Work Related Road Safety in EU Transport Policy

Maria Cristina Marolda
European Commission
Directorate General Mobility & Transport
Work related road accidents:
40% of total fatalities at work!

High burden for society

in terms of
human lives
and
economic loss
Fatal accidents at Work

a Transport issue or an Employment issue?

In doubt...... no specific legislation so far!
Relevant EU Transport legislation

- Directive **2002/15/EC** on the organization of **working time** of persons performing mobile road transport activities……..

- Directive **2003/59/EC** on **initial qualification and periodic training** of drivers of certain road vehicles for the carriage of goods and passengers……..

- Directive **2006/22/EC** on the use of **tachograph** (amended and integrated)

- Directive **2006/126/EC** on **driving licences** (recast) and its annexes

**…Do not cover all types of work-related transport!**
Possible measures: Involve Employers

- Corporate responsibility
- Risk assessment
- Safety Plan

Health and Safety at Work

(Regulation (EC) No 1338/2008)
Organizations with effective safety cultures share a constant commitment to safety as a core value and top priority that permeates the entire organization.
Possible measures:

Involve Employees

- Open dialogue and involvement in planning
- Highlight and discuss problems and difficulties
- Open report of near miss and potential accidents
- Report to occupational doctors of potential/temporary risks

Co-responsibility
Critical elements of an effective safety culture include:

- **acknowledgment of risk** and the potential for accidents and injuries,
- **blame-free** environment where individuals are able to **report** errors or close calls without punishment,
- **collaboration** across ranks to solve problems and reduce risks, and
- **the commitment** of financial and human resources to continually improve safety.
"When the leaders don't lead, the followers don't follow."

An organization’s safety culture embodies the philosophy of senior leaders, which is translated into, and affects, the behaviour of employees.
Road Safety at the cross road of policies and social needs

- Employment
- Industry, research, innovation
- Internal Market
- Taxation
- Environment
- Energy
- Health

Maria Cristina Marolda – PRAISE Seminar – Athens, March 17, 2011
Work-related Road Safety concerns as well

**Employment**: work related accidents  
health and safety at work

**Taxation**: find appropriate incentives  
for employers

**Health**: involve the competence of  
occupational physicians

**Environment**: train employees to defensive  
driving is also including eco-driving

**Energy**: better planned travel routes help in  
reducing energy consumption
Work-related Road Safety should also take into account

DEMOGRAPHIC CHANGES:

Ageing population:
Increasing elder workers – more fragility, more health/ergonomic/medical problems but… more experience

Employers to seek for differentiated working patterns/alternative roles

Gender shift:
Increasing employment of women – different health and safety concerns different conciliation of private/professional life different facilities requests but… much lower risk of accidents

Need to find specific gender oriented solutions in work organization
Measures to be implemented in the short term at European level

Integration of road safety measures into the current **Community Strategy for Health and Safety at Work 2007-2012**

Political support to employers to adopt the new ISO 39001 standard on work related road safety
ISO 39001
Road Traffic Safety (RTS) Management System
to be published end of 2011

An ISO standard is a voluntary tools for organizations which does not specify technical solutions nor minimum requirements -> flexible and adaptable.

Main clauses in ISO 39001:
- Top management responsibilities and commitment
- Organization context related to RTS
- RTS performance factors
- Incident investigation
WHAT TO DO?

- Make the society at large aware of the problem
- Reduce accidents = reduce costs (for Companies and for society at large)
- Convince companies of effectiveness of investment
- Disseminate best practices
- Education to participative responsibility from early age
TRAVEL « TO » and « FROM » WORK

- Legally outside the responsibility of employers, but resulting from company’s good practices and effective employee’s education and awareness.
- Companies to propose sustainable commuting transport
- Incentives system?
The project PRAISE: Preventing Road Accidents and Injuries for the Safety of Employees

- To increase the knowledge about work-related Road Safety Management.
- Identify and award best practices
- Carry out advocacy work
- Bring related issues to the public at large
The project PRAISE: Results so far

- 4 Technical reports on specific issues for consideration in preparing a safety plan.
- Identified a number of best practices
- Recommendations to EC, Governments, private companies
- First award for best safety plan
- Attention to SMEs
The project PRAISE

- 2 more years to go
- More cases to be assessed
- Big expectation for final result!
GOOD CONTINUATION!!!!

http://ec.europa.eu/transport/road_safety