

6th Fit-to-Drive Congress, Barcelona

Kay Schulte

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I am very proud today that I can bring a lot of greetings from the German Road Safety Council to the 6th *Fit to Drive* Congress in Barcelona.

After a permanent reduction of the death rates in traffic in the last years Germany today is in a situation that in 2011 the death rate in traffic increases again. At this moment it is not really clear which reasons are responsible for this situation. Independent of possible explanations for this the „Vision Zero“, the basis of the work of the German Road Safety Council, give us the clear task to do anything which helps that death or severe injuries will not be the result of human mistakes in traffic. This is an challenge for politics, administrations, safety organisations and associations.

Psychologists, pedagogues and other professions are very important experts to influence people in a goal related way. Now in Germany we started the reform of our penalty point system. In this case we also modify the driver improvement system. This task shows how psychologists and

pedagogues are working together in a very effective way. The working groups of the German Road Safety Council are also a good example how the professions are thinking together for a future of a safe driving world.

With the *Fit to Drive* Congress the VdTÜV has implemented a very important platform to discuss experiences which we have in Europe and the world to build up a safe mobility. To share knowledge, to discuss measures, to present new ways of acting and to work together are important steps for a safe future in traffic. For this activity the German Road Safety Council is very grateful to the VdTÜV and I am sure, that this congress here in Barcelona will be also successful like the other ones in the last years.

I am looking forward to the 6th *Fit to Drive* Congress and hope, that you will have fantastic discussions the next two days.

Kay Schulte
German Road Safety Council