Various Methods for Controlling Drink Driving – Experiences from Sweden

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Drink Driving in Sweden

Most drivers are sober...

	2007	2017	National target 2020
Road traffic performance, percentage of sober drivers	99,71 %	99,74 %	99,90 %

Source: Swedish Transport Administration 2018

... but intoxicated drivers cause many accidents

- Every year, approximately 55-70 people killed in alcohol-related traffic accidents (53 last year)
- Every year about 1 500
 people seriously injured in
 alcohol-related traffic
 accidents
- About 40 people killed in drug-related accidents (2017)



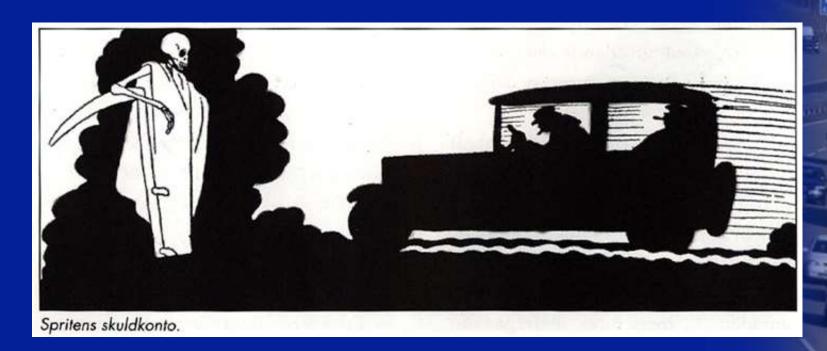
Source: Swedish Transport Administration and Transport Analysis

Early research on alcohol testing – Erik M. P. Widmark



The concentrations of acetone in blood, urine and alveolar air (1917)

Drink driving increased in 1920s – new legislation was introduced



A poster regarding the problem drink-driving (MHF 1928)

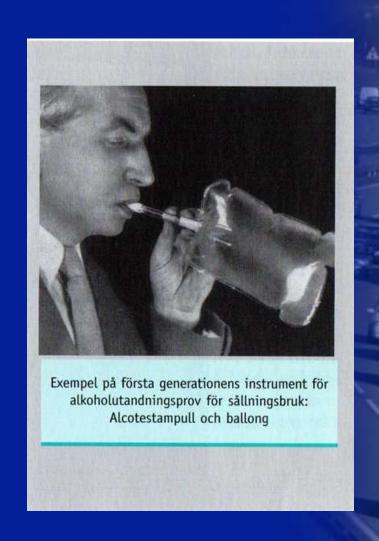
1937 - the "Drunkometer"



Simulating a drunk, Walter Monroe takes the "Drunkometer" test © Bettmann/CORBIS

Police Breath Tests in Sweden

- Since the mid-1950s, the Swedish police uses alcohol breath testing as a tool to determine whether a blood alcohol test is required
- Prior to that, breathalyser technology had developed in the United States since the 1930s



Four means of measuring the breath alcohol concentration









Chemical

Semiconductor cell

Fuel cell

Infrared (IR)

1999 - An important year for the use of alcohol ignition interlocks (alcolocks) in Sweden

- 1999: pilot alcolock program for drinkdrivers
- 1999: The first Swedish alcolock program for commercial transports
- Alcolocks quickly considered as a natural safety equipment in vehicles - much like seat belts

New solutions with integrated vehicle systems



Volvo



Saab



Toyota



Autoliv



Nissan

Thank you for your attention!

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