THE POSITIVE EFFECTS OF THE SAFETY PROGRAM
“TRAIN IS ALWAYS FASTER”
− Introduction
− Croatian railways network
− Safety on LC in Croatia
− Program “Train is always faster” (“Vlak je uvijek brži”)
− Remarks
CROATIAN RAILWAYS NETWORK

Classification of the railway lines in the Republic of Croatia:
- International lines (main and others)
- Regional lines
- Local lines

- The total length of the railway lines: 2968 km
  - single track railway lines: 90.7%
  - double track railway lines: 9.3%
- Electrified lines: 980.07km (36.0%)
  - with single phase AC 25kV/50Hz system 824.37km (84.1%)
  - with DC 3kV system 137.70km (15.9%)

Croatian railways – part of integral Trans-European railway network (Mediterranean line).
On the network of the Croatian railways there are no unprotected level crossings.

There is a total of 1,514 LCs:
- 68.4% are protected only by road traffic signs and visibility triangle (signs informing about the approach to the crossing, STOP sign and Andrew’s cross),
- 31.6% of LCs are protected by devices (light-audio signals, half-barriers, barriers)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>LCs protected by traffic signs and triangle of visibility</th>
<th>Pedestrian crossings protected by pedestrian gates and triangle of visibility</th>
<th>LCs protected by automatic or mechanical devices</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>923</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>65</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>318</td>
</tr>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>148</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>TOTAL 1,514</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
✓ **Serious accident** is an emergency which results in death of at least one person, and/or serious body injuries to five or more persons, and/or greater damage that may be immediately estimated at more than 5,000,000 kuna.

✓ **Accident** is an emergency with harmful consequences such as serious body injury of up to four persons, and/or damage which can be immediately estimated at up to 5,000,000 kuna.

✓ **Disturbance** is any event related to railway traffic which affects safe traffic flow, apart from serious accidents and accidents.

✓ **Near collision** is an emergency which could have resulted in serious body injury of at least one person and/or damage.
Breakage of half-barriers/barriers

- 2007: 682
- 2008: 670
- 2009: 706
- 2010: 613
- 2011: 572
- 2012: 534
- 2013: 518

Number of breakage
Main cause of collision at LCs is the behaviour of road user participants.

Risky behaviour of drivers i.e. their lack of attention when driving a vehicle, disregard of traffic regulations and stress.

For more than 90% of accidents at level crossings are responsible pedestrians and drivers of road vehicles.
Croatian Railways launched in 2000 a preventive-educational action “Vlak je uvijek brži” (Train is always faster) which was at the beginning intended for only to children.

Its aim was to warn the children about how to behave along the railway line, what threats lie in the games along the line and in crossing the line.

Since 2007 target groups are all participants in traffic: drivers, motorcyclists, cyclists, pedestrians.

Main goal of the program is to increase public awareness of dangerous at level crossings, and it had four main directions:
• Warning of the dangers at railway crossing,
• Warning of the danger of electric shock,
• Warning of the dangers of wearing headphones on ears,
• Appeal to the preservation of the common property and prevent vandalism in/on public spaces.

Main activities are:
• workshops and presentations in primary school,
• activity at level-crossings,
• media activity,
• social media activity,
• brochures and flyers,
• celebrating ILCAD day.
Presentations in primary school are intended for children in 3rd and 4th grade and 7th and 8th grade.

In 2013 the program Train is always faster included workshops in 19 primary schools in 14 Croatian cities.

Total of 1,117 children participated in workshops.

To children in schools is during the action given promotional material and flyers that warn of the dangers along the railway line and during the crossing of the railroad.

At the workshop, the children draw and write essays on the topic of level crossings and fill out a questionnaire.
As part of the campaign, Train is always faster safety team with law enforcement partners warns all road users, car drivers, motorists, bicyclists and pedestrians at extra caution when crossing railway.
“TRAIN IS ALWAYS FASTER” – Media activity

✓ Train is always faster is very active in media included TV, radio, internet and newspapers.
✓ In 2013 it was made three video clips and two reports that were broadcast on TV networks.
✓ Audio clips are published on nine radio stations.
✓ Articles have been published in various newspapers for children, teenagers and police newspapers as well.
In August 2013 a Facebook site “Train is always faster” was launched as a new communication channel, and later also on Twitter and Instagram.

https://www.facebook.com/pages/Vlak-je-uvijek-br%C5%BEi/211888768970864?ref=hl
The statistics of success of the Facebook site “Vlak je uvijek brži” during the five months following the launching of the site.

Today, there is total of 1,358 funs on Facebook from 28 different countries.
Presentation of geographical distribution of the members of Facebook site “Train is always faster” (28 countries).
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Ord. No.</th>
<th>Group name</th>
<th>No. of &quot;likes&quot;</th>
<th>Year of launching the project</th>
<th>Date of creating group on Facebook</th>
<th>Group description</th>
<th>Most frequent age group [years]</th>
<th>http location</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Remember Alex Brown Foundation</td>
<td>154,208</td>
<td>2010</td>
<td>11.11.2010.</td>
<td>Advocating raising of drivers’ awareness about importance of following traffic while driving.</td>
<td>18-24</td>
<td><a href="https://www.facebook.com/RememberAlexBrown?ref=pb&amp;hc_location=profile_browser">https://www.facebook.com/RememberAlexBrown?ref=pb&amp;hc_location=profile_browser</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Don’t text and drive</td>
<td>144,581</td>
<td>2009</td>
<td>04.02.2009.</td>
<td>Raising awareness about risk to which the drivers are exposed by typing on mobile phone while driving.</td>
<td>18-24</td>
<td><a href="https://www.facebook.com/DonTextandDrivePar">https://www.facebook.com/DonTextandDrivePar</a> kview</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Group name | No. of "likes" | Year of launching the project | Date of creating group on Facebook | Group description | Most frequent age group [years] | http location
---|----------------|-----------------------------|----------------------------------|-------------------|--------------------------------|----------------|

Vlak je uvijek brži (Train is always safer) | 1,114 | 2000 | 25.08.2013. | Raising the awareness of drivers and pedestrians about the dangers at level crossings. | 25-44 | https://www.facebook.com/pages/Vlak-je-uvijek-brzi/211888768970864 |

18  Fondacija za sigurnost i humanost u prometu | 66 | 2005 | 18.08.2011. | Education of traffic participants for the prevention of traffic accidents and reduction in the number of fatalities and injured in traffic. | 25-34 | https://www.facebook.com/pages/Fondacija-za-sigurnost-i-humanost-u-prometu/243697056759145 |
19  Rail and Road Safety | 19 | 2014 | 06.03.2014. | Advocating the increase of safety at level crossings, prevention with the aim of reducing the number of road-railway accidents. | | https://www.facebook.com/pages/Rail-and-Road-Safety/513630058754751?ref=ts&fref=ts |
<table>
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<tr>
<th>Ord. No.</th>
<th>Group name</th>
<th>No. of &quot;tweets&quot;</th>
<th>No. of &quot;followers&quot;</th>
<th>R. br.</th>
<th>Group name</th>
<th>No. of likes“</th>
<th>Year of launching the project</th>
<th>Date of creating group on Facebook</th>
<th>Most frequent age group [years]</th>
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<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Operation Lifesaver Inc</td>
<td>5.580</td>
<td>2.272</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>Operation Lifesaver Inc</td>
<td>5.878</td>
<td>2010.</td>
<td>24.02.2010.</td>
<td>18-24 i 35-44</td>
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<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Traffic safety coalition</td>
<td>1.407</td>
<td>2.090</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>Traffic safety coalition</td>
<td>1.398</td>
<td>2005.</td>
<td>01.09.2009.</td>
<td>35-44</td>
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<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Rail and Road Safety</td>
<td>174</td>
<td>46</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>Traffic safety corp</td>
<td>1.378</td>
<td>1995.</td>
<td>30.11.2009.</td>
<td>18-24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Vlak je uvijek brži</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>39</td>
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<td>Vlak je uvijek brži</td>
<td>1.114</td>
<td>2000.</td>
<td>25.08.2013.</td>
<td>25-44</td>
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<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Road Safety Greeting CARDS</td>
<td>318</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>Road Safety Greeting CARDS</td>
<td>86</td>
<td>2013.</td>
<td>15.12.2013.</td>
<td>35-44</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Rail and Road Safety</td>
<td>19</td>
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<td>1.114</td>
<td>2000.</td>
<td>25.08.2013.</td>
<td>25-44</td>
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“TRAIN IS ALWAYS FASTER” – Video clips

http://www.hzinfra.hr/akcija-vlak-je-uvijek-brzi

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Rh-eoz5PQj8
LCs DATA BASE DEVELOPED AT FACULTY OF TRANSPORT AND TRAFFIC SCIENCES
Human behaviour is very difficult to predict, monitor and track. Raising of awareness about the behaviour of traffic participants is significant for the reduction of emergencies.

There is no unique measure of preventing emergencies at level crossings.

The systemic activities in terms of education of road motor vehicle drivers, cyclists and pedestrians is of extreme importance, with the aim of upgrading the level of their traffic discipline, culture and awareness about the causes and consequences of risk behaviour at level crossings.

For the prevention of emergencies the educational programs and campaigns about traffic safety are of very big importance.

Social networks contributes to greater safety in traffic with huge possibilities of spreading the message.

Croatian Railways constantly invest in raising the level of security at railway crossings but through its educational and promotional campaign "The train is always faster" continually warn participants of road traffic caution while crossing the tracks as - the train is always faster.

Program "Train is always faster“ is every year enriched and expanded.
Thank You For Your Attention!

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