

**Draft Programme**  
**ILCAD Launch Conference**  
**Tuesday, 9 June 2026**



Act safely at level crossings

**08:00 – 09:25 Registration**

**09:30 – 09:45 Opening of the Conference**

- Welcome and opening speech by François Davenne, Director General, UIC
  - Moderator: Allan Spence, Chair of the UIC Global Level Crossing Network
  - ILCAD Video
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**09:45 – 11:15**

**SESSION 1 – SNCF round table 80 min**

- **Damien Pallant – Director General –Deputy for Safety at SNCF Réseau** (opening and moderation): Overview of SNCF Réseau’s safety strategy, with a focus on level crossings and, in particular, pedestrian safety. A systemic and group-oriented perspective, as outlined by Damien right from the start of the round-table discussion.

**Projects aimed at understanding risky behaviour to improve on-site management.**

Presentation and progress report on the new generation of pedestrian level crossings in stations (TVP in French) tested at Railenium in Valenciennes (North of France) and its potential application to level crossings, incorporating research on nudges. Return of experiences from Châtelailon (Nouvelle Aquitaine) and the trial of the high-risk parking area:

- **Frédéric D’Ettorre – Director Safety and Security, SNCF Gares & Connexions together with**
- **Elise Grison, Project Manager in Human Cognition, SNCF Groupe**
- **Franck Noack – Level Crossing Policy Expert, SNCF Réseau**
- **Richard Bye, Head of Ergonomics and Human Factors, Network Rail, G.B.: *“Improving Level Crossing Safety Through Cognition Driven Design”***

**Q.A. Session: 10'**

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**11:15– 11:45 Morning Tea / Coffee**

**Exhibition**

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**11:45 – 13:10**

**SESSION 2 – TECHNICAL SOLUTIONS / INNOVATIONS / REGULATION 85 min**

- **Eric Ferraton – Head of the Network Risk and Protection Division, Région Nouvelle Aquitaine, SNCF RESEAU and Virginie Taillandier – Telli Project Manager, SNCF Groupe: “*TELLi, a frugal signaling project for regional lines*”**  
*15 min*
- **Maryam HEDAYATI, Senior Rail Engineer, Transport Canada: “*Development of Grade Separation Guidance in Canada*”** *20 min*
- **Starr Kidda, Human Factors Division Chief, Federal Railroad Administration: “*Level Crossing Safety in the United States: Research, Data and Government Oversight*”** *20 min*

**Q.A. Session: 10'**

- **Presentation by WAVETRAN, GOLD sponsor – 10 min**
  - **Presentation by the Consortium TELLi – SNCF Groupe - GOLD sponsor - 10 min**
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**13:10– 14:30 Lunch break**

**Exhibition**

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**14:30 – 15:40**

**SESSION 3 – TECHNICAL SOLUTIONS / INNOVATIONS 70 min**

- **Ikram ABOURAHIM, Head of Coordination Department and Supervision Projects at ONCF: “*AI and radio technologies: a response to the risks of level crossings*”** *20 min*

- **Manuel Pastor Rufete, Engineering Manager, IMOTION ANALYTICS and Isabelle Fonverne, Senior advisor safety, UIC:** *“Final results of the UIC AI4SAFEHAVE project” 20 min*
- **Takuya YAMAWAKI, Manager and Masahiro SAWAYANAGI, Technical Director, EAST JAPAN RAILWAY COMPANY, Paris Office:** *“Introduction of JR East’s level crossing safety, and safety culture” 20 min*

**Q.A. Session: 10 min**

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**15:40 – 16:10 Afternoon tea/coffee**

**Exhibition**

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**16:10 – 17:10**

**SESSION 4 –SNCF Panel discussion on EDUCATION / AWARENESS - 60 min**

*A complementary tool to on-site, multi-channel and multi-target initiatives – lessons learnt from the ‘Crash Scene’ campaign and its success in changing the media’s approach to reporting level crossing accidents, as well as interventions in schools, etc. These initiatives are carried out at both national and regional levels. Collaboration between rail and road sectors. 30’*

- **Francesca Aceto, Director General of COM at SNCF Réseau**
- **Vincent Pascal, Deputy Director for Social Cohesion and Regional Development (including initiatives in schools) – CSR Department, SNCF Groupe**
- **Estelle Balit, Interministerial Delegate for Road Safety (tbc)**
- **Rachel Maleh, Executive Director and Wende Corcoran, Vice President of Operation Lifesaver inc., USA:** *“National Rail Safety Observances : Engaging Partners, Amplifying Awareness 10’*
- **Sanita Sīmansone, Communication Project Manager, Latvian railways (LdZ):** *“Education/awareness sessions about level crossing safety in Latvian Schools.” 10’*

**Q.A. Session: 10 min**

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17:10 – 17:30

- **Allan Spence, Moderator: Wrap up**

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17:30 – 17:40

- **Isabelle Fonverne, UIC: Announcement of the events 2027**

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17:40 – 17:45

- **Isabelle Fonverne, UIC; Practical Information**
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### Cocktail at UIC (roof top) or Dinner outside (tbc)

Along the conference, we will have an exhibition with industry leaders from the sector, such as SNCF Groupe (France), Wavetrain (Norway), Imotion Analytics (Spain), Hitachi (France), IDS (Italy), Schweizer Electronic (France), Zöllner GmbH (Germany), Gmundener Fertigteile-Bodan (Austria), East Japan Railway Company (Japan, Paris Office), IHI Corporation (Japan), Sankosha Co. Ltd (Japan) and Universal Signalling (UK). These companies are generously supporting the events and will showcase their innovative solutions on-site during the conferences.

