

How to improve van safety in cities?

The Irish experience



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Tackling Van Road Risk challenges

- What are the challenges to manage van operations risks?
- Risk management priorities
- How to involve companies?
- Stakeholder collaboration
- Better conditions for drivers
- Companies/organisations/regulators
- The Irish perspective on possible solutions





There are many types of vans in use on the roads

Each with a different purpose

Using the road for different reasons

From a wide range of work sectors

Standards of compliance vary widely



If you drive for work, your risk doubles.

Driving 40,000km per year
has the same risk as
mining and a 25% higher
risk than construction.

ZURICH - ROAD SAFETY

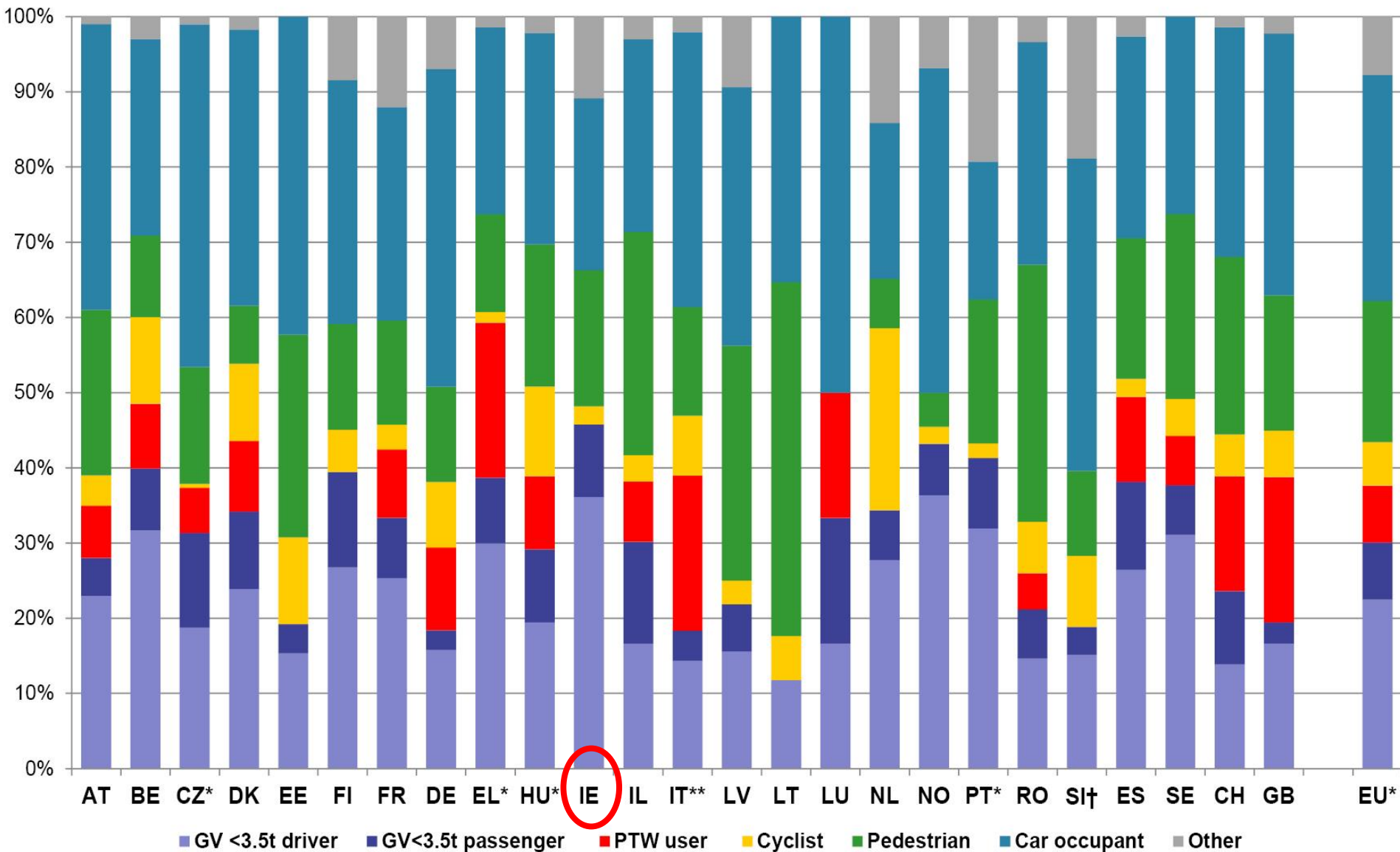
ZURICH - ROAD SAFETY



NRSP
NATIONAL ROAD SAFETY
PARTNERSHIP
PROGRAM

Van Collision road user profile

[% type of road user death 2009 to 2011]



Why vehicle accidents happen?

- Lack of management control
- Lack of safe systems of work for vehicle operations
- Unsafe/unroadworthy vehicles
- Lack of awareness
- Lack of training
- Deliberate unsafe acts
- Killer behaviours
- Unsuitable roads infrastructure



'Vans in cities' challenges

Volume of van traffic

Size of vans

Parking

Environmental pollution

Van roadworthiness

Range of van types

Regulation of van sector

Interactions with other road users

Vehicle conspicuity

Range of van operations

Driver welfare and wellbeing

Van overloading

Access to premises

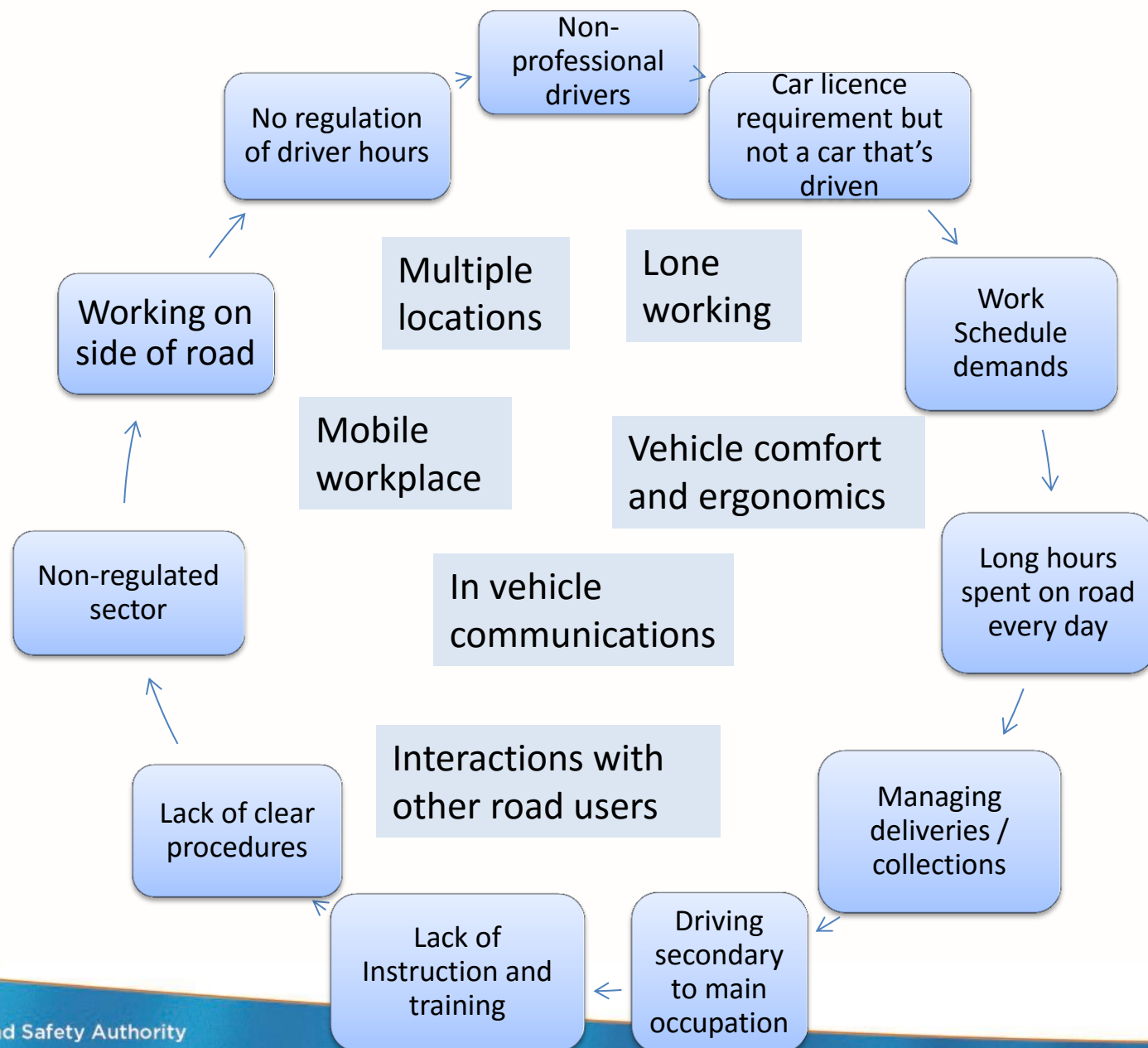
Deliveries and collections

Load securing

Driver competence

Driver behaviour

Van Driver Challenges



Van fleet risk factors

Driver

- **Attitude**
- Competence
- Authorisation
- Instruction/ Information
- Training
- **Fitness to drive**
- **Risk profile**
- **Age**
- **Driving history**
- **Driving experience**
- **Unsafe driving behaviour**

Vehicle

- **Condition**
- **Roadworthiness**
- Type
- Age
- Mileage
- Suitability for task
- Safety features
- EURONCAP rating
- Vehicle checks

Journey

- **Time spent on the road**
- **Encounters with other road users**
- Road types
- Day of week
- Time of day
- Seasons/ Weather
- Distances travelled
- Urban/rural
- Emergency situations
- Lone working
- Passengers
- Roadworks

Safe Systems Approach

Occupational Health & Safety Legislation
Road Safety Legislation
Road Traffic Act and Regulations

Employees

Employers

**Safe
Vehicles**

**Safe
Drivers**

**Safe
Operations**

**Safe
Journeys/
Roads**

Vehicle safe and fit for
purpose for every
journey every day

**Tackling Driver
Behaviour**

Reversing
Parking
Loading/unloading

'Van friendly' Roads infrastructure

Review current cityscape for suitability for current explosion in van usage?

Van only areas?

Van safety standard for cities?

Rules on what vans allowed to circulate in urban environment?

Restriction on times vans allowed to enter certain streets and areas?

Van specific loading/ unloading places

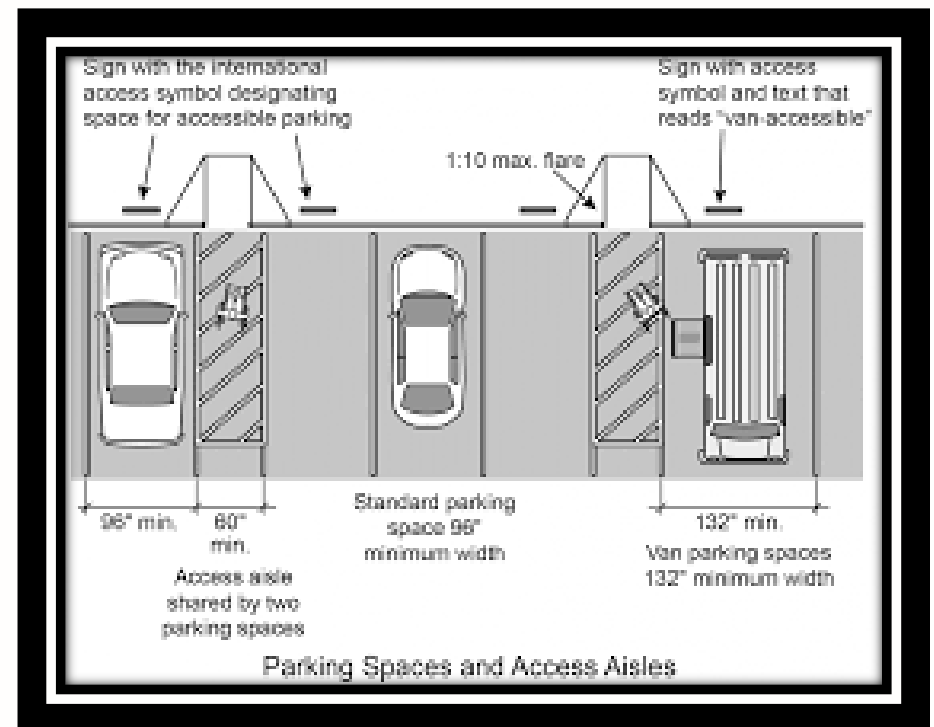
Last mile deliveries by other means than vans?

Increase delivery hubs rather than delivery to individual premises?

Parking for utility vehicles?

Encourage use of smaller vans in urban environment?

Design city streets with vans in mind?



Government and stakeholders

- Collaborate and work together to find solutions
- Develop national profile of van fleet incidents and issues
- Develop national and city based profile of key issues for van mobility
- Joint guidance
- Awareness raising
- E-learning
- Traineeships and apprenticeships for van drivers in certain key occupations
- High level steering groups involving regulators, industry bodies, educators, trainers, insurance, unions, designers, OSH professionals and employers
- Develop case studies on good practice



Employers - what you MUST do

- Incorporate Van Fleet Risk Management as part of OSH framework
- Include safety criteria in procurement of vehicles
- Implement robust preventative maintenance and defect reporting procedures
- Implement robust policies for van driver safety
- Monitor driver behaviour
- Set acceptable driving durations and distances for employees who drive for work
- Focus on 'Fitness to Drive'
- Ensure that current shift patterns, journey planning and employment contracts do not contribute to unsafe driver behaviour or fatigue/stress

The business case



THE BUSINESS CASE FOR MANAGING ROAD RISK AT WORK

May 2014



MANAGING THE ROAD RISK OF VAN FLEETS

October 2014

Flyer

direct route
to HSA
information
and resources



Transport Safety Guidance & Resources

- Code of Practice for Health and Safety in Dock Work
- Risk assessment for vehicle risks for all employees and vehicle types, including driving for work
- Controlling vehicle movements and interaction with pedestrians
- Loading, securing loads and unloading of vehicles
- Reducing vehicle related slips, trips and falls [from vehicle cabs, trailers, access and load platforms]
- Use and operation of forklifts, container handlers and other mechanical handling equipment
- Specific workplace signs to support workplace vehicle and pedestrian traffic management
- E-learning courses on workplace transport and driving for work



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[https://www.hsa.ie/eng/vehicles_at_work/
transport_safety_guidance_resources/](https://www.hsa.ie/eng/vehicles_at_work/transport_safety_guidance_resources/)

Thank you for listening

More information on

www.vehiclesatwork.ie

www.loadsafe.ie

www.drivingforwork.ie

