

The Swedish Alcohol Interlock Program for offenders

Pär-Ola Skarviken

Four modes of transport – one agency

- Rules
- Permits
- Supervision
- Statistics on accidents
- Registry



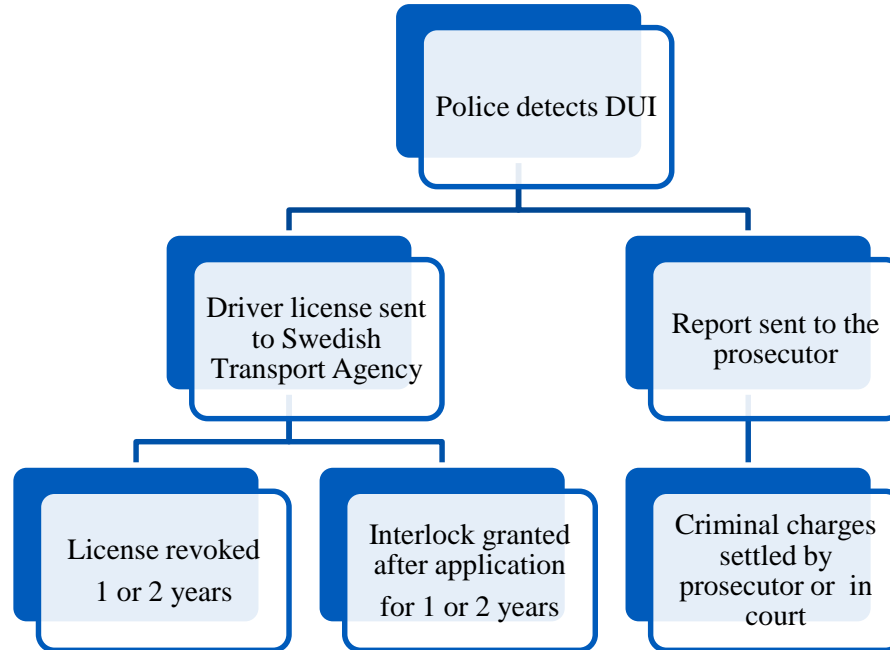
Alcohol Interlock Program for DUI-offenders – a brief history

- Trial-program (for cars) 1999
- Extension of the trial-program (now includes cars, busses and trucks) 2003
- Law regarding a permanent program for DUI-offenders since the 1st of January 2012 (implemented on the 1st of January 2012)

Good experiences of the pilot program

- Successful for those who fulfilled the program
- Lasting changes in alcohol and driving habits
- Less relapse to DUI
- Reduced number of traffic accidents
- Reduced alcohol consumption
- Reduced need for hospital treatment
- Reduced sick-leave
- Saved jobs
- Saved marriages

The parallel process after a DUI



Who can apply?

- It's a possibility for those who have been caught drinking and driving
- It's not possible if you have been caught driving under the influence of narcotics or if you take drugs*

How long does the program run?

- The duration is one or two years*
- Two years in the following situations:
 - If the DUI offence is gross ($\geq 1,0$ per mille)
 - Repeated DUI offences the last five years
- Otherwise one year ($> 0,2-0,9$ per mille)

How much does it cost?

- 2000 € -2700 € for one-year Program
- 2800 € -4000 € for two-year Program
- The costs refer to rental/purchase and service of the Alcohol Interlock and medical checks/certificates
- The Swedish Transport Agency charges no application fee

What requirements are made?

- Four different suppliers of Alcohol Interlocks are approved by the STA (Dräger, Malux, ACS, Dignita)
- It's not enough to have an Interlock of the right make, it also needs to be personalised and programmed accordingly to the requirements set out by the STA
- EN 50436-1

Must fulfil the obligations

- Blows are required both to start the vehicle but also during the ride at random intervals
- A maximum of five "red blows" and a minimum number of service intervals
- Should the obligations not be met, the Alcohol Interlock is removed and the Driving Licence is revoked instead

The follow-up

- Data is downloaded and transmitted from the Alcohol Interlock device when it is serviced at a service garage
- In the log all blows are registered and sent to the Swedish Transport Agency
- The medical requirements are checked via blood samples and medical certificates at given times



Banperiod at least
1 or 2 years



Medical check



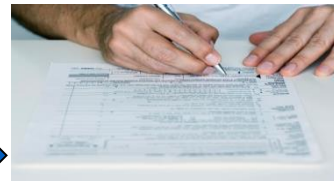
Application



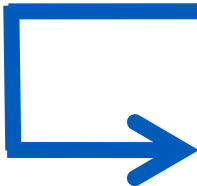
Conditional
driver's licence



Conditional period 1 or 2 years



Application for a license without
condition at the end of the period



The Swedish system in numbers 2016-2018

	2016	2017	2018
Revoked licenses because of DUI (incl. drug use)	5389	5694	5746
Applications	1909	1983	1994
Denied	308	271	401
Conditional licenses granted	1601	1712	1593
Valid conditional driving licenses	2825	2929	2864

Evaluation of the permanent system

- An evaluation has just been published
- The purpose is to find out whether the goal to attract more participants compared to the pilot program has been fulfilled or not
- Three parts; a survey, interviews and a register study

Results from the evaluation

- ~ 30 % of the drivers convicted for DUI applied and were approved to enter the Alcohol Interlock Program
- That is to compare with 11 % in the Pilot Program
- The goal to increase the participation rate has been fulfilled

Evaluation, continued

- The main reason for not applying to the Program is the cost
- Other reasons put forward are that you don't want to be regarded as an alcoholic in the eyes of your family, neighbours or colleagues
- Some fear that the psychological strains will be too much to handle with the obligations you must fulfil to take part

Evaluation, continued

- 83 % of the participants fulfilled the program (59 % in the Pilot Program)
- 31 % of the participants had an alcohol related diagnosis (addiction/dependency in accordance with DSM IV and ICD 10)

New national legislation

- Due to criticism from the EU, Sweden had to change its national legislation on interlocks
- As of March 1st 2018, persons with a dependency or an addiction will no longer be able to enter the alcohol interlock program, unless...
- ...they can prove that they fulfil all the medical demands beforehand, e.g. prove sobriety during six months

www.transportstyrelsen.se

- Application forms
- Information brochures
- FAQ about the alcohol interlock program
- www.transportstyrelsen.se

Questions?

Pär-Ola Skarviken

par-ola.skarviken@transportstyrelsen.se

Direct: +46 10 495 76 55

Mobile: +46 767 24 77 20

www.transportstyrelsen.se

+46 (0) 771 503 503