

## Field trip to Alptransit in Switzerland, 11<sup>th</sup> – 14<sup>th</sup> September 2006

SIMON LOEW<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> *ETH Zurich, Switzerland (simon.loew@erdw.ethz.ch)*

### ITINERARY

#### ***Monday 11<sup>th</sup> September 2006***

Depart 09.00. Hotel Fly Away at Kloten in Zurich and travel by coach via Fluehlen and Andermatt, and thence to the St Gotthard Pass, to study the surface outcrops of the rocks through which the AlpTransit tunnels are passing; this excursion will be led by Professor Simon Loew, who is Professor of Engineering Geology at the ETH Zurich. Overnight stay is at Hotel Internazionale in Bellinzona.



#### ***Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> September 2006***

Introduction to the tunnel geology and engineering geology by Engineering Geologist Luca Bonzanigo followed by a 2 hour visit to the tunnel from the Bodio portal and the adit at Faido. The Group will be divided into two for the visit to the tunnels and whilst one half of the Group are in the tunnel the other half will watch films of excavation and other aspects of the tunnel design and construction, together with equipment and displays for reinforcing, support and types of lining, on display at the Visitors centre. Overnight stay is at Hotel Cruna at Sedrun.



#### ***Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> September 2006***

Visit to two concrete dams in the area, St Maria and Nalps, in the company of Dr Bastian Otto, who is responsible for dams in this part of Switzerland. These dams are instrumented to detect ground strains arising from tunnelling at depth and provide an opportunity to consider the larger scale movements that are associated with such work. Overnight stay is again at Hotel Cruna at Sedrun.



***Thursday 14th September 2006***

Consider environmental aspects of the project with a government specialist Nikolaus Hilty, and an Engineer responsible for environment from AlpTransit. This meeting will be based at the Alptransit offices in the picturesque setting at Luzern. The meeting will end mid-afternoon when delegates may either leave the Group at Luzern or travel back to Zurich Airport.



**ACCOMPANYING PERSONS**

There is no separate programme for the accompanying persons; on Monday they will have a beautiful tour of the Alps up to the Gotthard Pass; on Tuesday they can join the trip to the tunnel and tour the Visitors Centre; on Wednesday they will see two spectacular dams and their reservoirs and probably be intrigued by the instrumentation within them; and on Thursday they are in Luzern.

