

THE SAFETY OFFICERS TASKS AND FUNCTIONS

Ir. E.W. Worm Safety Officer State owned Road Tunnels. The Netherlands





STARTING POINT:

DIRECTIVE 2004/54/EC





Key players:



- Administrative authority
- Tunnel manager
- Inspection entity
- Emergency services
- Safety officer





- Ensuring all safety aspects
- Ensuring compliance
- Commissioning the tunnel
- Suspending or restricting operation





Administrative authority

Ensuring

- Testing and inspecting
- Developing emergency plans
- Closing procedures
- Risk reducing measures
- Commissioning after major change
- Inspections
- Notifying not compliance





Tunnel manager



- Responsible for tunnel management
- Reporting significant incidents
- Planning compliance
- Safety documentation





Tunnel manager



• Consulting the SO before:

- Starting construction work
- Commissioning a new tunnel
- Recommissioning existing one
- Any other change
- Organising exercises with the emergency services



Inspection entity



• Taking care of inspections, evaluations and tests





Emergency services:



- Cooperate in joint periodic exercises
- Cooperate in evaluating them
- Take care of the emergency response plan







- Coordination of all preventive and safeguards measures
- Ensuring coordination with emergency services
- Taking part in preparation of operational schemes







- Taking part in planning, implementation and evaluation of emergency operations
- Taking part in safety schemes, specifications of structure, equipment and operation







- Verifying operational staff and emergency services are trained
- Taking part in the organisation of exercises
- Taking part in their evaluation







- Advice on commissioning of structure, equipment and operation
- Verifying structure and equipment being maintained and repaired
- Taking part in the evaluation of significant incidents



Organisational matters

- Each tunnel: one SO
- Nominated by the tunnel manager
- Approval of adm. Authority
- Tunnel staff or emergency services
- Independent
- One or more tunnels







- SO nominated by tunnel manager
- Coordination role on all safety aspects
- Advisory role (designing, commissioning and operating stage)
- Monitoring role (maintenace, repairing, training, exercising)



Safety officer – adm. authority:



- Approval of the SO
- Advices of the SO







 Ordering extra measures by the administrative authorithy based on inspection reports







- Coordinating in operational schemes
- Verifying emergency services are trained
- Cooperation in exercising
- Cooperation in evaluation of exercises





- Positioning the SO:
 - *where* in *what* organisation and *how many* tunnels?
- What selection criteria
- What skills, knowledge and expertise
- How to guarantee independancy







- Risk analysis
- Civil engineering
- Organisational matters
 - tunnel manager organisation
 - Tuning the emergency services organisation







- Electro mechanical installations
- Their operating and control
- Traffic engineering

If not:

buying external knowledge?





• Ensuring implementation safety issues

- Limited finance
- Conflicting interests
- How independent is independent?





Serious safety issues

- Escalation level?
- Notify the Adm. Authority?
- Probability of being accused of negligible conduct?





Serious safety issues

- Escalation level?
- Notify the Adm. Authority?
- Probability of being accused of negligible conduct?

Allowed to return next Monday?





Serious safety issues

- Coordination of all preventive and safeguards measures
- Taking part in the specification of the structure, equipment and operation
- taking part in the definition of safety schemes



SO properties







SO properties



A sheep with five legs





SO properties



A jack of all trades





Crucial advice moments

- Design stage (Annex II art. 1.2)
- Commissioning stage (Annex II art. 3)
- Recommissioning stage (Annex II art. 4)





Crucial advice moments

- What is assessed?
- What criteria are used?
- What methodical approach?
- How extensive?





Crucial advice moments

- Existing standards in use?
- Standards in development?
- International collaboration?
- "major" modifications?



Common and unclear expressions

- "verifying that operational staff and emergency services are trained"
- "verifying that the tunnel structure and equipment are maintained"
- "taking part in the evaluation of significant incidents"

Common and unclear expressions

- What do those tasks exactly mean?
- How are they assessed?
- What methodical approaches?
- What criteria
- Selfdoing or outsourcing?





Relation SO-emergency services

- Coordinating operational schemes
- Verifying emergency services are trained
- Cooperating in exercises
- Evaluating the exercises





Relation SO-emergency services

- Methodologies in use?
- In development?
- Need?
- The same for evaluation of exercises





Some more questions

- Risk analysis by SO himself?
- Essence of the 10 seconds rule
- Systems engineering





Some more questions

- Recognisable?
- How handled in member states?
- What is most appealing?
- Further elaboration?
- How to organise?









Thank you for your attention

