Driver Rehabilitation programmes

• Systematic measures for traffic offenders
• Aiming at a change of their behaviour in order to prevent further offences
Development of Driver Rehabilitation in Austria

1. Evaluation

Authority can prescribe DR-courses

Compulsory Courses for novice drivers (License of Probation)

Compulsory Driver Improvement Courses for DUI offenders with a BAC in excess of 1.2 %

New legal conditions (Driving Licence Rehabilitation Act - FSG-NV)


voluntary DR - courses
### Types of programmes

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Programme</th>
<th>Details</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Severe Offences</strong></td>
<td>- 4 sessions &lt;br&gt;- 12 units + test drive</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Alcohol Offences</strong></td>
<td>- 4 sessions &lt;br&gt;- 15 units</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Drug Offences</strong></td>
<td>- 4 sessions &lt;br&gt;- 15 units</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Demerit Point System</strong></td>
<td>- 4 sessions &lt;br&gt;- 15 units &lt;br&gt;- 6 to 11 participants &lt;br&gt;- Within 22 to 40 days &lt;br&gt;- Only 1 session per day (3-5 units) &lt;br&gt;- At least 2 days within each session</td>
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**10.12.2012**
Alcohol Offenders

0,1‰ – 0,5 ‰

Novice Drivers:

Drivers:

X
Alcohol Offenders

0.5‰ – 0.8‰

Novice Drivers:

Drivers:

Sicher leben.
Alcohol Offenders

0.8‰ – 1.2‰

Novice Drivers:

Drivers:
Alcohol Offenders

1.2% – 1.6%

Novice Drivers:

Drivers:

Sicher leben.
Alcohol Offenders

1.6% or refusal of test

Novice Drivers:

Drivers:
Frame Conditions

- Trainers are specially trained psychologists
- Fixed prices
- Dismissal from courses
  - lack of participation
  - intoxication (0.1 %)
  - severe behavioural problems
Aims

• Analysing causes of undesirable behaviour
• Influencing individual attitudes and behaviour
• Initiating realistic self-perception and self-reflection
• Developing desired and adapted safety-oriented alternatives
Effectiveness

- DR interventions are highly accepted and positively evaluated by DUI and DUID offenders (evaluation: 95% good or very good)
- Participants are supported for their cognitive and behavioural change processes
- Participants feel encouraged to establish new behavioural goals
- Important role of the course leader
Demerit Point System Austria

• Includes 13 offences
  • 1 offence: penalty point
  • 2 offences at the same time: immediate measure
  • 2 offences within 2 years: immediate measure
  • 3 offences within 2 years: withdrawal of licence

• Measures include:
  • Driver Rehabilitation, Psychology Session, Driving Lesson
Best Point Objectives

- Collect
- Analyse
- Summarise
- Disseminate

Best Practices for Demerit Point Systems (DPS)

Final outcome: **Best Practice Handbook** for the implementation of an effective DPS
The Handbook: Aims, Scope and Target Audience

• Recommended practices for designing and implementing a DPS
  • Offences & points, user groups, thresholds
  • Intermediate measures
  • Rehabilitation measures
  • Administrative and organisational issues

• Targeted at
  • Member States’ authorities: setting up, modifying, reviewing their DPS
  • EU institutions
Four-step approach:

1. **Information** and **warning** letters
2. **Driver improvement** course on attitudes & behaviour rather than knowledge & skills.
3. Licence **withdrawal** for a period of between 3 and 12 months.
4. **Rehabilitation** course. For severe cases include medical-psychological examination and behavioural assistance & monitoring.
Recommended points catalogue

Only offences with straightforward relationship with crashes or crash severity:

1. **Speeding** (exceeding the legal speed limit)
2. **Alcohol** and/or **drugs**
3. **Seatbelt** wearing, **helmet** wearing (powered two-wheelers), **child restraints**
4. **Red light** running
5. Violation of **priority** rules
6. Dangerous **overtaking**
7. Minimum **headway** between vehicles
8. Endangering pedestrians at **zebra crossings**
9. Illegal use of **mobile phones** or other communication devices
10. **Railway level crossings**
11. **Wrong way driving** and use of **forbidden lanes**
12. **Hit and run** – and other dangerous post-accident misbehaviour
Thank you!
For further questions please don‘t hesitate to contact me

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