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Smart road safety training

Fraunhofer IVI Accident Prevention School

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Initiative for increasing the safety of young road users through the use of real accident data

Almost every other day, a child suffers a fatal accident on German roads.

Lowering both the number and severity of accidents involving adolescent traffic participants is the aim of the »Sicher mit Grips« initiative (»Use brain for safety«). Within the initiative, the expertise of numerous partners from science and economy is pooled with those of decision-makers from the realm of politics.

Based on the »Fraunhofer IVI Accident Prevention School (FAPS)« method, which received the German Mobility Award in 2017, children are taught to detect and internalize typical dangerous scenarios that pedestrians and bicyclists are faced with in road traffic. This includes avoiding wrong behavior as well as anticipating the potential wrong behavior of others.

To achieve this aim, the students work on projects with traffic accident data collected in the immediate surroundings of the schools they go to.





Learning through experience

- work in schools based on: accidents from the immediate surroundings of the respective educational institution
- completion of individual tasks depending on the specific accident events occurring near the schools
 - identification of accident-prone areas in the schools' surroundings
- awareness raised through work on real accidents involving bicyclists and pedestrians in the school surroundings
- support of long-term learning effects through emotional/ personal identification
- transfer of different findings to daily routines
 - typical accidents occurring close to schools
 - recurring misbehavior of pedestrians, bicyclists and accident opponents
 - accident causes
 - prevention strategies
 - effects of accidents on bicyclists and pedestrians independent from the person causing the accident
- reconstruction of accidents in virtual space and adopting all traffic participants' perspectives (pedestrians, bicyclists, car and truck drivers)
- increased knowledge regarding perspective, blind spots, view obstruction



References

- German Mobility Award winner 2017
- collaboration with schools in Saxony since 2018
- collaboration with schools in Brandenburg since 2023
- implementation in Munich since July 2023
- successful evaluation in Saxony supported by the Saxon Prevention Council

Long-term increase in road safety

- dangers in road traffic addressed early
- senses sharpened in terms of possible accidents and detection of critical situations
- adaption of own behavior
- positive influence on other active traffic participants
- discussions with friends, family and acquaintances about safe conduct in road traffic promoted through ideal examples
- long-term incentive for safe behavior as a future car driver



Safety starts with the youngest road users.«

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