



Jaap VAN DEN TOP

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Biography:

Jaap van den Top holds a PhD in railway safety and is working as an accident investigator for the Dutch Safety Board, the Dutch organisation that independently investigates accidents in order to learn lessons and prevent recurrence of similar accidents.

Title of presentation:

Level crossing safety – a hazardous intersection of interests

Summary:

Level crossing accidents with heavy or rigid road vehicles can result in injuries and fatalities, not only on the road side but also in railway vehicles. Therefore, it is important that professional drivers of such road vehicles are aware of the risks they can impose, and that they know how to cross a level crossing safely with their vehicles that are in some cases difficult to maneuver.

Simultaneously, it is to be understood that even professional drivers will sometimes erroneously get into trouble on a level crossing. Therefore, also infrastructure managers (both rail and road) and railway undertakings have a role, to help avoid road users getting in trouble on level crossings and to avoid the severest consequences of a possible obstruction on a level crossing.