Message from Jean TODT:

“Crashes at level crossings deserve special attention. Although they might account for a limited proportion of road crashes, their severity makes them a key area of intervention. Their primary cause is inappropriate behaviour of road users: bad evaluation of risk, lack of attention, misunderstanding of road signs. This is why your event today is important: railway industry representatives, road authorities, academics and experts from around the world need to raise awareness about the dangers surrounding level crossings. The outcome of your work will help countries create an effective framework for the management of safety at level crossings. To this end, let me express two topics for your consideration. Firstly, we need a joint vision of what technological innovation, which minimises human error and violations, may look like. Secondly, railway and road managers need to work together at a national level to develop targeted level crossing safety campaigns and education programmes. This would create a preventive mechanism that will improve safety in the long term.”