

Title:

The use of inverter-driven jet-fans to reduce tunnel ventilation costs

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ABSTRACT

Modern, general purpose inverters have developed to a stage where they can be used reliably and with very little maintenance in environments such as road tunnels. It is shown in this paper that their use to enable jet-fans to be operated at reduced speed could yield large cost savings and other benefits for tunnel operators and users. The potential cost savings arise primarily from greatly reduced power demand and are therefore beneficial from a global warming perspective as well as for tunnel operators. Greatest cost savings are shown to be achieved when all jet-fans in a tunnel are operated at reduced speed instead of operating a smaller number at high speed. The methodology is validated through full-scale field tests.



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