



TraFi

Finnish Transport Safety Agency

Implementing interlocks in specific areas

ETSC Safe & Sober Transport
Alcohol Interlock Seminar

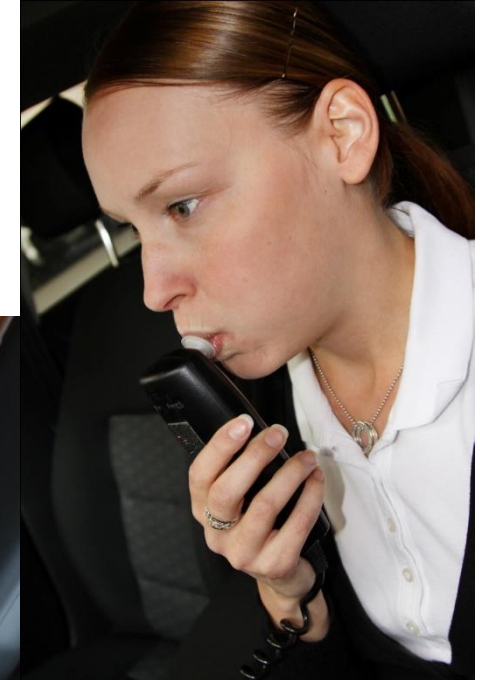
26 September 2012, Prague

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*Responsible traffic.
A joint effort.*

Alcohol interlocks for

- drink driving offenders
- drivers dependent on alcohol
- professional transport
- other kind of use
 - tenders
 - voluntary



Photos (cc): The Central Organization for Traffic Safety (Liikenneturva)

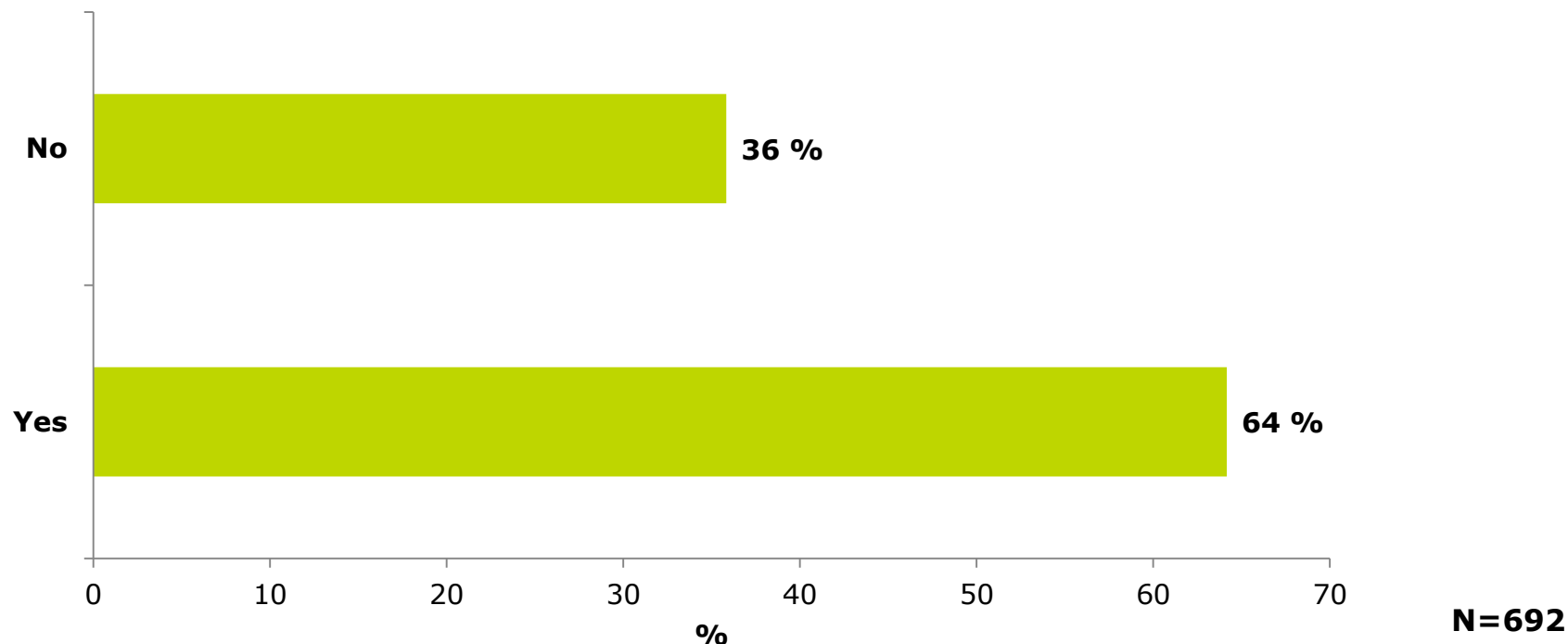
- A trial July 2005 – June 2008
- Implemented in July 2008
- After a drink driving offence the driver may choose the interlock-monitored driving rights (instead of facing a driving ban)
 - The police issues a driving licence with a national code 111
 - Length of the programme 1–3 years; decided by the court
 - Data read-out every 60 days --> the police follows up
- After the mandatory period the device may be removed from the vehicle. The police return the earlier driving licence. Instead, the interlock may be left installed in the vehicle, with voluntary use settings applied.
 - More than 30 % of the drivers keep the device in their vehicle

Alcohol interlocks for drink driving offenders

– preliminary results of an evaluation study



Did using the alcohol interlock affect your alcohol use in any way?

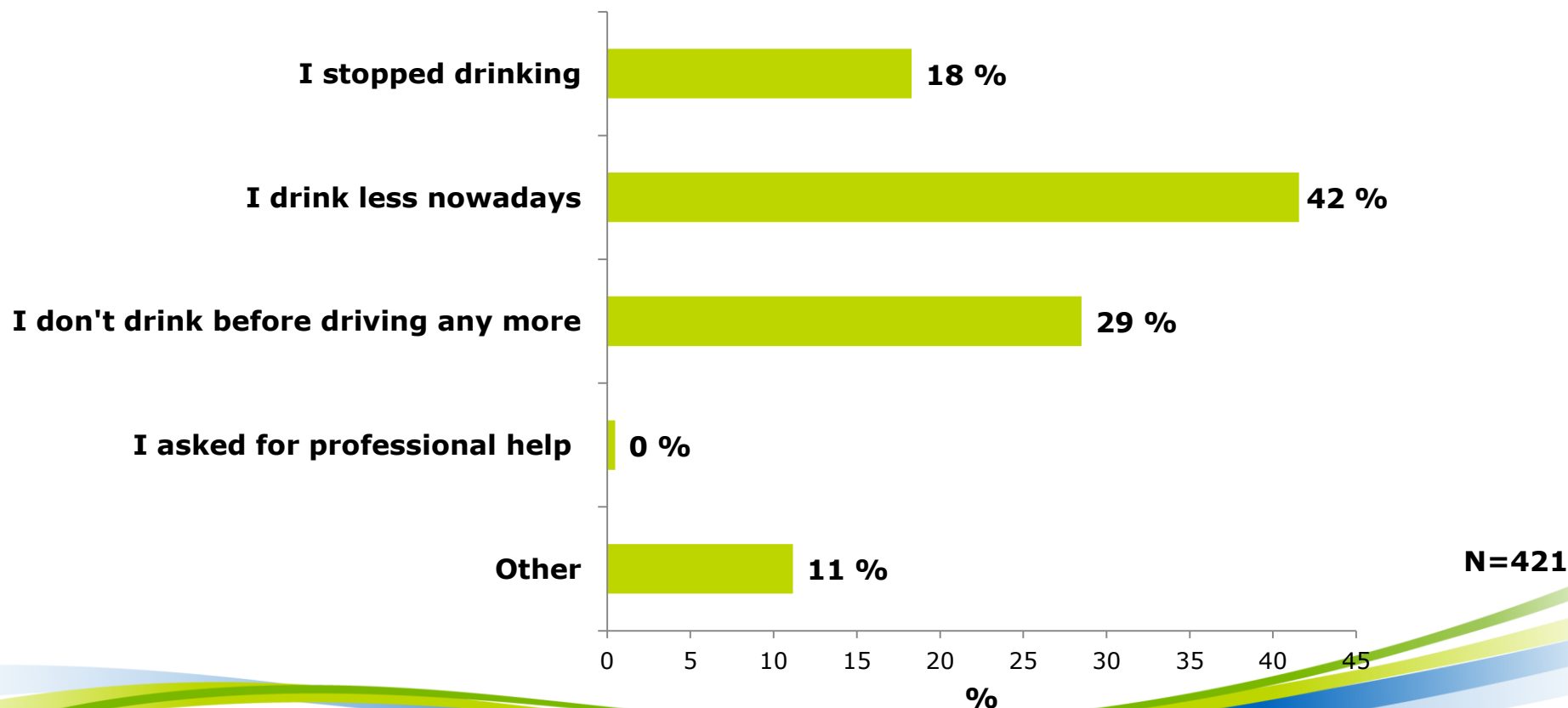


Alcohol interlocks for drink driving offenders

– preliminary results of an evaluation study



How did/does the alcohol interlock affect the use of alcohol for you?

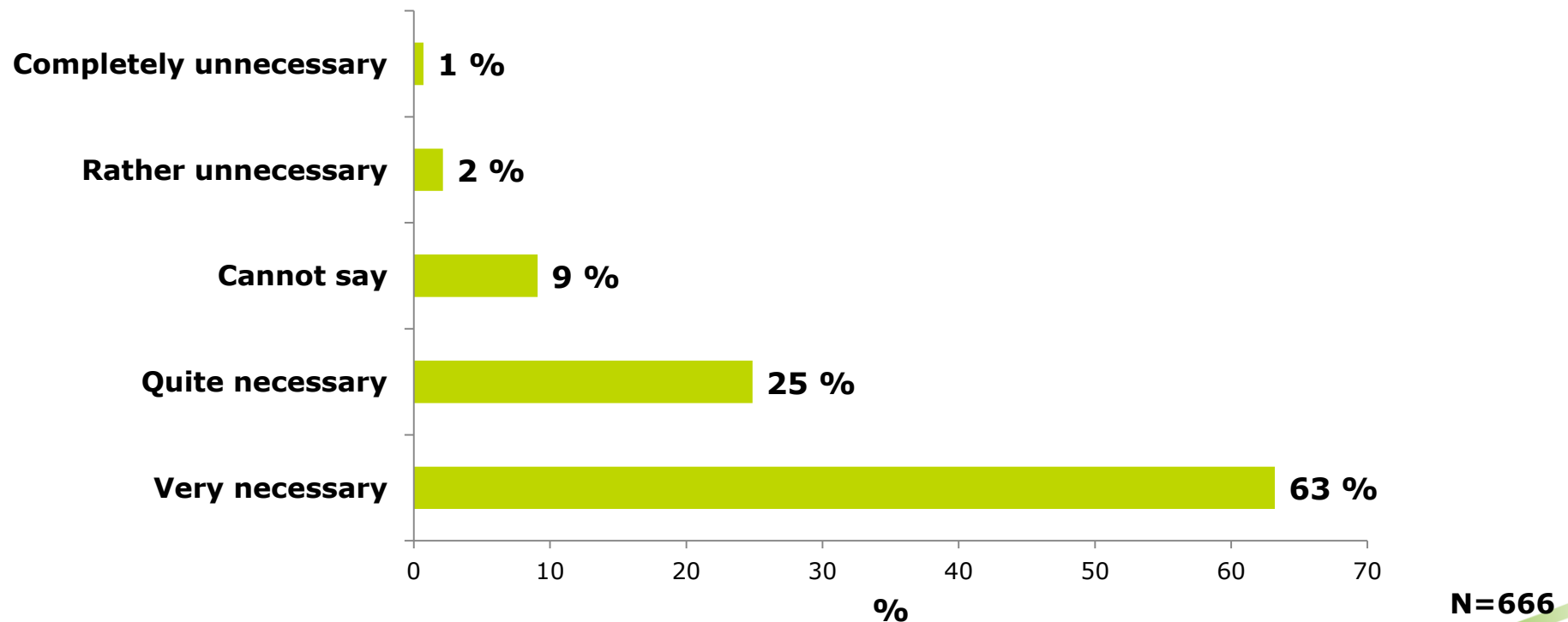


Alcohol interlocks for drink driving offenders

– preliminary results of an evaluation study



In your opinion, how necessary is the alcohol interlock for drink driving offenders?



Alcohol interlocks for drivers dependent on alcohol

- EU Driving Licence Directive: "Driving licences shall not be issued to, or renewed for, applicants or drivers who are dependent on alcohol or unable to refrain from drinking and driving".
- Ministry of Social Affairs and Health's enactment on health requirements for driving:
 - "The minimum health requirements for driving are not fulfilled if the person in question is a substance abuser such that his or her ability to drive is substantially weakened, or if, as a driver, he or she must, due to the continuous abuse of alcohol or another intoxicating substance, be regarded as a danger to other traffic."
 - "The above notwithstanding, a doctor may regard the health requirement for driving as having been fulfilled (with respect to the abuse of alcohol), providing that the vehicle driven by the person in question has an **alcohol interlock** installed, which prevents drink driving."
- From **January 2013**, alcohol interlocks will be provided for under Sections 12 and 16 of the Act on Driving Licences.
 - Will be marked in the driving licence under national code 113.

Alcohol interlocks in professional transport

– school and day care transport



- Since August 2011, “if the transportation is organised by a municipality, municipal federation, school or institute as charter transport and support from a municipality or state is obtained, a vehicle equipped with an alcohol interlock must be used for:
 - 1) the transportation of pupils participating in preschool, primary school or voluntary additional basic education teaching;
 - 2) the transportation of pupils participating in upper secondary education; and
 - 3) day-care transportation”.
- Background
 - In 2006 the Ministry of Transport and Communications gave a recommendation to use interlocks in school and day care transports.
 - In 2008 interlocks had been taken in use in 17 municipalities only.
- Nowadays, interlocks are installed in more than 8000 taxis and busses transporting school and day care children.

Alcohol interlocks in professional transport

– future plans



- Ministry of Transport and Communications, programmes and strategies 6/2009: Finland's Strategy for Intelligent Transport
 - "Examine the introduction and impacts of the system in publicly funded transport services, bus traffic and professional goods transport. Studies on expanding the use of alcohollocks are completed by 2011, and the alcoholock is made mandatory by 2014 at the latest."
- Trafi Publication 5/2012: Implementation and effects of alcohol interlocks in professional transportation
 - In English <http://www.trafi.fi/publication05-2012>
 - "It would be necessary to begin taking measures to increase the **voluntary use** of alcohol interlocks and drafting of a law decreeing an obligation to use alcohol interlocks in all transportation covered by **professional qualification requirements**. In order to increase voluntary use, transportation ordered by the government and municipalities should require the use of alcohol interlocks."

Alcohol interlocks

– examples of other kind of use

- Transport Agency and ELY Centres (Centre for Economic Development, Transport and the Environment) require alcohol interlocks into all new road maintenance and repair contracts as of 1 October 2012
 - Interlocks are mandatory in all vehicles and machines that needs professional competence of drivers
 - Total amount of contracts 82
 - Total amount of roads 78 000 kms, 500–2000 kms/contract
 - 10–25 interlocks/contract
- A driving school:
 - “We have an interlock installed in VW Beetle. The students learning to drive like the interlock a lot. There has been a lot of interest in it. The purpose is to get the young people to think about their own attitudes and to discuss about the drink driving issue, as alcohol and traffic are mixed up far too often, especially with young drivers.”



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Thank you!

Questions?

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