



Smart Mobility

CONSENT FORM TO PARTICIPATE IN RESEARCH

INVESTIGATION INTO WESTERN CAPE HEAVY GOODS VEHICLE DRIVER SKILLS

Dear Participant,

You are asked to participate in a research study conducted by researchers, from the Smart Mobility Cluster at the CSIR on behalf of the Western Cape Department of Transport and Public Works (DTPW).

You were selected as a possible participant in this study because of your involvement in the heavy vehicle freight industry with specific focus on heavy goods vehicle driver skills.

1. PURPOSE OF THE SURVEY

The DTPW is currently implementing the Provincial Freight Strategy 2019, specifically Strategic objective 5A that aims to reduce the number of freight-related, heavy vehicle crashes in the Western Cape. In addition, to ensure that training programmes achieve the desired impact, there is a need to determine what the true need is. Education, training, and skills development is deemed an essential component to reduce the number of fatalities caused by heavy freight vehicles on our roads, therefore the action 5A-2 requires the identification of key driver skills needs in consultation with road freight sector and develop programmes to improve driver competencies in partnership with the private sector and the Transport Education Training Authority (TETA).

The survey seeks to provide insight into the current skill sets and competency levels of heavy goods vehicle drivers in the Western Cape.

2. PROCEDURES

The survey will be conducted through a semi-structure interview and/or an online questionnaire. The surveys aim to capture the responses of heavy goods vehicle drivers, companies, and other relevant stakeholders in the Western Cape

Questionnaire instructions:

If you are older than 18, and able to read and understand English you are invited to participate in this study. Please note the following stipulations:

- Your participation in this study is voluntary.
- By continuing with the completion of the questionnaire, you will give consent to your participation.
- You can discontinue with the questionnaire at any point without adverse consequences to yourself.
- No identifying particulars will be asked.
- The information collected through the questionnaire will be anonymous as it will not be possible to trace the completed questionnaire back to you.
- Only the researchers involved in the project will have access to the raw data.
- The electronic dataset, which will be completely anonymous, will be kept on password-protected computers indefinitely.
- The dataset may be utilised in future research, the same confidentiality will be applied in that instance.
- The anonymised dataset may be used to prepare academic journal articles and the publishing of findings.

3. POTENTIAL RISKS AND DISCOMFORTS

There are no foreseeable risks for you to complete this survey.

4. POTENTIAL BENEFITS TO PARTICIPANTS AND/OR TO SOCIETY

Your participation will provide insight into the current skill sets and competency levels of heavy goods vehicle drivers in the Western Cape. The results will ultimately assist in improving heavy vehicle driver skills and behaviour, and reduce heavy vehicle fatalities.

5. PAYMENT FOR PARTICIPATION

Not applicable

6. CONFIDENTIALITY

The researchers are required to adhere to strict ethical considerations (Ref_426_2023) and is therefore compelled to keep questionnaire information as well data collected secure and confidential. Any information that is obtained in connection with this study and that can be identified with you will remain confidential and will be disclosed only with your permission or as required by law.

7. PARTICIPATION AND WITHDRAWAL

Participation in this research study is voluntary. If you volunteer to participate, you may withdraw at any time without consequences of any kind. You may also refuse to answer any questions you don't want to answer and still remain in the study. The investigator may withdraw you from this research if circumstances arise which warrant doing so.

8. IDENTIFICATION OF INVESTIGATORS

If you have any concerns or questions related to the study in general, or the items in the questionnaire, please contact the project leaders.

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By completing this survey, you confirm reading the consent form and agree to participate in this research study.