Scientific Study on External Ionising Radiation Exposure during Vehicle Radiographic Inspections - "X-ray Study"

5 December 2014, Vienna, Austria

Jens Hügel, Head – Sustainable Development







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Evolution of IRU Membership

2014: 170 Members in 75 countries

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...and CRIPA: 27 Members + FESARTA in 38 countries

IRU Founding Member Countries
IRU Member Countries
IRU Regional Committee for Africa including FESARTA members

Security demands lead to increase in vehicle scanning



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	CTM/G100833/PKR Geneva, 4 November 2010	
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Is there a health and safety risk for drivers?



Scientific Study on EXTERNAL IONISING RADIATION EXPOSURE DURING CARGO / VEHICLE RADIOGRAPHIC INSPECTIONS

Executive Summary and Recommendations



Zagreb, April 2012

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Study by the Institute for Medical Research and Occupational Health Zagreb, Croatia – Recommended by the ILO





There are 2 types of scanners used at borders



Silhouette Scanner

Driver sits inside the vehicle



Driver drives the vehicle through the scanner

There are 2 types of scanners used at borders



LINAC Scanner

Driver is not in the vehicle

LINAC scanner moves along the stationary vehicle

Study Methodology

- Background radiation was measured and equipment calibrated
- Phantom driver control measurements
- Drivers carried personal dosimeters
- Dosimeters were placed in the cabin





Study Methodology

- On site scanning and safety procedures were observed and compared with accepted international standards
- Customs officers, x-ray scanning operators, inspection staff and drivers were interviewed at every border crossing visited





Customs keep history track of every truck - company - driver scanned (blacklist?)

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Study Results

- Scanning stationary vehicles takes considerable time
- Clear information on the scanning process is missing



Border authorities were sometimes not acquainted with radiation protection standards





- There is an occupational health and safety risks for drivers if safety procedures are not followed
- No residual radiation occurs in the vehicle







Internationally recognised radiation protection standards are not always followed





4 Main Recommendations

- 1. Install appropriate information panels everywhere x-ray scanning is performed
- 2. Develop x-ray scanning certificates to avoid repetitive scanning and to accelerate the x-ray scanning process
- 3. Implement internationally recognised x-ray scanning procedures
- Improve education of drivers, Customs officers and x-ray scanning operators on the functioning and risks of x-ray scanning



