Case Study: Installation of FireBarrier® 135 in the Faver Tunnel, Italy





## The challenge

Improvements to the SS 612 highway in the Val di Cembra area of northern Italy meant that a new segment of road had to be aligned to an existing section, which lay at a higher elevation. The solution was the construction of the Faver tunnel, a 9.8m wide, 1.49km long road tunnel.

The Faver tunnel has a distinctive system for the safe evacuation of occupants in case of fire. A false wall built into the tunnel creates a space that is used not only for the routing of tunnel services, but also as access for escape and for emergency services if a fire should occur.

The false wall is made from thin, corrugated steel, of the type also successfully used in the Verla Di Giovo tunnel. This option is more lightweight than the alternative, which is concrete, but it does of course still require the addition of a fire protection product, to ensure that the escape route and access for services remain functional during a fire.

Furthermore, this insulation is also required to protect tunnel walls from heat and the catastrophic structural damage that such heat may cause.

# Benefits of FireBarrier 135 for the Faver project team's requirements

The Faver project team chose Morgan's FireBarrier 135 as the optimal fire protection solution in this case. FireBarrier 135 has many advantages relevant to this project, such as:

- As a refractory product, it can withstand repeated exposure to 1350°C for a long cycle time.
- Quick and easy to install one single layer application and fast drying time.
- High adhesion strength and, like concrete, strength increases over time.
- Resistant to jet sprays used in cleaning and will not spall when subjected to high temperature water hose sprays during fire fighting.
- Low thicknesses required in order to meet fire protection requirements.

In the Faver tunnel, FireBarrier 135 was sprayed onto steel and supportive steel wire mesh, which had been attached to the steel wall prior to application.



## The Result

Over 420 tonnes of FireBarrier 135 was applied in the Faver tunnel, over the space of two months. No further protective coating was required.

A passive fire protection applied to the exterior of the wall ensures that the structure is insulated from the heat of the fire to prevent collapse and ensure the escape way remains operable during a fire.

In addition, insulation of the air in the void behind the wall allows for safe operation of any critical tunnel services and a safe environment for people inside. 420 tonnes of FireBarrier 135 were used

FireBarrier 135 can be applied to metal or concrete substrates using standard spray equipment, or can be cast into sheet form or applied as dry board



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#### For all enquiries, please contact our specialist sales and manufacturing sites:

#### Europe

Morgan Advanced Materials Morgan Drive Stourport-on-Severn Worcestershire DY13 8DW United Kingdom

T +44 (0) 1299 872210 F +44 (0) 1299 872218 europesales@morganplc.com

#### North America

Morgan Advanced Materials 4000 Westchase Boulevard Suite 170, Raleigh, NC 27607-3970 USA

T +1 (855) 809 9571 F +1 (706) 622 4424 nasales@morganplc.com

#### South America

Morgan Advanced Materials Avenida do Taboão 3265- São Bernardo do Campo - SP CEP 09656 000 Brasil

T +55 (11) 4075 0400 F +55 (11) 4075 7547 sasales@morganplc.com

#### Asia

Morgan Advanced Materials 150 Kampong Ampat 05-06A KA Centre Singapore 368324

T +65 6595 0000 F +65 6595 0005 asiasales@morganplc.com

Morgan Advanced Materials plc Quadrant, 55-57 High Street, Windsor, Berkshire, SL4 1LP United Kingdom

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