

Federale Overheidsdienst Mobiliteit en Vervoer Wegvervoer en Verkeersveiligheid

Feedback, analysis and future developments of the Belgian rehabilitation programme for offenders and recidivists

21.3.2016, Safe and Sober – Athens, Greece Anneliese Heeren Law July 2009 + Royal Decrees November 2010 on the installation of the device, the rehabilitation programme and technical requirements

From upon 1/10/2010, judges *can* apply alcohol interlocks for 1-5y/ definitely to

- first offenders \geq 0.8 BAC
- drunk drivers
- repeat offenders

Not for alcohol addicts: compulsory withdrawal for medical reasons



Mandatory program + installation alcolock

- Code 112 (> European code 69)

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- < 0.2 BAC (<-> normal BAC limit 0.5)
- Mandatory rehabilitation programme
- Downloads of data



Sanction

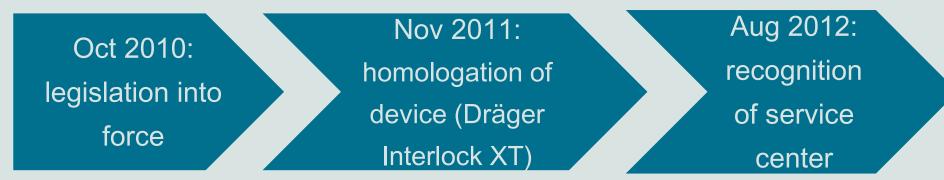
- Driving without alcohol interlock
 - Non respect of the rehabilitation programme (eg circumventing)

Driving with BAC > 0.2

Prison 1m-5y + withdrawal 1-5y/ definitely



Alcohol interlocks - Timeline







Situation March 2016

In a period of 3,5y only 35 people follow(ed) the rehab programme



Why not MORE?

Problems and challenges

High price > € 3400/ y

Device and downloads	 € 2200/ y (lease – monthly payment by instalments is possible) € 2550/ y (purchase – to pay at once) 		
Rehab programme	 € 1210/ y € 2178/ 5y 		
Fine + withdrawal	 € 1200-12000 (recid: € 2400-30000) Judge can substract the costs of alcolock from the fine 		

⇔ normal (min.) fine is cheaper



Problems and challenges

- Alcolock not in case of addiction: not always clear

 - Choice for judge + offender: alcolock + fine (+withdrawal)
 or only fine (+withdrawal) ?

Company cars (leasing) : quick change of cars
 + risk of dismissal

- Professional drivers : risk of being dismissed
+ other drivers who use the same truck



Next steps for Belgium (intention)

- Compulsory for recidivists

Except in case of alcohol addiction: withdrawal

Except if the judge motivates extensively why not - strong alternative e.g. withdrawal twice as long

- Preventif: alcolocks in school transport or transport of persons (cf. France)





5 recommendations to Greek authorities



1. Foresee enough TIME to implement (legislation, stakeholders, programme, homologation,...)

2. To not demotivate: don't make the programme too long (2-3 y max)







3. A REHAB PROGRAMME is essential

4. Make alcohol interlocks ATTRACTIVE (vs. other sanctions), eg in a preventive way

5. Try to lower the COST (assurances)





Thank you for your attention !

anneliese.heeren@mobilit.fgov.be Federal public service Mobility and Transport Belgium

