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International Rail Trespass Awareness Day (TRESPAD) 4th edition, 4 June 2025

International Level Crossing Awareness Day (ILCAD) 17th edition, 5 June 2025

Launch conferences in York, G.B.

(Paris, 2nd June 2025), The International Level Crossing Awareness Day ([ILCAD](#)), a global initiative headed by the International Union of Railways ([UIC](#)), is preparing for its 17th annual launch. Its aim is to raise the public's awareness of the risks at level crossings and to increase safety. This campaign, which is widely followed by the world's railway community, is a key event for those involved in the sector.

Around fifty countries generally take part in the annual ILCAD campaign. Each year, a partner country organises the launch conference, providing an opportunity to share best practice and projects aiming to improve safety and reduce the number of incidents at level crossings.

In the EU and almost everywhere, accidents and fatalities involving level crossings account for almost a third of all rail accidents. If incidents involving pedestrians trespassing on the tracks are included, this figure increases to over 90% of all rail accidents.

All around the world, regardless of country or culture, the rail industry faces the same problems at level crossings and near tracks.

The vast majority of collisions are caused by users deliberately taking risks or making the wrong decisions through oversight, habit, or by being distracted.

Risk assessments, as well technical solutions and innovation are used to improve the most dangerous level crossings.

In addition to safety measures, education/awareness initiatives can be launched to improve safety at level crossings and, if necessary, enforcement measures can then be implemented to counter inappropriate behaviour at level crossings, and on and near tracks.

By raising awareness, educating and working in collaboration with various sectors, [ILCAD](#) and [TRESPAD](#) strive to reduce the number of incidents and save lives.

This year, we are placing particular emphasis on how *"Helping people make good decisions"* with the slogan *"Safe decisions – every time."*

2025 is also the 200th anniversary of the very first passenger railway in the world, so it is fitting that ILCAD campaign will be launched in Great Britain– the original home of the railway. It will be jointly hosted by [NETWORK RAIL](#) and [RSSB](#) (Rail Safety and Standards Board) at the [National Railway Museum in York](#), the day after [TRESPAD](#), a UIC safety campaign on trespass prevention.

We will be addressing crucial topics such as risk assessment, technical solutions, education, public awareness and cross-sector collaboration (road, rail, police, decision-makers, land-use planning) to ensure rail safety, with speakers hailing from Europe, the USA and industry leaders from the sector, such as IDS (Italy), Schweizer Electronic (Switzerland), Wavetrain (Norway), Kite Projects (G.B.), Gmundener Fertigteile-Bodan (Austria), Capgemini (G.B.), Arentis (G.B.), Hirsch (G.B.), Alstom Group (France), Altpro (Croatia) and Zöllner GmbH (Germany).

These companies are generously supporting the events and will showcase their innovative solutions on-site during the conferences.

A few figures:

- According to UIC estimates, there are more than half a million level crossings in the world, including more than 100,000 in the European Union plus G.B.
- According to the UIC safety report <https://safetydb.uic.org> in 2023:
 - In 2023, 36 partner railway companies from 33 countries reported an average of 10 victims per week at level crossings, mostly level crossing users (94%).
 - In 2023 the split between accidents with vehicles and accidents with persons at level crossings account for respectively 60% and 40%.
 - Collisions with vehicles resulted in respectively 11% accidents without victims, 17% accidents with 2 and more victims, 37% accidents with one seriously injured person and 35% accidents resulting into a fatality.
 - For the accidents where an individual was hit by a train at a level crossing, 23% of these accidents resulted into a serious injury, while 77% of these accidents were fatal.
 - Regional and long-distance passenger trains were involved in 78% of level crossing accidents.

➤ The International Union of Railways ([UIC](#))

UIC is the worldwide organisation for the promotion of rail transport at a global level and for the collaborative development of the railway system. It brings together more than 200 members across all five continents, including railway undertakings, infrastructure managers, and railway service providers. UIC maintains close cooperative links with all stakeholders in the rail transport domain around the world, including manufacturers, railway associations, and public authorities, as well as in other domains and sectors whose experiences may be beneficial to rail development. UIC's main tasks include understanding the business needs of the rail community, developing innovation programmes to identify solutions to those needs, as well as preparing and publishing documents, such as reports, specifications, guidelines and IRSs that facilitate the implementation of these innovative solutions.

- **Network Rail:** We own, operate, maintain and develop the railway infrastructure in England, Scotland <https://www.networkrail.co.uk/> and Wales. That's 20,000 miles of [track](#), 30,000 [bridges, tunnels and viaducts](#) and the thousands of [signals](#), level crossings and stations. We manage 20 of the country's [largest stations](#). The rest – over 2,500 – are run by the train operating companies.
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- **RSSB: The Rail Safety and Standards Board ([RSSB](#))** is the independent safety, standards, and research body for Great Britain's rail network. We help to make an evolving railway safer, more efficient, and more sustainable. We work collaboratively with an evolving rail industry to ensure that innovative and sustainable technology is operated safely, efficiently, and cost-effectively. We codify and share best practice, both in Britain and abroad. We are proudly impartial. We are home to some of rail's leading technical experts. Guided by facts and analysis, we help to bridge knowledge gaps and optimise use of the latest technology. We distribute and systemise industry best practice.

CONTACT

- For further information about UIC, please contact com@uic.org or Isabelle Fonverne at fonverne@uic.org.
- For the conferences, please visit [ILCAD 2025 Launch Conference](#) or [TRESPAD 2025 Launch Conference](#)