Tunneling Technology to Be Showcased at Cutting Edge 2024

From November 18-20 in Cleveland, OH, the Underground Construction Association (UCA), in partnership with the North American Tunneling Journal, will host the 12th Cutting Edge Conference. This annual event examines the latest advances in tunneling technology, its methodology and how it can be harnessed to assist the nation's major upcoming underground projects.

The keynote session on Monday, November 18 will feature three renowned professionals who are leveraging data science, harnessing AI tools and exemplifying sustainability within the sector. These innovators will share key insights and knowledge concerning specific advances in technology that are transforming tunneling.



Antonio Marinucci, Google Data Centers

Google Data Centers & Sustainability: Implementing Programmatic Requirements in Hyperscale Mission-Critical Construction



Mike A. Mooney, Colorado School of Mines

AI in Tunnel Design and Construction



Bruce Christensen, Master Builders Solutions

The Future of Concrete is NOW – Advanced Technologies Drive Performance and Carbon Mitigation

“As technological approaches to tunneling continue to rapidly evolve, the Cutting Edge Conference has become an essential forum for the exchange of groundbreaking ideas,” said Erika Moonin, UCA Chair. “We look forward to welcoming you to Cleveland for another important gathering of our community where attendees can enjoy a single track, discussion type format.”

In addition to a series of high-end technical sessions focusing on innovation and practical knowledge, Cutting Edge 2024 will offer attendees the opportunity to attend one of two regional field trips on Wednesday, November 20. Field trip registration is limited and operates on a first come, first served basis.

One of the trips will send a group of registrants to the Robbins tunnel boring machine (TBM) manufacturing facility in Solon, Ohio. Robbins worldwide tunneling experts with decades of experience will be on hand to give a presentation on advancements in TBM technology. As the only U.S. based TBM manufacturer, this facility serves as the center of business operations.

The other option is a trip to the City of Akron’s Northside Interceptor Tunnel project, which exists to control and reduce combined sewer overflows. This trip will explore the project background, progress of the portal and starter tunnel excavations, coordinating between multiple tunnel drives into or out of a single shaft, and the TBM assembly and launch plan.

Registration for Cutting Edge 2024 is now open. For more information about the conference, visit ucaofsmecuttingedge.com.

About UCA

The Underground Construction Association, a Division of SME (UCA) brings together tunneling’s brightest and most dedicated professionals. Global association members advance their careers

with world-class technical resources, educational programs, networking opportunities and professional development tools from UCA. Our members are focused on sharing best practices in safety, environmental stewardship and technological advancements. UCA. *Inspiring tunneling professionals worldwide.*