

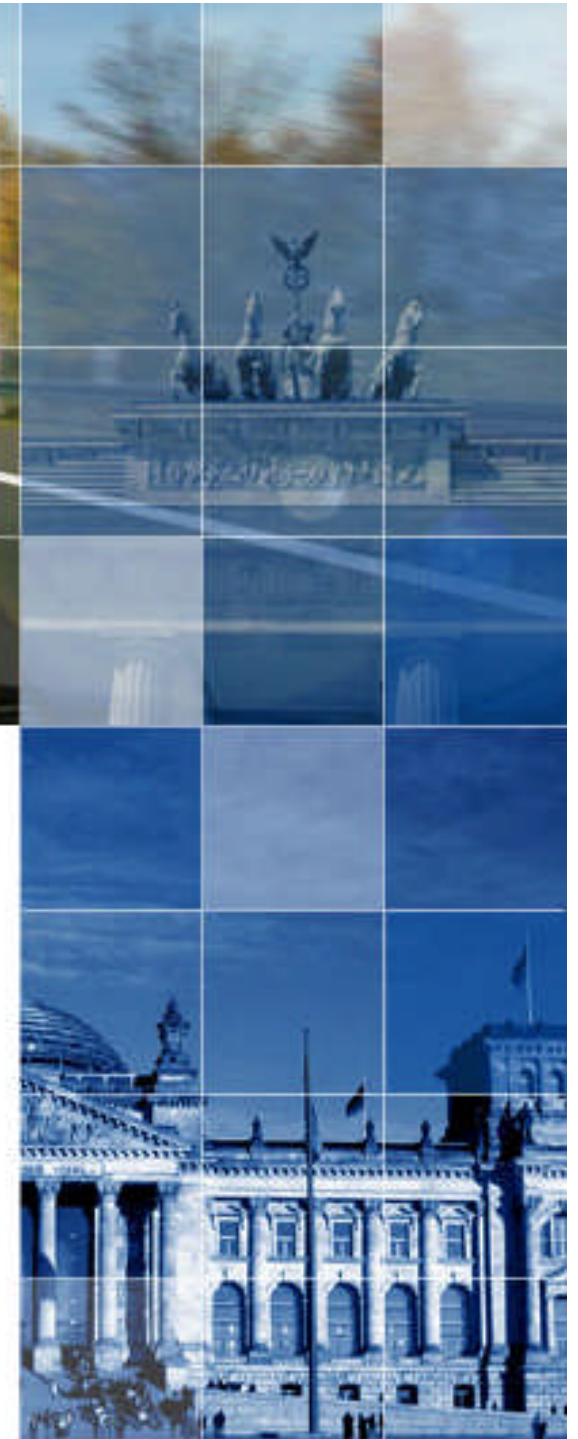


Fit to Drive

1st International Traffic Expert Congress
Berlin from May 3rd – 5th 2006



Welcome



Courses for the re-establishment of fitness to drive with legal consequences

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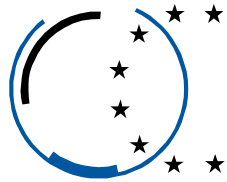
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- History

- established in the early 70th of the last century
- long period as pilot project in federal states
- since 1999 part of German Law (FeV - German federal driving licence code)



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- Requirements of participation

- withdrawal of driver licence due to traffic offences
- order to pass an medical-psychological assessment
- recommendation to participate in a course to re-establish fitness to drive
- approval of public authority



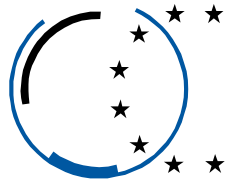
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- Distinguishing characteristics
 - Evaluation
 - Quality management
 - Accreditation and official approval
 - Consumer protection
 - Justification
 - Confidence
 - Transparency and legal certainty



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- Evaluation

- evaluation studies in the 80th proved the effects of the courses being an instrument in improving traffic safety (WINKLER,NICKEL,JACOBSHAGEN; JACOBSHAGEN, UTZELMANN)
- results showed a lower rate of relapses within the group of participants than in the control groups after three and after five years
- these effects are more stable compared to other programmes in other countries (WELLS-PARKER et al)



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- Accreditation and official approval
 - Law makes high demands on courses with legal consequences
 1. courses have to be based upon a scientific concept
 2. they have to be approved by an independent scientific expert
 3. trainers have to fulfil high standards of specific qualification
 4. the effects have to be proved by an evaluation study, which has to be renewed after 15 years
 5. a quality-management-system is required



- Quality management

- BAST (Federal highway research institute in Germany) controls the QM-system concerning for example standards of

- qualification of staff

- equipment

- maintenance and development of the concept, especially in terms of

- observance of minimum requirements concerning number of participants, number of hours and of sittings, period



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- Consumer protection

- The maintenance of all introduced requirements and standards as well as legal regulations means not only protection for the participants of the courses but also for all people and institutions involved, which are at least

- public authority
- medical-psychological assessment institutes
- lawyers



- Justification

- The low relapse rate of the participants of courses according to the prescriptions of § 70 FeV (German federal driving licence code) justifies

- that participation is dependent on the recommendation given in the result of an assessment before and

- that there is no need for a second medical- psychological assessment to confirm the individual success of the rehabilitation course as long as a higher relapse rate of drivers is tolerated, which passed the assessment without further requirements



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- Confidence

- All described principles and requirements can be summarized within the term of creating confidence in everyone who deals with the system
- Success of rehabilitation depends especially on the confidence of the participants in the legal consequence of reinstatement of licences without further assessment in the end
- Attitudinal and behavioural changes concerning traffic offences in the past and driving behaviour in the future depend on a confidential atmosphere and relationship between trainer and participant during the performance of the courses



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- Transparency and legal certainty

- The process of reinstatement of licences within the German system is not easy to understand for traffic offenders
- The legal certainty depending on the participation in a course according to § 70 FeV means a relief containing at least a clear statement