



## JOINT PRESS RELEASE

---

### **19<sup>th</sup> UIC World Security Congress, jointly organised by SNCF and UIC, convenes to address rail security challenges**

(Paris, 4 December 2024) The 19<sup>th</sup> UIC World Security Congress commenced in Paris, France on 3 December 2024. The two-day conference is jointly organised by UIC, the worldwide railway organisation, and SNCF, the French railways. Over 130 delegates, representing several UIC Regions (Africa, Asia Pacific, Europe, Middle-East and North America) came together around the theme “*Railway security: between everyday journeys and major events challenges.*”

#### **Railways as pillars of resilience**

UIC President, PKP S.A. CEO Dr. Alan Beroud underlined: “*the safety and security of passengers, goods, and staff are fundamental to making rail the preferred mode of transport. The task before us is clear: we must proactively strengthen the security of passengers throughout their journeys—locally, nationally, and internationally.*”

As François Davenne noted, “*guaranteeing railway security is about safeguarding the backbone of our societies. This Congress provides a unique opportunity to strengthen cooperation and build visionary solutions for the future.*”

The event underscores the rail sector’s role in addressing both routine and extraordinary security challenges, showcasing how innovation and collaboration can transform railway resilience globally.

Chair of the UIC Security Platform, SNCF Security Director Mr. Xavier Roche said “*the annual Security Congress is a key moment to collectively reflect on challenges, developments, and our future projects. I am delighted to see 26 nationalities and 26 transport operators represented here today.*”

Vice Chair of the UIC Security Platform, RPF Inspector General Mr. Sarvapriya Mayank highlighted that “*at this congress, we have the unique opportunity to engage in meaningful dialogue, exchange best practices, and explore innovative solutions that can fortify the security of our railways.*”

#### **Learning from success: the 2024 Paris Olympic Games**

Furthermore, a high-level session explored the critical role of railways in ensuring secure and

seamless transport for millions of visitors during the Paris 2024 Olympic Games with insights from SNCF, the French Ministry of Interior and the Organising Committees for the Olympic Games:

- SNCF CEO, Mr. Jean-Pierre Farandou said that *“preparation is key for an event of such magnitude. The earlier you start, the more you involve all employees, and the more you collaborate with all partners, the greater the chances of success”*.
- SNCF Réseau CEO, Mr. Matthieu Chabanel emphasised that *“the Olympic and Paralympic Games accelerated efforts to enhance the security of the network across several hundred sites, with investments that will benefit the network well beyond the event”*.

### **Exploring innovation and cooperation**

Delegates will engage in discussions on emerging security threats, witness live demonstrations such as a canine security showcase by SUGE, and explore cutting-edge technologies including **AI, drones, and advanced surveillance systems**. These tools, combined with the critical expertise of trained teams, remain central to the sector’s success.

### **Strategic partnerships and acknowledgments**

UIC extends its gratitude to its sponsors, including EVIDEN, Sopra steria, Wintics, Orange business and imotion analytics, whose support reflects their commitment to advancing railway security.

## **CONTACT**

UIC Security Department: [security@uic.org](mailto:security@uic.org)

UIC Communications Department: [com@uic.org](mailto:com@uic.org)