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TISPOL Bulletin, 18 November 2014

Welcome to our latest Bulletin, which comes to you just a week before our Road Policing Seminar in Rome. We are keen to support our Italian hosts, and to work with them in ensuring that the event will prove both useful and insightful. Our support is particularly important during this second half of 2014, while Italy holds the EU Presidency.

One aim is to showcase Operation Trivium as a fine example of working together across borders to deter and disrupt criminality. Feedback from the Trivium 3 Operation (20-24 October) has been excellent, with support coming from high up in the British government, and extensive coverage in national television and newspapers.

Karen Bradley, the UK Home Office Minister, said:

“Our law enforcement agencies need to have every power available to bring serious international criminals – like paedophile rings, human traffickers, and terrorists – to justice.

“Operation Trivium shows that sharing information across Europe is a vital tool to ensure foreign offenders do not escape justice.

“We must do all we can to protect the British public and working with other countries can help us to identify, arrest and remove people who pose a real risk.”

Official figures show that 1,073 suspected criminals were arrested under Operation Trivium, including people facing charges of rape, threats to kill, serious assault and drugs offence. This is a great result, and shows what can be achieved through working together.

I hope you will find this Bulletin interesting and useful. If you have any material you wish to have included in the next edition, please email media@tispol.org by Wednesday 26 November.

Ruth Purdie, General Secretary

Watch the Trivium broadcast in high definition





If you missed our live web broadcast from Operation Trivium 3 on 24 October, then you can catch a high definition recording of the 60-minute programme at any time via [this link](#). Do take a look and encourage your colleagues and contacts to watch, too.

We will also shortly be making a short summary video of Trivium 3 and we'll let you know when this is available.

UK government claims 'massive change' in attitude to drink driving since THINK! campaign was launched 50 years ago



On the 50th anniversary of the UK's first public information film, new research from the THINK! campaign shows how attitudes have changed to drink driving in the last half century.

Of those surveyed, 91% agreed drink driving was unacceptable and 92% of people said they would feel ashamed if they were caught drinking and driving. This compares to more than half of male drivers and nearly two thirds of young male drivers who admitted drink driving on a weekly basis in 1979.

The shift in attitudes is a stark contrast to the first drink drive public information film in 1964, which was set in an office Christmas party. The advert politely reminded people that "4 single whiskeys and the

risk of accident can be twice as great... If he's been drinking, don't let him drive."

Through a combination of road safety campaigning and better enforcement, road deaths due to drink driving have fallen from 1,640 in 1967 to 230 deaths in 2012.

Watch the controversial new THINK! video



Take a look at this year's 50th anniversary public service announcement advertisement, which shows emergency service workers singing to Kool and the Gang's 'Celebration' as they fight in vain to save the life of someone involved in a road crash.

Scotland: drink-drive limit to drop by December



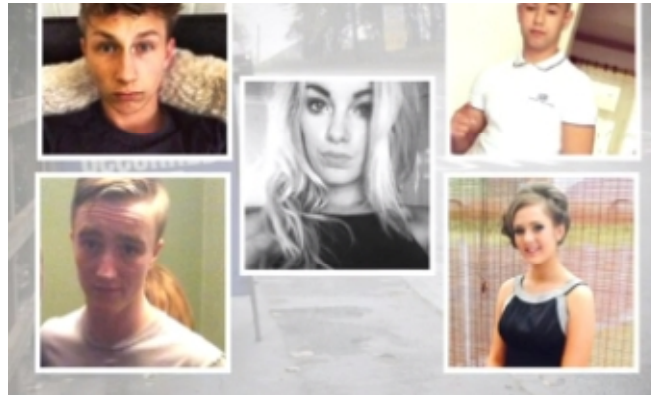
A reminder that the drink-drive limit in Scotland is due to be reduced in early December, from 80mg in every 100 ml of blood, to 50 mg, bringing Scotland into line with most other European countries.

The Scottish Government previously announced its intention to reduce the limit following a consultation which found almost three quarters of those who responded believed the drink-drive limit should be reduced. The consultation responses suggested the likely benefits of a lower limit would be fewer road collisions and casualties.

There are currently 20 drink-drive related deaths annually on Scotland's roads.

British school mourns teenagers killed in weekend crash





A special assembly was held yesterday at a school in South Yorkshire, in remembrance of five teenagers who were killed in a car crash on Saturday night.

The students died in the two-car collision at Conisbrough near Doncaster on Saturday.

Former pupil Bartosz Bortniczak, 18, also died in the crash.

Rebecca Staples, Head of Danum Academy, said the school was mourning "wonderful young people".

A condolence book has been opened at the school, and counsellors are on site to support students.

Pilot study of alcohol sensor at Swedish port



In 2013, Sweden introduced a fast-moving automated 'Alco Gate' at the Port of Gothenburg. The Swedish Transport Administration has set a target on drinking and driving for 2020 that 99.9% of drivers should be sober.

Ports have long-been considered as environments at high risk for drink driving. In 2012, more than 3 million vehicles arrived in Swedish ports from across a maritime border. Government figures suggest that the

drink driving rate around ports is three times the national estimated proportion of drink drivers. In response to this problem, the alco-gate pilot project was carried out between August and December 2013 in the port of Gothenburg.

Before the installation of the alco gate in the port, out of 1,900 drivers, 20 were found to be driving under the influence of alcohol. From August to December 2013 in the port of Gothenburg a total of 8,745 drivers were checked at the alco gate, 10 of whom were reported for suspicion of drink driving or aggravated drink driving. These drivers had received clear information in advance, both on board the ferry and in the booking terminal in Gothenburg.

Drivers of passenger cars were also checked; out of 2,294 drivers, 7 were found to be under the influence of alcohol. This group had not received any information about the alco gate beforehand.

The evaluation showed that this new technology could be an effective complementary measure for drink driving enforcement in Sweden.

Truck filmed making U-turn on British motorway



Footage has been released showing a lorry driver attempting a U-turn on a British motorway after driving the wrong way up an exit slip-road. The driver, Leonid Papachin, performed the manoeuvre in a 40-tonne truck on the M6 Toll in Lichfield, Staffordshire.

He received a 15-week suspended prison term at Cannock Magistrates' Court last month after pleading guilty to dangerous driving. He was also given an 18-month driving ban and made to pay £85 costs.

[Watch the footage now](#)

Norwegian study: alcohol hangover and impairment among apprehended drivers



A study carried out recently by the Norwegian Institute of Public Health, Division of Forensic Sciences in Oslo, examined how driver impairment during the hangover phase after alcohol ingestion might affect traffic safety.

The study investigated the prevalence and the concentrations of the two ethanol metabolites, ethyl glucuronide (EtG) and ethyl sulphate (EtS), in blood, indicating very recent alcohol intake, among apprehended drivers, in which no psychoactive substances, including alcohol, were detected. The aim was also to study these findings in relation to the impairment observed in these drivers.

Blood samples, drawn from suspected drunk or drugged drivers, were analysed for a broad repertoire of psychoactive substances, with a clinical test for impairment (CTI) being performed at the same time.

One-hundred-and-forty-six cases, in which no psychoactive substances were detected, and where a valid CTI was performed, were analysed for EtG and EtS, in blood. The prevalence and the concentrations were related to the conclusions of the CTIs.

EtS and EtG were detected in a total of 19 of the 146 cases (13%). Among the "impaired" drivers, EtG and EtS were detected in 16 cases (18%), while among "not impaired" drivers; they were detected in 3 cases (5%). There were significantly more detections of EtS (and EtG) among the impaired group of drivers compared with the not-impaired drivers ($p = 0.030$), and the concentrations of both EtG ($p = 0.027$) and EtS ($p = 0.026$) were significantly higher in the group of impaired drivers compared with the not-impaired drivers.

(Extract from the ICADTS Reporter, Q4, 2014)

Transport Observatory aims to make Balkan roads safer



Roads in the Western Balkans remain unsafe. Factors including low levels of awareness, poor driver training and outdated vehicles and infrastructure meant that in 2012, over 80 people per million inhabitants died on the region's roads, as compared with 56 per million in the EU. The South- East Europe Transport Observatory (SEETO) is working to rectify this.



Read more in the European
Commission DG-MOVE
newsletter

Next Bulletin: Tuesday 2 December 2014

If you have any news stories, features, videos or pictures you would like us to include, please email media@tispol.org by Wednesday 26 November. Thank you.

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