

Humans and Machines Working on Road Safety

Voice-over 1:

To improve drivers' skills through the virtual world is another avenue being explored by researchers. Heidi is involved in a European project, called Train-all; its aim to develop simulators of the future. Bikers, truckers, ambulance or ordinary drivers require specific software developed to individual needs. For younger drivers the problem is the relationship between speed and distance.

Heidi Grattenthaler:

In the future there will be more driving schools using more and more simulators for driver training, not only for er...novice car drivers erm in...but also for other types of drivers like emergency...er...drivers from police, or erm fire stations or ambulance services. They all need to be trained.

Voice-over 1:

Here in Bavaria at the police executive training centre, the force is participating in the project. They are pioneers in this area. Here trainee police receive mandatory training in emergency situations. For this they use a sophisticated simulator tailored to their needs; a system unique in Europe.

Voice-over 2:

The big difference between normal driving and driving for emergency services is that in a normal situation drivers react to other traffic. In an emergency situation the traffic around must respond to the emergency vehicle and that is very difficult to recreate in the virtual world.

Voice-over 1:

Here performance is assessed. For the young officers mistakes are not that obvious, hence the importance of the training. One of the benefits of the simulator is that it allows the student to go over their performance and analyse any errors.

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