Professional cargo delivery riders

How can they contribute to a more bike-friendly city?

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Content

Challenges

Solutions

Experiences of traffic safety among professional cycle delivery riders

• Importance
• Exposure
• Experience
Background

Challenges
Space = resource
Congestion
Growth of e-commerce
CO2-emissions
Public Health
etc.
Background

Solutions
Flexible transports
Smaller, more suitable vehicles
Sustainable, green jobs
Consolidation centres/mini depots
Last/first/only mile solutions
Etc.
Experiences of traffic safety

Why?

- Important group of riders
- Jobs/service in a sector that faces many challenges
- Exposed group
- A risky work environment?
- Experienced group
- Infrastructure, behavior, and more
Experiences of traffic safety

Method:
• Web-survey with Swedish and European riders
• Structured and semi-structured – to capture experiences
• Some statistical data on accidents
• 201 respondents
• Financed by the national traffic safety fund ”Skyltfonden”
Questions regarding...
- actual statistical contra lived experiences
- traffic rules
- external aspects/factors
- interactions with other road users
- certain behavioural codes
- education on traffic safety
- understanding of self behaviour and compliance with traffic rules
- technical aspects

Experiences of traffic safety
Experiences of traffic safety

52 % ride 30 km or more every day (226 working days/year)
= at least 6800 km/year

52 % ride 6 or more hours every day (226 working days/year)
= at least 1350 hours/year (on the bike)
Experiences of traffic safety

15% have been in an accident with another person requiring a hospital visit

60% of these are accidents with motor traffic
20% with other cyclists
20% with pedestrians

“For my 3 trips to the hospital while working, it was always the same story. I had the right of way; the motorist didn't see me because either on the phone or not looking if there was someone before passing, and bam. I always got lucky, didn't stay at the hospital more than 2 hours for a sprained leg or muscle trauma (well except one time when my nose broke, 1 day in the ER and surgery a bit later)”
Experiences of traffic safety

50% have been in an accident with another person NOT requiring a hospital visit

50% of these are accidents with motor traffic
20% with other cyclists
25% with pedestrians
5% “other”

It's been too many to tell, but the major ones are of course the ones where motorists making a right turn, thereby cutting you off. Other re-occurring scenarios include “swerving” bicycles on the bike lane, and pedestrians with the eyes glued to the screen of their phone.
Experiences of traffic safety

55% have been in a single accident

Most common: poor road conditions, level differences, poor maintenance and reckless driving (taking chances)

Also weather conditions (especially among Swedish riders)

I had a few falls because of - ice on the road or gravel on the road. I did not notice a level difference when it was raining and I just slipped on coating or on “cat-heads”.

Experiences of traffic safety
Experiences of traffic safety
Experiences of traffic safety

64% feel safe or very safe
21% feel "Not safe"

70% believe that they show good examples of how to behave in traffic but expresses challenges in "behaving properly"

Bad rules should not be complied.

I ride within the law and am especially aware of this as my cargo bike has the company brand so I feel as though I am representing that brand on the roads.
Summary

High level of feeling safe
15% has experience of needing to visit a hospital =
- Which other workforce has the same numbers?
- Is there a certain culture?

A lot can be done
This group of riders can be “used” for improvements
Riders are an
1. Important group
2. Exposed group
3. Experienced group
1. Importance

They know the existing situation
They know what works/what does not
They can be a "locomotive" for change
Important service for the city
2. Exposure

Traffic and urbanity

“Weather and wind”

Interactions

Maintenance: level and needs
2. Exposure

6-10 hours/day
5-6 days a week
All year around
2. Exposure

Visibility
Market opportunities
Culture building
3. Infrastructure

Good/Bad solutions

What is needed?

Will mean improvements for others!
Thank you!

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