



Act safely at level crossings



ILCAD INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE'S QUOTES AND STATEMENTS

JUNE 2, 2017, MONTRÉAL, QUÉBEC, CANADA



RAILWAY
ASSOCIATION
OF CANADA



ASSOCIATION DES
CHEMINS DE FER
DU CANADA



Yves Desjardins-Siciliano

President and Chief Executive Officer



International Level Crossing Awareness Day (ILCAD)

2 June 2017

Yves Desjardins-Siciliano's message:

"As a member of the International Union of Railways (UIC), VIA Rail is proud to take part in the 9th edition of the International Level Crossing Awareness Day (ILCAD). Joint efforts by the railway industry are paramount in increasing safety awareness. At VIA Rail, safety is at the forefront of all our activities and we recognize the responsibility we have to keep our passengers, employees, people who work on our behalf, and the general public safe in all aspects of our operations.

Unfortunately today, too many people still trespass on rail property or take unnecessary risks when crossing the tracks. Ongoing safety awareness campaigns like ILCAD or Operation Lifesaver play an important role in "Making it safer together". To succeed, we must continue our engagement with communities with the primary focus on increasing safety awareness and educating the public on the importance of prevention."



Michael Bourque
President, RAC



International Level Crossing Awareness Day (ILCAD)
2 June 2017

Michael Bourque's message:

"We are thrilled that this year's International Level Crossing Awareness Day is being hosted in Canada, where we're very focused on bringing attention to roadway-railway crossing safety," said Michael Bourque, President and Chief Executive Officer of the Railway Association of Canada (RAC). "Canada's railways believe that rail safety is a shared responsibility and that each crossing accident is preventable. Through education and outreach programs such as Operation Lifesaver, RAC and its members work hard to inform Canadians about the importance of safe crossing practices. Operation Lifesaver's motto is 'Look, Listen and Live,' and we encourage people to take this message to heart."



INTERNATIONAL UNION
OF RAILWAYS



Renato Mazzoncini
Chairman of UIC
CEO, Italian Railways (FSI)



International Level Crossing Awareness Day (ILCAD)
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Mr. Mazzoncini's message:

"The DNA of the UIC, since its origins: to make the transport offer more reliable, to make it more and more "seamless" thanks in particular to interoperability, while bringing all its technical expertise in order to globally improve advantages of this mode of transport, connected to others. This includes the smart management of the interfaces between different modes of transport, and all the work that has been going on for years with the road sector on crossings."



INTERNATIONAL UNION
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Jean-Pierre LOUBINOUX
UIC Director General
loubinoux@uic.org ; <http://www.uic.org>

International Level Crossing Awareness Day (ILCAD) 2 June 2017

Message from J.P. Loubinoux:

"The rail community that I represent as the UIC Director General is obviously proud to be the driving force behind the creation of this International campaign on Level Crossings, ILCAD. Thanks to its network of experts and its spirit of cooperation, UIC's mission is to be also concretely at the service of lives.

*Human factors are the main cause of road collisions (including at level crossings). This year, the theme of the awareness campaign concerns the possible negative effects of distraction. Motorists, bicycle drivers, cyclists and pedestrians use their smartphones, GPS, headphones, etc. often intensively and underestimate the dangers of using them when driving, walking, where all their attention should be required. The message of the ILCAD campaign this year is: **"Make it safer together!"** And it is addressed to everyone, even though special attention is therefore focused on young people this year.*

I wish all ILCAD partners a fruitful campaign today!"



Message from Eva Molnar, Director of UNECE Sustainable Transport Division



International Level Crossing Awareness Day (ILCAD)

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Quantum change in attention to safety at road-rail level crossings!

Does road-rail level crossing remain to be a “no man’s land” or do we really have to pay more attention to these specific intersections in the context of transport safety?

UIC and the initiative ILCAD have been doing phenomenal advocacy and the situation started to turn around, though slowly. The Inland Transport Committee of UNECE and its working party called Global Forum for Road Traffic Safety (WP.1) have been contributing to the UIC and ILCAD activities and thanks to the active participation of governments and railways, have also elaborated a systemic analytical approach in this field. The paper titled “Assessment of safety at level crossings in UNECE member countries and other selected countries and strategic framework for improving safety at level crossings” brings a lot of shortcomings into the limelight and provides countries with specific recommendations as well as a comprehensive approach for achieving continuous improvement in safety performance at level crossings.

One of the most critical safety issues for road-rail level crossings, in my eyes, is that we still lack data and knowledge about the magnitude and nature of the problem. With perseverance and hard work one can produce statistics on road-rail level crossing safety in most countries of the world. However, these data are neither readily available at global, regional and sub-regional levels, nor are they collected according to an internationally agreed methodology.



Sarah Mayes
National Director of Operation Lifesaver Canada



International Level Crossing Awareness Day (ILCAD) 2 June 2017

Sarah Mayes' message:

"We're delighted that ILCAD is being hosted in Canada in 2017 – a year when Operation Lifesaver Canada launched an innovative virtual-reality campaign to raise awareness about rail safety among young people," said Sarah Mayes, National Director, Operation Lifesaver Canada."

<http://operationlifesaver.ca/> (in English)

<http://operationgareautrain.ca/> (in French)



**Bonnie Murphy, President
Operation Lifesaver, Inc.**



International Level Crossing Awareness Day (ILCAD)

2 June 2017

Bonnie Murphy's message:

"The United States chapter of Operation Lifesaver (OLI) is proud to observe [International Level Crossing Awareness Day \(ILCAD\)](#) on June 2, to focus global attention on the concerning trend of distracted behavior at railroad crossings. Alongside more than [40 countries worldwide](#), a number of our state Operation Lifesaver programs will work with their safety partners to conduct awareness events in conjunction with ILCAD, targeting a broad audience to reach as many people as possible with these lifesaving messages.

Statistics from our safety partners at the Federal Railroad Administration, part of the U.S. Department of Transportation, show that, while the total number of collisions at highway-rail grade crossings dropped by 2.4% from 2015 to 2016, there has been a nearly 14 percent increase in deaths caused by these collisions.

OLI is committed to reducing these collisions and protecting our nation's families and communities from having to endure these preventable tragedies. Our national awareness campaign, [See Tracks? Think Train!](#) along with these [driving safety tips](#), can help save lives at crossings.

This international partnership to raise awareness of rail safety – on ILCAD, and every day – supports our shared goal to eliminate deaths and injuries on and near railroad property throughout our communities. To further these efforts throughout the U.S., OLI is coordinating this year's inaugural U.S. Rail Safety Week, September 24-30, to empower the public to keep themselves safe near tracks and trains."



Tamo VAHEMETS,
CEO, Operation Lifesaver Estonia
Tel +372 50 45 112
tamo@operationlifesaver.eu ; www.operationlifesaver.eu



International Level Crossing Awareness Day (ILCAD) 2 June 2017

Tamo Vahemets' message:

Public railway safety is an inalienable part of safety culture

"The traditional ILCAD has become for those involved in railway safety promotion an event that brings together organisations and people contributing to railway safety from different countries. The knowledge that there exist many organisations in the world looking daily for new ways and solutions to minimize the number of railway fatalities is encouraging us and taking us forward.

Railway safety is an inalienable part of safety culture. Knowledge and behavioural patterns are acquired since childhood and stay with us throughout our lifespan. Right choices always comprise safety, enabling us to live our daily lives healthy and successfully.

The vision of ILCAD could be: 0 fatalities caused by lack of knowledge on railways. The vision "0 fatalities caused by lack of knowledge on railways" would present a huge challenge to all of us, making us think how could our message reach all the target groups of society? What would be the role of governments, railway companies, non-profit organisations and citizens themselves? The 0-vision would help us in setting long-term goals and take small steps every day towards a safer living environment.

I welcome all those who have joined ILCAD and wish you all the success in conducting the railway safety promotion campaign."



Libor Lochman
CER Executive Director



International Level Crossing Awareness Day (ILCAD) 2 June 2017

Libor Lochman's message:

"The rail sector is committed to constantly improve the safety at level crossings and thus decrease the number of accidents that occur at the interface between road and rail every year. In addition, it is also important to raise awareness and to promote safe behaviour at level crossings. That's why CER is supporting the eight International Level Crossing Awareness Day."



Antonio AVENOSO

Executive Director



information@etsc.eu
<http://www.etsc.eu/home.php>

International Level Crossing Awareness Day (ILCAD) 2 June 2017

Antonio Avenoso's message: *"ETSC is delighted to be supporting the 2017 edition of International Level Crossing Awareness Day."*

"The ILCAD initiative encourages knowledge sharing between countries and between road and rail safety experts. Many challenges in transport safety can be solved in this way, by working together."

"But success also depends on policymakers taking meaningful action on education, enforcement and infrastructure to reduce the many deaths that still tragically occur at level crossings around the world."