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Presentation, European Parliament
Conference/Hearing on Alcohol Interlocks
Wednesday June 3rd, 2015

1 Norwegian parliament, Stortinget, voted yesterday unanimous to ask the Government to make proposal to make alcohol interlocks compulsory in all busses and taxis in Norway. It is a small step in politics, but a giant leap for the safety of our children and fellow humans in traffic

2 Human Rights Declaration Article 3 is supported by almost every country. Now is the time to make a Human Rights declaration of Road Safety:

“Everyone has the right to travel with no threat to their lives, liberties and security of person, from anyone under the influence of Alcohol, Narcotics and Drugs.”

This achievement, also in line with the EU 4th Traffic Safety Programme, will depend on the will and ability of the EU-parliament to make the right political decisions.

3 The implementation of alcohol interlocks in commercial vehicles depends on cooperation and involvement from both employers, employees and the authorities. Transport business is international – and demands common international legislation in order to comply with the 4 freedoms of the European Union

4 The professional drivers need “rules of engagement” in the form of uniform legislation and agreements for employers, employees and authorities. For how to implement the alcohol interlock, procedures to follow in case of failed tests, and the follow up in order to enhance security and also be proactive towards emerging alcohol problems detected by the use of the interlocks.

5 Most of the framework for this common legislation is to be found in the CENLECS standards EN 50436-1, 2, 3 and 6. Which in its turn make equal terms for all users in the EU and EEC countries.

- 6 The Standard nr. 3, Guidelines, which may be the platform for all future users of alcohol interlocks, calls for an action plan to detect and take care of emerging alcohol problems.**
- 7 For more than 50 years, the Norwegian AKAN model has targeted emerging alcohol problems in the workforce, aiming at qualifying employees and employers for constructive collaboration when encountering the challenges of alcohol and drug problems in the workplace. Based on the data and records from the AKAN model in use in Norwegian Companies, related to alcohol and drug abuse in the workplace, 80% of employees with emerging alcohol problems, being incorporated in the AKAN model for prevention of alcohol and drug problems, are in full working condition within one year after their entry into this agreement.**
- 8 We have the technology and the concept to stop drunk drivers on the roads. You, my dear friends, have the power to enable it to happen.**

The extended use of alcohol interlocks may fulfill the Act of Human Rights in Traffic, by offering Freedom From Traffic-drugs.

Many look at the things as they are today and ask WHY

We look at the future of drug-free traffic and ask WHY NOT ?”

WHY NOT use alcohol interlocks to stop more humans from being deprived of their freedom of enjoying their life, their work, their families and their future ?

That is our political challenge in the years to come.

Thank you for your attention.