

# ***Interaction between transport vehicles and roads***

***Benefiting from safety developments  
for heavy vehicles and infrastructure***

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# Heavy vehicles and infrastructure for safer traffic

- Seminar in Gothenburg 2009 (NVF report 02/11)
- Strong focus on road safety within the automotive industry
- Road owners and builders: heavy emphasis on building safe roads
- Vision Zero throughout the Nordic countries
- Serious traffic-injuries involving heavy vehicles often result in fatalities



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# Heavy vehicles and traffic accidents

- Responsibility rarely lies with the heavy vehicle or the driver
- Most frequently head-on collisions with passenger cars
- A small number are suicide-related or attempted suicides
- Most happen when the passenger car accidentally moves into the wrong lane
- Or when drivers misinterpret the heavy vehicle's possibilities for braking or otherwise avoiding an accident



# Results from the working group

- Seminar report summary
- Not based on scientific research or peer-reviewed studies
- Can still be of use in efforts to achieve Vision Zero
- See the need for a project to remedy this lack of scientific research and peer-reviewed studies



# Conclusion

- **Automotive industry not able to undertake this task alone**
- **The driver - an important prerequisite for success**
- **Essential to take full advantage of the constant advances in technology**
- **Drivers' behaviour is a key factor**



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# Technological developments

- **Automotive industry: strong focus on driver/passenger safety - intelligent vehicles**
- **Road owners: emphasis on designing roads to remove the elements which cause accidents**
- **In addition, significant effort is devoted to accommodating the needs and demands posed by intelligent vehicles.**



# Focus on the driver

The driver is the key factor for achieving results

- Need to focus heavily on driver behaviour and training
- Urgent need for research into the information available on traffic-injuries

**Goal: a concerted effort to maximise the benefits achieved in these areas**



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