

# Development of safety culture and awareness among Danish Hauliers

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## Background

The transport sector generally has a high and even rising accident rate. Over 90 % of all work injuries among freight drivers occur, while the vehicle is stationary for loading and unloading.

Typical situations causing work injuries:

- Ascending and descending from high points, for example from the truck's cab, tailgate lift or ramp
- Handling heavy freight
- Working in elevated, uneven or slippery areas
- Working in untidy areas
- Movement in areas where there are heavy and fast moving objects, for example from trucks.

The insurance company Codan Forsikring insures the majority of Danish haulage companies and has also experienced an increase in casualty incidences and injury cost of workers' compensation insurance. The goal for Codan Forsikring A/S is to improve safety in Danish haulage companies.

In order to reduce work injuries, it is therefore necessary to develop the safety culture in the transport industry.

## Thesis

The aim of the project is to identify management culture within the transport industry in terms of objectives, values, strategy and practice in relation to security and safety management. I will also look at the relationship between the safety management and the employees' safety culture. The goal is to create an understanding of, and thus the basis for a transformation of the haulage companies and the change strategies that must be activated to enable a development over time to achieve a significantly improved safety within the industry.

My PhD project will be carried out in parallel with a research project. The aim of the research project is to identify the industry's accidents and their causes, and identify methods and processes that can create a higher safety and finally implement an intervention in five to six haulage firms. Associate Professor Kirsten Jørgensen will carry out the research project.

## Expected results

The cultural understanding of the transport industry and the results of the research interventions in the haulage firms will hopefully form the basis for the new change strategies. These strategies are meant to start the development, which in time, will hopefully significantly improve the safety within the industry.



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1 September 2010 to 31 August 2015



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