

## **Press Release**

### **Translink NI Railways supports International Level Crossing Awareness Day**

**30<sup>th</sup> May 2012**

Translink NI Railways launched its preparations for International Level Crossing Awareness Day on June 7<sup>th</sup> at a special event for suppliers at the rail simulator at Adelaide Rail Training Academy.

ILCAD was established in 2009 through a partnership with the UIC, the railway community, the European Commission and the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) to raise awareness among road users and pedestrians of the risks at level crossings and to encourage them to change their behaviour.

Translink brought the group to the rail simulator where they were given the opportunity to 'drive' a train and discuss the issues and challenges they face while using level crossings as part of their day to day activity.

Keith Pollock, Level Crossing Risk Coordinator, Translink said, "We are pleased to mark the ILCAD in NI Railways by educating ALL crossing users on how to keep vigilant and stay safe this summer.

Translink employees will be handing out safety leaflets to motorists and pedestrians at level crossings in Coleraine and Moira on June 7<sup>th</sup>.

This activity compliments our on-going safety campaign to promote the safe use of level crossings, which includes visits to schools and youth groups. In 2011/12, we ran The Schools Safety Challenge, a competition for 11-15 year olds to devise a piece of musical theatre based on the theme of rail safety. The winning group from Loreto College, Coleraine, worked with a West End artistic director, choreographer and musical director to develop the piece, titled 'Deadline' which they performed in front of their classmates and parents.

We will also be running a summer campaign to remind pedestrians and motorists to take care when using level crossings and to pay heed to the barriers and warning signals.

For information on how Translink supports safety, schools, parents and young people ,or to view the Schools Safety Challenge entries, go to <http://www.youtube.com/user/TranslinkNI> or contact our press office on 028 90899455 for a copy of our safety DVD.

**ENDS**

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