



TISPOL BULLETIN NO 12/2011

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[Brand new TISPOL video interviews from Oslo](#)

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FROM THE GENERAL SECRETARY



THE ALCOHOL and drug operation has just concluded, and the process of collating the data has begun. It is important for TISPOL that we are able to publish the results soon afterwards. Our press release issued ahead of the operation picked up some good attention from the media, so it will be great to follow that with some data that really shows what we can achieve by working together on such an important safety issue.

I have seen a lot in the newspapers recently about drugged driving, so let me remind you that progress in drug detection, legislation and enforcement will form a key part of this year's TISPOL conference, taking place at the Radisson Blu Hotel, Manchester Airport, on 27 and 28 September. More details are below, and I really hope to see you there.

Thanks to Kate Carpenter for her thought-provoking response (published below) to the piece we ran in the last edition about 'graphic videos' and their effect on driver behaviour change. We are very happy to publish your responses to some of the topics we include,

so do feel free to write to us. The address for correspondence is **media@tispol.org**

Our records now show some interesting entries for the photography competition, as well as a few for the 'Guess the Country' quiz that was a colourful part of the most recent newsletter. There are cash prizes for the winners of each, so do take a few minutes and send something our way, whether you are a gifted photographer, or good at geography! We warmly welcome your entries to either contest.

Ian Hamill

NEW VIDEO UPDATES FROM OSLO SEMINARS

OVER THE coming weeks, we will release the videos recorded during the Oslo Seminars at the end of May. The first three are now available, so please do take a moment to watch what our interviewees have to say on a range of important topics.

Available now:

1. Belgium's Koen Ricour discusses high risk road users and effective strategies for reducing those risks. [WATCH NOW](#)
2. Romania's Marin Motoc considers the longer-term impact of TISPOL's Lifesaver Project on his country. [WATCH NOW](#)
3. Germany's Bernd Heller looks at multi-agency controls, and advises on ways of making them as effective as possible. [WATCH NOW](#)

NEWSLETTER NOW AVAILABLE



TISPOL's latest newsletter is available for download from the website. A key part of it is the 12-page centre section, which looks back over the three years of the Lifesaver Project. Please also spare a moment to put your entry in for the photographic competition and the country guides quiz. Details of both can be found on the pages of the newsletter.

LATEST NEWS

TISPOL ALCOHOL AND DRUG OPERATION CONCLUDES

POLICE OFFICERS across Europe have completed their latest seven-day crackdown on drink driving and drugged driving. The TISPOL operation took place between 6 and 12 June in more than 25 countries.

Chief Superintendent Pasi Kemppainen, chairman of TISPOL's strategic alcohol and drugs working group, commented: "We know that driving while impaired by alcohol and/or drugs remains one of the 'big three' killers on Europe's roads, along with speeding and non-wearing of seatbelts.

"Although police officers are looking for drink drivers and drugged drivers throughout the year, this high-profile week-long operation is meant to raise awareness of the dangers that go with driving with alcohol or drugs (both medicinal and illicit) in your system.

"We are increasingly focusing on drivers who have been taking drugs and who will fail to appreciate the increased risks they face, and the risks they pose to others. Many medicinal drugs can cause drowsiness and therefore impair driving, so it is vital that you, as a driver, should read the warnings on a medicine, or check with your healthcare professional, before taking any risks," he said.

A similar operation in 2010 saw more than 420,000 drivers tested in 21 European countries, when 7,699 alcohol and 561 drug offences were detected.

POLISH CAR THIEF FACES 10-YEAR JAIL TERM

A CAR THIEF arrested by police in Poland could face up to 10 years in jail. Police attempted to stop the man, aged 32 and from the town of Zawidow in the south-west region of Poland, as part of last week's Europe-wide alcohol and drug operation. However, on seeing the police check point, he accelerated away in a Mercedes (which later turned out to be stolen) towards Zgorzelec.

Police patrols commenced a pursuit and a blockade was organised further ahead. The man attempted to break through the blockade, but failed and then tried to make off on foot. He was captured by police officers and arrested. They established that he had stolen the €22,000 Mercedes in Germany a few hours previously.

He now faces a jail term of up to 10 years.

NEW AVERAGE SPEED CONTROLS IN SWISS MOTORWAYS

A NEW speed section control system has been installed on the eastbound lane of the A9 motorway between Aigle and Bex. The device monitors a longer stretch of road to ensure that drivers adhere to the speed limit on average. The Federal Office for Roads has said that it will not issue any fines for speed violations until the end of June. The experience with similar devices in other countries has been positive, as the number of accidents and cases of excessive speeding have fallen significantly.

RED TRAFFIC LIGHT SPEED SENSORS FOR UK TOWN

SPEEDING DRIVERS in the southern English town of Swindon are to be slowed down by using traffic lights. The town is thought to be the first in

the UK to use the system in which cars going over the speed limit will trigger the lights up ahead. Fixed speed cameras were abandoned by the borough council in 2009.

Councillor Peter Greenhalgh, cabinet member for transport, said: "We've seen it working elsewhere in Europe and what it does is it destabilises the driver. Frequently you see drivers just concentrating on themselves rather than what's happening in front of them. What this does is it takes those drivers out of that comfort zone and makes them concentrate on what's actually happening ahead."

"The whole key is to monitor driver behaviour without beating them over the head. It may annoy them, but I think eventually people will work out that if they maintain a constant speed at or around the speed limit then actually their journey times will be much shorter because they won't be getting delayed by traffic lights."

Professor Stephen Glaister, director of the RAC Foundation, said: "We welcome trials of technologies other than cameras to deter speeding drivers and this sort of system is already extensively used in Spain and Portugal.

"But will the odd red light be enough of a deterrent to change the behaviour of persistent offenders? Some law-abiding motorists will surely be irritated at being stuck at the signals behind an errant driver, effectively paying the price for someone else's law breaking. "But if speeding can be made as socially unacceptable as drink-driving without the need for a big stick then the majority of drivers should welcome the move."



GRAPHIC VIDEOS: A RESPONSE

IN OUR latest Bulletin, we included an item from Germany about the effectiveness of 'graphic' videos in persuading drivers to change their behaviour.

We received a response from Kate Carpenter, Technical Director (Traffic and Safety) at Jacobs:

THE ITEM on the effectiveness of shock videos made me smile as it repeats what I've seen very often - an implied relationship that is not actually proven. It hints at but does not actually answer the critical question:

"Does the self-reported attitudinal change (saying what they believe, or what they think the officer wants to hear in an attempt to avoid prosecution) result in actual behavioural change that is measurable over time?"

This is such a fundamental question that it amazes me that there is

seemingly little research done to answer it. It should be relatively easy; record the licence details of those stopped and exposed to the videos and monitor whether they are involved in collisions in the following period of months and years. I believe the future of road safety lies in non-engineering in many respects, but until we know what works, we are at risk of wasting resources when budgets are most scarce.

Proving behavioural change means more than showing that someone in front of an officer said "gosh yes officer I can see the error of my ways please don't give me a fine or licence endorsement") Is this area that TISPOL could investigate further - to find existing evidence or invite it to be collected?

A fascinating New Zealand study took drivers in three scenarios in a simulator:

1 A street scene with no children

2 The same street scene, with children nearby, playing games

3 The same street scene, with children trying to cross the road.

For each, the appropriate speed was suggested by drivers: reducing for each scenario. Their ACTUAL speed in simulation drives was unchanged. So, by identifying the risk, they considered subconsciously that they had dealt with it.

PHOTOGRAPHY COMPETITION REMINDER

HERE'S A reminder that you could win €250 in our 'European Enforcement Photograph of the Year' competition, which is open to receive your entries and will remain open until September. We are looking for the photograph that, in the opinion of the judges, best reflects the work of TISPOL in 2011. The judges will make their decision by late September and will award the prize at this year's TISPOL Conference, taking place in Manchester on 27 and 28 September. The winning photograph, along with a selection of runner-up photographs, will be displayed at the Conference and will form a key part of TISPOL's communication resources in the future.

You can enter as many photographs as you like, but only one at a time. They must be your original work. They should be high resolution JPEG images, good enough to be reproduced in print as well as on web pages.

Please send your entry/entries to media@tispol.org

Entries are welcome from anybody. Good luck and we look forward to receiving your entry or entries!

COUNTRY GUIDES QUIZ

HOW GOOD is your knowledge of Europe? If you want to line yourself up for a possible €50 prize, then grab yourself a copy of the latest TISPOL News, turn to pages 22 and 23, and see how you get on identifying well known (and less well known) European cities and landmarks. There are 10 for you to identify, and you can actually find

all the answers among the recently-launched TISPOL country driving guides (all available as PDFs from the TISPOL website).

NEXT BULLETIN:

The next TISPOL Bulletin will be available on Tuesday 28 June 2011.