

Rijkswaterstaat Ministerie van Infrastructuur en Milieu

Refurbishment of the Velser Tunnel (The Netherlands)

Ronald Mante

Rijkswaterstaat Ministry of Infrastructure and the Environment



Program

- 1. Short introduction Velser Tunnel
- 2. Why refurbishment?
- 3. Scope refurbishment
- 4. Traffic management during refurbishment
- 5. Some impressions
- 6. Point of interest: ventilation concept

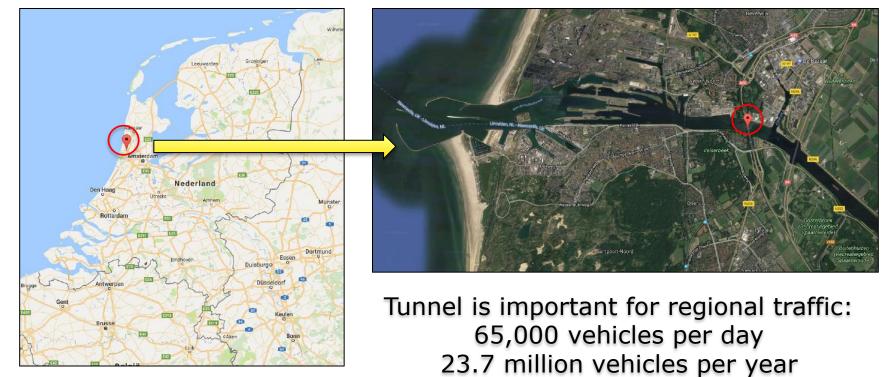


7. Result



Located in the A22 near the town of Velsen,

in the north-west of The Netherlands, crossing the North Sea Canal









Oldest highway tunnel in The Netherlands, opened in 1957



Official opening by then queen Juliana

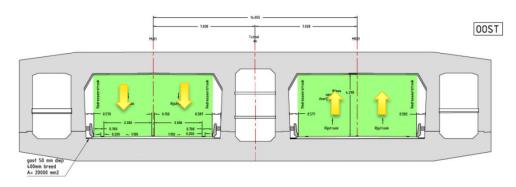


One of the first traffic jams in the history of the country, right after the opening



Tunnel characteristics:

- Two uni-directional tunnel tubes, each with 2 lanes
- Total length: 1,664m (about 1 mile)
- Length closed section: 768m
- Very low ceiling → height detection system to detect and stop over height trucks
 → hindrance for traffic





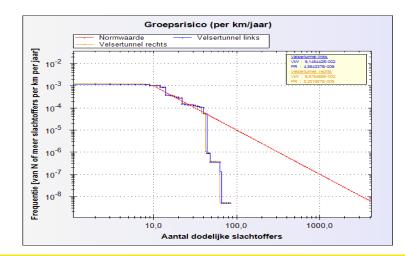


2. Why refurbishment?

The tunnel was completely refurbished in 2016, because:

- After 60 years, all the tunnel equipment was "end of life"
- Damage done by over height trucks needed repair (low tunnel ceiling, height clearance only 4.17m)
- The tunnel didn't comply with the Dutch Tunnel Safety Act, notably the legal safety criterion (Probability N casualties < 0,1/N² per km)







2. Why refurbishment?

In order to comply with the legal safety criterion, it was necessary to improve both the ventilation concept and the evacuation concept:

Concept	Before	After
Ventilation	Transversal (able to control fires up to 20MW)	Longitudinal (able to control fires up to 200MW)
Evacuation	Only 3 emergency exits , 2 of them not ideally located (near tunnel entrance and exit), with the escape route leading over stairs to a service building 5 stories higher	5 new emergency exits, at shorter distance from one another, leading to cross-passages to the other tunnel tube







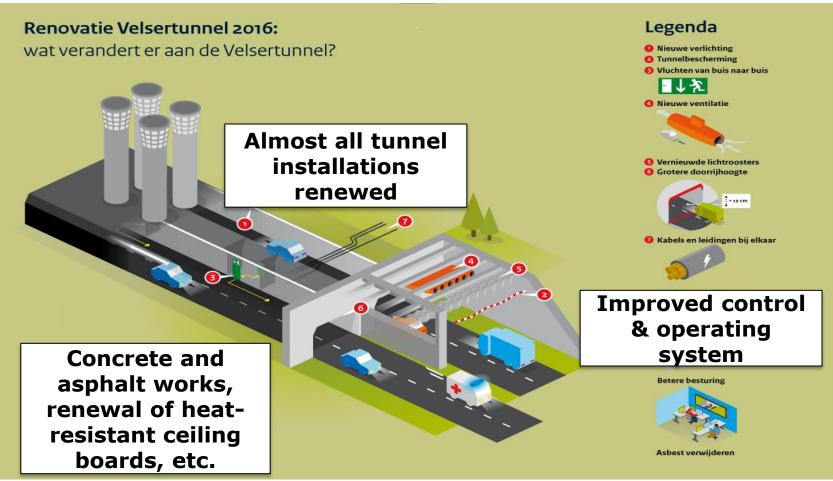


Rijkswaterstaat Refurbishment Velser Tunnel

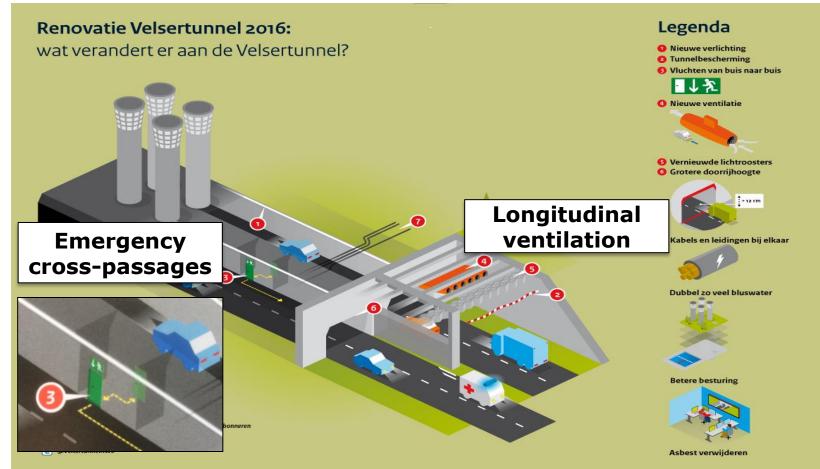


Renovatie Velsertunnel 2016: Legenda wat verandert er aan de Velsertunnel? Nieuwe verlichting O Tunnelbescherming 8 Vluchten van buis naar buis 1-2 O Nieuwe ventilatie **6** Vernieuwde lichtroosters **6** Grotere doorrijhoogte + 12 cm 🕜 Kabels en leidingen bij elkaar Dubbel zo veel bluswater **Betere besturing** Meer informatie Over de renovatie Velsertunnel en bereikbaarheid: www.rijkswaterstaat.nl/velsertunnel Abonneren op onze nieuwsbrief: www.rijkswaterstaat.nl/abonneren www.facebook.com/velsertunnel C @VelsertunnelRWS Asbest verwijderen

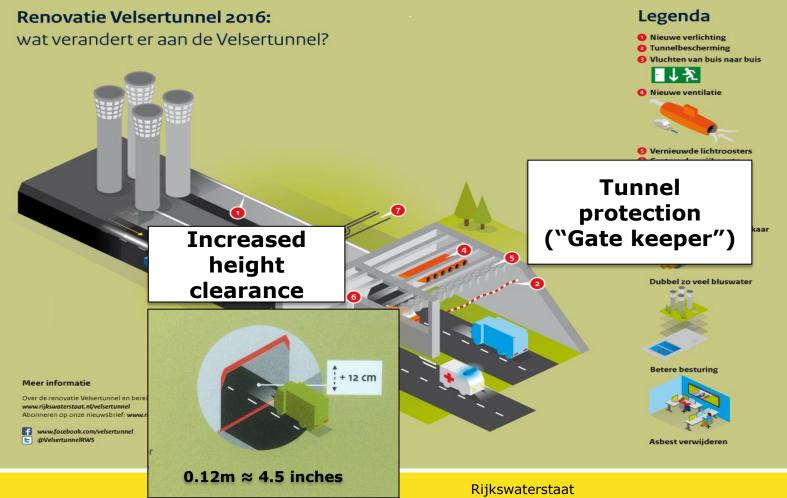












Refurbishment Velser Tunnel

12



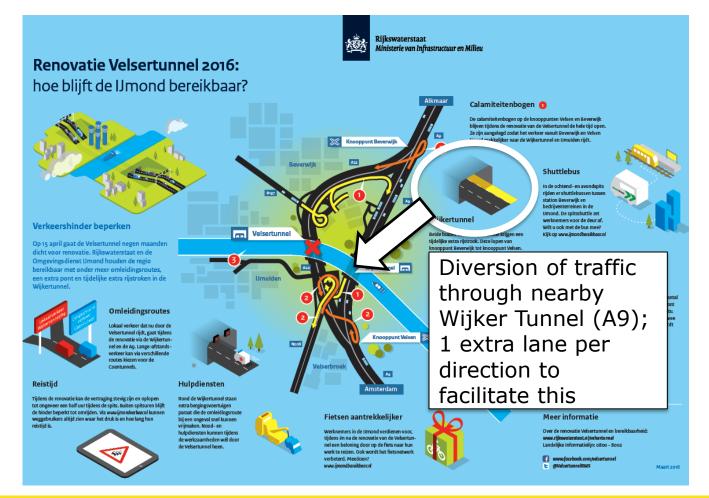
The refurbishment took 9 months (April 2016 – January 2017), during which both tunnel tubes were closed for traffic

- Demolition and reconstruction
- **Testing** of new technical installations and control & operating system
- **Training and exercising** of tunnel personnel and emergency response services
- **Building permit and opening permit,** issued by the local authorities (municipality of Velsen)



















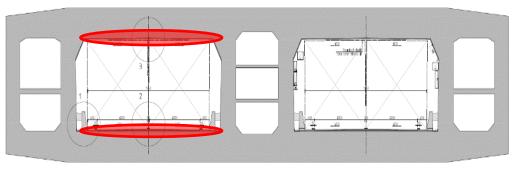




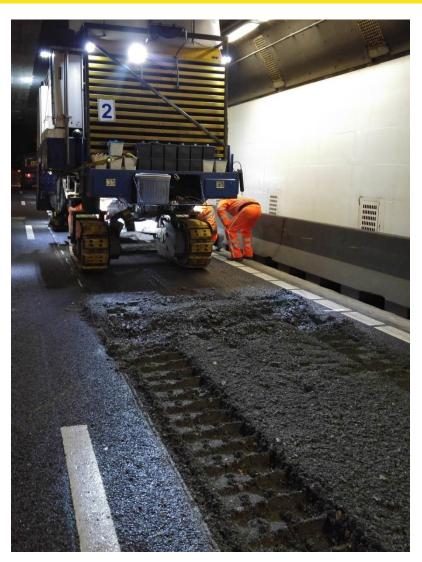
Increase of height clearance (0.12m \approx 4.5 inches) by:

Tunnel ceiling: removal of ceiling ridges

Tunnel floor: removal of old concrete road pavement underneath asphalt

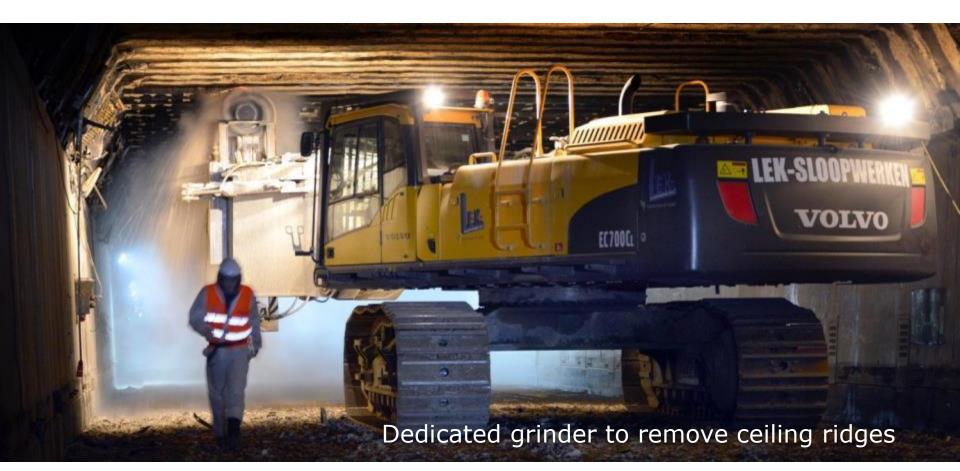


Standaard doorsnede gesloten deel



Rijkswaterstaat Refurbishment Velser Tunnel











-04

5. Some impressions

Closing of old ventilation holes (2,200 holes)

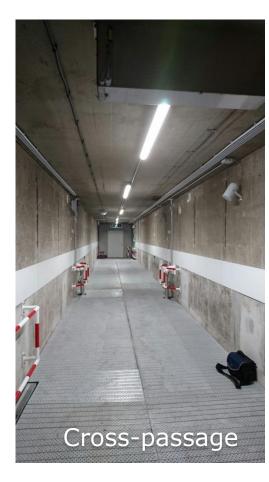










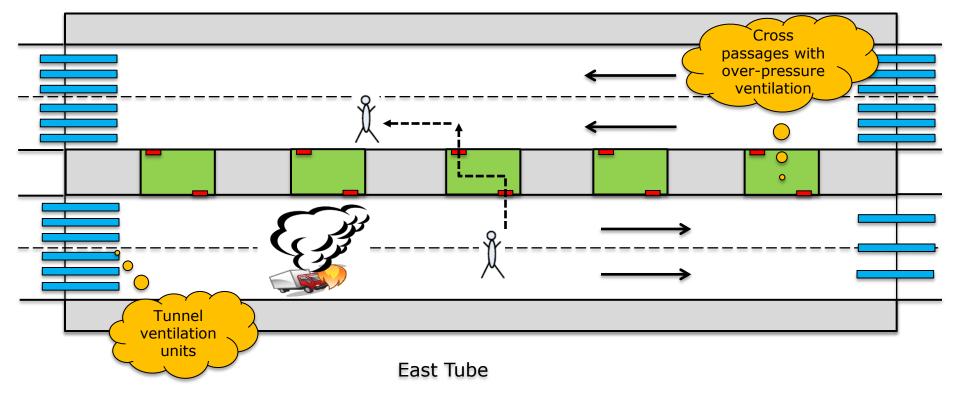










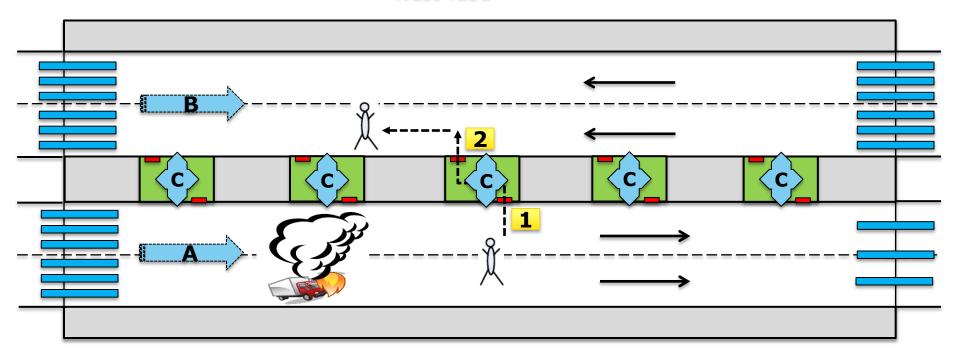


West Tube



Initial concept

West Tube

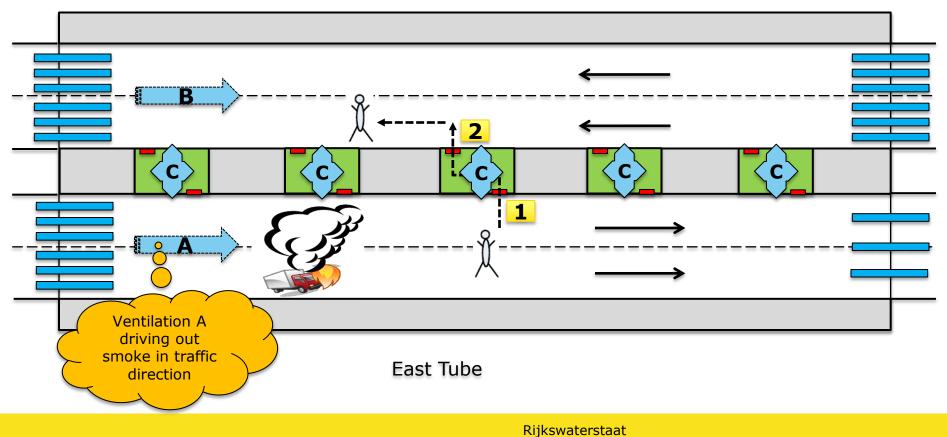




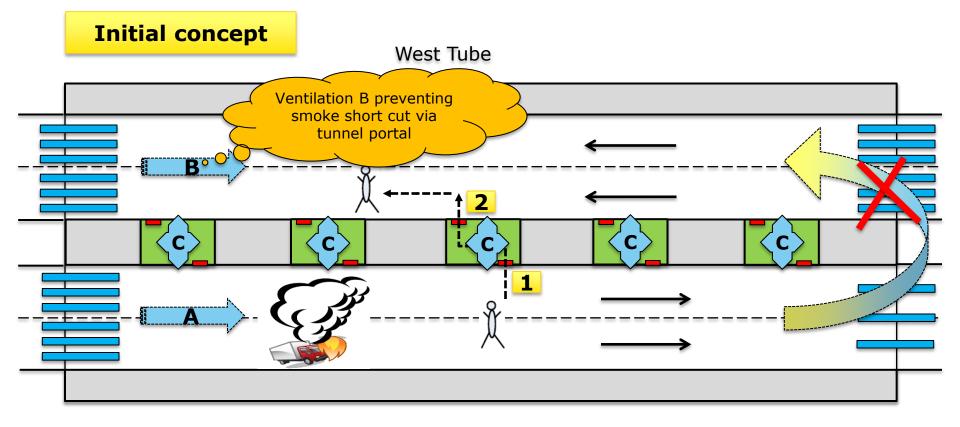


Initial concept

West Tube

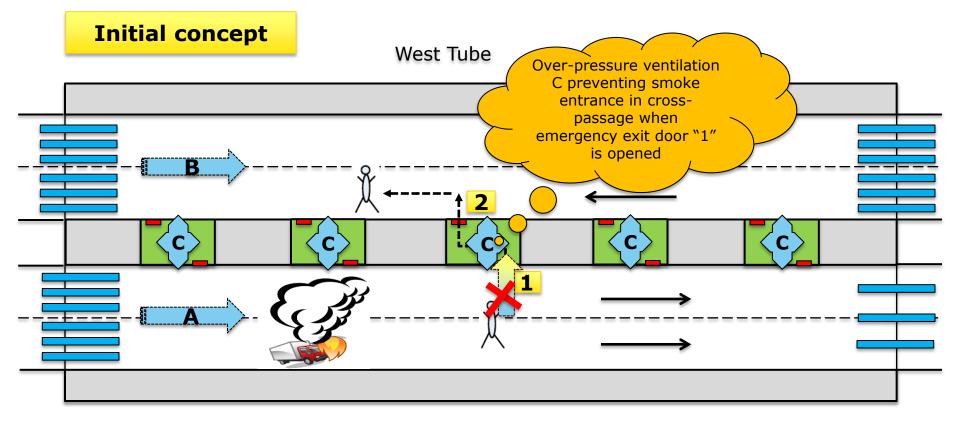






East Tube



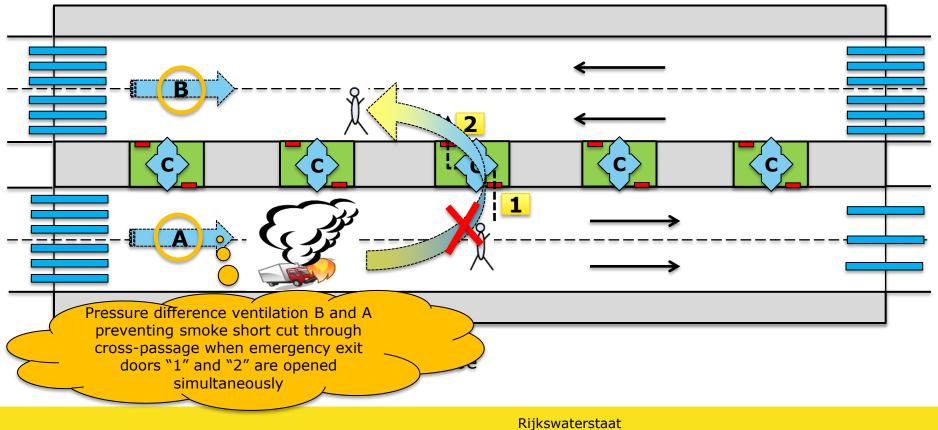


East Tube



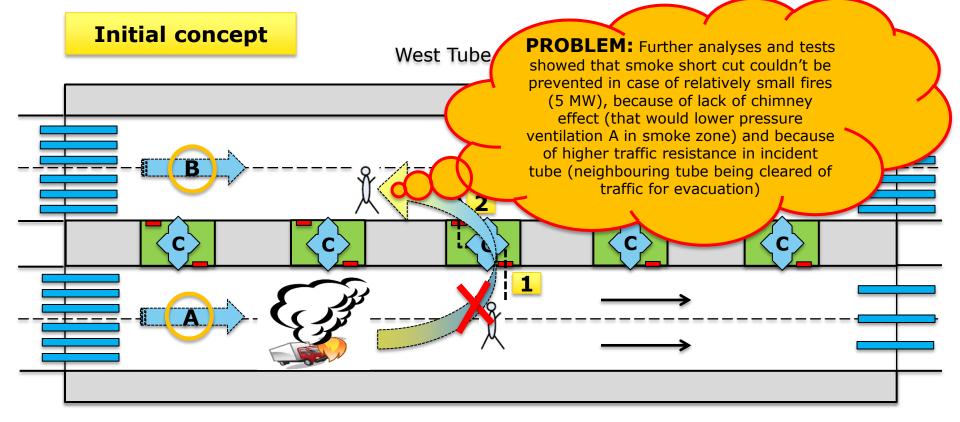
Initial concept

West Tube



Refurbishment Velser Tunnel





East Tube



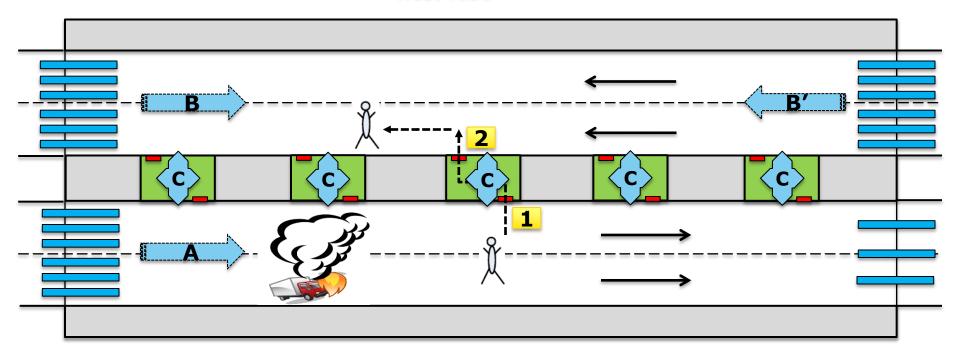


Rijkswaterstaat Refurbishment Velser Tunnel



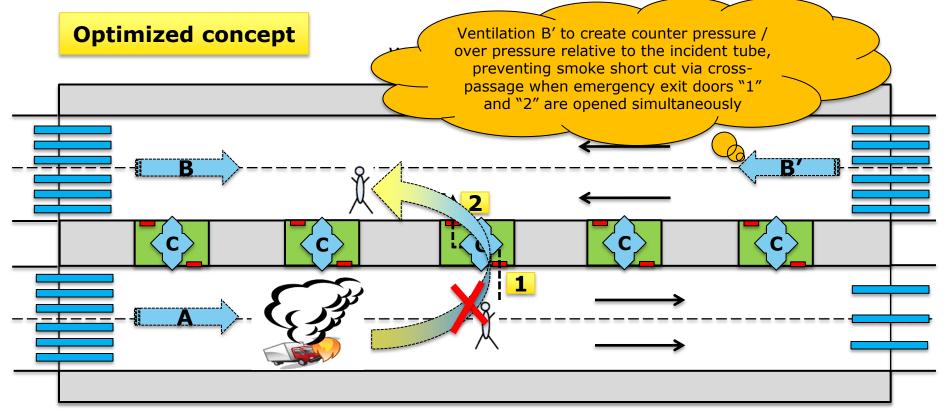
Optimized concept

West Tube



East Tube



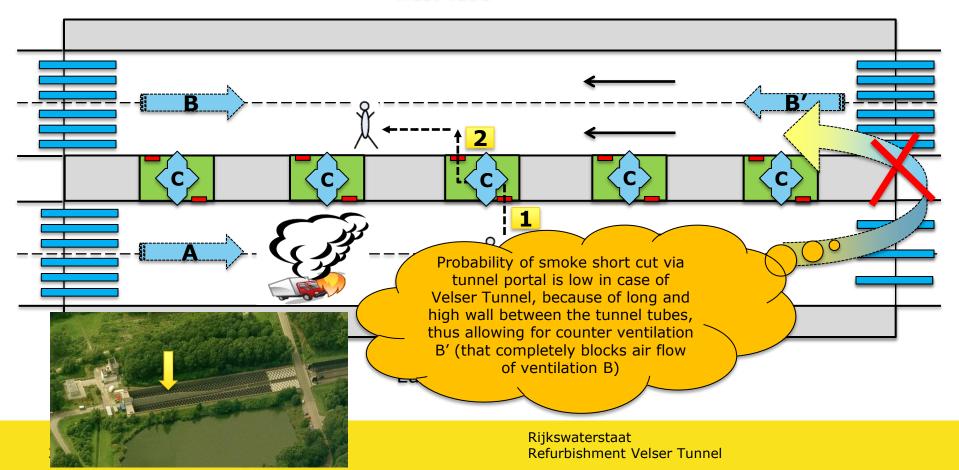


East Tube



Optimized concept

West Tube



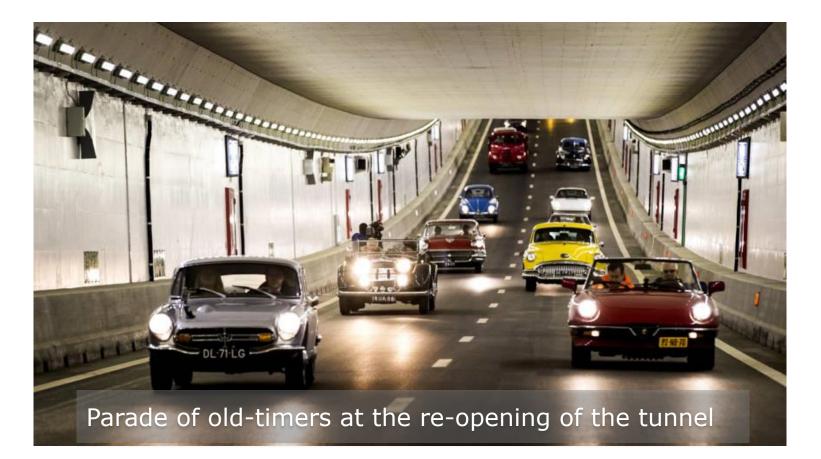


7. Result





7. Result





Thank you for your attention!



