International PRAISE Seminar

Thursday | 18 October 2012 | Lisbon | 14h00

Speed and Alcohol Management

Paddy Matthews

Matthews Coach Hire

ETSC European Transport Safety Council

PRAISE Work-Related Road Safety

FUNDACIÓN MAPFRE

The catalyst



Our background

- Founded in 1995
- Situated north east of Ireland
- 2004 – Launched frequent commuter service to capital
- Tour specialists
- Corporate travel
- Industry innovators with ISO and SEAI









Success through innovation



- 2007 – Fleet at 24 vehicles, new routes opened
- 2008 – Fuel rebate withdrawal a major blow
- Courtesy, free wifi, innovative initiatives and marketing produced results
- 75 employees and growing, 4,500 passengers carried daily, 34 Euro 3, 4 and 5 coaches

Investing in safety

- GPS tracking devices
- Safety procedures
- Eco-driver training
  * Harsh driving
  * Harsh braking
- On-board CCTV
- Alcolocks
- Our steps save fuel and reduce accident risk



Speed management

- Eco-driving focus since 1998
- Safer fleet is an economic fleet – reducing speed saves 25% on fuel
- Slow down and read the road ahead



- Get there as safely and efficiently as possible

Why Alcolocks?

- Serious coach crash in UK with alcohol a factor
- Peace of mind factor
- Possible effect of adverse incident
- Customer confidence



Implementation and operation

- Fitted in all company vehicles
- Zero tolerance
- Drivers fully-trained and fully-supportive
- Intoxicant policy inserted into contracts of employment



The community's response

- Positive message from commuters and staff
- Positive media coverage
- Factor in securing major contracts
- Should be mandatory throughout industry
- Need insurance benefits



DROGHEDA LEADER

Matthews scoop BBC interview!

Coach Hire Company's alcohol Interlock system featured on BBC news



el Matthews pictured demonstrating to BBC News how the Alcohol Interlock system works.

...AL company ...thews Coach ... was the subject ... BBC TV news ...are recently ...re its alcohol ...lock system was ...ired.

...atthews is the only ...ort company in ...ld to have alcohol ...ocks installed and ... Matthews's coach ...upport vehicle car-ries one of the devices.

The interlock system requires the driver to blow into a breathalyser connected to the ignition system and if failed, the bus won't start.

Speaking about why he introduced the system on his coaches, Managing Director Paddy Matthews said, "I couldn't sleep one night after reading a story about a driver in England who crashed a coach while under the influence of alcohol, and set about finding a solution that would give me and our passengers complete peace of mind."

Paddy's son Noel, who is the Fleet manager with the company, said passenger safety is top of their agenda.

"We take passenger safety seriously. Our machines are set to a very low tolerance. There are three limits – the legal drivers' limit, the professional drivers' limit, and the Matthews' limit," Noel said.

Matthews Coach Hire have called on the Government to consider the installation of the interlock systems in all public transport vehicles and in 2010, National Express installed the systems and the BBC have also asked the North's biggest coach operator, Translink, if they will use the system.

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Tags # ALCOHOL # ALCOLOCK # BLOOD-ALCOHOL LEVELS # BREATHALYSER

Poll: Should 'alco-locks' be mandatory on all vehicles?

Mon, 10:31 AM 5,323 Views 90 Comments Share 84 Tweet 15

IT'S REPORTED this morning that a conference being held in Dublin this week is set to call on transport minister Leo Varadkar to sanction the mandatory use of so-called 'alco-locks' in all vehicles.


Currently motorists are only breathalysed if they're pulled over - but one conference is to call for the mandatory fitting of breathalysers into all vehicles.

Image: PA Archive

The mechanisms contain a built-in breathalyser which would disable the vehicle if the driver fails the immediate test. Drivers would be forced to take the test every time they try to start the vehicle.

"We want them fitted before something bad happens," Paddy Matthews of Matthews Coach Hire said, in a report which appears in a number of today's papers. Varadkar has previously said he would consider them for repeat motoring offenders.

Today we're wondering whether you think they'd be a good idea – or if asking people to prove their capability of driving impinges on civil liberties and would be too inflexible.

The business benefits

- Won RSA's Leading Lights Award
- €50,000 pa fuel savings
- €50,000 pa insurance savings
- 12% less emissions than industry average = 12% cost savings



The message

We have invested in safety and invested in people

Golden contract!

Coach Hire Company lands Olympic transport deal



■ Minister for Transport, Tourism and Sport Leo Varadkar pictured with Paddy and Noel Matthews from Matthews Coach Hire following the news that the company has become an official transport provider for the Olympic Games.

BY GORDON HATCH

MATTHEWS Coach Hire has landed a golden contract that will see the firm as an official transport provider for the entire Olympic Games taking place in London from 27 July - 12 August!

The company management began preparations for their new venture on Monday 9th July when they sent 15 of their coaches and 30 drivers to England to ready themselves for the work ahead.

They will be tasked with the transportation of the many athletes taking part in the 30th Olympiad to and from their hotels to the massive Olympic Village.

Based in Inniskeen, Co Monaghan Matthews Coach Hire is the only transport company in the State to have secured a contract at the London Games and their deal will last until 15th August.

Minister for Transport, Tourism and Sport Leo Varadkar has congratulated the company for winning the contract to transport athletes at the Olympic Games.

"The economic spin-offs of the Olympic Games become apparent when we see an innovative company like Matthews flying the flag for Ireland," said Minister Varadkar.

"The Government has worked hard to ensure that Ireland enjoys the full benefit from the Olympic Games being staged in the UK. Fifteen countries have already chosen Ireland as a training base in the run-up to the Olympic and Paralympic Games. It's great to see Irish companies like Matthews benefiting from the games as well," Minister Varadkar added.

Matthews is an expanding company, which employs 72 people and has a fleet of 35 vehicles across commuter, tour and corporate hire services and is the only Irish transport company to employ alcolock devices in its fleet.

We are now reaping the rewards

Thanks
Obrigado!

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