

THE EFFECT OF APPLYING DEFENSIVE DRIVING TECHNIQUES IN
REDUCING TRUCK ACCIDENTS IN MOX-LINDE GASES
SDN BHD

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ABSTRACT

The importance of defensive driving training for truck drivers as a means of reducing truck accidents is continually debated in distribution industry. Driver training and driver education are not the same. However, it has become common even in the scientific literature for these terms to be used synonymously. While education is broad and intellectually based, training is usually practical and focused on building specific skills and competencies, usually over a short time period. Elements in defensive driving techniques are about seeing hazards, plan to avoid hazards and make correct decision on time. Study was made on truck drivers through survey to gather information on their accidents experience, knowledge on defensive driving as well as the quality of existing defensive driving training conducted. “Training has sometimes been found to significantly reduce post-training violation involvement for those assigned to training due to committing serious or numerous traffic offences – including at-fault crashes” (Brown, Grueger and Biehl, 1987; Struckman-Johnston et al, 1989;). However, there is no reliable evidence that this reduction in violations translates into accident reductions or even persists in the long-term. Struckman-Johnson, et al, (1989) following a review of 65 evaluations of driver improvement training programs (including the DDC) in the USA questioned the road safety value of such approaches as they reduced offences but not crashes. In this survey’s result, it revealed that most of the respondents had experienced with accidents and majority of them are also believed that accidents are avoidable. Training and education may provide or improve knowledge and skills, but the driver trainer has little control over the post-course behaviour of trainees, the motivation of trainees to apply what has been learned or the many other risk factors that may contribute to crash causation.

ABSTRAK

Kursus pemanduan berhemah sebagai perantara untuk mengurangkan kemalangan trak menjadi perdebatan yang berterusan di syarikat MOX-Linde Gases. Kursus untuk pemandu dan pembelajaran untuk pemandu adalah dua perkara yang berbeza. Tetapi, ia telah terma yang biasa digunakan secara sinonim termasuk di dalam rujukan saintifik. Pembelajaran adalah berdasarkan intelektual dan luas, kursus pula biasanya secara praktikal dan memberi penumpuan ke atas peningkatan kemahiran dan kompetensi tertentu yang kebiasaannya untuk jangka masa pendek. Elemen di dalam teknik pemanduan berhemah adalah berkaitan dengan melihat halangan, merancang untuk mengelak halangan dan membuat keputusan yang betul tepat pada masanya. Kajian telah dijalankan ke atas pemandu trak untuk mendapatkan maklumat berkaitan pengalaman kemalangan, pengetahuan mengenai pemanduan berhemah termasuk kualiti kursus pemanduan berhemah yang sedia ada. “Kadang kala, kursus menjadi penting di dalam mengurangkan penglibatan terhadap ketidakpatuhan selepas kursus kerana terlibat di dalam kesalahan trafik yang serius atau berulang termasuk bersalah di dalam kemalangan” (Brown, Grueger and Biehl, 1987; Struckman-Johnston et al, 1989;). Walaupun begitu, tiada bukti sahih yang menunjukkan bahawa pengurangan kesalahan ini diterjemahkan kepada pengurangan kemalangan atau bertahan di dalam jangka panjang. Menurut kajian semula yang dilakukan oleh Struckman-Johnson, et al, (1989) kepada 65 penilaian ke atas program latihan peningkatan pemandu (termasuk Kursus Pemanduan Berhemah) di Amerika Syarikat mempertikaikan pendekatan yang digunakan kerana ia mengurangkan kesalahan dan bukan kemalangan. Hasil keputusan kajian ini, ia menunjukkan bahawa kebanyakan responden mempunyai pengalaman kemalangan dan majoritinya juga mempercayai bahawa kemalangan boleh dielakkan. Kursus dan pembelajaran mungkin memberikan atau meningkatkan pengetahuan dan kemahiran tetapi jurulatih pemandu dapat mengawal sebahagian kecil dari sikap pelatih selepas kursus, terdapat banyak faktor lain atau motivasi pelatih untuk mempraktikkan apa yang telah dipelajari boleh menyumbang kepada penyebab kemalangan.