



DTS

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PRESS RELEASE

Belgium, 29/07/2015

## Ario, a revolutionary solution for drowsiness behind the wheel

It is a well-known fact that driving with diminished attention can be dangerous, and often deadly. In 2012, over 28.000 people in the EU died in traffic accidents, many of which involved heavy goods vehicles (HGV) and buses. According to recent studies, a staggering 34,4% of reported HGV accidents are caused by drivers experiencing fatigue or non-attention. By contrast, only 14% are caused by drivers under the influence of alcohol.

DTS, a startup working to revolutionize the transport industry, has recognized the importance of optimal safety in transportation. Their innovation, Ario, is geared towards achieving one of the most critical components of safety: the attention behind the wheel.

Using simple, effective technology, DTS provides their clients with the ability to monitor a driver's performance, and alert them when their performance falls below the threshold of safe activity. Ario attaches to the steering axle of the vehicle, and transmits a signal to the driver when steering accuracy decreases, or no steering is detected at all. The basic principle behind this system is that while driving a heavy goods vehicle, you must constantly make micro adjustments. Ario registers these adjustments and gives feedback to the driver if he isn't making enough corrections or he stops correcting entirely. Effectively indicating he is busy with something he should not be doing, like texting or tuning the radio, or in the worst case, falling asleep. If the driver fails to respond to the visible stimuli by adjusting his steering behaviour, Ario will start buzzing, at which point the driver must interact manually with a touchable user interface. This information can also be relayed to the base of operations if the client chooses the Ario Plus program, making it ideal for implementation in fleet management systems.

With the high costs associated with HGV traffic accidents, both in human lives as in financial losses, it's no wonder that more efficient transportation safety measures are growing in demand. Drowsiness behind the wheel is an unfortunate reality; research shows that a driver suffering from fatigue can experience up to 39 lapses of micro sleep per hour, which can amount to over two minutes of unconsciousness. With Ario, the engineers at DTS have created a product that can not only prevent accidents in the critical moments before they happen, but offer long-term solutions for

safer driving as well. By monitoring the performance of HGV operators, transportation companies can recognize unsafe patterns in employee behavior on the road, and adjust their drivers' schedules to optimize alertness and capability. Ario is designed for aftermarket, making it constructor independent, affordable, and easy to install.

Ario was released in a beta version in June 2015 and is being used and tested by five Belgian coach companies. First responses of the drivers and the companies are very positive. The product is constantly being tweaked to further accommodate the needs of coach companies and increase the safety of both the driver and the passengers.

At the latest edition of Busworld India in Mumbai, DTS presented its solution to the Indian bus and coach market. In collaboration with Trimble they are currently preparing field trials in India. The pilot projects are foreseen to start in September 2015. A beta release for India is planned for November 2015.

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#### DTS

DTS is a Belgian startup, working to revolutionize the transport industry. Their innovation, Ario, is aimed to monitor one of the most critical components of safety: attention behind the wheel.

#### Trimble

Trimble Transport & Logistics India is a leading provider of fleet tracking/management and cargo visibility solutions for companies of all sizes in the transport and logistics sector across India and south Asia countries includes Srilanka & Malaysia with brand trako. With more than 7 years of experience in India with esteemed customer base, company offers robust, industry standard vehicle tracking and cargo tracking solutions leveraging Trimble's on-board computers (TM3000 GPS hardware platform), wireless communication service partners, Google Map and Web-based applications integrated with customer ERP/TMS(SAP) to offer end to end fleet management, cargo visibility, safety and driver safety. With its open, modular & scalable architecture, trako solutions are customized to meet business needs. Trimble Transport & Logistics India offers services across India with more than 35 field locations.

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